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No. 32

## House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
March 19, 2002.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 23, 2002, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) for 5 minutes.

### THE ECONOMY

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, today, we are a Nation at war, we are working to build our homeland security, and we are suffering an economic recession. I am proud to say that our commander-in-Chief, President Bush, has shown strong, resolute leadership in the war against terrorism and has been working to build our homeland security as well as giving Americans the opportunity to go back to work.

One thing we must not forget in this war against terrorism is that it is not

going to begin or end in Afghanistan. The war against terrorism could last years, not just months. But also, if we are going to win the war against terrorism, we have to recognize that we must get our economy moving again.

As we look back, over 1 year ago when President Bush became President, he inherited a weakening economy, an economy that was getting weaker by the day; and the President said that we need to give Americans more spending money, we need to cut taxes, we need to take 20 cents out of every dollar of our budget surplus and give that back to the American workers to help the economy. Well, that tax cut was signed into law in June of this past year, eliminating the marriage tax penalty, eliminating the death tax, and lowering taxes for every American.

Economists were telling us by Labor Day that it was working, the economy was beginning to be on the rebound. Then, of course, the tragedy of September 11 occurred. That terrorist attack on American soil cost thousands of Americans their lives; and since September 11, the psychological blow on the economy of that terrorist attack has cost almost a million Americans their jobs. So we need to get the economy moving again. We need to give Americans the opportunity to go back to work.

Now, I am proud to say that House Republicans have fought hard and led the way to give Americans the opportunity to go back to work. Four times this House of Representatives passed an economic stimulus package and economic security legislation, helping those laid off with extended unemployment benefits and providing incentives for investment and the creation of jobs. We want American workers to be able to go back to work. That is our goal. We recognize that in the past decade it was investment in jobs that created economic growth.

I am proud to say that the fourth time was a charm. After this House

fought month after month, October, November, December, January, and just a few weeks ago we passed for the fourth time legislation to give Americans help, as well as the opportunity to go back to work. Our Democratic friends relented and worked with us in a bipartisan way, and we were able to put on the President's desk legislation to help American workers, and the President signed it into law.

With the economic stimulus and security package we have helped American workers who have been laid off with extended unemployment benefits, and we have also provided incentives for investment and the creation of jobs. This legislation will provide an opportunity to give businesses who purchase assets an opportunity to write that off quicker with something we call 30 percent expensing, or some call bonus depreciation. It essentially provides a way to recover the cost of that pickup truck or that computer or that piece of telecommunications equipment much more quickly.

The benefit of that is felt when a business buys a pickup truck. There is, of course, an auto worker who makes that pickup truck, as well as the parts that go in it, and there is a worker who services and installs equipment in that pickup truck. There is also a worker who is going to operate that pickup truck for that business. That creates jobs and rewards investment. And I am proud to say that the 30 percent expensing was the centerpiece of our economic stimulus plan in rewarding investment.

The legislation will also help homeland security. Many businesses in America felt it was important after September 11 that they make their businesses, their plants, their stores, their offices, their places of business safer and more secure for their workers, their customers, and their visitors; and so their purchase of extra security equipment, safety equipment, software

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g.,  1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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and cybersecurity equipment costs money. The 30 percent expensing will help them recover the cost of investing in cybersecurity and surveillance equipment and software and other measures to ensure their workplace and business is more safe and secure for those who visit or work there.

We also recognize that many companies this year, because of the recession, are losing money. We gave an opportunity for those companies that are currently losing money to be able to come up with some investment capital to reinvest in jobs within their company, even though they are losing money this year, by allowing them to go back 5 years, to a year they may have made some money, and apply this year's loss to that profitable year. They will essentially get a tax refund and can then use those dollars to invest in job creation. That is what it is all about.

We want to get this economy moving again, and so that is why we wanted to provide investment incentives with 30 percent accelerated depreciation as well as giving those companies losing money this year the opportunity to carry back this year's loss and come up with investment capital.

I am proud to say this House has acted. We are giving American workers the opportunity to go back to work, we are helping those unemployed; and I am proud to say House Republicans lead the way.

#### ARAFAT IS THE PROBLEM, NOT THE SOLUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 23, 2002, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as we speak here today, Vice President CHENEY and General Zinni are both in the Middle East trying to help in the peace efforts. I think it is very important, though, to put things in perspective as the fights and the clashing between the Palestinians and the Israelis continue.

For a number of months now, many months, there has been the question of what is Arafat doing to stop terrorism and can Arafat actually stop terrorism? Is he able to do it and does he want to do it? I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to an article last week that appeared in USA Today, and it is right here, blown up, and it says, "Terrorist says orders come from Arafat. Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade leader says group is integral to Palestinian chief's Fatah."

I think it has been very, very clear that not only is Yasir Arafat not the solution to stopping terrorism in the Middle East, he is the problem. He is the one that is sanctioning the terror in the Middle East. Three-quarters of the terrorist attacks directed against innocent Israeli civilians in the past several months all come from organizations to which Arafat is the leader, the

Al-Aqsa Brigade, Fatah Tanzim, these are all groups under the control of Yasir Arafat.

So it is not simply a matter of can he control terrorism and will he control it, it is simply a matter of he is the terrorist. He has never changed. Some people can change and grow, but he has never changed. Terrorism is used as a negotiating tool, and it is something that countries cannot tolerate.

It does not matter what one feels about the Israeli response. It does not matter what one feels about how terror is being fought. President Bush put it best. He said, you are either with the terrorists or you are with us.

We launched a campaign in Afghanistan to root out terrorist cells not because the Government of Afghanistan, the Taliban, as abhorrent as they are, were doing the terrorist attacks, but the Taliban were aiding and abetting al Qaeda, which was carrying out the terrorist attacks.

Now, if we go to Afghanistan, and rightfully so, and I support everything President Bush has done and everything our brave men and women are doing over there, but if it is right for us to fight terrorism against innocent civilians, and as a New Yorker we all know the pain of the World Trade Center, and as someone who works in Washington, we all know the pain of what happened at the Pentagon, but if we have the right to fight terrorists on the other side of the world, surely Israel has the right to fight terrorism right in their own back yard. Repeatedly, Arafat has been asked to curb terrorism. And again not only is he not doing it, according to this article, which is very accurate, he is directing the terrorist attacks.

Now, I am glad Vice President CHENEY has not met with Arafat. He is in the Middle East now and he said he would meet with Arafat under one condition, that the Palestinians need to embrace the Tenet plan. And what does the Tenet plan say? It simply says, stop the violence as a first step to negotiations. But the Palestinians, under Arafat, do not want to stop the violence; they want to use it as a negotiating tool. This has been a constant with them.

Violence and terrorism against innocent civilians cannot be used as a negotiating tool, and it is never acceptable no matter what the grievances are. Blowing yourself up and taking 15 people with you, killing innocent kids at pizza shops and discotheques is not acceptable. And if it is not acceptable in New York or in Washington or Virginia, it is not acceptable in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem either. It is not acceptable anywhere in the world. So I think it is very, very important that we look and see what is happening in the Middle East, who is carrying out these terrorist attacks against innocent civilians.

Now, I hope that when Vice President CHENEY is going around to the capitals to try to line up U.S. support for whatever we wind up doing in Iraq, I think

it is important that he is doing that, but I, frankly, do not think the security of innocent civilians in Israel should be sacrificed. And if the people in the Arab capitals are saying, well, you know, this Palestinian-Israeli question is a problem and we cannot get Arab support for any incursion in Iraq unless that ends, Israel should not be used as a sacrifice because we want Arab support for Iraq.

Let us say the way it is. Arafat is the terrorist, he is the problem, he is not the solution.

#### THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 23, 2002, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, this week we are taking up the budget. We are going to increase the limit on how deep this government can go into debt. Every year we spend more tax dollars and we add more government services, and my concern is that too many Americans are becoming too dependent on government.

By the next election, this fall, a majority of Americans will be dependent on Federal Government for their health, their education, their income, or their retirement benefits. Some suggest that as many as 60 percent of households receive more than \$10,000 a year from government in the form of retirement, health care, welfare or other benefits. At the same time, Mr. Speaker, the number of taxpayers paying for these benefits is rapidly shrinking.

The question is, how well can any free nation survive when a majority of its citizens heavily dependent on government services no longer have the incentive to restrain the growth of government? As we all know, over the last 50 years, American attitudes have been shifting from cherishing self-sufficiency and personal responsibility to wanting a little more security from the Federal Government to assure them of a certain number of benefits. Government benefits, once concentrated on the needy, now extend into the middle and upper-middle class households, even as more and more Americans see their income tax liabilities decrease.

Today, the majority of Americans can vote themselves more generous government benefits at little or no cost to themselves. As a result, they have really little incentive to restrain the continued growth of big government and the benefits big government dangles before them. Fifty percent of Americans now pay less than 4 percent of the total individual income taxes, while the top 5 percent pay nearly 55 percent of the individual income taxes. At the same time, the folks who are paying the least for government are receiving the most benefits. Americans who receive nearly half of the Federal Government benefits pay only, listen

to this, Mr. Speaker, pay only 1 percent of the individual income taxes.

□ 1245

Many of these beneficiaries are poor, but an increasing number are middle-class retirees who enjoy extra income and health care through Social Security and Medicare. This is help we say from government, but it is from the other taxpayers of this country.

Our founders created a system where taxes are the price for government benefits and services. The idea is that voters would restrain the growth and expansion of government because of the personal costs to themselves in taxes. Our founders built into the original Constitution a provision that prohibited taxes based on income because they wanted people to achieve. That was the motivation. This provision, however, was amended by the 16th amendment. As a result, a near majority of voters now pay little or no income taxes while they receive an increasing number of government benefits.

The extreme progressiveness of our Tax Code has reduced, and in some cases eliminated, any cost of government for a growing number of voters. At the same time, many of these voters are dependent on government for much of their income, their health care, and other government services. It is like handing someone a menu at a restaurant and saying this bill is already paid for, and then asking them to make an order. I think it is a difficult offer to refuse, and it is the same way with government.

Limited government is ultimately essential to our economy's strength and freedom. The success of the United States is built on the free enterprise motivation that those who learn, work hard, and save are better off than those who do not. As that becomes less true with bigger and more intrusive government, we not only diminish that motivation, we lose more of our personal liberty and freedom. This is a growing threat to our way of life, and we can no longer ignore the kind of influence that it generates.

#### PRESIDENT'S BUDGET PROPOSES TO USE SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUND

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). Pursuant to the order of the House of January 23, 2002, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the House will take up the Republican budget resolution. I am extremely disappointed with President Bush's budget on a number of fronts, but I am particularly outraged with the President's budget on Social Security, which is the issue I would like to discuss this afternoon.

The Congressional Budget Office published a report on March 6 showing

that the President's budget proposes to spend \$1.6 trillion of the Social Security trust fund surplus over the next 10 years. Let me make it clear. The President is proposing to use Social Security surplus money; and let me add that \$1.6 trillion is not just a dip into the surplus, it's a deep dip that will amount to two-thirds of the entire Social Security surplus.

Not only is this unacceptable to me, this amounts to basically \$261 billion more than the administration previously claimed. I would like to call the Bush administration the "broken promise administration" when it comes to many issues, but especially with regard to the issue of Social Security.

If I remember correctly, Mr. Speaker, the Republicans last year promised to protect 100 percent of the Social Security surplus. Ironically, the White House Web site today features a quote from President Bush saying, "We are going to keep the promise of Social Security and keep the government from raiding the Social Security surplus." The reality, of course, is that is not the case. If we take into account the President's optimistic projections, understatement of future costs and the ignorance of other costly elements, it becomes clear that the Bush budget spends the Social Security surplus over the next decade and beyond.

What we are seeing today with the Bush administration is the most radical fiscal reversal in American history. Last year the Republicans inherited trillions of dollars in surplus over the previous Clinton administration. The budget that we are debating today indicates that in one 1 year there has been a decline in that surplus by \$5 trillion. The obvious answer to this Republican fiscal irresponsibility is last year's \$1.7 trillion tax cut and this year's proposed \$674.8 billion tax cut.

As a result of these Republican tax cuts primarily for the wealthy, the Bush budget rapidly deteriorates the Social Security surplus for day-to-day operations of the Federal Government. Democrats believe that the Social Security surplus should be rightfully rewarded to America's seniors. That is what it is all about. We made a promise to protect Social Security, not only because it was one of the most successful social programs, but also because we want to ensure that our seniors receive the benefits they deserve after years of hard work and years of paying into the system.

Social Security we know provides an unparalleled safety net for the vast majority of America's seniors. For two-thirds of the elderly, Social Security is their major source of income. For one-third of the elderly, Social Security is virtually their only source of income. For these reasons and a lot of others, we as Democrats must do everything in our power to defeat the Republican budget. We must do this in an effort to protect and strengthen the Social Security program for the short and long

term, and to keep our promise of allowing generations of retirees to live with independence and dignity.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon my colleagues to defeat the Republican budget tomorrow for many reasons, but primarily because it spends the Social Security trust fund.

#### PRESIDENT'S BUDGET CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLY APPROVED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 23, 2002, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today the House budget resolution goes before the Committee on Rules, and it comes to the House floor tomorrow. This is a budget that we are not familiar with in terms of the underlying assumptions because up until now we have been using numbers from the Congressional Budget Office. Maybe some people that watched the machinations of the budget process in earlier years will recall that our Republican colleagues shut down the Congress, shut down the government twice, insisting on Congressional Budget Office numbers instead of OMB numbers. Well, now they have reversed course and decided that they want OMB numbers because they are more optimistic, and they do not want the Congressional Budget Office numbers which are more conservative.

We think this is a time to be cautious and conservative about our projections. Last year we used a 10-year projection because if we went out over 10 years, there was a \$5.6 trillion surplus, and that enabled our colleagues on the Republican side to justify a \$1.7 trillion tax cut.

But now they do not want that 10-year projection, they only want a 5-year budget because of that \$5.6 trillion surplus; \$5 trillion has disappeared. Where has it gone? Well, the biggest single component of that loss is attributable to the tax cuts; 43 percent of it. The lost surplus is due to the tax cuts. About 23 to 25 percent is attributable to the economy. The rest is attributable to additional legislation, particularly increases in defense and homeland security.

So we are spending more, we are keeping the tax cuts, and yet we do not have the money to pay for it. What does that mean? That means that this budget that will be on the floor tomorrow assumes that we will take \$2.2 trillion out of Social Security and Medicare trust funds. We are going to have a deficit of \$224 billion just in this budget year, \$830 billion over 5 years. But when we go out 10 years, then it really starts to count.

The problem is that over this next decade, we have a fiscal crisis facing us because that is when the baby boom generation retires. Mr. Speaker, 77 million people in that baby boom generation will retire and double the number

of people depending upon Social Security and Medicare. That is why this budget just takes us to the cusp of that point when they retire. These are people born right after World War II in 1945 and 1946. We can do the calculations. They start retiring in 2007 and 2008. We will not have provided for their retirement costs. I say we, to emphasize the fact that, I am a member of that baby boom generation. My parents' generation fought the "isms," Nazism, communism, fascism, and gave us so much better a life than they had inherited from their parents. And what are we going to do? We are going to leave to our children the responsibility to pay for our retirement costs, our health care costs through Medicare, and to pay off a debt of over \$3 trillion. That is what this budget does that our children will have to face tomorrow.

It makes a number of other cuts that do not seem to be particularly justified. We are in a recessionary period, and to cut \$14 million out of housing for the homeless doesn't seem right. To take \$80 million out of the Leave No Child Behind education legislation the President has gone around the country touting and taking credit for, and we agree, it is bipartisan legislation, and now we are going to take \$80 million out of that program? To take \$338 million out of low-income heating assistance, the LIHEAP program? No that's not right.

No, Mr. Speaker, this is not a budget that this Congress can responsibly approve.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY AND THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 23, 2002, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the nearly 100,000 Social Security beneficiaries that live in my district, nearly 70 percent of whom are 65 years of age and older and are seniors.

Today, like so many of us, seniors stand in the recent tragic events that have left an imprint on our national landscape forever. They are uneasy about their lives and the security of their future. Now is the time to address their fears, not the time to wage a war on the benefits they rely on to live.

I am disturbed by the number and tone of letters and phone calls I have received from constituents. Many seniors 70, 80, and 90 years old have expressed concern over the solvency of Social Security. They want their leaders in Washington to be responsible in their actions and not take chances with their future and the future of their children.

I am further disturbed when I receive the administration's budget recommendations. The administration proposes a budget that takes needed Social Security surpluses out of the

Social Security trust fund, not just 1 year, but every year for the next 10 years.

This year alone, the budget would train \$262 billion in Social Security funds. Ultimately, the administration's proposed budget takes more than \$1.5 trillion out of the Social Security surplus. The President and the House Republican leadership, just a few months ago, including some Democrats, claimed that we would also support and establish the Social Security and Medicare surpluses that would be saved for Social Security and Medicare. Now the budget saves virtually nothing of Social Security or Medicare.

Recently, the CBO released an analysis of the administration's proposed budget. They concluded that the budget raids Social Security and threatens the solvency of the program for future generations.

□ 1300

Further, they project large deficits for the next several years. They project a \$121 billion deficit next year, and by the end of President Bush's term in 2004, a \$262 billion deficit.

However, the administration has, for the first time since 1988, rejected the more conservative economic predictions of the CBO and, instead, are using the optimistic, unrealistic figures produced by the Bush administration's Office of Management and Budget. When they looked at the cuts, they looked at how our economy was last March and they projected for the next 10 years the same type of economy. As my colleagues well know, you cannot even predict what our weather is going to be next year.

They took that prediction because it was a very positive prediction. But we should not have assumed that those dollars and that the economy would remain the same way. Alarming, the OMB figures for the administration hide the true cost of the administration's sponsored tax cuts. We cannot and must not enact budgets with our heads in the sand. We must look at the dollars that we have now and realistically pay down our debt as we should and make sure we hold that obligation to take care of our seniors.

Our seniors have questions. They want to know how we have squandered the surplus in just 1 year. And, of course, a lot of us, and for good reason, are concerned about our economy. We do talk about the fact that 9/11 had a big impact on our economy. In fact, economists now tell us that half of the problem that we find ourselves in is a result of the tax cut and half is due to 9/11.

Republicans and the administration successfully pushed a tax cut during the first half of this session. This irresponsible tax cut cost \$1.7 trillion. Now they want additional tax cuts. So tomorrow we get to see additional tax cuts, at a time when we have declared war. When we are at war, we have always had a war tax. We have always

been responsible for paying down what we owe.

We need to be responsible as we move forward. Indeed every dollar of the additional tax cut would come directly out of the Social Security trust fund. We are paying for this war on the backs of our senior citizens' pension fund. We ought to be ashamed of ourselves.

What our seniors need is for all of us to work together and give them the sense of security. They do not need fancy gimmicks like certificates and promises of benefits with no legal guarantee. What they need is a responsible budget that takes care of our budget and considers the fact that we are at war and that should be our first priority, taking care of our seniors and our national defense.

These figures increase significantly if you are a woman or a minority. Social Security is the only safety net to keep many of our seniors out of poverty.

Social Security has lifted over 11 million seniors out of poverty and reduced the elderly poverty rate to less than 10%.

Now is not the time for gimmicks and broken promises. We must make the choices that reveal our values as a nation and we must keep our promises.

#### THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). Pursuant to the order of the House of January 23, 2002, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, when the House and Senate wrote their budget resolutions last year, Members were assured by the President of huge surpluses as far as the eye could see. The projected surpluses held great promise. They were expected to be large enough to address long-term solvency issues of Social Security and Medicare and for important priorities like a prescription drug benefit and education.

Since then, most of the surpluses have evaporated because of last year's unaffordable Bush tax cut and the spending necessitated by the tragic events of September 11. The Republicans in the House want to cut taxes further and spend more, and be congratulated for their fiscal responsibility.

While we all recognize the need to protect our country from international terrorists and rogue nations, the administration has requested a military budget of \$396 billion in fiscal year 2003. This 1-year increase of \$45 billion will be the largest increase in military budget authority since 1966 at the height of the Vietnam War. This increase alone, the \$45 billion increase alone, is larger than the annual military budget of every other country in the world. In fact, the nations that President Bush called the "axis of evil," North Korea, Iran and Iraq, our military budget will be 15 times the combined military budget of theirs.

While this budget is being touted for fighting terrorism, the bulk of the funding is committed to buying weapons systems designed or conceived during the Cold War. The missile defense system, a knockoff of President Reagan's failed Star Wars missile defense program, gets \$8 billion in the Republican budget, even though it is not clear that this system will ever work or ever defend the United States from any of the actual threats that we actually face. In fact, it has failed test after test after test.

In addition to massive new spending on dated military technologies, the Republican budget also includes provisions that would cut taxes by \$591 billion over the next 10 years, making last year's tax cut permanent and providing a host of new tax cuts to America's wealthiest companies like Enron, IBM, American Airlines, Ford, GM, and to the wealthiest individuals in this country. The share of these tax cuts going to the top 1 percent of wage earners, top 1 percent richest people, would exceed the share going to the bottom 80 percent. The top 1 percent receives 45 percent of the tax cut's benefits even though they now pay only 21 percent of Federal taxes. The bottom 80 percent gets only 28 percent of the tax cut's benefits with an average cut of only \$430.

Republicans claim the typical family of four will be able to get, quote, at least \$1,600 more of their own money when the plan is fully effective. However, more than 85 percent of taxpayers will get less than that amount. Many will get nothing. One-third of families with children receive no tax cut at all. More than half of all black and Hispanic families will receive nothing under this plan, even though 75 percent of those families have at least one working parent.

Under this plan, a single mother with two children and a \$22,000 annual income gets zero from the tax cut. A retired widow with no children and an income of \$30,000 would get \$300 but a couple making \$550,000 with no children would get a tax break of \$19,000.

Unfortunately, once we are done paying for military spending increases and new tax cuts, there is little left for other pressing concerns. For the last many years, literally millions of retired seniors have not been able to afford the medicines they need. We have all talked about this in our campaigns. Yet the President's budget includes only \$190 billion for Medicare modernization and prescription drugs. It is not anywhere near the amount to fill the prescription drug gap in the Medicare program.

Bipartisan estimates say that to ensure that retirees have access to adequate, just adequate, prescription drug benefit coverage would cost at least \$700 billion over 10 years. The President's budget has only \$190 billion. The Republican budget we will vote on tomorrow has only \$300 billion, because of the tax cuts. It will cost the Nation

much more than that if we remain indifferent to the possible trade-offs that seniors face every day when it comes to their health. Our senior citizens are being forced to ration health care, not based on cost effectiveness, but on how far they can stretch a fixed income to pay for exorbitantly expensive medicines.

The U.S. is the wealthiest nation on earth. We are not a drug industry puppet. We must do better by our seniors. Investing too little in prescription drug benefits is like paying to put half a roof on our house.

Mr. Speaker, I am afraid the Republican budget with huge tax cuts is taking us down the same road we traveled last year. We will not be able to do other things that Americans are demanding of us.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

Rabbi Joseph F. Mendelsohn, Heska Amuna Synagogue, Knoxville, Tennessee, offered the following prayer:

The prayer I am about to offer is not original, rather it is read by Jewish congregations throughout the United States every Saturday morning during Sabbath services.

Our God and God of our ancestors, we ask Your blessings for our country, for its government, for its leaders and advisors, and for all who exercise just and rightful authority. Help them to administer all affairs of state fairly, that peace and security, happiness and prosperity, justice and freedom may forever abide in our midst.

Creator of all flesh, bless all the inhabitants of our country with Your spirit. May citizens of all races and creeds forge a common bond in true harmony to banish all hatred and bigotry and to safeguard the ideals and free institutions which are the pride and glory of our country.

May this land under Your Providence be an influence for good throughout the world, uniting all people in peace and freedom and helping them to fulfill the vision of Your Prophet: "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they experience war any more."

And let us say, Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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. COBLE. 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. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DUNCAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING RABBI JOSEPH MENDELSON OF HESKA AMUNA SYNAGOGUE, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, we are privileged to have as our guest chaplain today Rabbi Joseph Mendelsohn of the Heska Amuna Synagogue in Knoxville, Tennessee, to lead us in our opening prayer. Heska Amuna, loosely translated, means "stronghold of faith," and "strong faith" are words that could certainly be used about the life of Rabbi Mendelsohn.

This is the first time since I have been a Member of the House, and I am in my 14th year now, this is the first time I have had a member of the clergy from my district lead us in prayer, and I am very honored.

Rabbi Mendelsohn was a longtime congregant and leader in conservative Jewish congregations throughout California. He became so dedicated to his faith that he decided to fulfill his dream of becoming a full-time member of the rabbinical clergy.

Known in Knoxville as "Rabbi Joe," he has been well received, not just by his congregation, but also by his fellow clergymen of all faiths in east Tennessee. Apparently he is doing a great

job, because the congregation has seen a very significant increase in membership since his arrival.

Pace and Karen Robinson, two well-respected and long-time members of the congregation, said, "We are glad that Rabbi Joe came to Knoxville and became a part of our community by leading us into the 21st century."

Rabbi Mendelsohn is one of the finest men I have ever met, and I am honored to have him as our guest chaplain for the United States House of Representatives on this occasion.

#### PRIVATE CALENDAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is the day for the call of the Private Calendar. The Clerk will call the bill on the Private Calendar.

#### NANCY B. WILSON

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 392) for the relief of Nancy B. Wilson.

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be passed over without prejudice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

#### SUDAN

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to raise again the policies of the government of Sudan and its treatment of its people.

Christians, Muslims, and Animists who do not submit to the Khartoum regime's control are targeted for destruction.

In addition to its daily war against the Sudan's people, which includes destroying villages, killing the men and selling women and children into slavery, the government issues draconian punishments for crimes.

One recent report details an 18-year-old illiterate Christian, Abok Alva Akok, who was raped but was sentenced to death because she could not produce the four male witnesses required under Muslim Sharia law.

International outcry caused her sentence to be overturned, but the court then sentenced her to a "rebuke" of 75 lashes, carried out immediately. During the proceedings, she was denied legal representation.

Mr. Speaker, the Khartoum regime not only denies justice to the Sudan's people, gives out harsh punishments, and permits active slave trade, but also is carrying out a brutal war to destroy the people of southern Sudan.

Khartoum's brutal policies must be stopped.

#### STOP THE RAID ON SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. SANDLIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, we must stop the raid on Social Security in this country. Last year, the administration stood in front of the United States Congress and promised us, My budget protects all \$2.6 trillion of the Social Security surplus for Social Security and Social Security alone.

Later in the year, leadership on the other side of the aisle said, The House of Representatives is not going to go back to raiding the Social Security and Medicare trust funds.

Yet, the reality is that the Republican budget did not protect the Social Security fund. Despite voting five times for the Social Security lockbox, today we are breaking that promise and raiding Social Security, to the tune of \$1.8 trillion.

Blue Dogs and other conservative Democrats across the country warned that the shaky projections of surplus, on which much of last year's budget was based, could so easily turn into deficits. That prediction has come true.

We are now being asked to consider another budget proposal that does not even try to disguise the raid on the Social Security surplus. Thirty-two million current retirees depend on Social Security income, and that number is increasing. Congress must stop this attack on Social Security.

#### IN A WARTIME BUDGET, CONGRESS PUTS FIRST THINGS FIRST

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we are not raiding Social Security, not one penny. Back home in the Lone Star State, we say, "Don't mess with Texas." To the terrorists, I say, "Don't mess with the U.S." We are at war, and this is a wartime budget, putting first things first.

Here are three of them:

National security tops the list, homeland security tops the list, and economic security tops the list. Also, this will be the largest increase in defense spending in over 20 years.

This wartime budget gives President Bush all the resources necessary to meet the Nation's top priorities: winning the war, strengthening our homeland security, investing in the future of our Armed Forces, and keeping our promises to our veterans.

A vote for this wartime budget is a vote for America's freedom. A vote for this wartime budget is a vote for America's security.

#### BUDGET, DEBT, AND SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, let us face the facts: Without last year's tax cut, we could have paid our entire Federal debt by 2008. That occurred before September 11. That is the fact.

Even with already dipping into Social Security, this budget proposes new tax cuts. In fact, the gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT) said he wants to make the Bush tax cuts permanent. Both of these actions would divert money that could have been used to strengthen Social Security and pay down the national debt.

In the post-tax cut budget world we now live in, the national debt will still exist far into the future. Prior to the tax cut, it was projected that from 2002 to 2011, the government would owe \$709 billion in interest. We pay over \$1 billion of interest on the debt every day. That is scandalous.

Members can shake their heads all they want. That is a fact of life. They should look at their own budget. Without a surplus, I do not know how we can protect the long-term solvency of Social Security or Medicare.

#### INDO-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP RESTORED

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday I welcomed to Capitol Hill India's Ambassador to the United States, Lalit Mansingh, and Minister Ajay Swarup. I applaud the Indian government, one of the world's two largest democracies, for fighting the common enemy of international terrorism. Together, America and India can make South Asia and the world a safer place.

I am happy to see economic ties with India booming. Trade increased since 1991 from \$15 million to \$15 billion today, and 2 million Indian-Americans have enriched America with their business acumen.

With the victory of democracy in the Cold War, friendship has been restored between the people of India and America. I support President Bush's initiatives in building a strong partnership between America and India.

I commend the efforts of Ambassador Mansingh and Minister Swarup in their efforts to bring America and India closer together as allies.

#### URGING COLLEAGUES TO SUPPORT THE BUDGET RESOLUTION, WHICH LEAVES NO VETERAN BEHIND

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, next year there will be 700,000 more unique veteran patients in the VA health care network than were projected just 1 year ago. And as our veteran population continues to age and

medical costs continue to skyrocket, we can expect to see this trend continue for most of the decade.

As chairman of the Committee on Veterans Affairs, I have been working with my colleagues to ensure that next year's budget meets the documented needs of our Nation's 25 million veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to say that, under the leadership of the budget chairman, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE), the budget resolution that comes to the floor will not only maintain our sacred commitments, but will actually expand vital health care for our veterans.

The VA's budget will grow to a record \$56.9 billion, including a whopping 12 percent increase in VA health care. That is \$2.8 billion for veterans' health care.

It is a good budget, and I commend the chairman, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE), for crafting this outstanding budget to our Nation's veterans.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, March 18, 2002.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
The Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 15, 2002 at 11:27 a.m. That the Senate agreed to the House amendment to the Senate amendments to the bill H.R. 1499.

Appointments: Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress.

With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,  
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6:30 p.m. today.

PROVIDING FOR BINDING ARBITRATION IN LEASES AND CONTRACTS ON RESERVATION LANDS OF GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 3985) to amend the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the leasing of restricted Indian lands for public, religious, educational, recreational, residential, business, and other purposes requiring the grant of long-term leases", approved August 9, 1955, to provide for binding arbitration clauses in leases and contracts related to reservation lands of the Gila River Indian Community.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3985

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the first section of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the leasing of restricted Indian lands for public, religious, educational, recreational, residential, business, and other purposes requiring the grant of long-term leases", approved August 9, 1955, (69 Stat. 539; 25 U.S.C. 415) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(f) Any lease entered into under the Act of August 9, 1955 (69 Stat. 539), as amended, or any contract entered into under section 2103 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 81), as amended, affecting land within the Gila River Indian Community Reservation may contain a provision for the binding arbitration of disputes arising out of such lease or contract. Such leases or contracts entered into pursuant to such Acts shall be considered within the meaning of 'commerce' as defined and subject to the provisions of section 1 of title 9, United States Code. Any refusal to submit to arbitration pursuant to a binding agreement for arbitration or the exercise of any right conferred by title 9 to abide by the outcome of arbitration pursuant to the provisions of chapter 1 of title 9, sections 1 through 14, United States Code, shall be deemed to be a civil action arising under the Constitution, laws or treaties of the United States within the meaning of section 1331 of title 28, United States Code."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. Hayworth).

□ 1415

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

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with my friend, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) this afternoon on the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the Gila River Indian community is currently a finalist in the new Arizona Cardinals Stadium site selection process. In connection with the possible development of the stadium on the Gila River Indian Community's reservation, the issue has arisen regarding the need for certainty with respect to resolution of contract disputes between the Gila River Indian Community and its business lease tenants.

Many of the community's commercial contracts provide for arbitration of disputes. They further provide that the agreement to arbitrate and any arbitra-

tion decision may be enforced in either tribal or Federal court. Unfortunately, tenants and their lenders remain uncomfortable with the tribal court for a variety of reasons, and Federal courts would lack jurisdiction over contract disputes between private business entities and Indian tribes.

In addition to the possible development of a stadium site, the community has developed the business part for high-end commercial uses. Since potential business partners see no viable means to enforce contract and land lease arbitration provisions, some very good potential tenants for the community's business park and other potential business partners have in the past decided to look elsewhere. Providing potential tenants with a Federal court remedy if the community refuses to arbitrate according to agreed-to lease provisions will cause quality developers to be more interested in leasing land in the business part because leases will be more financeable and marketable.

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, also in my congressional district, has been successful in attracting commercial tenants to its various projects. One reason for its success is a unique Federal statute that Congress adopted in 1983. This statute basically provides that with respect to Salt River leases, Federal courts have jurisdiction to enforce agreements to arbitrate and any resulting arbitration decision. To a large extent, this statute has enabled Salt River leases to be financeable and marketable. Attorneys for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community report that there has never been any Federal court litigation filed pursuant to the statute since it was adopted nearly 20 years ago. Still the statute has provided assurance to tenants that, if necessary, there is an available forum other than tribal court to enforce Salt River's agreement to arbitrate lease disputes.

Mr. Speaker, I would also mention that the introduction of this legislation does not in any way imply any preference for the selection of the Gila River Indian Community for the site of the Arizona Cardinals stadium. I feel that both the Gila River Indian Community site and the city of Mesa site will serve as excellent possibilities for construction of a new stadium. This legislation, however, will help ensure that the best possible business environment will exist if the stadium is to be built. Therefore, I would urge passage of the bill.

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

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

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I certainly would like to commend my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH)

for his management of this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3985, a bill to assist the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona with the plans of economic development of tribal lands. I want to thank and congratulate again the two sponsors of this legislation, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) and also my good friend, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. PASTOR) for their hard work in bringing this bill before us today. Both gentlemen from Arizona are good friends of Indian tribes and are often at the forefront of issues important to all of our Native American community.

The Gila River Indian Community is one of the several Indian tribes which has taken full advantage of the proceeds it receives from a well-run gaming facility to diversify into a comprehensive economic development plan. It is a true success story that this Indian tribe, which not so long ago was impoverished, stands at the brink of becoming the home of the Arizona Cardinals National Football stadium. Years of good management, principles, smart business practices and innovative thinking on behalf of the tribal leaders has brought them to this point.

In order to encourage business development on the Gila River Reservation, the tribe has adopted standard provisions in its commercial agreements which provide for arbitration should any dispute arise. This legislation will provide Federal court jurisdiction to enforce both agreements for arbitration and any resulting arbitration decisions.

Unfortunately, many non-Indian businesses still lack a full understanding of tribal courts and remain uncomfortable with the prospect of pursuing disputes there. The tribe has asked Congress to provide this Federal court remedy to assist them in their economic pursuits. In a letter to the Committee on Resources ranking member, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), Gila River Indian River Community Governor Donald Antone, Sr., wrote, "The community has found this formulation to provide a level of comfort to certain non-Indian businesses who are largely unfamiliar with tribal governments and their judicial system."

This is an example of tribal self-determination at its finest, and I wish to commend Governor Antone and the Gila River Tribal Council continued success as they blend their ancient culture with moderate economic developments to enhance the lives of all their members.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to mention the fact that the Arizona Cardinals National Football team was mentioned here. I have had a couple of my cousins that have played for the Cardinals. In fact, one currently plays for the Arizona Cardinals. His name Ma'o Tosi. He is only six-foot-five and he weighs 300 pounds. I would like to offer my chal-

lenge to our Native American community, where are your Jim Thorpes and Jimmy Sixkillers? We need more of them. I would like to suggest to my friend from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH), I would be more than happy to accommodate any of your needs, if you need more Samoan football players for the Arizona Cardinal team.

With this in mind, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Again, I thank my good friend from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH).

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA). For purposes of full disclosure, we should point out he is quite right. In fact, both the University of Arizona and Arizona State University have enjoyed great success with athletes from American Samoa, and for purposes of full disclosure, my alma mater, N.C. State, enjoyed the services of Niko Noga as middle guard.

We appreciate the athletic prowess of our friends, but more than football, and obviously, we are focused on this possibility, but in spite of football you can see, really, we are looking at financial opportunities and economic possibilities for the Gila River Indian Community, much like the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Community, also in my district, has enjoyed. So this legislation which we join together in a bipartisan fashion to champion today is all about economic opportunity. That is the real possibility we champion here today, even as we certainly tip our rhetorical cap to the great athletes of American Samoa who have performed so admirably in the State of Arizona.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I think this is also a classic example where we find that we recognize the sovereignty of our Native American people, but at the same time we also recognize that there is a sense of flexibility where if there are problems that are needful, not only from the business community, to allow issues that need to be taken or arbitrated or adjudicated, be taken to the Federal courts. I think this is an example of where the States and the tribes can work together and provide solutions to whatever problems arise. I think this legislation provides for that.

Mr. Speaker, again I commend both of my friends, the gentlemen from Arizona (Mr. PASTOR and Mr. HAYWORTH) for working together with our Indian tribes and with the members of the business community of Arizona that we now have provided a resolution to the problem that we have been faced with.

I commend my good friend for his efforts.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, again I would thank my friend, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA), and let me simply say that it is my hope that this example can be replicated to offer economic opportunity throughout the width and breadth of Indian country as we move in the days ahead. I would urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as an original co-sponsor of this important legislation which will help to bring needed economic development opportunities to the Gila River Indian Community located in Phoenix.

In recent months, there have been many inquiries to the Gila River Indian Community from potential tenants for purposes of creating establishment of business. These businesses will not only provide needed job opportunities, but also serve the consumers of Phoenix.

However, one of the persistent questions of potential tenants concerns how lease disputes might be resolved. Many of the Community's commercial contracts provide for arbitration of disputes. They further provide that the agreement to arbitrate may be enforced in either Tribal or Federal Court. There exists, however, an unusual and troubling circumstance associated with this practice. Unfortunately, some tenants and their lenders are uncomfortable with the use of Tribal Courts, and Federal Courts generally lack jurisdiction over landlord-tenant disputes.

This legislation is simply an attempt to make potential business developers and their lenders more comfortable with the method used to settle any disputes or disagreements.

A similar arrangement is already in place with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and it is my understanding that there has never been any Federal Court litigation filed since the statute was adopted almost 20 years ago. Still, the statute has provided assurances and peace of mind to the businesses who have located there. This legislation would virtually establish the same legal proceedings and options for the Gila River Indian Community.

The Gila River Indian Community fully supports this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, again, I wish to express my support for this legislation and ask my colleagues to vote for passage.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3985.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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#### LEASE LOT CONVEYANCE ACT OF 2002

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 706) to direct the Secretary of

the Interior to convey certain properties in the vicinity of the Elephant Butte Reservoir and the Caballo Reservoir, New Mexico, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 706

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

*This Act may be cited as the "Lease Lot Conveyance Act of 2002".*

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

*The Congress finds that the conveyance of the Properties to the Lessees for fair market value would have the beneficial results of—*

(1) eliminating Federal payments in lieu of taxes and associated management expenditures in connection with the Government's ownership of the Properties, while increasing local tax revenues from the new owners;

(2) sustaining existing economic conditions in the vicinity of the Properties, while providing the new owners of the Properties the security to invest in permanent structures and improvements; and

(3) adding needed jobs to the county in which the Properties are located and increasing revenue to the county and surrounding communities through property and gross receipt taxes, thereby increasing economic stability and a sustainable economy in one of the poorest counties in New Mexico.

**SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

*In this Act:*

(1) **FAIR MARKET VALUE.**—*The term "fair market value" means, with respect to a parcel of property, the value of the property determined—*

(A) without regard to improvements constructed by the Lessee of the property;

(B) by an appraisal in accordance with the Uniform Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions; and

(C) by an appraiser approved by the Secretary and the purchaser.

(2) **IRRIGATION DISTRICTS.**—*The term "Irrigation Districts" means the Elephant Butte Irrigation District and the El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1.*

(3) **LESSEE.**—*The term "Lessee" means the leaseholder of a Property on the date of enactment of this Act, and any heir, executor, or assign of the leaseholder with respect to that leasehold interest.*

(4) **PROPERTY.**—*The term "Property" means any of the cabin sites comprising the Properties.*

(5) **PROPERTIES.**—*The term "Properties" means all the real property comprising 403 cabin sites under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation that are located along the western portion of the reservoirs in Elephant Butte State Park and Caballo State Park, New Mexico, including easements, roads, and other appurtenances. The exact acreage and legal description of such real property shall be determined by the Secretary after consulting with the Purchaser.*

(6) **PURCHASER.**—*The term "Purchaser" means the Elephant Butte/Caballo Leaseholders Association, Inc., a nonprofit corporation established under the laws of New Mexico.*

(7) **RESERVOIRS.**—*The term "reservoirs" means the Elephant Butte Reservoir and the Caballo Reservoir in the State of New Mexico.*

(8) **SECRETARY.**—*The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.*

**SEC. 4. CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTIES.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—*The Secretary shall convey to the Purchaser in accordance with this Act, subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Properties and all appurtenances thereto, including specifically easements for—*

(1) vehicular access to each Property;

(2) drainage; and

(3) access to and the use of all ramps, retaining walls, and other improvements for which ac-

cess is provided under the leases that apply to the Properties as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) **CONSIDERATION.**—*As consideration for any conveyance under this section, the Secretary shall require the Purchaser to pay to the United States fair market value of the Properties.*

**SEC. 5. TERMS OF CONVEYANCE.**

(a) **SPECIFIC CONDITIONS.**—*As conditions of any conveyance to the Purchaser under this Act, the Secretary shall require the following:*

(1) **LEASEHOLDERS' OPTION.**—*The Purchaser shall grant to each Lessee of a Property an option—*

(A) to purchase the Property at fair market value; or

(B) to continue leasing the Property on terms to be negotiated with the Purchaser.

(2) **ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.**—*Any reasonable administrative cost incurred by the Secretary incident to the conveyance under section 6 shall be reimbursed by the Purchaser.*

(b) **RESTRICTIVE USE COVENANT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—*To maintain the unique character of the area in the vicinity of the Reservoirs, the Secretary shall establish, by the terms of conveyance, use restrictions to carry out paragraph (2) that—*

(A) are appurtenant to, and run with, each Property; and

(B) are binding upon each subsequent owner of each Property.

(2) **ACCESS TO RESERVOIRS.**—*The use restrictions required by paragraph (1) shall ensure that—*

(A) public access to and along the shoreline of the Reservoirs in existence on the date of enactment of this Act is not obstructed;

(B) adequate public access to and along the shoreline of the Reservoirs is maintained; and

(C) the operation of the Reservoirs by the Secretary or the Irrigation Districts shall not result in liability of the United States or the Irrigation Districts for damages incurred, as a direct or indirect result of such operation, by the owner of any Property conveyed under this Act, including—

(i) damages for any loss of use or enjoyment of a Property; and

(ii) damages resulting from any modifications or construction of any reservoir dam.

(c) **TIMING.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—*The Secretary shall convey the Properties under this Act as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act and in accordance with all applicable law.*

(2) **REPORT.**—*If the Secretary has not completed conveyance of the Properties to the Purchaser by the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall, before the end of that period, submit a report to the Congress explaining the reasons that conveyance has not been completed and stating the date by which the conveyance will be completed.*

(d) **REIMBURSEMENT OF PURCHASER'S COSTS.**—*The terms of conveyance shall authorize the Purchaser to require each Lessee to reimburse the Purchaser for a proportionate share of the costs incurred by the Purchaser in completing the transactions pursuant to this Act, including any interest charges.*

**SEC. 6. RESOLUTION OF CLAIMS AND DISPUTES.**

*After conveyance of the Properties to the Purchaser, if any Lessee has a dispute with or claim against the Purchaser or any of its officers, directors, or members arising from the Properties, the Lessee shall promptly give written notice of the dispute or claim to the Purchaser. If such notice is not provided to the Purchaser within 20 days after the date the Lessee knew or should have known of such dispute or claim, then any right of the Lessee for relief based on such dispute or claim shall be waived. If the Lessee and the Purchaser are unable to resolve the dispute or claim by mediation, the dispute or claim shall be resolved by binding arbitration.*

**SEC. 7. FEDERAL RECLAMATION LAW.**

*No conveyance under this Act shall restrict or limit the authority or ability of the Secretary to fulfill the duties of the Secretary under the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388, chapter 1093), and Acts supplemental to and amendatory of that Act (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.).*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 706, sponsored by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain properties in the vicinity of the Elephant Butte Reservoir and the Caballo Reservoir in New Mexico, to transfer 403 recreational lots on the two reservoirs to private ownership. This transaction will be done at fair market value. Congress expects that the cost of the appraisal and surveys will be included as reimbursable costs to the purchaser. The manager's amendment clarifies several technical issues regarding the transfer of the properties.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), the bill's sponsor, to offer further information on this legislation.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to support passage of H.R. 706, legislation that will allow citizens to purchase the lands on which their homes were built near a Bureau of Reclamation project in southern New Mexico.

The Elephant Butte Reservoir story begins in the 1930s as the government offered people the opportunity to build recreational homes on the land leased from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The covenants in the lease agreements required leaseholders to make substantial investments on the 400-plus sites under this program. It was every leaseholder's hope that the government would someday privatize the leased land and offer it for sale through a purchase option.

The Bureau throughout most of the 20th century apparently felt that some day they might need this land if the dams were ever enlarged. We now believe that the modification or enlargement will never occur.

While legislation enacted by Congress in 1984 allowed the leaseholders of Lake Sumner in New Mexico, where recreational homes also existed, the opportunity to purchase their lots, the residents of Elephant Butte remained in a lease-only situation.

Despite my previous efforts, including the introduction of prior-year legislation, and established patterns of government transfers, the project remained lease-only and lease lot holders remained in limbo.

There are two issues that had to be resolved with the Bureau of Reclamation in order to facilitate a successful transfer. These included property appraisal and the number of lots that would be sold.

My bill, H.R. 706, addresses each of these issues in a fair and equitable manner. In effect, all current leaseholders would have the opportunity to purchase the land on which their homes currently exist as an unimproved, lakefront appraised value.

Finally, the bill guarantees continued public access to the water. I do want to thank the House Committee on Resources for their assistance and especially the Subcommittee on Water and Power chairman, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT), and his talented staff for their assistance and patience in working with me on this important bill.

This legislation is carefully crafted to resolve these issues, and we must not lose the sight of the fact that this is really a story about people, their lives, and the role of the government in the settling of the West.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask Members to do what is right by passing this legislation. It is time that we offer these fine people the opportunity to purchase the land that many have leased for over 60 years.

I thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) for his kindness.

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

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

(Mr. FALÉOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALÉOVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Interior of the Committee on Appropriations, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) as the principal author of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the amendment would transfer title to 43 lakefront lots and improvements within the Bureau of Reclamation's Rio Grande Project in New Mexico and Texas to the Elephant Butte/Caballo Leaseholders Association.

□ 1430

In the late 1940s, reclamation leased one-half acre lakefront sites to visitors using tents, campers or other temporary structures. Over time, permanent structures and other improvements replaced the temporary structures, and many are now used on a full-time basis.

The amendment reflects changes recommended by the Interior and Justice Departments. It requires the leaseholders to pay market value, without regard to improvements made by the lessees.

Certainly there is no question that this legislation is necessary as a relief for these lakefront property owners;

and again, I commend the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), the chairman of our Committee on Appropriations' Subcommittee on Interior. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

Though this oft times is far from the roar of the grease paint and the smell of the crowd, this is another commonsense piece of legislation that we will move on today to reaffirm what is really, we call it bipartisan but basically nonpartisan, focusing on results for real people.

The gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), the dean of that State's delegation, put it quite succinctly, and I think very poignantly, when he said this legislation ultimately is about people and doing what is right; and it is in that spirit that I would commend this legislation to the full body. I congratulate the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) on a commonsense piece of legislation.

I thank, once again, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALÉOMAVAEGA) for his help on this and the help of all the members of the committee to expedite this process to do the right thing.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I want to remind my colleagues, this piece of legislation had the full, bipartisan support of the Committee on Resources. It also has the support of the administration, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 706, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### NATIONAL PARK OF AMERICAN SAMOA BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1712) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make minor adjustments to the boundary of the National Park of American Samoa to include certain portions of the islands of Ofu and Olosega within the park, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1712

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT OF THE NATIONAL PARK OF AMERICAN SAMOA.

*Section 2(b) of the Act entitled "An Act to establish the National Park of American Samoa" (16 U.S.C. 410qq-1(b)), approved October 31, 1988, is amended—*

*(1) by striking "(1)", "(2)", and "(3)" and inserting "(A)", "(B)", and "(C)", respectively;*

*(2) by inserting "(1)" after "INCLUDED.—"; and*

*(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:*

*"(2) The Secretary may make adjustments to the boundary of the park to include within the park certain portions of the islands of Ofu and Olosega, as depicted on the map entitled 'National Park of American Samoa, Proposed Boundary Adjustment', numbered 82,035 and dated February 2002, pursuant to an agreement with the Governor of American Samoa and contingent upon the lease to the Secretary of the newly added lands. As soon as practicable after a boundary adjustment under this paragraph, the Secretary shall modify the maps referred to in paragraph (1) accordingly."*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALÉOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH).

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

H.R. 1712, introduced by our committee colleague, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALÉOMAVAEGA), would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make adjustments to the boundary of the national park of American Samoa to include certain portions of the islands of Ofu and Olosega within the park.

Created in 1988, the national park of American Samoa preserves the tropical forests and archeological and cultural resources of American Samoa and its associated coral reefs. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the national park of American Samoa preserves the only paleotropical rain forest in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, expanding the park's boundaries to include land and water on the islands of Ofu and Olosega would protect additional coral communities that harbor great diversity of species, including the endangered hawbill, preserve high concentrations of medicinal plants, and offer increased scuba diving and hiking opportunities, while at the same time preserve subsistence fishing, which is protected by the park's enabling legislation.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, unlike all other units in our national park system, the National Park Service would lease, rather than purchase, the additional lands. Currently, the park service manages 9,000 acres of land and water on the islands of American Samoa through a 50-year lease. The additional lands and waters would also be leased by the park service.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1712, as amended.

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

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

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I want to certainly thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) for his eloquent statement in support of this legislation. I also want to thank the Republican and Democratic House leadership, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), our full committee leaders, and the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), with the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands, for their support in bringing this bill to the floor today. H.R. 1712 will make adjustments to the boundary of the national park of American Samoa.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. territory of American Samoa is located approximately 2,400 miles directly south of Hawaii. The national park in American Samoa is located on three separate islands: Tutuila, Ofu and Ta'u. The islands of Ofu and Olosega, portions of which would be added to the park under this legislation, are small islands which lie adjacent to each other and are connected by a short bridge.

In 1998, I received a request from the village chiefs of Sili and Olosega, on the island of Olosega, to include portions of their village lands within the national park. The chiefs noted the important role the park plays in preserving the natural and cultural resources of the territory, and indicated that the village councils believed there are significant cultural resources on village lands which warrant consideration for addition to the park.

About 2 years ago I had asked the National Park Service to conduct studies to determine if there were cultural and natural resources on the island which warranted inclusion in the park. The park service completed reconnaissance surveys on the islands of Olosega and a portion of the island of Ofu and reported on both.

The National Park Service concluded in part: the archaeological significance of Olosega Island cannot be understated. Sites on the ridgeline and terraces may offer an important opportunity for the study and interpretation of ancient Samoa. The number and density of star mounds (31), the great number of modified terraces, about 46 sites, and homesites of about 14, the subsistence system, and the artifacts available are all important findings. This is particularly significant in that they were recorded in only 3 days of visual surveys on only a portion of the island.

The National Park Service researchers also discovered that on top of this particular island of Olosega, were several acres of medicinal plants that are found nowhere else in the Samoan islands. This leads me to my next point, Mr. Speaker, about the importance of this unique national park.

One of the world's most renowned ethnobotanists, Dr. Paul Cox, who is currently the director of the National Tropical Botanical Garden on the island of Kauai in the State of Hawaii, conducted a series of research and study of several of the ancient Samoan medicinal plants. From one of these plants a substance called protractin has now been discovered. It has been found that protractin may have beneficial properties for the treatment of HIV/AIDS.

About two weeks ago, my district was privileged to host one of the world's most renowned marine ocean scientists, Dr. Sylvia Earle. Believe it or not, Dr. Earle continues to explore the ocean as a scuba diver, and in doing so, found that one of the rarest giant clams in the world can only be found in the Samoan islands.

Mr. Speaker, the national park of American Samoa is continuing to develop. Established in 1988 by Public Law 100-571, the park took several years to become operational. Today, however, tourists are visiting and schoolteachers are using the park as an educational resource to help the students learn more about Samoan history and ancient culture, the environment and ecological conservation. The park is preserving the area within its boundaries; but as the population grows, from about 22 percent, considerable pressure has been placed on these undeveloped areas.

The additions proposed by this legislation will preserve important sections of the remaining natural and cultural resources of the territory.

Again, because of the historical significance of this park, I respectfully request and ask my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

I appreciate the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) going into more detail about this unique national park and exactly the treasures there, the opportunities there and things that are worth saving there within the confines of that park and why it is necessary to move forward in this legislation. I would join him in earnest bipartisan support for this because I think it is a scientific treasure for us and one that, as he has pointed out, with the medicinal value of plants and other things there, things that may hold the key to medical miracles and marvels yet to come.

It is in that spirit that I would urge passage of the legislation.

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) for his eloquence and his remarks.

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 Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1712, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### COMMENDING PENTAGON RENOVATION PROGRAM

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 368) commending the great work that the Pentagon Renovation Program and its contractors have completed thus far, in reconstructing the portion of the Pentagon that was destroyed by the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 368

Whereas the Pentagon was struck by a horrible act of terrorism on September 11, 2001, taking the lives of 125 employees at the Pentagon and 64 hostages on a hijacked airplane;

Whereas a renovation effort, known as Phoenix Project, is underway to restore the damaged portion of the Pentagon, and is pushing to have Pentagon personnel back to work in that portion of the building by September 11, 2002, just 1 short year after the terrorist attack;

Whereas, initially working 24 hours a day and 7 days each week, the outstanding men and women of the Pentagon Renovation Program have demonstrated the Nation's resolve and know-how, and are 6 weeks ahead of schedule in the reconstruction effort;

Whereas the 400,000 square feet of demolition work, which had to be completed before reconstruction work could begin, was completed in just 1 month, when it was estimated to take 4 to 7 months for the job; and

Whereas the renovation effort is comprised of 15 percent government and 85 percent contracted personnel, and these individuals have clearly dedicated themselves to making this important institution whole again: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives commends the great work that the Pentagon Renovation Program and its contractors have completed thus far, in reconstructing the portion of the Pentagon that was destroyed by the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) and the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. Saxton. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 368, commending the great work that the Pentagon renovation program and its contractors have accomplished in swiftly repairing the Pentagon after the devastating attack of September 11, 2001. I thank our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY), for sponsoring this resolution.

Shortly after the tragic event of September 11, I led a small delegation to visit the Pentagon. The devastation was truly appalling, and I was sure that a lengthy period would be required to repair such extensive damage. Of course, I am glad to report that I was wrong.

The dedication and superhuman efforts of the Pentagon renovation program office and its contractors have defied all predictions in their ability to work miracles. The removal of the debris and restoration of the damaged area aptly called the Phoenix Project has amazed the world in the speed of its operation.

The damaged wedge had been virtually renovated as part of the ongoing project to refurbish the Pentagon before the plane struck last September. Determined to finish the job and have people back at their desk by September 11 of this year, the dedicated team of government and contract employees went into immediate action. Work on the crash site was conducted around the clock for three months and is now down to a mere 20 hours a day. I understand that workers had to be forced to take time off for Christmas and have protested the cessation of the 24-hour day operations.

The pace and skill of this reconstruction effort is truly a masterpiece of American ingenuity and effort and is a positive reaction to the evil of September 11 of last year.

□ 1445

Mr. Speaker, all involved in this extraordinary effort deserve our deepest gratitude.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities, I pay close attention to military construction projects. I have never seen one proceed at this pace and sincerely hope that there is never a reason to proceed at this pace again. But these intrepid souls have shown the world what American spirit and resolve are all about. Many have worked on this project and they are heroes, in my mind.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that Members will all support H. Res. 368, but, Mr. Speaker, let me just commend the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) for his great efforts in bringing this resolution to us. It is something that I think is very worthwhile for us to note here in an official way today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 368, introduced by my colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY), as indicated by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON), and endorsed by numerous other Members of the House. The resolution commends the outstanding progress made thus far by the Pentagon Renovation Program and its contractors in reconstructing the section of the Pentagon damaged by the terrorist attack.

On September 11, 2001, Mr. Speaker, our Nation suffered four unprovoked terrorist attacks, three of which found their aim in two of our most powerful symbols of strength and democracy. Two days after the attacks, the Army asked the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON), myself, and several other Members involved in the Subcommittee on Military Construction to visit the Pentagon site and survey the damage sustained there. Like the rest of the American public, we were stunned by the gash in what had previously seemed to be the impenetrable exterior of the Pentagon.

What really caught our attention, though, was the work already under way. A small city of support was buzzing on the lawn. Firefighters were still battling flare-ups and hot spots, and military and civilian personnel were securing the building and sifting through the debris. No one was waiting to be told what to do. They were just doing what they knew needed to be done.

The Pentagon Renovation Program has exceeded every expectation. The American public realized the significance of healing this visible wound as soon as possible, and the Phoenix Project has made it a reality. Government and contract personnel put their shoulders to the wheel, at times laboring around the clock, to tear down the most severely damaged sections and to rebuild it from the ground up. Demolition was supposed to take 7 or 8 months, Mr. Speaker. The team completed it in 1 month and 1 day. That is the power of American resolve.

I have the utmost confidence that the Renovation Program will meet its ultimate goal to have people back at their desks by September 10, 2002. There could be no greater tribute to those who lost their lives than to know that the men and women of the Department of Defense are once again doing the business of the country from their proper Pentagon offices.

Mr. Speaker, let us honor these Americans, public workers and private citizens, willing to dedicate themselves to the rebuilding of our national morale.

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

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY).

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and, thus, giving me the opportunity to praise so many fabulous and phenomenal workers at the Pentagon.

I would first like to thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STUMP), Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, for expediting this important resolution. The Committee worked especially quickly with the staff from the Pentagon to move this resolution forward, House Resolution 368, for which I know all of us are grateful. Within 48 hours, 70-plus colleagues on both sides of the aisle quickly joined me in saluting the men and women at the Pentagon.

Mr. Speaker, anyone who has driven by the Pentagon recently has been a firsthand witness to the amazing determination and depth of the American spirit. That spirit is embodied in all the workers who are resurrecting the Pentagon in a reconstruction project aptly named Project Phoenix. Just 6 short months ago, terrorists attempted to attack and raze a symbol of America. They found they could barely scratch the surface.

From the individuals who immediately responded to the attack delivering triage, to the many people affected by the explosion, to the ongoing efforts of Project Phoenix, America's resolve and strength are clear and evident. Anyone who has seen the Pentagon lately has seen a miracle of reconstruction, and behind that miracle are all the workers who have clearly taken hold of this project, showing the world that what evil tries to destroy can be rebuilt stronger, bigger, and better.

It is as clear as the Pentagon itself that these workers are adding more than bricks and mortar to this cherished building; they are leaving an imprint of their dedication that rose from the ashes of September 11. Starting almost immediately after the attack, workers labored 24 hours a day to clear the area of over 400,000 square feet of debris, a project they completed amazingly in only a little more than 1 month. They are now 6 weeks ahead of schedule, with an ever-visible goal in site.

Above the construction site on the building is a clock counting down to September 11, 2002. The workers made a commitment that they would have Pentagon employees working back at their desks in the outer ring of the Pentagon by September 11, 2002. And as that clock counts down, it is a constant reminder of the importance of this work.

Mr. Speaker, what these workers have displayed is a deep, true dedication that cannot be feigned. It must come from within. And it for that dedication that I introduced this resolution and received such overwhelming support from my colleagues. I know others will speak today: the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS), the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA), and others joining us on the House floor today. We invite everyone on Thursday, at 1 p.m., to the Pentagon for a formal presentation of this proclamation.

One more word, Mr. Speaker, and I know that the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) know this personally, we have spent a lot of time talking about the tragedy in New York, and at times I feel we have actually slighted those brave men and women who were killed in the ashes of this devastation just a short mile and a half from this complex. I salute their families as well and the memory of those loved ones lost, and just want to assure them that every person's life that was taken by terrorists will never be forgotten. While we salute the tremendous accomplishments of the men and women on the construction site, let us not leave this floor without spending a moment to commemorate those brave men and women who serve us daily in uniform, those who lost their lives, who never returned home, but stood vigil over this great Nation of ours.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), who is representing the Pentagon here today, as it resides in his district.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague from Hawaii for yielding me this time, and I thank my friends and colleagues, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON), as well as all those involved in this resolution.

Since the Pentagon is in my congressional district, it would be tempting to take credit for the extra \$1.1 billion that we added to the supplemental appropriations bill last year to make this possible, but in fact, the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA), the chairman and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations, do deserve recognition for making this request a priority. But I know that they would agree that the most deserved credit, as the resolution says, goes to the tireless work of the men and women charged with the actual rebuilding of the Pentagon.

On September 11, a day forever to be marked in infamy in United States history, one of our Nation's historic landmarks and the operational center of the world's most powerful military was struck by the evils of international ter-

rorism. This heinous act caught us by surprise; however, in the days that followed, our steely resolve triggered an overwhelming military response and an unprecedented effort to rebuild our defiled monument.

Titled the Phoenix Project, the renovation of the Pentagon is an ongoing demonstration of U.S. technological and civil engineering advances. It is in operation 24 hours a day, 6 days a week, consists of construction shifts running from 6:30 a.m. until 2:30 in the morning, from the early hours before daybreak until long after the sun sets. These American workers are demonstrating our Nation's collective resolve to rise from the ashes and go forward undeterred in our efforts to wipe out the terrorist threat.

While the renovation is running like a well-oiled machine, its success could not be maintained without the dedication and deep-seated devotion of the work crews responsible for its execution. As a testament to their efficient labors, the demolition, slated for completion in 7 months, the demolition, was incredibly finished in just 1 month. The blood, sweat and, undoubtedly, tears shed by these hardworking individuals is a true example of America's work ethic and ingenuity.

The purpose of this resolution, as I know my friend from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) would agree, is simply to take a moment from our day to salute these patriots. We proudly stand to honor their efforts and wait in anticipation for the 1-year anniversary of September 11 when the culmination of their labor will come to fruition and America's living monument to its military superiority will be whole again and built stronger than ever.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and for having this resolution come to the floor of the House. I rise in strong support for House Resolution 368.

I want to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) for introducing the resolution, which I am proud to be a cosponsor of. The resolution commends the efforts of the many individuals and organizations that have done a remarkable job at the Pentagon in the Pentagon renovation effort.

The Phoenix Project is already 6 weeks ahead of schedule, as my colleagues heard, and demolition work that was supposed to take 7 months has taken only 1. The crew, made up of government workers and contractor personnel, has built the skeleton for the outer ring in just 6 months and is on schedule to be open again by this coming September 11. How remarkable.

I also want to mention the efforts of AMEC. This is a design and construction company in my district, Montgomery County, Maryland, for the work they have done during this renovation. They actually were respon-

sible for the wedge-one renovations that were basically completed right before September 11. AMEC has now been leading the efforts in refurbishing wedge one, and I applaud their work.

Specifically, I want to thank their wonderful team: Brett Eaton, Dave Coffman, Karl Johnson, John Macenczak, William Rock Viner, Greg Vachon, Sing Banh, Eric Sin, Michael Palumbo, Shaul Kopyto, David Conner, Avis Woods, David Clint, and Claude Bernier. These individuals, as well as hundreds of others who have worked tirelessly since September 11, deserve commendation, and I hope that all Members of this House will support this in this very important resolution.

Yes, I toured the Pentagon several days after September 11, and I look forward to being at the presentation of this resolution at the Pentagon on Thursday, March 21, to say thanks.

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

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, prior to yielding back the balance of my time, because I would just like to say that the folks who are rebuilding the Pentagon are setting a great example for the rest of America and the rest of the world. But I think it is equally important today that we do not forget the thousands of other people who are involved in activities that are related to the attack on the Pentagon.

Obviously, there were people who lost their lives on September 11 and in the following days, and there are people involved today at the Pentagon who are not involved in the rebuilding effort. There are people involved in other Federal agencies around the world, and there are U.S. troops in places like Afghanistan, and Tajikistan, and in Yemen, in Georgia; and there are Marines standing at their posts at embassies all around the world.

□ 1500

Mr. Speaker, these people are all people who deserve a great deal of credit. But today we choose to single out one group of people who are setting an example of American resolve. That resolve, however, is shared by those I just mentioned and many others. So let the word go out to the terrorists and the would-be terrorists that we are here and we take note of what has occurred during the last 6 months. They should take note, as well, about how serious we are.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women who are rebuilding the Pentagon are an example of that, but they are not the only example of that. We thank them for what they are doing, and I again pay my great thanks to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) for bringing this resolution to us today. We look forward to joining the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) in the presentation that will take place in the next day or so.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 368.

My Congressional District, the 10th of Virginia, lost nearly 30 people at the Pentagon to the tragic events of September 11, 2001. This resolution commends the Phoenix Project which is the ongoing effort at the Pentagon to rebuild the damaged section by September 11, 2002. Like the Phoenix which rose out of the ashes, the project is running on schedule because Phoenix team members are working around the clock, 6 days per week, to bring the Pentagon back from the "ashes." It is those workers today who we congratulate and thank.

The reconstruction of the Pentagon will rebuild the damaged building and also help heal emotional wounds. It also sends a message to the terrorists that America cannot be defeated. Our ideals and freedoms will not waiver in the face of terrorism.

I am honored to be speaking in support of this resolution. It is important that we not forget the courage and bravery of all those affected by the events of September 11.

I urge your unanimous support for this resolution to honor those brave Americans who died on September 11 and to thank those workers who are rebuilding the Pentagon.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and pride that I rise today to pay tribute to the men and women who have worked so hard to rebuild the Nation's military headquarters and a national icon.

Although born out of tragedy, the current reconstruction project represents an opportunity to memorialize permanently and prominently our Nation's history of resilience in the face of adversity. I congratulate the workers and contractors who are ahead of schedule in repairing the huge hole blown out of the Pentagon on Tuesday, September 11, 2001, by a terrorist-hijacked airliner.

The efforts of those involved in reconstruction have enabled the Pentagon to get back to business—waging war in Central Asia and destroying those networks responsible for the terrorist attacks in Washington, New York, and Pennsylvania. The demolition of the wounded section took only 1 month and a day to complete, aided by 24-hour days, 7 days a week and landfills that stayed open all night. Weary workers celebrated the day they finished, November 19, by placing a Christmas tree on the Pentagon's roof. It marked a turning point toward the positive: they would stop tearing down and start building up.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate the crews at the Pentagon who have toiled tirelessly for more than 3 months now, trying to fix what was broken, replace what was destroyed, and put back together a meticulous, 20-year, \$1.2-billion renovation effort that was already well along at the time of the attack.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 368.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### UTAH PUBLIC LANDS ARTIFACT PRESERVATION ACT

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3928) to assist in the preservation of archaeological, paleontological, zoological, geological, and botanical artifacts through construction of a new facility for the University of Utah Museum of Natural History, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3928

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Utah Public Lands Artifact Preservation Act".

##### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the collection of the Utah Museum of Natural History in Salt Lake City, Utah, includes more than 1,000,000 archaeological, paleontological, zoological, geological, and botanical artifacts;

(2) the collection of items housed by the Museum contains artifacts from land managed by—

(A) the Bureau of Land Management;

(B) the Bureau of Reclamation;

(C) the National Park Service;

(D) the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and

(E) the Forest Service;

(3) more than 75 percent of the Museum's collection was recovered from federally managed public land; and

(4) the Museum has been designated by the legislature of the State of Utah as the State museum of natural history.

##### SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MUSEUM.—The term "Museum" means the University of Utah Museum of Natural History in Salt Lake City, Utah.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

##### SEC. 4. ASSISTANCE FOR UNIVERSITY OF UTAH MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

(a) ASSISTANCE FOR MUSEUM.—The Secretary shall make a grant to the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah, to pay the Federal share of the costs of construction of a new facility for the Museum, including the design, planning, furnishing, and equipping of the Museum.

(b) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under subsection (b), the Museum shall submit to the Secretary a proposal for the use of the grant.

(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs described in subsection (a) shall not exceed 25 percent.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to

carry out this section \$15,000,000, to remain available until expended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3928 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to assist the University of Utah by making a grant to the University of Utah Museum of Natural History in Salt Lake City, Utah, to help pay for the Federal share of the costs of construction of a new natural history museum. The Federal share, however, would not exceed 25 percent of the total cost.

Mr. Speaker, while the museum holds large collections of objects and specimens recovered from State and private lands, the vast majority of the collection has come from public lands in Utah and the surrounding States in the Intermountain West. In fact, more than 75 percent of the museum's collection contains artifacts from lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The building which currently houses archeological, paleontological, zoological, geological, and botanical artifacts poses serious environmental threats to the collection, lacks good public access, and contains very small and outdated exhibits.

Mr. Speaker, for its part, the University of Utah has acquired the land for a new building, and the State of Utah has committed \$800,000 for its annual operations and has collected \$11 million towards the construction of the new building.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this is a good example of a public-private partnership. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3928.

Mr. Speaker, there is one thing I would like to say concerning the bill. Too often in this town there is more emphasis placed on who gets the credit rather than what is the right thing to do. I would like to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON), who has worked tirelessly on this issue; and I want the record to show that without his ability to make compromises, we would not be here today.

I have learned in my 22 years that the most successful legislators are those willing to take up the pick and the shovel and go to work. The gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON) has demonstrated his willingness to do that.

The Members of the other body also deserve credit for this initiative. They have been a friend to the museum for years. Although we have the luxury of expending the legislative process over

here and expediting it, I hope that Members of the other body will be able to carry this legislation from here and let us get this done. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3928.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I commend the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Resources, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), for his eloquent remarks and as a cosponsor of this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON), the chief cosponsor of this legislation.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give support to H.R. 3928, a bill that would provide the Natural History Museum at the University of Utah with the means to restore, protect, and preserve our shared natural heritage.

In 1824, a philanthropist named James Smithson bequeathed his fortune to the government of the United States in order to found an institution to "increase the diffusion of knowledge among men."

In 1846 the United States established the Smithsonian Institution and established the wise and remarkable precedent of the value of public investment in institutions of science, research, and heritage.

Mr. Speaker, in Utah we have an institution that houses 1 billion years of the history of life on our planet. It is an institution that holds three-quarters of a million artifacts detailing tens of thousands of years of Native American life throughout the Rocky Mountain and Great Basin areas of our country.

It contains over 30,000 specimens of mammals, one of the 30 largest collections in the western hemisphere, and its 18,000 specimen reptile collection contains one of the largest turtle assemblages in the world.

It is an institution that houses one of the world's great paleontology collections. Its 12,000 specimen vertebrate fossil collection is dominated by 150 million-year-old dinosaurs from the Jurassic period, as well as Ice Age mammals such as giant bears, mammoths, and mastodons.

What I have just described is just a fraction of the resources provided by the University of Utah's Natural History Museum. It is a treasure unsurpassed in the western United States.

However, these resources are under threat. First, they are housed in a converted library built during the 1930s. It is a building constructed for the close, claustrophobic stacking of books, not for the storage of artifacts. Most of the ceilings throughout the building are 7 feet 2 inches high, which makes dinosaur storage somewhat of a problem.

Climate control and water systems are woefully antiquated. The humidity

and temperature in the display and storage areas have wide swings. This inconsistency puts tremendous strain on the increasingly fragile collections. It is plausible to think that a child's Pokemon cards might be at less risk for damage than some of the pieces in this collection.

The university, along with private donors and the State government, have embarked on an ambitious project to build a new museum that would be a centerpiece for cultural and scientific education in the Intermountain West.

This project will be a partnership in every sense of the word. State and private donors have promised to match every Federal dollar with three of their own. The university's donors and alumni network view this as a priority project for Utah and are actively engaged in its development.

The university has already contributed the 14 acres for the development. The State has guaranteed the operating funds for the facility at \$800,000 per year. To date, close to \$12 million has been raised from private donors. This includes \$10 million from the Emma Eccles Jones Foundation.

Unlike many museums throughout the country, 75 percent of the museum's holdings are owned outright by the Federal Government, with more than 90 percent of some collections coming from Federal lands. That means that these artifacts, fossils, and specimens belong to the people of the United States. These exhibits and collections are part of our collective national heritage. With Congress' help, we can save these treasures for future generations of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I want to give special thanks to the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Resources. I thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) for his diligence, dedication, and commitment to this project. This was a collaborative effort in every sense. The gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) is a true gentleman legislator, and this Chamber will be diminished by his upcoming departure.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON).

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3928, the Utah Public Lands Artifact Preservation Act.

Before Utah was home to the Olympics, it was home to dozens of Native American tribes, ancient plants, wildlife and dinosaurs. The rich history of this region has been a looking glass into the natural history of America. Scientists have used the millions of artifacts discovered here to preserve the past and gain knowledge for the future.

The University of Utah houses over a million artifacts from this region. Though famous for the exhibits that feature tens of thousands of ancient mammals, reptiles, dinosaurs, and Native American artifacts, the museum serves a much greater purpose. It will also serve as a center for science lit-

eracy and educating students about the natural history of the Columbia Plateau.

Mr. Speaker, 75 percent of the artifacts have been recovered from federally managed land. With this grant from the Department of the Interior, the museum will continue to promote cultural diversity of the region for future generations. I applaud the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and all others who have worked to make this bill a reality.

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

Mr. Speaker, I commend the members of the Utah delegation for their bipartisanship in supporting this legislation. It goes without saying that this was also true when the proposed bill was brought before the Committee on Resources. I commend our chairman, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON) for their cosponsorship of this bill, and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON) for his remarks and his support.

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3928.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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#### VACATING ORDERING OF YEAS AND NAYS ON H.R. 1712, NATIONAL PARK OF AMERICAN SAMOA BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT

Mr. FALDOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to vacate the ordering of the yeas and nays on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1712, as amended, to the end that the Chair put the question on the motion de novo.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from American Samoa?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1712, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make adjustments to the boundary of the National Park of American Samoa to include

certain portions of the islands of Ofu and Olosega within the park, and for other purposes.”.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and exclude extraneous material on the four Committee on Resources bills considered today, H.R. 3928, H.R. 706, H.R. 1712, and H.R. 3985.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

□ 1515

#### EXTENDING AUTHORITY OF EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2019) to extend the authority of the Export-Import Bank until April 30, 2002.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 2019

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.*

#### SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF EXPORT-IMPORT BANK.

Notwithstanding the dates specified in section 7 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635f) and section 1(c) of Public Law 103-428, The Export-Import Bank of the United States shall continue to exercise its functions in connection with and in furtherance of its objects and purposes through April 30, 2002.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to yield 10 minutes of my 20 minutes to the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) so that he can manage that 10 minutes in opposition to the bill. I will manage 10 minutes of the 20 minutes in support of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) each will control 10 minutes.

There was no objection.

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

This Member rises today in support of S. 2019, which is being considered under the suspension of the rules. This legislation extends the authorization of the Export-Import Bank until April 30, 2002. This Member would also note that he introduced identical House companion legislation, H.R. 3987.

Under current law, the authorization of the Export-Import Bank expires on March 31, 2002. If this short-term authorization extension is not signed into law, the Export-Import Bank could engage in no new transactions and would have to wind down its current operations as of the expiration date. On March 14, 2002, the Senate passed this Ex-Im extension bill and a separate Ex-Im authorization bill. It is important that the House debate and approve the Senate extension bill today so that the President can sign this into law before the March 31 expiration date.

At the outset, this Member would like to thank the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Financial Services from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY) for his leadership on Ex-Im Bank issues and for that of the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) and the distinguished gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) for their help and assistance and for their support of this legislation in general. This Member has, of course, a special interest since he chairs the House Financial Services Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade, which has jurisdiction over the Ex-Im Bank.

The Export-Import Bank is an independent U.S. Government agency that provides direct loans to buyers of U.S. exports, guarantees to commercial loans to buyers of U.S. products and insurance products which greatly benefit short-term small business sales. To illustrate the importance of the Ex-Im Bank, in fiscal year 2000 the Bank invested over \$15 billion in exports through loans, guarantees and insurance by which the Ex-Im Bank financed exports such as civilian aircraft, electronics, engineering services, vehicles, agricultural products, et cetera, for businesses of all sizes. The Export-Import Bank, I stress, is intended to be only the lender of last resort and is not intended to compete with private lenders.

On October 31, 2001, the House Committee on Financial Services passed H.R. 2871, a more comprehensive and 4-year authorization bill, by voice vote. That legislation, among other things, would require that the Export-Import Bank earmark at least 20 percent of its total financing for small businesses. Under current law, the Ex-Im Bank is required to use only 10 percent of its total financing for small businesses. This authorization bill also would require the Export-Import Bank to continue to increase its investment in Africa.

Moreover, an amendment was accepted at the full committee markup, which was offered by the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr.

TOOMEY), that would address Ex-Im Bank's transaction with a Chinese steel producer. This legislation would also make a clarification in the administration of the Tied Aid War Chest which finances tied aid transactions. However, a veto threat by the Treasury Department over the relationships and disputed powers of the Treasury and the Export-Import Bank and lost time in sporadic negotiations between the committee and the executive branch have delayed the committee in bringing H.R. 2871 to the House floor for action. Thus, the need for this extension.

In conclusion, this Member urges his colleagues to support this short-term extension for the Export-Import Bank until April 30, 2002.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I support this measure to ensure that the operations of the Export-Import Bank are not interrupted for a 30-day period while we continue our work on a multiyear reauthorization of the Bank. I am hopeful that we will use these additional 30 days to resolve any remaining issues with H.R. 2871, the multiyear authorization bill that was reported out of the Committee on Financial Services on a bipartisan voice vote.

It is important, Mr. Speaker, that we put to rest as quickly as possible any uncertainties about the Bank's ability to operate in the months ahead. Mind you, it is our position that we should bring the bill to the floor of the House, that was reported out of the Committee on Financial Services. There are issues in dispute. We hope they can be resolved before they come to the floor. If not, they should be brought to the floor and they should be voted upon, which is what we are elected to do. And so, while I support this 30-day extension to keep the operations of the Bank functioning, this should not be viewed as a sign on the part of the Republican leadership that they can continue to delay consideration of those issues over which certain Members disagree.

The Export-Import Bank promotes U.S. exports, but it does so for very specific reasons. First, Ex-Im operates in a very competitive international environment in which export credit agencies in other countries are increasingly aggressive in supporting the exports of our competitors. Ex-Im is critical in countering these transactions and, in doing so, providing leverage for the United States to negotiate a gradual reduction in export subsidy activities amongst OECD members. In short, absent the United States Ex-Im Bank, U.S. exporters would find themselves competing at a disadvantage against foreign exporters who enjoy government subsidies.

Secondly, Ex-Im provides critical export financing in cases where there is a market failure in private lending. Frequently, these failures relate to the nature of the exporter. Small businesses

too often face problems obtaining private credit for export transactions. Failures also relate to the nature of the export market. Markets in sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere in the developing world are frequently overlooked by private export credit. Ex-Im goes where private lenders are unwilling to go to the ultimate benefit of these developing countries, the United States and the global economy.

Finally, I would like to highlight very briefly the importance of H.R. 2871, the bill that was reported out of the Committee on Financial Services but that the Republican leadership refuses to bring to the floor for a vote. In addition to reauthorizing the bank for 4 years rather than 30 days, the bill contains important provisions that will better define and guide Ex-Im's policies and programs. I am hoping that we will have the opportunity to take up that bill within the next 30 days.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LAFALCE. I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska.

Mr. BEREUTER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I want to tell the gentleman that it is not the Republican leadership that is delaying the movement of this bill to the floor. It is a matter of dispute between Treasury and, I might say, our committee and also a matter of dispute between Treasury and the Export-Import Bank as to whether or not Treasury has a veto over the use of the Tied Aid War Chest, which the gentleman and I both support; and we are trying to have the committee's position prevail and avoid a veto threat in the process.

Mr. LAFALCE. It is my position that the Treasury does not determine what bills come to the floor of the House of Representatives, that it is the House Republican leadership that makes that determination.

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

As the ranking member of the Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade, I rise to express my strong concerns regarding the reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank.

Mr. Speaker, many supporters of the Export-Import Bank argue that the Bank is necessary because it creates jobs and it helps out small business. Obviously, when you spend hundreds of millions of dollars, you are going to create jobs. You could drop money out of an airplane and you would create jobs.

The question is, given the amount of money that we spend, given the risk to American taxpayers, is the Export-Import Bank doing a good enough job in creating work for the American people? And I would submit very strongly that that is not the case. And if the Export-Import Bank is not thoroughly reformed in terms of its goals and the way it functions, it should not continue to exist.

The problem that I have with the Export-Import Bank is that we continue

to primarily fund many of the largest corporations in America, who openly acknowledge and are very proud of the fact that they are laying off hundreds of thousands of American workers and taking our jobs to China, to Mexico, and to other desperate developing countries where people are being paid pennies an hour to do human labor. Essentially what the Export-Import Bank says is, "Thank you, large corporation, for laying off thousands of American workers; and as your reward for doing that, hey, come on in line and we're going to give you a loan or a loan guarantee or some other kind of subsidy."

I am sure that that policy and that approach makes sense to somebody, especially the well-paid CEOs of the large multinational corporations and their lobbyists and friends who contribute huge sums of money into the political process, but I do not think it makes sense to the average American worker or the average American taxpayer. How could we have a so-called job-creating program when the major recipients of Export-Import loans and guarantees are the major job cutters in the United States of America?

Some of my opponents will say, well, they are creating jobs. I acknowledge that. But the fact of the matter is, given the huge amount of money that is being spent, given the leverage that the Export-Import Bank has, they are doing a poor job. And in my view, you do not reward companies that publicly acknowledge to the world that they are going to China to hire people at 30 cents an hour and then you say to those people, "No problem. Come on in line and you're going to get taxpayer dollars."

Mr. Speaker, last summer I worked with the subcommittee chairman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), a good friend of mine, who is doing a very good job on this issue. Together, we introduced a bill, H.R. 2517, that would have addressed this problem in a very serious way. H.R. 2517 would have prevented companies from receiving Export-Import Bank assistance if they lay off a greater percentage of workers in the United States than they lay off in foreign countries.

For example, if a company lays off 20 percent of its American workforce but only lays off 10 percent of its foreign workforce, that company would be denied future Export-Import Bank assistance unless it restored those American jobs. I know that people think that is a radical idea. Imagine telling American companies who want taxpayer money that they cannot just willy-nilly lay off American workers. Imagine them having to come forward and say that they want to grow jobs in their company.

The other aspect of the legislation that the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and I worked on together was to put more emphasis on small business help for the Export-Import Bank. The fact of the matter is, it is not Boeing, it is not General Electric,

it is not the large multinationals that are creating jobs in this country; it is small business. I say that if small businesses want help in creating jobs in the United States, let us support them. And if Boeing and General Electric want to take jobs to China, that is fine, but do not come to the taxpayers of this country and ask for support.

I should mention, Mr. Speaker, that that legislation had the support of eight major labor unions and one prominent business group, including the United Steelworkers, the International Association of Machinists, UNITE, Boilermakers, Pace, the United Electrical Workers, the Independent Steelworkers Union, the Teamsters and the U.S. Business and Industry Council.

□ 1530

I would like to ask my good friend, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), the chairman of the subcommittee, if he will support me in allowing me to bring this amendment to the floor of the House so that the Members have a chance to vote on that.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SANDERS. I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I must hedge my answer. As I told the gentleman, I am not at all reluctant to have that issue voted on, as the gentleman suggested, and as we had originally described it. I am concerned about a wide-open rule.

So perhaps the gentleman, if we do not bring this on the suspension calendar, would assist me in making our case to the Committee on Rules to avoid some things that I think would be very detrimental in general to the public interests were it to be offered under a completely open rule.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I would be happy to work with my friend on that approach.

Mr. Speaker, the issue here is whether working families in this country, many of whom are working longer hours for low wages, should be providing hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars each year to large multinational corporations who are laying off hundreds of thousands of American workers. That is the issue.

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO), who represents an area with a wide and important export base.

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2019, which will give us another month to work out the remaining details with Ex-Im's reauthorization.

I represent Rockford, Illinois, which in 1981 led the Nation in unemployment at 25.9 percent. More people were unemployed in Rockford then proportionally than during the so-called Great

Depression. Rockford is about 35 or 36 percent manufacturing base, compared to most cities, which are half of that.

There are about 60 companies in the district that I represent, and hundreds of sub-subcontractors, that comprise the \$232 million dollars worth of products that they sell to Boeing Corporation, a so-called multinational corporation. Of course they are multinational corporations. They make airplanes. Those are big companies. But a corporation is composed of the people that work for it, the labor union that works there at Hamilton Sundstrand that supplies \$232 million worth of products, and the 60 other small business people and the hundreds of unknown sub-subcontractors.

Ex-Im Bank makes possible millions of dollars for small business people, many of whom do not even know their products are going into an aircraft that has been sold by a "multinational corporation" which somehow is supposed to be the cynosure of evil in this Nation. That is what Ex-Im Bank does. It tries to level the playing field in this highly competitive, unfair world, so that American manufacturers can compete on a level playing field with manufacturers from other countries. That is what Ex-Im Bank does. That is the whole purpose of it.

In fact, Ex-Im Bank makes jobs in the United States. Ex-Im Bank makes jobs in the United States. Let me say it three times. Ex-Im Bank makes jobs in the United States. Were it not for the Ex-Im Bank, Boeing would not be as competitive, and thousands of people would be laid off in the congressional district that I represent. Those are the facts as to the relationship between Ex-Im Bank and so-called large multinational corporations.

But I am also chairman of the Committee on Small Business, and I agree that Ex-Im Bank has to reach out to help small business exporters. The number of small business exporters has more than tripled over the past decade. They comprise 97 percent of all U.S. exporters. Last year, 86 percent of their transactions and 18 percent of the dollar volume of Ex-Im went to small businesses, and it continues to rise. I would therefore urge my colleagues to support S. 2019 and work over the next month to come up with a final bill.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY).

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time, and I commend the hard work and leadership not only of the ranking member, but the chairman of the Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade; and I appreciate very much the important, thoughtful views of the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS). Yet on this issue, I support the ranking member and others in requesting the authorization of the Export-Import Bank for an additional 30 days.

The Export-Import Bank is tremendously important to the district that I represent and to the State that I represent. New York City is a major exporting center. Just 3 weeks ago, a woman came to my office and expressed her support for the Ex-Im Bank. She had created a perfume called Akabar, it is a very small business, and she stated without the support of the Export-Import Bank, she would not be able to export it, as she is now, to Italy and many European countries.

Many large and small businesses in my district are benefited by the work and support of the Export-Import Bank. I hope that in the course of the next month the final reauthorization for 4 years through 2005 will be completed so that the bank can get on with its tremendously important work. I understand that there are final negotiations on remaining issues and that these negotiations are progressing, and I compliment the bipartisan leadership of the Committee on Financial Services for working to complete this process in a timely manner.

The Export-Import Bank is a worthwhile institution, a successful government entity, that facilitates American businesses and worker interests by making exports possible to areas of the world that would not otherwise be open to U.S. companies. The Export-Import Bank is an independent Federal agency that helps to finance the export of American products and services that would not go forward, which in turn sustains and grows U.S. jobs. In its 68-year history, the Ex-Im Bank has supported over \$400 billion of U.S. exports, sustaining and creating millions of high-paying U.S. jobs, many in the district I represent.

In fiscal year 2001 alone, the Ex-Im Bank supported \$12.5 billion of U.S. exports to emerging markets around the world. This business enabled many U.S. companies to maintain and even expand their workforces.

The Ex-Im Bank's financing does more than support jobs at exporting companies. It helps sustain and create jobs at tens of thousands of U.S. suppliers around the country who participate indirectly in Ex-Im Bank-financed exports. These indirect exporters, many of which are small businesses, supply components, services and technology to U.S. exporters of a wide range of products and services, as diverse as environmental technology, construction and agricultural equipment, amusement park rides, aircraft, furniture, computer and telecommunications technology.

Export-Import Bank financing has a ripple effect that sustains jobs at companies large and small throughout the United States economy in almost every State and the great majority of congressional districts. Through the bank's loan guarantees, insurance and direct-lending programs, Ex-Im programs account for approximately 2 percent of all U.S. exports annually.

By leveraging the appropriation we grant Ex-Im, the bank returns a very

good investment to the United States taxpayers. For every dollar of taxpayer money invested in the bank's program budget, we have seen returns of \$15 in credit support for transactions.

Over the course of the past year, the gentleman from Nebraska (Chairman BEREUTER) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the subcommittee ranking member, held a series of extremely informative, thoughtful hearings on the bank. We heard testimony from the business community, labor and environmental organizations. The final product, that I hope we will fully extend next month, builds on the important input that we got at these hearings.

I might add that the bill includes an amendment that I offered in the Committee on Financial Services giving the bank explicit authority to turn down an application for Ex-Im loan guarantees or insurance when there is evidence that a foreign company had practiced fraud in the past. The full authorization also continues the bank's commitment to small businesses and to working with African countries.

This is a very important institution. I just want to reiterate that it is very supportive to the exports in my district and in New York State and many other States. I urge this temporary reauthorization and hope we will have a full reauthorization coming before this body soon.

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

Mr. Speaker, after all is said and done, one of the major economic crises facing this country is the decline of manufacturing; the fact that we have roughly a \$400 billion trade deficit; the fact that it is harder and harder for the American people to find products made in the United States of America when they go shopping, whether it is textiles, and that industry has suffered a huge loss and the loss of God only knows how many jobs, shoes, sneakers, which used to be big in New England where I am from, televisions, toys, bicycles, phones, U.S. flags, increasingly made in China by American companies who threw American workers out on the street and went abroad to exploit people who make 20 to 30 cents an hour who cannot form unions and who have very little civil liberties.

This is a huge issue that must be dealt with if we are going to protect decent-paying jobs in America and if they are going to protect wages so that people can earn family-based incomes.

I continue to believe and will always believe that it makes no sense for the taxpayers of this country to reward those multinational corporations who throw American workers out on the street and run abroad. I do not think it is too much to ask them to invest in this country and create jobs here.

As far as I understand it, in terms of the forms associated with the Export-Import Bank, there is not even a line there that asks these companies to pledge to create new jobs in the United

States of America, because they could not sign that pledge in good honesty, in a straightforward way, because they do not believe in creating new jobs in America. They believe in going abroad in many instances and paying people sub-standard wages.

So I think we have to use every opportunity we can, whether it is the Export-Import Bank, whether it is OPIC, to start addressing this issue, and force these very large companies who have been throwing American workers out on the street to reinvest in this country and put our people to work. American workers who lose their jobs from companies who go to China should not be asked with their tax dollars to help these very same companies throw other American workers out on the street.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as I conclude our debate here today, I want to thank my colleagues on the committee and subcommittee for their support in attempting to craft important reauthorization legislation that makes some reforms that I think are necessary. These reforms, and many others, are always resisted by the executive branch; but it is our responsibility as Congress, as authorizers, to in fact do what is appropriate to make sure the programs work, that they serve their original purposes or such new purposes as the Congress assigns.

□ 1545

I want to particularly thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for her very constructive approach to the committee's deliberations and her continued support for the Export-Import Bank.

I would say to the ranking members of the committee and the subcommittee, I have confidence we can work together to put together a structured rule that will provide an opportunity to debate the crucial amendments that were offered, but not successfully, at the subcommittee or committee level, and still avoid some of the things that would be very much contrary to the national interest.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support the legislation.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, reauthorizing taxpayer support for the Export-Import Reauthorization Act for every 1 day, much less for a month violates basic economic, constitutional, and moral principles. Therefore, Congress should reject S. 2019.

The Export-Import Bank (Eximbank) takes money from American taxpayers to subsidize exports by American companies. Of course, it is not just any company that receives Eximbank support—rather, the majority of Eximbank funding benefits large, politically powerful corporations.

Proponents of continued American support for the Eximbank claim that the bank “creates jobs” and promotes economic growth. However, this claim rests on a version of what the great economist Henry Hazlitt called “the bro-

ken window” fallacy. When a hoodlum throws a rock through a store window, it can be said he has contributed to the economy, as the store owner will have to spend money having the window fixed. The benefits to those who repaired the window are visible for all to see, therefore it is easy to see the broken window as economically beneficial. However, the “benefits” of the broken window are revealed as an illusion when one takes into account what is not seen; the businesses and workers who would have benefited had the store owner not spent money repairing a window, but rather had been free to spend his money as he chose.

Similarly, the beneficiaries of Eximbank are visible to all; what is not seen is the products that would have been built, the businesses that would have been started, and the jobs that would have been created had the funds used for the Eximbank been left in the hands of consumers.

Some supporters of this bill equate supporting Eximbank with supporting “free trade,” and claim that opponents are “projectionists” and “isolationists.” Mr. Speaker, this is nonsense, Eximbank has nothing to do with free trade. True free trade involves the peaceful, voluntary exchange of goods across borders, not forcing taxpayers to subsidize the exports of politically powerful companies. Eximbank is not free trade, but rather managed trade, where winners and losers are determined by how well they please government bureaucrats instead of how well they please consumers.

Expenditures on the Eximbank distort the market by diverting resources from the private sector, where they could be put to the use most highly valued by individual consumers, into the public sector, where their use will be determined by bureaucrats and politically powerful special interests. By distorting the market and preventing resources from achieving their highest valued use, Eximbank actually costs Americans jobs and reduces America's standard of living!

The case for Eximbank is further weakened considering that small businesses receive only 12–15 percent of Eximbank funds; the vast majority of Eximbank funds benefit large corporations. These corporations can certainly afford to support their own exports without relying on the American taxpayer. It is not only bad economics to force working Americans, small business, and entrepreneurs to subsidize the exports of the large corporations; it is also immoral. In fact, this redistribution from the poor and middle class to the wealthy is the most indefensible aspect of the welfare state, yet it is the most accepted form of welfare. Mr. Speaker, it never ceases to amaze me how members who criticize welfare for the poor on moral and constitutional grounds see no problem with the even more objectionable programs that provide welfare for the rich.

The moral case against Eximbank is strengthened when one considers that the government which benefits most from Eximbank funds is communist China. In fact, Eximbank actually underwrites joint ventures with firms owned by the Chinese government! Whatever one's position on trading with China, I would hope all of us would agree that it is wrong to force taxpayers to subsidize in any way this brutal regime. Unfortunately, China is not an isolated case: Colombia, Yemen, and even the Sudan benefit from taxpayer-subsidized trade courtesy of the Eximbank!

There is simply no constitutional justification for the expenditure of funds on programs such as Eximbank. In fact, the drafters of the Constitution would be horrified to think the federal government was taking hard-earned money from the American people in order to benefit the politically powerful.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, Eximbank distorts the market by allowing government bureaucrats to make economic decisions in place of individual consumers. Eximbank also violates basic principles of morality, by forcing working Americans to subsidize the trade of wealthy companies that could easily afford to subsidize their own trade, as well as subsidizing brutal governments like Red China and the Sudan. Eximbank also violates the limitations on congressional power to take the property of individual citizens and use them to benefit powerful special interests. It is for these reasons that I urge my colleagues to reject S. 2019.

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this measure and encourage my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of extending the authorization of the Export-Import for an additional thirty days while the details of the full authorization are finalized. The Financial Service Committee has been working diligently to bring this authorization to completion, however; the events of September 11 and the anthrax contamination on Capitol Hill have delayed the process considerably. The full reauthorization makes several strong improvements to the Ex-Im charter, which will enable it to deliver more U.S. goods to foreign customers. We are currently in negotiations with the Department of the Treasury to finalize some technical concerns with the full reauthorization and expect to have resolution of these issues soon.

This thirty day extension of Ex-Im's authorization will enable the Bank to continue its important work of encouraging U.S. exports overseas and promoting U.S. jobs. Ex-Im plays a key role in leveling the playing field between U.S. and foreign based exporters. Without the activities of Ex-Im, U.S. exporters would be at a distinct disadvantage against foreign exporters who receive subsidies from their foreign export credit agencies. With the help of Ex-Im loans, insurance and guarantees, U.S. exporters can counter export credits offered to foreign competitors and reach critical overseas markets. Ex-Im helps increase the number of U.S. exports, it encourages trade and it helps sustain U.S. jobs.

Without this extension, Ex-Im will have to wind up its current outstanding business and will not be able to make any new commitments for the export of U.S. manufactured goods. This will have a negative effect on jobs and will inhibit our economic recovery at a time when we are working to emerge from a period of high unemployment and low growth. Passage of this measure is critical to the U.S. economy, to U.S. workers and to U.S. manufacturers.

In a perfect marketplace there would be no need for export credit agencies, however; the realities of today's international trading system demand that Ex-Im operate aggressively to support the sale of U.S. products abroad. Every major actor in international trade utilizes an export credit agency similar to the Ex-Im Bank to promote its trade initiatives. Ex-Im keeps U.S. exporters competitive, without it foreign manufacturers would be able to enter

important emerging markets without any competition from U.S. business.

Mr. Speaker, by opening foreign markets to U.S. products, the U.S. economy improves and more American workers have good paying manufacturing jobs. I encourage all Members to vote in favor of this 30 day extension, which will help maintain U.S. based jobs and drive our economic recovery.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2019.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING SECURITY PRINTING AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2002

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2509) to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to produce currency, postage stamps, and other security documents at the request of foreign governments, and security documents at the request of the individual States of the United States, or any political subdivision thereof, on a reimbursable basis, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2509

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Bureau of Engraving and Printing Security Printing Amendments Act of 2002".

#### SEC. 2. PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS.

Section 5114(a) of title 31, United States Code (relating to engraving and printing currency and security documents), is amended—

(1) by striking "(a) The Secretary of the Treasury" and inserting:

"(a) AUTHORITY TO ENGRAVE AND PRINT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(2) ENGRAVING AND PRINTING FOR OTHER GOVERNMENTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may, if the Secretary determines that it will not interfere with engraving and printing needs of the United States, produce currency, postage stamps, and other security documents for foreign governments, subject to a determination by the Secretary of State that such production would be consistent with the foreign policy of the United States.

"(3) PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES.—Articles, material, and supplies procured for use in the production of currency, postage stamps, and other security documents for foreign governments pursuant to paragraph (2) shall be treated in the same manner as articles, material, and supplies procured for public use within the United States for purposes of title III of the Act of March 3, 1933 (41 U.S.C. 10a et seq.; commonly referred to as the Buy American Act)."

#### SEC. 3. REIMBURSEMENT.

Section 5143 of title 31, United States Code (relating to payment for services of the Bu-

reau of Engraving and Printing), is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by inserting "or foreign government" after "agency";

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting "and other" after "administrative"; and

(3) in the last sentence, by inserting "or foreign government" after "agency".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2009, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing Security Printing Amendments Act of 2002. The bill allows the Treasury Department's currency printer, under certain well-defined circumstances, to print currency and other security documents for foreign countries.

One of the bedrocks of a strong, modern economy is a currency in which a country's citizens have faith. Unfortunately for every currency, strong or otherwise, there are people who seek to create counterfeits, either to enrich themselves or to shake faith in the economy and the government, or both.

Counterfeiters have existed as long as there has been money. Mr. Speaker, in fact, the United States Secret Service, which does such a good job of protecting the President and senior government officials, originally was formed as an anticounterfeiting squad. The Secret Service is so impressive at this task that few of us ever look at our paper money to check its authenticity. Sadly, that is not the case in many other countries.

Today, with the increasingly global economy and the advances in technology, the temptation to counterfeit and the means to do so are ever more available. It is difficult enough for the Secret Service and our currency printer, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, or the BEP, to stay ahead of this threat. That is why, as we know, the Treasury Department is expected to start issuing a newly designed set of currency beginning sometime next year, a mere 6 years after the last redesign.

But if it is hard for us to outwit counterfeiters, imagine the difficulties facing smaller countries, even if they are not in a state of war or undergoing the stress of massive corruption, or are being subjected to an out-of-control drug business.

Good currency security takes constant research and development, and it takes sophisticated printing techniques. This is why smaller countries typically approach other, larger governments instead of private printers to have their currency printed. Australia, England, the United Kingdom, and some of the European countries have been doing this for decades.

While our Mint has the authority to make coins for other countries, the Bureau of Printing does not, and it has always had to send the business elsewhere, overseas. Frankly, Mr. Speaker, that has been a loss to this country for several reasons. While under no circumstances would the printing contemplated in this bill be a money-maker, there are some clear foreign policy advantages to being able to accommodate such a request from a friendly nation, especially when there would be no cost to the taxpayers.

There also are advantages to having our topnotch printers and engravers be able to become familiar with cutting-edge currency and security techniques that may be requested by countries, but which may not reasonably be suitable for the massive printing runs that our own country's currency demands.

As the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BAKER), a member of the committee, has pointed out, many of the techniques that first appeared in another country's currency printed by the BEP might appear later in a more advanced form in our currency, because the Treasury has estimated the need to redesign our paper money every 6 to 7 years from here on out to keep it secure.

This bill is essentially the same language as that originally introduced last year at the request of the administration by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), with the strong support of the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY). In turn, that language was itself similar to language introduced in the previous Congress, at the previous administration's request, by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) and passed by the subcommittee, the committee, and the full House. The only changes are limitations on the authority to print for foreign governments only.

The original bill also authorizes the printing of security documents for the States of the United States, and the addition of a "buy America" clause. With the exception of the latter, the House passed this language as part of the USA Patriot Act of 2001 last fall.

Three conditions are required before the BEP could print currency for another country: The Secretary of State has to certify that such an effort is consistent with the foreign policy goals of the United States; the job must not interfere with the BEP's main job of printing currency for the U.S.; and all real and imputed costs, administration and capital investments as well as paper, ink, and labor, must be recovered.

Mr. Speaker, in the last decade the BEP has had to turn away requests from Kuwait and more recently Mexico for the U.S. to bid on printing their currency. Without this bill, it would be impossible for the Bureau to print, if asked, new currency for Afghanistan, which desperately needs a secure currency, as at least two different versions of the Afghani now circulate, in addition to suspected counterfeits.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I will include an opinion from the Secret Service on H.R. 2509. I believe we already have that consent. It concludes, "The Secret Service supports the passage of this legislation, as it would serve as a proactive tool against the counterfeiting of U.S. currency."

Mr. Speaker, this country demonstrably benefits by the strengthening of other countries' currency regimes. Plainly said, making counterfeiting harder leads to fewer counterfeiters. Especially if there is no cost to the United States taxpayer, I can think of no reason not to advance the bill immediately, sending it to the other body as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for its immediate Passage.

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

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 2509, Mr. Speaker, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing Security Printing Amendments Act of 2001.

The subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), and I introduced this legislation last year. It is the product of bipartisan negotiations and consultation with the administration. It closely tracks legislation that passed last year in the 106th Congress, and I urge its timely enactment.

This noncontroversial legislation gives Treasury the ability to produce security documents, postage stamps, and currency for foreign countries. In the last decade, several countries, including Turkey, South Africa, Mexico, and Kuwait have approached the U.S. about printing security documents on their behalf. This legislation will grant the Bureau of Engraving and Printing this authority.

In no way will printing foreign currency interfere with the production of U.S. currency. Rather, it will benefit our national interests in several ways.

First, there is currently excess capacity at the BEP, and foreign currency will only be printed by the Bureau as long as capacity is available.

This additional work will benefit the BEP, allowing its expert printers to further refine their skills.

Any investments the BEP will make to purchase equipment and materials to produce currency for other countries will be reimbursed.

The entire operation should have a positive effect on the U.S. Treasury, and create U.S. additional jobs.

Beyond the economic benefits, the legislation will further U.S. interests around the world. No printing for a foreign government will take place without the express approval of the Secretary of State, who will ensure that all approved work is in the national interest.

Perhaps most importantly, passage of this bill will allow the BEP to share its anticounterfeiting expertise with the countries whose currency it will produce.

In the aftermath of the attacks on New York City and Washington, we have learned more than we ever wanted to know about the inner workings of terror cells. We now know that in many ways Terror, Incorporated, works like every other business, and requires money to operate.

This legislation will allow the U.S. to help foreign countries prevent counterfeiting of their currency, and allow the BEP to continue to develop expertise it can use domestically.

This legislation has tangible benefits to U.S. taxpayers and foreign policy. I urge its adoption.

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing Security Printing Amendments Act, H.R. 2509, to authorize the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to produce currency, postage stamps, and other security documents at the request of foreign governments, and security documents at the request of the individual States of the United States on a reimbursable basis. The U.S. Mint already has similar authority. This legislation makes sense. We need to modernize our legal tender and H.R. 2509 is a positive step in this direction.

I introduced legislation to comprehensively modernize our money system—the Legal Tender Modernization Act (H.R. 2528). We need to modernize our money to improve the convenience and effectiveness of its daily use. Legal tender should not add to market inefficiencies. I believe it is better to spend taxpayer money on education, health care, national security, and other important national needs rather than on an inefficient legal tender system.

The Legal Tender Modernization Act essentially accomplishes five objectives. It establishes a five year commemorative \$2 bill program similar to the 50 state quarter program, requires cash sales to be rounded up or down to the nearest five cent increment to reduce the circulation of the penny, authorizes the Department of Treasury to produce currency for foreign governments, as does H.R. 3509, clarifies that seigniorage (the difference between the face value of money and the cost to produce it) is part of the federal budget, and makes permanent current law prohibiting the redesign of the \$1 bill.

Since there has been so much attention given to this issue, let me explain in more detail the rounding system I am proposing to reduce the use of the penny. The penny would continue to be legal tender, but would not be necessary in cash transactions. The total value of any cash transaction would be rounded up or down so that no pennies would be required. Again, let me stress that the rounding would be applied to the total transaction costs, after taxes, and only for cash transactions.

Here's how it would work:

If the final amount contains 1 or 2 cents, the amount would be rounded to 0 cents.

If the final amount contains 3, 4, 6, or 7 cents, the amount would be rounded to 5 cents.

If the final amount contains 8 or 9 cents, the amount would be rounded to 10 cents.

Rounding will not occur if the total amount is 2 cents or less or if the payment is made by a negotiable instrument, electronic fund transfer, money order, or credit card. Also, the rounding occurs after discounts and taxes so state or municipalities will receive the exact amount of any tax imposed.

This system favors neither the consumer nor the retailer because the probability of rounding up or down is 50 percent either way. For example, if you wanted to purchase some frozen lemonade mix that costs 98 cents, you would pay \$1.00. However, if you chose to buy two frozen lemonade mixes for \$1.96, you would pay \$1.95. The calculation becomes more complicated by factoring in any taxes on the final sales amount. And if you are shopping at a grocery store, you must factor in the weight of produce and recognize that some items are taxable and others are non-taxable. As you can see, there would be no way for businesses to establish a pricing structure so that they could make an extra 2 cents on every transaction or that would cause price increases. It is important to note also that a similar rounding technique is used at overseas US military bases and in Australia and New Zealand, and gasoline is priced in nine-tenths of a cent and rounded up.

The rounding system has several advantages. First, it would save the taxpayer money. The penny has very low or no profit margin for the Mint. In fact, the General Accounting Office reported in 1997 that the penny is unprofitable. Secondly, it would save businesses and customers money by reducing transaction time (some estimate up to 2.5 seconds/transaction) and time spent waiting in lines, reducing the need for rolled coins (there are costs associated with wrapping and transporting pennies), and reducing errors when employees spend time counting pennies.

It is past time for our legal tender system to be improved, and I understand concerns about changing this system. Change is always met with resistance. New area codes were not welcomed by people, but I think a greater good is achieved by allowing our telecommunications infrastructure to address growth. Changing or introducing new coinage or currency is no different. In 1914, England went from a coin to a note, even though the public opinion did not support this change. Canada went the other direction from a note to a coin against the wishes of the public, but the public now accepts this coin.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. It moves us one step closer to a comprehensive modernization of our legal tender.

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, the problem of counterfeiting of currency is serious and getting worse in a number of places throughout the world.

Terrorists, rebels and drug traders seek more money with which to ply their deadly trades. Some seek to destabilize economies or governments, or merely to get something for nothing. And with the rapidly improving computer technology—scanners, color printers and powerful PC's available very inexpensively—it isn't even necessary anymore for

counterfeiters to know how to run a complicated printing press.

Recognizing this trend, the Committee on Financial Services, and then the House last fall, included two items aimed at strengthening anti-counterfeiting efforts around the world as part of the anti-money laundering portion of the USA PATRIOT Act, the first major Congressional reaction to the terror attacks of September 11.

One of the pieces of legislative language was aimed at helping our Secret Service, the government's anti-counterfeiting agency, help arrest and more severely punish people who counterfeit U.S. currency, or people who counterfeit foreign currency while on U.S. soil. The other sought to allow the Treasury Department's currency printing arm, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, to print currency for foreign governments on request.

One of the two provisions survived conference with the other body, Mr. Speaker, and the Secret Service has been using those authorities aggressively to pursue and incarcerate counterfeiters in this country and, in some cases, to assist foreign governments in tracking down those who would counterfeit U.S. currency overseas.

We are here today to again pass the other provision, Mr. Speaker, and I urge strong support for this bill both here and in the other chamber. I should note that the House has passed this legislation now three times—this will be the fourth—but that for reasons of timing as much as anything else the Senate has not yet acted on the bill. I hope that by sending H.R. 2509 across the Rotunda early enough in this legislative session there will be adequate time for them to act, and that there will be a renewed appetite to pass this bill that manifestly helps the United States, as well as those whose currency we may end up printing in a more secure fashion.

Mr. Speaker, counterfeiters are clever and determined, because the payoff if they are successful is so great. Imagine the level of profit in a country in, say, South America, with a standard of living much lower than ours, if one can produce high-denomination banknotes for a few pennies' worth of materials.

Many countries simply lack the printing capability, or the research-and-development skills, to design and produce currency that is difficult to counterfeit even at a time they most need a strong currency. Mr. Speaker, passage of this bill will allow, if a set of very carefully defined conditions are met, countries to ask the BEP to print their currency. The bill stipulates that there be no cost to U.S. taxpayers, no interference with the production of U.S. banknotes and that such work be in harmony with U.S. foreign policy goals.

Passage of H.R. 2509 would create benefits to the United States beyond strengthening the currency and economies of our friends, although the value of that should not be underestimated. The sheer number of banknotes printed for the U.S. economy is so great that security features used in each note must be foolproof and uniform. However, gaining the expertise to produce those features in high volumes is often a long, tedious process. Printing the much smaller volumes of currency for smaller countries would allow our top-notch printers and engravers to work with cutting-edge techniques that, as Mr. BAKER of Louisiana points out, may someday end up in use in our own money.

This is important because the Secret Service and the Bureau of Engraving have told Congress that it will be necessary to redesign U.S. banknotes regularly every six or seven years from here on out to keep them secure. Indeed, while the first redesign of U.S. currency since the 1920s began in 1996, the next new series is expected to be issued starting next year.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2509 would, if enacted, have an added advantage: if counterfeiting of world currencies becomes too difficult, it will be more difficult for counterfeiters to fund their lethal schemes. That, in turn, means not only fewer attacks on the integrity of foreign currency but, as the Secret Service notes, fewer attacks on the integrity of U.S. currency as well.

Mr. Speaker, the United States Secret Service does a terrific job of policing counterfeiting of U.S. banknotes—so good that although we should really pay more attention to the money in our pocket, few if any of us actually examine it for fakes, because we know there aren't going to be any. Passing this legislation and allowing the Treasury Department and the Department of State to work with other countries to move their own currencies in the direction of similar security—all at no cost to the taxpayer—seems to me to be such an easy call that I cannot imagine any serious opposition.

I urge immediate passage of this legislation. Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2509, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 TERRORIST ATTACKS

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3986) to extend the period of availability of unemployment assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act in the case of victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3986

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE.

Notwithstanding section 410(a) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-

gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5177(a)), in the case of any individual eligible to receive unemployment assistance under section 410(a) of that Act as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the President shall make such assistance available for 39 weeks after the major disaster is declared.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3986 amends the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Assistance and Disaster Relief Act to extend the period of eligibility for disaster unemployment assistance for the Presidential disaster declared as a result of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

H.R. 3986 extends the provision of disaster unemployment assistance from 26 weeks to 39 weeks for those workers who lost their jobs at the World Trade Center in New York and at the Pentagon in the Washington metropolitan area as a direct result of the September 11 attacks.

Under the Stafford act, the disaster unemployment assistance program is for persons who become unemployed as a direct result of a disaster and who are not eligible for State insurance or any other unemployment benefits.

The New York State Department of Labor administers the Disaster Unemployment Assistance Program on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Disaster unemployment assistance is only payable during the disaster assistance period, and this legislation will extend that period until June 15, 2002.

The bill does not amend section 410 of the Stafford act to permanently extend disaster unemployment assistance payments; it merely creates an extension only for the disaster declaration stemming from the September 11 attacks.

This bill provides much needed assistance to displaced individuals for a sufficient period of time. I commend the bipartisan effort by the committee leadership, and especially the work of the New York delegation, for their hard work in bringing this bill to the floor. I support the bill.

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

□ 1600

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. COSTELLO) for shutting this bill through committee and to the floor. I also want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN) for working with me to bring this bill to the floor.

As most Members know, this legislation will extend by 13 weeks disaster unemployment assistance, or DUA. DUA is extended only to those people who lost their jobs as a direct result of the September 11 terrorist attack on our country, but who do not qualify for normal unemployment insurance.

Currently, the number of people receiving DUA stands at 2,500. That is what we are talking about in this bill, 2,500 people, although as individuals find work, hopefully this number will decline. These people overwhelmingly hold blue collar jobs and are the lowest paid in our economy. They include hotel workers, janitors and window washers. They are the most vulnerable members in our society and most in need of our help. Funding for this program is already in place by way of last year's supplemental appropriations act for New York disaster relief.

This legislation is urgent as DUA benefits have already terminated. Without this extension, thousands of victims of the attack on our country will be left without any help in an economy that in New York has been devastated not only by the national economic melee, but also by the disaster of September 11. While we cannot make people whole from the effects of the devastating attacks of September 11, we must do all we can to ease the transition of these people from tragedy back to normal life.

The Senate already passed this legislation last December. S. 1622, authored by Senator CLINTON of New York, included a 26-week extension. In fact, the Committee on Transportation originally passed a bill, S. 1622, the Senate bill, by voice vote afterwards substituted for the bill that I introduced in the House. Unfortunately, in order to get this bill to the floor we had to make this bill only a 13-week extension.

As I said earlier, DUA benefits run out in New York on March 17, which is to say 2 days ago, and in Virginia on March 21, which is 2 days from now. It is imperative that these people know as soon as possible that their benefits will be extended or renewed.

I must point out that unlike regular unemployment, an individual is not entitled to 26 weeks which may be extended to 13 weeks. The program expires 26 weeks after the disaster is declared, and we are extending that by 13 weeks. An individual who started, perhaps because of bureaucracy, getting his assistance in November does not get anywhere near 26 weeks; it is cut back. So it differs between regular unemployment insurance there.

I urge the House and Senate to pass this legislation as soon as possible and send it to the President for his signature.

Again, I want to thank the chairman and the rest of the House for their support as we continue to recover from the devastation of September 11, both at home and abroad. I would also like to point out that the necessity for this

legislation, for this emergency assistance to people, window washers, janitors, who worked at the World Trade Center and were deprived of their jobs by direct enemy action, but yet cannot get regular unemployment insurance, also shows us the necessity of restoring our unemployment system to what it was. Only about one-third of people who are laid off now get unemployment insurance because the restrictions that many States have imposed are so high. It used to be 60 percent and now it is down to one-third.

So this bill shows the necessity for restoring the strength of our once-vibrant unemployment insurance system so that workers like this would be covered without the necessity of special legislation on their behalf.

I thank the chairman and the rest of the House for their support.

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

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN).

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3986 this afternoon and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of bill later this afternoon.

As we stated, H.R. 3986 extends the period of availability of disaster unemployment assistance for individuals who lost their jobs as a direct result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001. The Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, administers this part of the disaster unemployment assistance program pursuant to Section 410(a) of the Stafford Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide unemployment assistance to persons who become unemployed as a result of major disasters.

Our distinction here, Mr. Speaker, is that we are talking about disaster unemployment assistance as opposed to straight unemployment assistance.

This program currently provides disaster unemployment assistance to qualified individuals for a period not to exceed 26 weeks. Mr. Speaker, we are just about there right now at the 26-week period.

Individuals from Northern Virginia and New York City are eligible for disaster unemployment assistance only if they are not receiving other types of unemployment assistance. We do not want to duplicate. This legislation extends that period of eligibility from 26 weeks to 39 weeks. It will help roughly 2,500 Americans at a minimal cost, roughly about \$2 million.

This bill enjoys broad bipartisan support. As the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) pointed out, it sailed through the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, as well as a voice vote in the Senate.

In only a few hours before its introduction, Mr. Speaker, I was able to secure the support of over 20 colleagues from New York State alone. That amount of support in such a short period of time I think is indicative of the importance and timeliness of this legislation.

I want to thank any fellow New Yorkers for their hard work and dedication on this issue, in particular, a special thanks to the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) for his relentless pursuit of the passage of this bill. Mr. Speaker, his constituents are the ones that are most affected by this bill, and he has worked tirelessly on their behalf, as well as all New Yorkers. I am hopeful that the Senate can take up the measure after it passes the House today and send it to the President for his signature as soon as possible.

Swift action will allow these hard-working Americans to continue to receive the benefits they so desperately need. As is always the case, it is time, Mr. Speaker, to thank the people who worked on the bill: our majority leader who allowed us to bring it under suspension today; the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY), the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), and I have mentioned the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) already.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. SANDLIN).

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, after September 11 hundreds of thousands of Americans lost their jobs and were forced to seek unemployment benefits. Earlier this month we voted to extend unemployment benefits for an additional 13 weeks. Unfortunately, the extension we approved on March 7 does not apply to those who receive unemployment benefits through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Today we are considering legislation that would address that oversight.

Unemployment benefits are crucial to those who have lost their jobs in order to pay their bills and preserve their dignity. In the same way Social Security provides our Nation's 32 million seniors with crucial monthly income, it helps pay for their costly prescription drugs and otherwise keeps them out of poverty.

Unfortunately, the Republican budget for 2003 taps into the Social Security trust fund every year for the next 10 years, over \$1.8 trillion through 2012. That is simply unacceptable in this country.

The legislation we are considering today provides funding for unemployment benefits for those directly affected by September 11. The budget we will consider tomorrow also contains funding for important initiatives that were begun as a result of September 11. Our military must continue to pursue terrorists and prevent attacks. However, we must also prevent a raid on the Social Security trust fund and reject the Republican plan to raid the fund once again.

Even as we continue to support the war on terrorism and those who lost their jobs as a result of the attacks, we must also continue to support our Nation's working families and seniors by

protecting the Social Security surplus. We need to protect seniors and working families who have worked hard and played by the rules.

Preserve Social Security, do not raid it. Help our families that were directly affected by September 11. Do not make them worry about the future.

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. KELLY).

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, the unprecedented suffering our country endured on September 11 has been met with unprecedented compassion. The American people have shown their true colors in the wake of the attacks by selflessly giving their time and money to the victims of the attacks. People from all over come to New York now. They come to visit, hold hands and it helps us. This helps us to recover, and we from New York thank you for coming. Please come in great numbers and spend money. It will help us a lot.

Congress is continuing to show its strong commitment to help those most affected by September 11. This bill would extend unemployment benefits to those individuals who lost their jobs as a direct result to the attacks to 39 weeks after a major disaster has been declared. It is common-sense legislation. It says that Congress will protect American families and see them through tough economic times brought on by these attacks until they can get back on their feet.

I would like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN), my fellow New York Republican for his work on this issue; and I thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY) for allowing me the time.

It is important legislation. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 3986.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY).

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are finally voting on legislation that would extend disaster unemployment benefits to workers who lost their jobs because of September 11.

I would like to thank particularly my colleagues, the gentlemen from New York (Mr. QUINN and Mr. NADLER) for their hard work. I especially want to note the efforts of the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN) who again shows how the State of New York is pulling together in a bipartisan way to help New York City after the terrorist attacks.

I would also like to thank Senator CLINTON for her hard work in assisting those workers left out of standard unemployment assistance. Too many working families are still suffering because of the terrorist attacks.

While I am pleased that we are finally extending relief to New Yorkers who would otherwise not receive unemployment and who lost their jobs as a result of the disaster, it is unfortunate that this legislation has come in at the

very last minute. Many New Yorkers and workers would have lost their unemployment benefits in the next weeks if we had not extended these benefits and if we had not ended these political games and brought this legislation to the floor. I only hope that the bill reaches the President's desk in time so that there is not a lapse in benefits.

However, our work is not done. Now that we have extended unemployment benefits for the workers laid off as a part of the recession nationwide and unemployment benefits for those directly affected by September 11 who would not otherwise have received benefits, we must now turn our efforts to ensure that all laid-off workers, both in New York and across the country, who are now going without health care, get the coverage that they desperately need.

Health care is one of our basic necessities. It is vital that we do not forget that there are workers who are facing a multiple of dilemmas. Not only are they unemployed, but they must also figure out how to afford necessary health care for their children. Seven-point-nine million Americans currently are unemployed. Because most workers depend upon employer-provided health coverage, millions of people are likely without health care.

We must work to make sure that we get this assistance to them now.

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. WALSH).

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY) for his leadership on this issue and for bringing it promptly to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3986, a bill to extend the period of availability of disaster unemployment assistance for those most affected by the terrorist attacks of September 11 and their families. The extension would take it out a full 39 weeks.

On September 11 the Nation endured a domestic assault upon American values and our democratic way of life beyond anything anyone could have previously imagined. Thousands of innocent people lost their lives, thousands lost their homes, their businesses and their jobs. Thousands more lost their families' livelihood. The attack caused the loss of 110,000 jobs in New York alone; another 270,000 are at risk.

Twenty percent of the downtown New York office space has been damaged or destroyed. In Northern Virginia the Pentagon attack has greatly impacted local businesses, especially those at or around Reagan National Airport.

The impacts of September 11 will extend further and longer than those of any other major disaster in our history. As such, our Nation and our government must respond to the overwhelming needs of the September 11 victims and their families. This bill ensures that our government keeps its re-

sponsibility to those Americans by extending unemployment benefits and ensuring economic solvency for the affected families.

In the case of the World Trade Center attacks, this insurance will be eligible for many of the small business owners, small restaurant operators, janitors and other blue collar workers who no longer have jobs, or who are unable to reach their jobs in the case where the building was destroyed, or have become the sole breadwinner for the household because the head of the household died or cannot work because of a disaster-related injury.

This bill is important to the well-being of those most impacted by the September 11 terrorist attacks, and I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

I would like to especially thank the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY) for the expeditious scheduling of this important legislation; and I would also like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN) for his consistent and strong leadership on behalf of our State, New York, and for all working men and women in America.

I urge all my colleagues to support this important bill. It is timely, the right thing and the necessary thing to do.

I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

□ 1615

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT).

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate we have to come out here and put Band-aids one after another on this unemployment benefit. Where the other body has passed 26 weeks, we ought to do 26 weeks; but I guess we will get a chance to do another bill.

What is really missing here, though, is the health care benefits if someone is drawing unemployment. The average in this country is somewhere around two and a quarter a week. I am sure in New York it is a little higher than that. Let us say it is \$300 a week. So they get \$1,200 a month. Now, if they had health care benefits before, they do not have enough out of \$1,200 to go out and pay the premiums for health insurance. So they have the double hit of no money to live on and no health care if something happens to them.

Most of the working Americans in the situation in New York that they got into were covered with insurance, and they have been able to build up little bit of equity and little bit of future for themselves. All it takes is one illness, one injury and they are wiped out; and there is a bill here, it is Discharge Petition Number 6, that is for House Resolution 3341, which gives 75 percent of COBRA benefits, plus it gives additional money to States for their Medicaid programs so that they can cover the other 25 percent.

We could cover everybody in health care, but 6 months after the incident on 9-11 we still have not done anything on health care. Now, if we care about those people, it is nice to talk about unemployment benefits, and I am for this bill; but where is the plan to help them get covered with their health care? Are we counting on Medicare in New York to take care of it? I will bet that the New York legislature is struggling with that.

The next issue ought to be House Resolution 3341, which is a discharge petition. We have got 177 signatures. So anybody who really wants to help New Yorkers, go sign 6.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ).

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, many workers lost their jobs as a result of the September 11 attacks on America. Several of those workers are still jobless and continue to struggle financially.

H.R. 3986 provides a much-needed 13-week extension of those benefits for those workers who lost their jobs as a result of the terrorist attacks and are ineligible for traditional unemployment assistance. These workers represent part of the millions unemployed in America.

Many of these laid-off workers lost more than just steady paychecks. They also lost critical benefits and crucial benefits. Many have lost their family health coverage, joining the ranks of the uninsured.

Before we give more tax cuts to large corporations, we should protect workers and their families by extending the COBRA benefits and providing some reimbursement for premium payments.

A few months ago, even the Bush administration had proposed that an income stimulus package should include some type of subsidy to help unemployed workers to be able to afford to purchase COBRA coverage. This a step in the right direction. However, for many of the workers eligible for COBRA coverage when they are laid off, the high cost of coverage acts as a powerful barrier, making it difficult to purchase even with Federal and State subsidies, and a tax credit will not serve as a panacea for assisting workers with COBRA coverage.

Therefore, we should also consider other options for the majority of workers who do not have access to COBRA coverage because their incomes are too low. The average cost of group insurance for family coverage is now approximately \$7,000 a year. This is exceptionally high premiums for unemployed workers to afford.

One temporary option is for States to provide coverage through their Medicaid programs to allow low-income workers to be able to afford access to health care coverage. Democrats have proposed helping States meet the increase in Medicaid costs by tempo-

rarily increasing the Federal matching rate and protecting State Medicaid programs from further budget cuts.

There must be some relief for low-income workers who lose their jobs and their health insurance. We should not relegate uninsured workers and their families to the low costs or no cost health care safety nets provided by the local communities to provide that service.

Safety net providers such as public hospitals and community health centers are already struggling to meet the needs of their indigent and the uninsured population despite the growing deficits faced by municipal and State governments.

By extending similar benefits to workers affected by the September 11 attacks, the House has again made some progress in meeting the needs of the unemployed workers. It is now time for us to act quickly and provide health care coverage to the unemployed workers and their families.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) has 7½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY) has 11½ minutes remaining.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER).

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill which directs the Federal Government to extend unemployment benefits to workers in New York and Virginia who would otherwise fail to qualify for unemployment benefits under State law.

It is a fine idea, and it is a good bill, as far as it goes; but it does not go nearly far enough to address the real economic pain of millions of American families in other States who are being unfairly denied unemployment benefits. These workers in many of these instances lost their jobs just as directly by the attack on 9-11 as the people in New York or Virginia. The people in San Francisco and Las Vegas and New Orleans, or Orlando, L.A., Dallas or Miami, they lost their jobs almost immediately, matter of hours, matter of days in the hotel and restaurants, resorts, convention centers, and rental car agencies; but most of these people are not eligible for unemployment. So even though they lost their jobs, through no fault of their own, even though they lost their jobs as a result of the terrorist activity, they are not getting unemployment.

Historically, unemployment benefits have covered more than half of all unemployed workers. Coverage rates during past recessions have approached 70 percent, but that is not the case in the current situation.

Over the last decade, the changes in State laws, and many of those States that I read, significantly reduced the percentage of workers who receive unemployment benefits. Only 43 percent of the unemployed workers in 2001 and only 40 percent of the unemployed women workers received unemployment benefits. In 15 States, less than 35 percent of unemployed workers received unemployment benefits. In 10 States, less than 30 percent of unemployed workers received unemployment benefits.

Why does the leadership continue to refuse to bring this kind of legislation to the floor to make sure that all of these workers who suffered as a result of 9-11, all of the workers who lost their jobs directly because of that activity, would get the unemployment benefits, if they are necessary to hold their families together while they are waiting for the economy to recover, while they are waiting for their jobs to return in many of the areas of our country, especially those areas impacted by tourists and convention business? We have employees that are working one shift a week trying to hold on to their jobs for when that recovery comes because they are not eligible for unemployment benefits.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is a fine piece of legislation for those people in New York, New Jersey, and in the Virginia area; but it does not address the needs of hundreds of thousands of America workers who were devastated every bit as much as those workers on 9-11.

Today, we find that almost 98 percent of all workers in America pay into unemployment insurance, but less than 40 percent of them are covered. It is just an unacceptable fact that these people will be denied the benefit of the money they pay into. The Federal Government ought to step in and have a uniform unemployment system for all Americans.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) has 5 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY) has 11½ minutes remaining.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Ms. WATERS).

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3986, which extends disaster unemployment assistance; and I commend my colleagues from New York for the hard work that they are putting in to try and make sure that people who have been victims of 9-11 are at least afforded some kind of relief.

The disaster of September 11 demands that we focus on the needs of the many, many victims of that attack. However, life is going to be tougher not only for the victims of 9-11 but for most Americans because, as I

review what we are doing right here in the Congress of the United States, I am disappointed with the budget resolution that the Republicans have voted out of committee.

This budget resolution is a \$2.1 trillion resolution that claims to be able to fund an extended and expanded war and to also fund the domestic needs, the unemployment needs, the health needs, and the education needs of this country despite the fact that we have passed out a \$1.7 trillion tax cut for the 2002 budget that benefits the wealthiest corporations and individuals in the country, and in addition to that, another \$40 billion in tax cuts that was recently passed in the so-called economic stimulus legislation.

Because of the policies of this administration, we have reduced our surplus by \$4 trillion, and we are now faced with dipping into Social Security, \$1.8 trillion over the next 10 years. Despite voting five times for the Social Security lock box, today we are breaking that promise and raiding Social Security.

It is indeed important that we address the needs of those who lost their jobs. However, what about the future? What about the retirement of Americans who expect Social Security benefits to be there for them when they retire?

I want my colleagues to know that the Republicans are breaking the promise of protecting Social Security. I mentioned that we have voted five times for the Social Security lock box. We cannot escape the fact that, yes, we can do some Bandaid and temporary protections. For those in New York and others where we extend unemployment benefits, we come up with some additional support for disaster unemployment assistance, but the fact of the matter is this: we are doing nothing to protect the future for these workers.

We are doing nothing to protect Social Security. Social Security is now at risk. It is at risk because this administration has done away and is doing away with the budget surplus that had been built up under the past administration; and because of that, whatever we do today is very temporary and these very same workers will be faced with a bleak future because we are dipping into Social Security.

Americans must be concerned about the fact that now our Social Security benefits for the future are at stake.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the remaining time.

I am glad here we are finally today, two days after the benefits ran out in New York, two days before they run out in Virginia. Unfortunately, this bill is not as the bill Senator CLINTON originally passed in the Senate, as the bill that almost passed here by unanimous consent last December but arrived a few minutes too late from the Senate, and as the bill that I sponsored that was reported out of the committee

unanimously about 3 weeks ago did, all of those bills said a 26-week extension.

Unfortunately, this bill only says 13-week extension. Unfortunately, this also means that the Senate is going to have to take time presumably next week or later this week to change its bill to match our 13 weeks before it goes to the President, and there will be at least a week interruption in benefits because we delayed in doing our job in getting this bill to the floor.

As I said before, we are not talking here about 39 weeks of benefits for individuals, but of 39 weeks of eligibility for the program from the date the disaster was declared. Most people did not start getting DUA right away. It took the bureaucracy some time. They started getting it in November or December, which means they are getting it for less than 26 weeks and with this bill for less than 39 weeks.

We will probably have to, in light of how difficult it is for some people who were thrown out of work specifically by the attack on our country, we will probably have to be back here extending it for another 13 weeks later.

I am appreciative of the work especially of the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HOSTETTLER) and of others and of the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), who helped get this bill to the floor; and I am hopeful that we will pass this bill today so that the interruption in benefits for the people in New York and in Virginia who were victimized by the attack directly will be as short as possible, and I extend my appreciation to all of them. And I urge approval of this bill.

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

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3986, a bill to extend the period of availability of disaster unemployment assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act in the case of victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The bill extends the unemployment assistance period from 26 weeks to 39 weeks.

The Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) program provides unemployment benefits to individuals who have become unemployed because of a Presidentially declared disaster. The Department of Labor has been delegated the authority to administer the program for which the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible under Section 410 of the Disaster Assistance Act.

It is important to note that DUA will not be paid to someone who receives regular unemployment compensation or private income protection insurance compensation unless that person's other program eligibility expires and weeks of unemployment continue in the disaster assistance period. DUA will then be paid to those individuals at the same weekly benefit rate that they were receiving under the other compensation program. These requirements ensure that there is no duplication of benefits.

Extending the DUA program is particularly important because it covers the self-employed, low-wage earners, and those who fall between

the cracks of our regular unemployment insurance programs. Since the program is available only in the wake of such terrible disasters as we experienced on September 11, the help that it provides is especially vital in helping families get back on their feet.

The Stafford Act originally provided for up to 52 weeks of disaster unemployment assistance, but during the Reagan Administration, the FEMA programs were subject to many budgets cuts and disaster unemployment assistance was reduced to 26 weeks. Many Members of Congress opposed these cuts at the time.

Last December, after months of work by Senator CLINTON and Senator SCHUMER, the other body passed a bill, S. 1622, to extend the disaster unemployment assistance period from 26 weeks to 52 weeks. The Gentleman from New York, Mr. NADLER, had already introduced a companion House bill and he made every effort to have the House consider S. 1622 on the final day of the First Session of the 107th Congress. Regrettably, the House Leadership did not clear the bill for consideration before we adjourned.

The Gentleman from New York has continued to actively work the issue almost everyday since the Other Body passed the bill. He shepherded the Senate bill through our Committee, and with the strong support of Chairman YOUNG, Subcommittee Chairman LATOURETTE, and Subcommittee Democratic Ranking Member COSTELLO, we reported that bill unanimously, in an effort to speed the bill to the President's desk and avoid causing the disaster victims to suffer a lapse in benefits.

Although I wish we were simply sending the Senate-passed bill, S. 1622, to the President, it is imperative that we move this new bill, H.R. 3986, forward today, even though it only extends the benefits by 13 weeks. Unfortunately, time is of the essence now. It has been three months since the Other Body acted and the benefits for disaster unemployment insurance are now running out. The disaster unemployment insurance benefits for victims of the World Trade Center attack ended last Sunday, March 17. Similarly, the benefits for victims of the Pentagon will end on March 21.

There are so many tragic stories that could be told to help illustrate why this extension of disaster unemployment assistance is so critical at this time. For example, Mr. John Ortiz worked at the Marriott Hotel at the World Trade Center. He is not eligible for regular unemployment assistance and he has been receiving disaster unemployment assistance since mid-October. He has also been helped by two charities, Safe Horizon and the Red Cross, with the money covering needed expenses such as rent. He has looked for other work within the hotel industry, but has not been able to find a new job. The hotel industry has been so dramatically affected by the events of September 11, that there are very few available jobs, if any at all. Mr. Ortiz feels lucky that he does not have children to support, but says there are many, many families who do have children and are in desperate need of help. He is but one of the approximately 2,500 people who will benefit from this legislation. All of these people are trying their best to help themselves by searching each day to find a job, develop new skills, find assistance from charitable programs, pay their rent, and simply survive.

I commend the gentleman from New York, Mr. QUINN, for recrafting this legislation to ensure its House passage. I also thank Mr. NADLER for his efforts—he is a champion for all of the victims of September 11th, and I commend him for his stalwart dedication. I am hopeful that the Other Body will be able to quickly consider this legislation and clear it for the President's consideration.

Mr. Speaker, these victims of the September 11th terrorist attacks have struggled enough; as Americans, we must help them in their time of need.

I urge all Members to support H.R. 3986.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3986, a bill to extend unemployment assistance administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for qualifying individuals who lost their jobs as a direct result of the September 11th terrorist attacks.

While the heroic clean-up and recovery efforts continue unabated, the unprecedented devastation caused by the attacks is still starkly evident today in lower Manhattan and at the Pentagon. The attacks destroyed twenty percent of downtown New York City's office space and led directly to the loss of over 100,000 jobs.

In Virginia, the three week shut down of Reagan National Airport led to the loss of nearly 20,000 jobs. Under current Federal law, individuals who lost their jobs as a direct result of terrorism are able to receive 26 weeks of unemployment assistance through FEMA. However, many of these individuals are still struggling to find work while facing the prospect of the termination of this assistance.

Accordingly, this important and timely legislation will extend the assistance for an additional 13 weeks. As we continue our collective efforts to rebuild our Nation's economy, let us also ensure that those men and women who were directly affected by the attacks are not forgotten. As a co-sponsor of this legislation and as a proud New Yorker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that this much-needed bill has been scheduled for consideration in an effort to pass it before the benefits lapse. I would like to thank Chairman DON YOUNG, Ranking Democratic Member OBERSTAR and the Subcommittee Chairman STEVEN LATOURETTE for speeding this bill through our Committee. I would also like to commend Mr. NADLER for his diligence on this issue and his longstanding commitment to the victims of the tragedy on September 11th and in particular to the people of New York.

Mr. Speaker, although I support this legislation, I do wish that we were able to pass the original bill that passed the other body in December and through the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in February. It was important to pass the legislation before the benefits lapse and I am hopeful that this bill will be enacted soon.

I support H.R. 3986, which extends unemployment assistance under the Stafford Act. This bill extends the period that victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11th would be eligible for unemployment benefits to 39 weeks. Currently, the Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) benefit period begins with the week following the disaster incident or date thereafter that individual became unemployed and can extend up to 26 weeks after the date of declaration or until the individual

becomes re-employed. The Department of Labor has been delegated the authority to administer the program, for which FEMA is responsible. In fact, the Stafford Act originally provided for 52 weeks of benefits—this legislation would simply restore unemployment benefits to that level.

The expansion of these benefits would help the more than 2,200 workers who lost their jobs as a direct result of the attacks on September 11th but don't qualify for regular unemployment assistance. Many of these individuals are in low wage jobs and are among the neediest of assistance, especially given our current economy. They need this extension to help them move forward again after experiencing the worst terrorist event in our nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, this is good legislation, and urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

□ 1630

Mr. COOKSEY. 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 Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3986.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### JAMES R. BROWNING UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2804) to designate the United States courthouse located at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco, California, as the "James R. Browning United States Courthouse."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2804

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

##### SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States courthouse located at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco, California, shall be known and designated as the "James R. Browning United States Courthouse".

##### SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "James R. Browning United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2804 designates the United States Courthouse located at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco, California, as the James R. Browning United States Courthouse.

Judge Browning was born in Great Falls, Montana, in 1918. He attended

the public schools of Belt, Montana, before enrolling at Montana State University where he earned both his Bachelor's degree and his law degree. Judge Browning graduated at the top of his law school class in 1941 while also serving as the editor-in-chief of the Law Review.

After law school, Judge Browning worked for 2 years with the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division before enlisting in the Army in 1943. Judge Browning served with military intelligence in the Army, rising from private to first lieutenant and earning a Bronze Star in the process.

After the war, Judge Browning again worked as an attorney with the Department of Justice, serving in various positions for 6 years before leaving government service for private practice. After 5 years in private practice, Judge Browning returned to government service as a clerk of the United States Supreme Court, a position he held until named to the Federal bench in 1961 by President Kennedy.

Judge Browning served for nearly 40 years on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He participated in over 1,000 published appellate decisions and was the author of many per curiam opinions. For 12 years, Judge Browning also served as the Chief Judge of the Ninth Circuit. During his tenure, he oversaw the implementation of numerous reforms that increased the efficiency of the circuit's operation and which eliminated a large backlog of pending cases. Many of these reforms were later adopted by other circuit courts.

This naming is a fitting tribute to a dedicated public servant. I support the legislation and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

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

(Mr. NADLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2804, introduced by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), is a bill to designate the United States Courthouse located at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco in honor of Judge James R. Browning.

Since President Kennedy appointed him to the Federal bench in 1961, Judge Browning has served the public for over 40 years. In 1976, Judge Browning became the Chief Judge for the Ninth Circuit, the largest court in the country, and he served in that capacity for 12 years. He is a prolific writer and worker, publishing over 1,000 appellate decisions and authoring many other per curiam opinions.

He is richly deserving of having this courthouse named after him, and I want to thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) and the other Members of the delegation from California for introducing this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD a letter in support of this legislation from William C. Canby, Jr., a

United States Circuit Judge in Phoenix, Arizona.

U.S. COURTHOUSE,  
Phoenix, AZ, September 6, 2001.

Re H.R. 2804: The James R. Browning United States Courthouse.

Hon. JAMES L. OBERSTAR,  
U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE OBERSTAR: This letter is in support of H.R. 2804, a bill to designate the headquarters of our court, the United States Courthouse at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco, as the "James R. Browning United States Courthouse."

Jim Browning has served our court magnificently for the last forty years. For twenty-one of those years, I have been privileged to be one of his colleagues. Jim Browning was Chief Judge for my first several years on this court, and he exemplified, as he still does, exactly what a great judge should be. He is judicious, impartial, tolerant and, perhaps above all, so infused with good will toward his fellow men and women that he imparts a considerable degree of that quality to all who come in contact with him. Everyone across the entire spectrum of our courts respects Jim Browning. Our courthouse could not have a more fitting name!

I understand that some celebrations of Jim Browning's tenure will be coming up in the near future; it would be wonderful if H.R. 2804 were law by that time, so that the events could be combined with a dedication.

We would all be most grateful if you would support the prompt passage of H.R. 2804.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM C. CANBY, JR.,  
U.S. Circuit Judge.

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

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), for yielding me this time and for his lovely statement on behalf of Judge Browning. I also want to commend my colleague, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY), for his kind words as well.

Mr. Speaker, I wish that every Member of this House could meet Judge Browning. They would then know why we feel so privileged to be naming this courthouse for him and the joy we feel in paying tribute to his excellent service to our country.

I rise in support of H.R. 2804, which designates, as has been mentioned, the U.S. Courthouse located at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco as the James R. Browning United States Courthouse.

Judge Browning has been an outstanding jurist and a brilliant administrator for the Ninth Circuit Court for the past 40 years. By crafting creative solutions to a large case backlog and a slow appeals process, Judge Browning has improved our judicial system both in the Ninth Circuit, and everywhere his reforms have been emulated. I urge my colleagues to honor him today for his lifetime of service.

I would like to thank the chairman of the Committee on Transportation

and Infrastructure, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), and the ranking member, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. JIM OBERSTAR), for their efforts to bring this bill before the House. It would not have been possible without them. I am also pleased to note this bill is strongly supported by a bipartisan group of Members from throughout the Ninth Circuit's area of jurisdiction. The bill's cosponsors and other supporters are still returning from the West Coast and are unable to join us, as they would like to, on the floor today.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) for their very appropriate and generous remarks. And I also want to commend Judge Browning's former law clerks, led by Michael Rubin, who championed the idea of naming this historic courthouse after this extraordinary judge.

James Browning was born in Great Falls, Montana, and received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Montana. After graduation, he joined the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice where he worked for 2 years before being inducted to the U.S. Army infantry as a private. Serving 3 years in the Pacific theatre in military intelligence, he attained the rank of first lieutenant and was awarded the Bronze Star.

After his military service, Judge Browning returned to the Justice Department, serving in several positions in the Antitrust Division before becoming Executive Assistant to the Attorney General. In 1953, he left government service for a successful career in private practice, during which he lectured at the law schools of New York University and Georgetown University.

His desire to be in public service was strong, however, and he left private practice after 5 years to become the Clerk of the U.S. Supreme Court. What a high honor. As has been mentioned, in 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed James Browning as a Circuit Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, over 40 years ago.

The Ninth Circuit includes all of the Federal courts in California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Alaska, Hawaii, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. His exemplary tenure as a circuit judge was marked by his extensive involvement in the Judicial Conference of the United States. He examined issues of judicial conduct, court administration, and the organization of the Ninth Circuit.

I take this time, Mr. Speaker, because so many of our colleagues cannot be here and wanted to have so much of Judge Browning's record on the record.

Judge Browning became Chief Judge of the Ninth Circuit in 1976. At that time, the appeals court in particular faced a large backlog of cases, and substantial delays in deciding appeals were common. Judge Browning imme-

diately undertook innovative steps to improve the functioning of the Ninth Circuit. He convinced Congress to add new judges to the court of appeals. He instituted new methods of case processing in order to manage the increased case loads. He established a bankruptcy appellate panel to hear bankruptcy appeals for the entire court. He revamped communication among the justices.

And his innovations worked. The restructuring he instituted paid rich dividends, including the elimination of the court's backlog and a reduction by half in the time needed to decide appeals. His reforms have been examined and repeated throughout the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of, as I say, so many of my colleagues who are traveling now from the West and cannot be here, I am pleased to request of our colleagues that they vote "yes" in support of naming this building. It has been said that "Justice deferred is justice denied." I ask my colleagues today to honor a man whose innovations have helped ensure that "Justice comes in time."

James R. Browning has been an exceptionally able and dedicated public servant. He is a wonderful person. I urge my colleagues to honor him today by voting for H.R. 2804, to designate the Federal Courthouse at 7th and Mission Streets in San Francisco, by the way a building that was restored after the earthquake to a beautiful, beautiful state, and I invite all my colleagues to visit, hopefully, the James R. Browning United States Courthouse.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2804 is a bill to designate the courthouse located at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco, California, as the "James R. Browning United States Courthouse". I commend our colleague, Congresswoman PELOSI, for her diligence and hard work in bringing this bill through the Committee. I also thank Subcommittee Chairman LATOURETTE, Ranking Member COSTELLO, and Committee Chairman YOUNG for working with me to ensure that the bill received expeditious consideration.

Judge Browning is a tireless and effective advocate for the Ninth Circuit, where he served as a U.S. District Court Judge for nearly 40 years. In 1976, the year Judge Browning became the circuit's Chief Judge, there was no guarantee of a speedy disposition of litigation. Substantial delays were commonplace, and the volume of cases far exceeded the capacity of the courts. Judge Browning convinced Congress and advocacy groups that reducing the size of the Ninth Circuit was not the answer. He then undertook a series of administrative reforms to ensure the prompt, effective administration of justice, and other circuits subsequently adopted many of these ideas. This bill honors his dedication to public service and his innovative reshaping of the procedures in the largest and busiest circuit in the country.

Judge Browning introduced new methods of case processing and control. He established an executive committee to facilitate administrative decisions, and the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel to hear bankruptcy appeals. He reduced the size of the Judicial Council

and thus made decision-making more effective. He also decentralized the procurement and budgeting systems, and was instrumental in establishing the Western Justice Center Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the legal system by encouraging collaborative work and research.

Judge Browning is a native of Montana, and a decorated veteran of World War II. Prior to joining the Federal Court in 1961, he worked at the U.S. Department of Justice and served as a law clerk at the Supreme Court. Judge Browning is known for his collegiality, courtesy, and support and mentoring of younger judges and court employees. He is a beloved member of the Ninth Circuit.

It is fitting and proper to honor Judge Browning's distinguished career with this designation. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2804.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COOKSEY. 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. COOKSEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2804.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3986 and H.R. 2804, the measures just under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

#### URGING GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE TO ENSURE A DEMOCRATIC, TRANSPARENT, AND FAIR ELECTION PROCESS

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 339) urging the Government of Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent, and fair election process leading up to the March 31, 2002, parliamentary elections, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 339

Whereas Ukraine stands at a critical point in its development to a fully democratic so-

ciety, and the parliamentary elections on March 31, 2002, its third parliamentary elections since becoming independent more than 10 years ago, will play a significant role in demonstrating whether Ukraine continues to proceed on the path to democracy or experiences setbacks in its democratic development;

Whereas the Government of Ukraine can demonstrate its commitment to democracy by conducting a genuinely free and fair parliamentary election process, in which all candidates have access to news outlets in the print, radio, television, and Internet media, and nationally televised debates are held, thus enabling the various political parties and election blocs to compete on a level playing field and the voters to acquire objective information about the candidates;

Whereas a flawed election process, which contravenes commitments of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on democracy and the conduct of elections, could potentially slow Ukraine's efforts to integrate into Western institutions;

Whereas in recent years, incidents of government corruption and harassment of the media have raised concerns about the commitment of the Government of Ukraine to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law;

Whereas Ukraine, since its independence in 1991, has been one of the largest recipients of United States foreign assistance;

Whereas \$154,000,000 in technical assistance to Ukraine was provided under Public Law 107-115 (the Kenneth M. Ludden Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2002), a \$16,000,000 reduction in funding from the previous fiscal year due to concerns about continuing setbacks to needed reform and the unresolved deaths of prominent dissidents and journalists, such as the case of Heorhiy Gongadze;

Whereas Public Law 107-115 requires a report by the Department of State on the progress by the Government of Ukraine in investigating and bringing to justice individuals responsible for the murders of Ukrainian journalists;

Whereas the Presidential election of 1999, according to the final report of the Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of OSCE on that election, failed to meet a significant number of OSCE election-related commitments;

Whereas according to the ODIHR report, during the 1999 Presidential election campaign, a heavy proincumbent bias was prevalent among the state-owned media outlets, and members of the media viewed as not in support of the President were subject to harassment by government authorities, while proincumbent campaigning by state administration and public officials was widespread and systematic;

Whereas the Law on Elections of People's Deputies of Ukraine, signed by President Leonid Kuchma on October 30, 2001, which was cited in a report of the ODIHR dated November 26, 2001, as making improvements in Ukraine's electoral code and providing safeguards to meet Ukraine's commitments on democratic elections, does not include a role for domestic nongovernmental organizations to monitor elections;

Whereas according to international media experts, the Law on Elections defines the conduct of an election campaign in an imprecise manner which could lead to arbitrary sanctions against media operating in Ukraine;

Whereas the Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) on December 13, 2001, rejected a draft Law on Political Advertising and Agitation, which would have limited free

speech in the campaign period by giving too many discretionary powers to government bodies, and posed a serious threat to the independent media;

Whereas the Department of State has dedicated \$4,700,000 in support of monitoring and assistance programs for the 2002 parliamentary elections;

Whereas the process for the 2002 parliamentary elections has reportedly been affected by violations by many parties during the period prior to the official start of the election campaign on January 1, 2002; and

Whereas monthly reports for November and December of 2001 released by the Committee on Voters of Ukraine (CVU), an indigenous, nonpartisan, nongovernment organization that was established in 1994 to monitor the conduct of national election campaigns and balloting in Ukraine, cited five major types of violations of political rights and freedoms during the precampaign phase of the parliamentary elections, including—

(1) use of government position to support particular political groups;

(2) government pressure on the opposition and on the independent media;

(3) free goods and services given by many political groups in order to sway voters;

(4) coercion to join political parties and pressure to contribute to election campaigns; and

(5) distribution of anonymous and compromising information about political opponents;

Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) acknowledges the strong relationship between the United States and Ukraine since Ukraine's independence more than 10 years ago, while understanding that Ukraine can only become a full partner in Western institutions when it fully embraces democratic principles;

(2) expresses its support for the efforts of the Ukrainian people to promote democracy, the rule of law, and respect for human rights in Ukraine;

(3) urges the Government of Ukraine to enforce impartially its newly adopted election law, including provisions calling for—

(A) the transparency of election procedures;

(B) access for international election observers;

(C) multiparty representation on election commissions;

(D) equal access to the media for all election participants;

(E) an appeals process for electoral commissions and within the court system; and

(F) administrative penalties for election violations;

(4) urges the Government of Ukraine to meet its commitments on democratic elections, as delineated in the 1990 Copenhagen Document of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), with respect to the campaign period and election day, and to address issues identified by the Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of OSCE in its final report on the 1999 Presidential election, such as state interference in the campaign and pressure on the media; and

(5) calls upon the Government of Ukraine to allow election monitors from the ODIHR, other participating states of OSCE, and private institutions and organizations, both foreign and domestic, access to all aspects of the parliamentary election process according to international practices, including—

(A) access to political events attended by the public during the campaign period;

(B) access to observe voting and counting procedures at polling stations and electoral

commission meetings on election day, including procedures to release election results on a district-by-district basis as they become available; and

(C) access to observe postelection tabulation of results and processing of election challenges and complaints.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOEFFEL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and at the outset, I would like to recognize some exemplary students from Hamilton High School West and Vicki Schoeb, their dedicated teacher, and thank them for being here to observe the workings of the Hill, especially the proceedings of the House. They are very much welcomed to this Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, today the House moves to the timely consideration of H. Res. 339, which urges the Government of the Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent, and fair election process leading up to the March 31 parliamentary elections. I would like to thank our majority leader, the gentleman from Texas, (Mr. ARMEY), for his commitment to schedule this timely and important resolution this week so that it happens before and so that, hopefully, it will have some impact on the proceedings.

I was pleased to be one of the original sponsors of this resolution which acknowledges the strong relationship between the United States and Ukraine, urges the Ukrainian Government to enforce impartially its new election law, and urges the Ukrainian Government to meet its OSCE commitments on democratic elections. I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. Speaker, the Helsinki Commission, which I chair, has a long-standing record of support for human rights and democratic development in Ukraine. Commission staff will be observing the upcoming elections, as they have done for virtually every election in Ukraine since 1990. The stakes in the Ukrainian elections are high both in terms of the outcome and as an indication of the Ukrainian Government's commitment towards democratic development and integration into Europe.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to underscore the reason for this congressional interest in Ukraine. The clear and simple reason: An independent, democratic, and economically stable Ukraine is vital to the well being of all Ukrainians to the stability and security of Europe; and we want to encourage Ukraine in recognizing its own often-stated goal of integration into Europe.

Despite the positive changes that have occurred in the Ukraine since independence in 1991, including the economic growth over the last 2 years, Ukraine is still undergoing a difficult

path towards transition. The pace of that transition has been distressing, slowed by insufficient progress in respect for the rule of law, especially by the presence of widespread corruption, which continues to exact a considerable toll on the Ukrainian people. They deserve better, Mr. Speaker, than what they have gotten.

Another source of frustration is the still-unresolved case of murdered investigative journalist, Heorhiy Gongadze. And let me say one thing about him, as well as his widow. Last year, at the OSCE parliamentary assembly which I led, to Paris, my colleagues will remember that we honored him posthumously for his great work and because he paid the ultimate price for his convictions—death.

The flawed investigations of this case and the case of another murdered Ukrainian journalist, Ihor Aleksandrov, call into question Ukraine's commitment to the rule of law. And I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that going on into the next weeks and months the Helsinki Commission will continue its vigilance. We plan on holding hearings to look into this even further, hopefully keeping pressure on the Ukrainian Government simply to do the right thing.

There have also been a number of disturbing cases of violence and threats of violence. For example, 78-year-old Iryna Senyk, a former political prisoner and poetess, who was campaigning for the pro-reform party, our Ukraine bloc, was badly beaten by unknown assailants.

□ 1645

Such unchecked violence has created an uncertain atmosphere.

Most of independent Ukraine's elections have met international democratic standards for elections. The 1999 presidential elections were more problematic, and the OSCE Election Mission Report on these elections asserted that they "failed to meet a significant number of the OSCE election-related commitments."

Mr. Speaker, it remains an open question as to whether the March 31 elections will be a step forward for Ukraine. With less than 2 weeks until election day, there are some discouraging indications, credible reports of various violations of the election law, including, one, campaigning by officials or use of state resources to support certain blocs or candidates; second, the denial of public facilities and services to candidates, blocs or parties; three, governmental pressure on certain parties, candidates and media outlets; and, four, a pro-government bias in the public media, especially the government's main television network, UT-1.

Mr. Speaker, these actions are inconsistent with Ukraine's freely undertaken OSCE commitments and undermine its reputation with respect to human rights and democracy. A democratic election process is a must in so-

lidifying Ukraine's democratic credentials and the confidence of its citizens and in its stated desire to integrate with the West.

During his visit to Ukraine last week, the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Adrian Severin, expressed concern over the mistrust in the election process among certain candidates as well as a general skepticism as to whether or not the elections would be truly free and fair, and encouraged Ukrainian officials to take quick measures to ensure that it is a free and fair election and that the outcome is credible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the summary of the most recent Long Term Observation Report on the Ukrainian elections prepared by the nonpartisan Committee of Voters of Ukraine, be submitted for the RECORD.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The Chair must remind the Member that the rules do not permit references to or introductions of persons in the galleries.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 339 and compliment the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for his cosponsorship of this important resolution, for his passionate statement on the floor today, and for his work behind the scenes to get this resolution on the floor today. It was not easy to do. We were running short on time. This is the last week of our session before the Ukrainian parliamentary elections on March 31, and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) worked with dispatch and effectiveness behind the scenes. I am sure that the freedom-loving people of Ukraine are glad that the gentleman did, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) of the Committee on International Relations and subcommittee chair, the gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY), for their commitment to move this bill forward. There were several bumps in the road, but cooperation carried the day. We kept the bill in a strong and effective form, and I compliment all on the majority side for bringing this resolution forward.

I certainly compliment the gentleman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), co-chair with the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFFER) of the Ukrainian Caucus in the House. The gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER) is the prime sponsor of this important legislation.

We are all here today to promote this legislation, which urges the Government of the Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent, and fair parliamentary election on March 31. The resolution also urges the Government of Ukraine to implement basic tools in order to ensure free and fair elections,

including a transparency of election procedures, access for international election observers, multiparty representation on election commissions, and equal access to the media for all election candidates.

Mr. Speaker, this is the third parliamentary election in the Ukraine since they gained their independence 10 years ago. It is the most critical. This is a big deal in the Ukraine. If they fail to continue to move forward with democratic reforms, if this is not a fair and free election, it will be a major setback to the cause of democracy in Ukraine.

It is very appropriate for this government, as friendly as we are with the people and the Government of Ukraine, to urge that the government in Ukraine do everything in its power to ensure the fairness and openness of this election process.

Ukraine has come a long way in the last 10 years. Its economy grew more than 6 percent last year. It has voluntarily given up the third largest nuclear arsenal in the world, and has consistently sought to eliminate its existing stockpile of strategic missiles. There are basic political reforms under way in the country, and we have friendly relations with the Ukraine and we want those relations to continue to be as friendly and supportive as possible.

But significant challenges remain. The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and others have indicated the challenges that we have. There are restrictions on basic democratic freedoms in the country. The nuclear plants I mentioned are in desperate need of appropriate clean up. The media suffers from blatant government harassment and pressure, and government corruption runs rampant.

There have been a number of activities and accusations involving the government that are terribly disturbing. The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) has talked about the unsolved murder of the brave journalist Heorhiy Gongadze in September 2000, and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and I participated in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe held last July in Paris in which the OSCE awarded a prize to the widow of Mr. Gongadze in honor of his great service and the sacrifice he made in support of freedom of the press.

I, as does the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), remember well the passionate speech that Mrs. Gongadze made in Paris a year ago. I am happy to tell the gentleman from New Jersey that Mrs. Gongadze visited my district this past weekend and spoke again with great passion at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center of Greater Philadelphia on a panel called to discuss the importance of the Ukrainian elections identified as "Ukraine at a Crossroads"; and her passion for democratic reforms remains unabated, as is her desire, as is

ours, to determine and hold accountable those that murdered her husband.

The OSCE, through their Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, has issued a final report on Ukraine's most recent national election, the presidential election of 1999, and indicates that that election was marred by violations of Ukrainian election law and failed to meet a number of OSCE election commitments. There was state interference with the campaign and government pressure on the media.

This month's election has been reviewed ahead of time. There is a group called the Committee of Voters of Ukraine, the leading Ukrainian watchdog group on elections; and they have reported numerous violations in the run-up to the 2002 parliamentary election. So the challenge is still present. This is a very important watershed election in Ukraine. They have got to get this right. They cannot slip back and repeat the mistakes of the 1999 presidential election. They must continue to move forward; and it is very appropriate for this Congress, this House, to urge the Government of Ukraine to run as fair and open an election as possible.

Mr. Speaker, Ukraine strives to realize a more robust democracy, and it needs our encouragement and support. It has both, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 338, the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOEFFEL) for his comments. The gentleman's statement was right on point.

I think it is important to underscore the good work that the Committee of Voters of Ukraine are actually doing. Between February 23 and March 10, 225 long-term observers visited 622 cities and 712 political party branches. They attended 578 events conducted by political groups. They are making a Herculean effort to ensure that the upcoming elections are free and fair and impartial. They deserve our highest support and praise and congratulations for being so committed to fair and free elections in Ukraine. The Committee is comprised of true patriots of Ukraine. They are brave and resourceful and they deserve the full support of every Member of this body.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the summary of the Long Term

Observation Report of the Committee of Voters of Ukraine.

#### SUMMARY

In October 2001, the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU) began its long-term observation of the 2002 parliamentary election process. CVU is a non-partisan citizens' election monitoring organization with 160 branches throughout the Ukraine. CVU will report regularly until the March 31, 2002 elections.

Between February 23 and March 10, 225 long-term observers visited 622 cities and 712 political party branches, and attended 578 events conducted by political groups. CVU observed the same kinds of violations as in the previous three-week period. Some types of violations decreased in number, while others increased.

Each time a problem was reported to an observer, the head of the regional CVU organization called the individual making the report to verify it and obtain details. In many cases, witnesses are reluctant to talk about violations, fearing retribution from their employers or others.

CVU has noticed a few positive developments since its last report. In the past three weeks, voter education programs in the mass media have become more robust. Likewise, election commissioners are receiving practical training from non-governmental organizations. Some television stations have also been showing debates between various political leaders.

Nonetheless, the pre-election period continues to be marked by substantial violations of Ukrainian law. The main types of offenses recorded by CVU during the last week of February and first two weeks of March were:

Campaigning by state officials or use of state resources to support favored political candidates and groups. The bloc "Za Edu" (For a United Ukraine) was the principal, but not exclusive beneficiary of this support.

Government pressure on certain political parties, candidates, and media outlets.

Interference in election campaigns through violence, threats of violence or destruction of campaign materials.

Illegal campaign practices by candidates offering free goods and services to voters and distributing unregistered campaign materials.

Executive branch interference in the election process has decreased somewhat since the previous three week period, although it remains a key feature of the electoral environment. As before, the principal beneficiary of this assistance is the bloc "Za Edu" and its candidates in single mandate constituencies. Much of this interference takes place openly; in many cases, government officials involve themselves in the electoral process in an apparent attempt to win favor with their superiors. Although CVU has witnessed fewer instances of this kind of violation, this does not necessarily suggest that executive branch officials are behaving more impartially. In many cases, they have simply shifted their attention away from the parliamentary elections to oblast (state) and local races, which are not covered in this report.

Conversely, legal provisions requiring free and transparent campaigning are being ignored with increasing frequency. Criminal interference in campaigns has gone up; in turn, parties and single-mandate candidates are breaking the election law more often.

Some candidates, parties, and citizens whose rights have been infringed are beginning to lodge formal complaints with election commissions and the courts. Some commissions have responded by warning parties and candidates accused of campaign violations to respect the law. No state officials

has been punished for abuse of office, however. While CVU has uncovered no evidence that state interference in the election has been ordered by senior government authorities, neither have these authorities punished any accused lawbreakers or acted preemptively to ensure neutrality on the part of their subordinates.

#### ELECTION COMMISSIONS

The country's central and constituency election commissions appear to be functioning relatively well. Most are following proper procedure and trying to respond to appeals in a timely manner. Where problems with district commissions do exist, they are more likely to be found in eastern and southern regions of Ukraine.

The formation of polling-place election commissions (PECs) has not gone smoothly, however. Instead, this process has been marked by confusion and numerous violations of proper procedure. Detailed information on the make-up of the country's roughly 33,000 PECs was supposed to be released by February 27 Article 21.13 of the election law, but this requirement was not observed in most areas. Hence, an analysis of the make-up of the commissions is not possible at this time.

CVU is concerned that the provisions of Ukraine's election law that provide for multi-partisan representation on election commissions have not been respected in spirit. In many areas, local executive bodies have taken advantage of the weaknesses of political parties to appoint election commissioners who nominally represent a party but who are, in practice, loyal to the local administration alone. CVU has witnessed numerous cases where election commissioners are unaware even of identity of the party they are supposed to represent. Clearly, a good deal of the blame for this problem also lies with the parties, which have been incapable of recruiting trusted members to serve as commissioners in many parts of the country.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments and simply add that we take elections for granted in this country. We know how important they are, but we assume that they will be fair and open and transparent. We need to do everything in our power to encourage the same in the emerging democracies in Europe. Those countries, such as Ukraine, emerging from the tyranny of the Soviet bloc, for 10 years a new independence and freedom has been observed in Ukraine; but this election is of critical importance. They have got to get it right. We have to help them get it right, and this legislation is dedicated to that proposition.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOEFFEL) for championing this very important resolution to put our Nation and the Congress on record in highest hopes that the elections this year in the Ukraine will ensure a democratic, transparent, and fair election process leading up to March 31. Their parliamentary elections will be held on that date. Of course the chairman of the full committee, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), and the gentleman

from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOEFFEL) have traveled together to that part of the world and have made such a difference in carrying the banner of freedom's institutions into regions of our world where heretofore people had not been able to exercise their full democratic rights.

Having just returned from the Ukraine myself and having had the really historic opportunity to meet with nearly 300 of their younger citizens, and people representing non-governmental organizations that are monitoring the elections and trying to produce information so people know what they are voting about, we can see a change, a glacial change occurring there for the better. But without question, people of that nation must feel free and unintimidated as they go to the polls, and they must understand what the various candidates' platforms are; and it is safe to say that that kind of transparency and information has not been easily available.

Sometimes it is hard here, but there the systems are just not robust. It is not easy to understand how a party slate or individuals on it might actually support a certain program, and it is hard to distinguish among the major blocs and the people in those blocs. I would add an encouraging word for passage of this resolution and a great hope that the Government of Ukraine will ensure that the election process is open. Let flourish those who are attempting to help people understand the issues and understand what those who are running actually will champion in their own programs once elected to RADA or local office. This kind of information should be more broadly available. The Internet should be allowed to function so people will share information across regions and become more informed about what their vote actually means.

The task before the Ukrainian people of building a more open and free society is enormous. That is true in Russia also and many of the former republics of the Soviet Union.

□ 1700

I know that I detected, especially among the young, such a great hope, such a feeling that they had the future of the country in their hands. They are looking for us to pass this resolution to give a signal that our country stands and walks alongside those who are trying to build more open and free societies. In fact many young people who are 21 years of age are running for office in some of the towns, or are trying to run for parliament, to try to change the laws in order to make property traded freely with a mortgage system. They are fighting for laws so loans can be made by a regular bank and have a free credit system established. They want an educational system that is available to all so students are able to learn critical thinking methods. All of these challenges lie ahead of those young leaders.

And so to the young people in our country, I encourage them to pay attention to Ukraine, the most important nation in Central Europe. As it goes, so will the nations around it. I rise in very strong support of House Resolution 339 and want to thank so very much the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOEFFEL) for bringing this to the attention of the entire world, indeed. We respectfully say to the people of Ukraine, vote, vote wisely, monitor the elections, help to move your country forward, as I know the hearts of your people tell you they want.

I express my fullest support for this resolution.

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman, a real leader on Ukrainian issues in the House. I compliment her on her remarks.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose H. Res. 339, a bill by the United States Congress which seeks to tell a sovereign nation how to hold its own elections. It seems the height of arrogance for us to sit here and lecture the people and government of Ukraine on what they should do and should not do in their own election process. One would have thought after our own election debacle in November 2000, that we would have learned how counterproductive and hypocritical it is to lecture other democratic countries on their electoral processes. How would members of this committee—or any American—react if countries like Ukraine demanded that our elections here in the United States conform to their criteria? So I think we can guess how Ukrainians feel about this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Ukraine has been the recipient of hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign aid from the United States. In fiscal year 2002 alone, Ukraine was provided \$154 million. Yet after all this money—which we were told was to promote democracy—and more than ten years after the end of the Soviet Union, we are told in this legislation that Ukraine has made little if any progress in establishing a democratic political system.

Far from getting more involved in Ukraine's electoral process, which is where this legislation leads us, the United States is already much too involved in the Ukrainian elections. The U.S. government has sent some \$4.7 million dollars to Ukraine for monitoring and assistance programs, including to train their electoral commission members and domestic monitoring organizations. There have been numerous reports of U.S.-funded non-governmental organizations in Ukraine being involved in pushing one or another political party. This makes it look like the United States is taking sides in the Ukrainian elections.

The legislation calls for the full access of Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) monitors to all aspects of the parliamentary elections, but that organization has time and time again, from Slovakia to Russia and elsewhere, shown itself to be unreliable and politically biased. Yet the United States continues to fund and participate in OSCE activities. As British writer John Laughland observed this week in the Guardian newspaper, "Western election monitoring has become the political equivalent of an Arthur Andersen audit. This supposedly technical

process is now so corrupted by political bias that it would be better to abandon it. Only then will countries be able to elect their leaders freely." Mr. Speaker, I think this is advice we would be wise to heed.

Other aspects of this bill are likewise troubling. This bill seeks, from thousands of miles away and without any of the facts, to demand that the Ukrainian government solve crimes within Ukraine that have absolutely nothing to do with the United States. No one knows what happened to journalist Heorhiy Gongadze or any of the alleged murdered Ukrainian journalists, yet by adding it into this ill-advised piece of legislation we are sitting here suggesting that the government has something to do with the alleged murders. This meddling into the Ukrainian judicial system is inappropriate and counter-productive.

Mr. Speaker, we are legislators in the United States Congress. We are not in Ukraine. We have no right to interfere in the internal affairs of that country and no business telling them how to conduct their elections. A far better policy toward Ukraine would be to eliminate any U.S.-government imposed barrier to free trade between Americans and Ukrainians.

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, since regaining its independence in 1991, Ukraine's democracy has made significant progress but has not been without its difficult periods. Nowhere has the integrity of the country's political system been more challenged than in its electoral process.

On March 31, Ukraine will hold its third election for parliament. This election will be a critical test of the strength of Ukraine's evolving democracy and its new election laws.

Given the importance of a strong and stable Ukraine in the region, the importance of our relations with Ukraine and our keen interest in Ukraine's continued emergence as a responsible, democratic member of the international community, we are naturally interested in the electoral process as well as progress the country has made in the areas of human rights, rule of law, freedom of expression and the strength of its democratic institutions.

In this context, the United States Congress, through H. Res. 339, expresses its interest in, and concerns for, a genuinely free and fair parliamentary election process which enables all the various political parties and election blocs to compete on a level playing field; allows the voters to acquire objective information about the political candidates; and expects all parties to the election to observe their own laws.

Historically, since 1991, elections in Ukraine have been marred by problems such as intimidation of journalists and opposition candidates; denial of access to the media; unbalanced news coverage; abuse of power and political position by government officials; and the illegal use of public funds. Today, we have received reports from Ukraine that the current election period has been beset by similar allegations of individuals or groups illegally trying to influence the outcome of the elections.

This is not to say that the overall electoral process is seriously flawed. The Ukraine parliament has passed a positive new election law. What H. Res. 339 does say, however, is that the reported abuses of the election law have to be stopped, that the government has the responsibility to enforce its election law fairly, and that every effort must be taken to

ensure that a free, fair and transparent election take place on March 31.

This resolution we are considering today does represent a genuine concern that the reported activities of some could cast a negative cloud over these elections and the entire democratic process in Ukraine.

The authors of this Resolution are to be congratulated for bringing these problems to our attention, and we hope the resolution is seen in a positive and constructive way inside Ukraine.

By addressing these concerns, Ukraine can only be better off and its democracy made stronger

I urge passage of this resolution and reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be joined by my colleagues, Representatives JOSEPH HOFFFEL and CHRISTOPHER SMITH, in offering this important resolution. H. Res. 339 urges the Government of Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent, and fair election process leading up to its March 31 parliamentary elections.

Just over 10 years after gaining its independence from the Soviet bloc, Ukraine stands at a crossroads. On Sunday, March 31, Ukraine will hold its third parliamentary elections since becoming independent. It is widely believed that the outcome of the parliamentary elections will determine whether Ukraine continues to pursue democratic reforms, or experiences further political turmoil.

As a founding member and Co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, I have watched the growth of this new nation with keen interest. Their path to democratization has not been easy. More troubling, however, has been a series of scandals involving government corruption over the past 2 years. In April 2001, I was troubled to learn about the Ukrainian Parliament's vote to remove reform-minded Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko. This change in government came in the midst of the ongoing political turmoil resulting from allegations over the involvement of President Leonid Kuchma in the case of murdered journalist Heorhiy Gongadze. Meanwhile, reports of government corruption and harassment of the media have raised concerns about the Ukrainian government's commitment to democratic principles. I have spoken out for a more democratic Ukraine and expressed my continued concern about the lack of progress in the Gongadze case and recent political instability.

According to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights' final report on Ukraine's most recent national election, the presidential election of 1999 was marred by violations of Ukrainian election law and failed to meet a significant number of OSCE election commitments. There is now concern that the 2002 parliamentary elections will be compromised by similar violations. Recent reports on the 2002 parliamentary elections released by the Committee on Voters of Ukraine (CVU), a leading Ukrainian watchdog group on elections, have cited numerous violations in the campaign process.

The intent of this resolution is to make the Government of Ukraine aware that the U.S. Congress is monitoring the conduct of the parliamentary election process closely, and will not just be focusing on Election Day results. My resolution urges the Government of Ukraine to enforce impartially the new election

law signed by President Kuchma in October. The resolution also urges the Government of Ukraine to meet its commitments on democratic elections and address issues identified by the OSCE in its final report on the 1999 elections, such as state interference in the campaign and pressure on the media. Finally, the resolution calls upon the Government of Ukraine to allow both domestic and international election monitors access to the parliamentary election process.

It is my hope that this resolution will send a clear message to the Government of Ukraine that the U.S. Congress will not simply rubber stamp funding requests for Ukraine without also considering the serious issues involved in Ukraine's democratic development. In particular, the conduct of the 2002 parliamentary elections will have a major impact on funding considerations when Members of Congress are again confronted with the task of blancing their support for the U.S.-Ukrainian relationship with Ukraine's progress in making democratic reforms.

I urge my colleagues to vote for H. Res. 339, and I encourage the Government of Ukraine to conduct a democratic, transparent, and fair parliamentary election process on March 31.

Mr. HOFFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. 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 New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 339, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### REPORT ON NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO ANGOLA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-190)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to the

National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) that was declared in Executive Order 12865 of September 26, 1993.

GEORGE W. BUSH.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 19, 2002.

2002 TRADE POLICY AGENDA AND 2001 ANNUAL REPORT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-191)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 163 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2213), I transmit herewith the 2002 Trade Policy Agenda and 2001 Annual Report on the Trade Agreements Program, as prepared by my Administration as of March 1, 2002.

GEORGE W. BUSH.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 19, 2002.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FOLEY) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on approval of the Journal and on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

The Journal, de novo;

H. Res. 368, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 2509, by the yeas and nays; and  
H.R. 2804, by the yeas and nays.

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

The vote on H. Res. 339 will be postponed until tomorrow.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of 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. HAYWORTH. 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 363, nays 44, answered “present” 1, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 65]

YEAS—363

Abercrombie	Davis, Jo Ann	Hooley
Ackerman	Davis, Tom	Horn
Akin	Deal	Hostettler
Andrews	DeGette	Houghton
Baca	DeLahunt	Hoyer
Bachus	DeLauro	Hunter
Baker	DeLay	Hyde
Baldacci	DeMint	Inslee
Baldwin	Deutsch	Isakson
Ballenger	Diaz-Balart	Israel
Barr	Dicks	Issa
Barrett	Doggett	Istook
Bartlett	Dooley	Jackson (IL)
Barton	Doolittle	Jackson-Lee
Bass	Doyle	(TX)
Becerra	Dreier	Jefferson
Bentsen	Duncan	Jenkins
Bereuter	Dunn	John
Berman	Edwards	Johnson (CT)
Berry	Ehlers	Johnson (IL)
Bilirakis	Ehrlich	Johnson, E. B.
Bishop	Emerson	Johnson, Sam
Blumenauer	Engel	Jones (NC)
Boehlert	Eshoo	Kanjorski
Boehner	Etheridge	Kaptur
Bonilla	Evans	Keller
Bonior	Everett	Kelly
Bono	Farr	Kennedy (RI)
Boozman	Ferguson	Kerns
Boswell	Flake	Kildee
Boucher	Fletcher	Kilpatrick
Boyd	Foley	Kind (WI)
Brady (TX)	Forbes	King (NY)
Brown (FL)	Ford	Kingston
Brown (OH)	Frank	Kirk
Brown (SC)	Frelinghuysen	Klecicka
Bryant	Frost	Knollenberg
Burr	Gallegly	Kolbe
Burton	Ganske	LaFalce
Buyer	Gekas	LaHood
Callahan	Gephardt	Lampson
Calvert	Gibbons	Langevin
Camp	Gilchrest	Lantos
Cannon	Gillmor	Larson (CT)
Cantor	Gilman	LaTourette
Capito	Gonzalez	Leach
Capps	Goode	Lee
Cardin	Goodlatte	Levin
Carson (IN)	Gordon	Lewis (GA)
Carson (OK)	Goss	Lewis (KY)
Castle	Graham	Linder
Chabot	Granger	Lofgren
Chambliss	Graves	Lowey
Clay	Green (TX)	Luther
Clayton	Green (WI)	Lynch
Clement	Greenwood	Maloney (CT)
Clyburn	Grucci	Maloney (NY)
Coble	Hall (TX)	Manzullo
Collins	Hansen	Markey
Combest	Harman	Mascara
Conyers	Hart	Matheron
Cooksey	Hastings (WA)	Matsui
Cox	Hayes	McCarthy (MO)
Coyne	Hayworth	McCarthy (NY)
Cramer	Herger	McCollum
Crenshaw	Hill	McCrery
Crowley	Hilleary	McGovern
Cubin	Hinojosa	McHugh
Culberson	Hobson	McInnis
Cummings	Hoefel	McIntyre
Cunningham	Hoekstra	McKeon
Davis (CA)	Holden	McKinney
Davis (FL)	Honda	Meehan

Meek (FL)	Pryce (OH)	Smith (WA)
Meeks (NY)	Putnam	Snyder
Mica	Quinn	Solis
Millender-McDonald	Radanovich	Spratt
Miller, Dan	Rahall	Stearns
Miller, Gary	Rangel	Stenholm
Miller, George	Regula	Stump
Miller, Jeff	Rehberg	Sullivan
Mink	Reyes	Sununu
Mollohan	Reynolds	Tanner
Moran (KS)	Rivers	Tauscher
Moran (VA)	Rodriguez	Tauzin
Morella	Roemer	Taylor (NC)
Murtha	Rogers (KY)	Terry
Myrick	Rogers (MI)	Thomas
Nadler	Rohrabacher	Thompson (CA)
Napolitano	Ros-Lehtinen	Thornberry
Neal	Ross	Thune
Nethercutt	Rothman	Thurman
Ney	Roukema	Tiahrt
Northup	Roybal-Allard	Tiberi
Norwood	Royce	Tierney
Nussle	Ryan (WI)	Toomey
Oberstar	Ryun (KS)	Towns
Obey	Sanchez	Turner
Olver	Sanders	Udall (CO)
Ortiz	Sandin	Upton
Osborne	Sawyer	Velazquez
Ose	Saxton	Vitter
Otter	Schiff	Walden
Owens	Schrock	Walsh
Oxley	Scott	Wamp
Pallone	Sensenbrenner	Watkins (OK)
Pascrell	Serrano	Watson (CA)
Pastor	Sessions	Watt (NC)
Payne	Shadegg	Waxman
Pelosi	Shaw	Weiner
Pence	Sherman	Weldon (FL)
Peterson (PA)	Sherwood	Weldon (PA)
Petri	Shimkus	Wexler
Phelps	Shuster	Whitfield
Pickering	Simmons	Wicker
Pitts	Simpson	Wilson (NM)
Platts	Skeen	Wilson (SC)
Pombo	Skelton	Wolf
Pomeroy	Slaughter	Woolsey
Portman	Smith (MI)	Wynn
Price (NC)	Smith (NJ)	Young (AK)
	Smith (TX)	

NAYS—44

Aderholt	Hilliard	Peterson (MN)
Allen	Hinchee	Ramstad
Baird	Holt	Sabo
Borski	Hulshof	Schaffer
Capuano	Jones (OH)	Stark
Costello	Kennedy (MN)	Strickland
Crane	Kucinich	Stupak
DeFazio	Larsen (WA)	Taylor (MS)
English	Latham	Thompson (MS)
Filner	LoBiondo	Udall (NM)
Fossella	McDermott	Visclosky
Gutknecht	McNulty	Waters
Hall (OH)	Menendez	Weller
Hastings (FL)	Moore	Wu
Hefley	Paul	

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Tancredo

NOT VOTING—26

Armey	Dingell	Schakowsky
Barcia	Fattah	Shays
Berkley	Gutierrez	Shows
Biggert	Lewis (CA)	Souder
Blagojevich	Lipinski	Sweeney
Blunt	Lucas (KY)	Traficant
Brady (PA)	Lucas (OK)	Watts (OK)
Condit	Riley	Young (FL)
Davis (IL)	Rush	

□ 1854

So the Journal was approved.  
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOLEY). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on each additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

COMMENDING PENTAGON  
RENOVATION PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 368.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 368, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 413, nays 0, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 66]

YEAS—413

Abercrombie	Coyne	Greenwood
Ackerman	Cramer	Grucci
Aderholt	Crane	Gutknecht
Akin	Crenshaw	Hall (OH)
Allen	Crowley	Hall (TX)
Andrews	Cubin	Hansen
Baca	Culberson	Harman
Bachus	Cummings	Hart
Baird	Cunningham	Hastings (FL)
Baker	Davis (CA)	Hastings (WA)
Baldacci	Davis (FL)	Hayes
Baldwin	Davis, Jo Ann	Hayworth
Ballenger	Davis, Tom	Hefley
Barr	Deal	Hill
Barrett	DeFazio	Hilleary
Bartlett	DeGette	Hilliard
Barton	Delahunt	Hinchee
Bass	DeLauro	Hinojosa
Becerra	DeLay	Hobson
Bentsen	DeMint	Hoeffel
Bereuter	Deutsch	Hoekstra
Berkley	Diaz-Balart	Holden
Berman	Dicks	Holt
Berry	Doggett	Honda
Bilirakis	Dooley	Hooley
Bishop	Doolittle	Horn
Blumenauer	Doyle	Hostettler
Blunt	Dreier	Houghton
Boehrlert	Duncan	Hoyer
Boehner	Dunn	Hulshof
Bonilla	Edwards	Hunter
Bonior	Ehlers	Hyde
Bono	Ehrlich	Inslee
Boozman	Emerson	Isakson
Borski	Engel	Israel
Boswell	English	Issa
Boucher	Eshoo	Istook
Boyd	Etheridge	Jackson (IL)
Brady (TX)	Evans	Jackson-Lee
Brown (FL)	Everett	(TX)
Brown (OH)	Farr	Jefferson
Brown (SC)	Fattah	Jenkins
Bryant	Ferguson	John
Burr	Filner	Johnson (CT)
Burton	Flake	Johnson (IL)
Buyer	Fletcher	Johnson, E. B.
Callahan	Foley	Johnson, Sam
Calvert	Forbes	Jones (NC)
Camp	Ford	Jones (OH)
Cannon	Fossella	Kanjorski
Cantor	Frank	Kaptur
Capito	Frelinghuysen	Keller
Capps	Frost	Kelly
Capuano	Gallely	Kennedy (MN)
Cardin	Ganske	Kennedy (RI)
Carson (IN)	Gekas	Kerns
Carson (OK)	Gephardt	Kildee
Castle	Gibbons	Kilpatrick
Chabot	Gilchrest	Kind (WI)
Chambliss	Gillmor	King (NY)
Clay	Gilman	Kingston
Clayton	Gonzalez	Kirk
Clement	Goode	Kleczka
Clyburn	Goodlatte	Knollenberg
Coble	Gordon	Kolbe
Collins	Goss	Kucinich
Combest	Graham	LaFalce
Conyers	Granger	LaHood
Cooksey	Graves	Lampson
Costello	Green (TX)	Langevin
Cox	Green (WI)	Lantos

Larsen (WA)	Otter	Skelton
Larson (CT)	Owens	Slaughter
Latham	Oxley	Smith (MI)
LaTourette	Pallone	Smith (NJ)
Leach	Pascrell	Smith (TX)
Lee	Pastor	Smith (WA)
Levin	Paul	Snyder
Lewis (GA)	Payne	Solis
Lewis (KY)	Pelosi	Souder
Linder	Pence	Spratt
LoBiondo	Peterson (MN)	Stark
Lofgren	Peterson (PA)	Stearns
Lowe	Petri	Stenholm
Lucas (KY)	Phelps	Strickland
Luther	Pickering	Stump
Lynch	Pitts	Stupak
Maloney (CT)	Platts	Sullivan
Maloney (NY)	Pombo	Sununu
Manzullo	Pomeroy	Tancredo
Markey	Portman	Tanner
Mascara	Price (NC)	Tauscher
Matheson	Pryce (OH)	Tauzin
Matsui	Putnam	Taylor (MS)
McCarthy (MO)	Quinn	Taylor (NC)
McCarthy (NY)	Radanovich	Terry
McCollum	Rahall	Thomas
McCrery	Ramstad	Thompson (CA)
McDermott	Rangel	Thompson (MS)
McGovern	Regula	Thornberry
McHugh	Rehberg	Thune
McInnis	Reyes	Thurman
McIntyre	Reynolds	Tiahrt
McKeon	Rivers	Tiberi
McKinney	Rodriguez	Tierney
McNulty	Roemer	Toomey
Meehan	Harman	Towns
Meek (FL)	Rogers (KY)	Turner
Meeks (NY)	Rogers (MI)	Turner
Menendez	Rohrabacher	Udall (CO)
Mica	Ros-Lehtinen	Udall (NM)
Millender-McDonald	Ross	Upton
Miller, Dan	Rothman	Velazquez
Miller, Gary	Roukema	Visclosky
Miller, George	Roybal-Allard	Vitter
Miller, Jeff	Royce	Walden
Mink	Ryan (WI)	Walsh
Mollohan	Ryun (KS)	Wamp
Moore	Sabo	Waters
Moran (KS)	Sanchez	Watkins (OK)
Moran (VA)	Sanders	Watson (CA)
Morella	Sandlin	Watt (NC)
Murtha	Sawyer	Watts (OK)
Murphy	Saxton	Waxman
Myrick	Schaffer	Weiner
Napoli	Schiff	Weldon (FL)
Napolitano	Schrock	Weldon (PA)
Neal	Scott	Weller
Nethercutt	Sensenbrenner	Wexler
Ney	Serrano	Whitfield
Northup	Sessions	Wicker
Norwood	Shadegg	Wilson (NM)
Nussle	Shaw	Wilson (SC)
Oberstar	Sherman	Wolf
Obey	Sherwood	Woolsey
Olver	Shimkus	Wu
Ortiz	Shuster	Wynn
Osborne	Simmons	Young (AK)
Ose	Simpson	
	Skeen	

NOT VOTING—21

Armey	Dingell	Rush
Barcia	Gutierrez	Schakowsky
Biggart	Herger	Shays
Blagojevich	Lewis (CA)	Shows
Brady (PA)	Lipinski	Sweeney
Condit	Lucas (OK)	Trafigant
Davis (IL)	Riley	Young (FL)

□ 1905

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND  
PRINTING SECURITY PRINTING  
AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2002

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOLEY). The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 2509, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BE-REUTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2509, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 403, nays 11, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 67]

YEAS—403

Abercrombie	Davis, Jo Ann	Honda
Ackerman	Davis, Tom	Hooley
Aderholt	Deal	Horn
Akin	DeFazio	Hostettler
Allen	DeGette	Houghton
Andrews	Delahunt	Hoyer
Baca	DeLauro	Hulshof
Bachus	DeLay	Hunter
Baker	DeMint	Hyde
Baldacci	Deutsch	Inslee
Baldwin	Diaz-Balart	Isakson
Ballenger	Dicks	Israel
Barr	Doggett	Issa
Barrett	Dooley	Istook
Bartlett	Doolittle	Jackson (IL)
Barton	Doyle	Jackson-Lee
Bass	Dreier	(TX)
Becerra	Duncan	Jefferson
Bentsen	Dunn	Jenkins
Bereuter	Edwards	John
Berkley	Ehlers	Johnson (CT)
Berman	Ehrlich	Johnson (IL)
Berry	Emerson	Johnson, E. B.
Bilirakis	Engel	Johnson, Sam
Bishop	Engel	Jones (NC)
Blumenauer	English	Jones (OH)
Blunt	Eshoo	Jones (ON)
Boehrlert	Etheridge	Kanjorski
Boehner	Evans	Kaptur
Bonilla	Everett	Keller
Bonior	Farr	Kelly
Bono	Fattah	Kennedy (MN)
Boozman	Ferguson	Kennedy (RI)
Borski	Filner	Kerns
Boswell	Fletcher	Kildee
Boucher	Foley	Kilpatrick
Boyd	Forbes	Kind (WI)
Brady (TX)	Ford	King (NY)
Brown (FL)	Fossella	Kirk
Brown (OH)	Frank	Kleczka
Brown (SC)	Frelinghuysen	Knollenberg
Bryant	Frost	Kolbe
Burr	Gallely	Kucinich
Burton	Ganske	LaFalce
Buyer	Gekas	LaHood
Callahan	Gephardt	LaHood
Calvert	Gibbons	Lampson
Camp	Gilchrest	Langevin
Cannon	Gillmor	Lantos
Cantor	Gilman	
Capito	Gonzalez	
Capps	Gordon	
Capuano	Goss	
Cardin	Graham	
Carson (IN)	Granger	
Carson (OK)	Graves	
Castle	Green (TX)	
Chabot	Green (WI)	
Chambliss	Greenwood	
Clay	Grucci	
Clayton	Gutknecht	
Clement	Hall (OH)	
Clyburn	Hall (TX)	
Coble	Hansen	
Collins	Harman	
Combest	Hart	
Conyers	Hastings (FL)	
Cooksey	Hastings (WA)	
Costello	Hayes	
Cox	Hayworth	
	Hefley	
	Herger	
	Hill	
	Hilleary	
	Hilliard	
	Hinchee	
	Crowley	
	Cubin	
	Culberson	
	Cummings	
	Cunningham	
	Davis (CA)	
	Davis (FL)	

McNulty Quinn  
 Meehan Radanovich  
 Meek (FL) Rahall  
 Meeks (NY) Ramstad  
 Menendez Rangel  
 Mica Regula  
 Millender- Rehberg  
 McDonald Reyes  
 Miller, Dan Reynolds  
 Miller, Gary Rivers  
 Miller, George Rodriguez  
 Mink Roemer  
 Mollohan Rogers (KY)  
 Moore Rogers (MI)  
 Moran (KS) Ros-Lehtinen  
 Moran (VA) Ross  
 Morella Rothman  
 Murtha Roukema  
 Myrick Roybal-Allard  
 Nadler Royce  
 Napolitano Ryan (WI)  
 Neal Ryan (KS)  
 Nethercutt Sabo  
 Ney Sanchez  
 Northup Sanders  
 Norwood Sandlin  
 Nussle Sawyer  
 Oberstar Saxton  
 Obey Schiff  
 Olver Schrock  
 Ortiz Scott  
 Osborne Sensenbrenner  
 Otter Serrano  
 Owens Sessions  
 Oxley Shadegg  
 Pallone Shaw  
 Pascrell Sherman  
 Pastor Sherwood  
 Payne Shimkus  
 Pelosi Shuster  
 Pence Simmons  
 Peterson (MN) Simpson  
 Peterson (PA) Skeen  
 Petri Skelton  
 Phelps Slaughter  
 Pickering Smith (MI)  
 Pitts Smith (NJ)  
 Platts Smith (TX)  
 Pomo Smith (WA)  
 Pomeroy Snyder  
 Portman Solis  
 Price (NC) Souder  
 Pryce (OH) Spratt  
 Putnam Stark

NAYS—11

Flake Manzullo  
 Goode Miller, Jeff  
 Goodlatte Ose  
 Kingston Paul

NOT VOTING—20

Armey Davis (IL)  
 Baird Dingell  
 Barcia Gutierrez  
 Biggert Lewis (CA)  
 Blagojevich Lipinski  
 Brady (PA) Riley  
 Condit Rush

□ 1915

Mr. KINGSTON and Mr. MANZULLO changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title was amended so as to read: “To authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to produce currency, postage stamps, and other security documents at the request of foreign governments on a reimbursable basis.”

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JAMES R. BROWNING UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The pending business is the

question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 2804.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. COOKSEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2804, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 403, nays 1, not voting 30, as follows:

[Roll No. 68]

YEAS—403

Abercrombie Deal  
 Ackerman DeFazio  
 Aderholt DeGette  
 Akin Delahunt  
 Allen DeLauro  
 Andrews DeLay  
 Baca DeMint  
 Bachus Deutsch  
 Baker Diaz-Balart  
 Baldacci Dicks  
 Baldwin Doggett  
 Ballenger Dooley  
 Barr Doolittle  
 Barrett Doyle  
 Bartlett Dreier  
 Barton Duncan  
 Bass Dunn  
 Becerra Edwards  
 Bentsen Ehlers  
 Bereuter Ehrlich  
 Berkley Emerson  
 Berman Engel  
 Berry English  
 Bilirakis Eshoo  
 Bishop Etheridge  
 Blumenauer Evans  
 Blunt Everett  
 Boehlert Farr  
 Boehner Fattah  
 Bonior Ferguson  
 Bono Filner  
 Boozman Flake  
 Borski Fletcher  
 Boswell Foley  
 Boucher Forbes  
 Boyd Ford  
 Brady (TX) Fossella  
 Brown (FL) Frank  
 Brown (OH) Frelinghuysen  
 Brown (SC) Frost  
 Bryant Gallegly  
 Burr Ganske  
 Burton Gekas  
 Buyer Gephardt  
 Callahan Gibbons  
 Calvert Gilchrist  
 Camp Gillmor  
 Cannon Gilman  
 Cantor Gonzalez  
 Capito Goode  
 Capps Goodlatte  
 Capuano Gordon  
 Cardin Goss  
 Carson (IN) Graham  
 Carson (OK) Granger  
 Castle Graves  
 Chabot Green (TX)  
 Chambliss Green (WI)  
 Clay Greenwood  
 Clement Grucci  
 Clyburn Gutknecht  
 Coble Hall (OH)  
 Collins Hall (TX)  
 Combest Hansen  
 Conyers Harman  
 Cooksey Hart  
 Costello Hastings (FL)  
 Cox Hastings (WA)  
 Coyne Hayes  
 Cramer Hayworth  
 Crane Hefley  
 Crenshaw Herger  
 Crowley Hill  
 Cubin Hillery  
 Culberson Hilliard  
 Cunningham Hinchey  
 Davis (CA) Hinojosa  
 Davis, Jo Ann Hobson  
 Davis, Tom Hoefel

McGovern Pomeroy  
 McHugh Portman  
 McInnis Price (NC)  
 McIntyre Pryce (OH)  
 McKeon Putnam  
 McKinney Quinn  
 McNulty Radanovich  
 Meehan Rahall  
 Meek (FL) Ramstad  
 Meeks (NY) Rangel  
 Menendez Regula  
 Mica Rehberg  
 Millender- Reyes  
 McDonald Reynolds  
 Miller, Dan Rivers  
 Miller, George Rodriguez  
 Miller, Jeff Roemer  
 Mink Rogers (KY)  
 Mollohan Rogers (MI)  
 Moore Rohrabacher  
 Moran (KS) Ros-Lehtinen  
 Moran (VA) Ross  
 Morella Rothman  
 Murtha Roybal-Allard  
 Myrick Royce  
 Nadler Ryan (WI)  
 Napolitano Ryan (KS)  
 Neal Sabo  
 Nethercutt Sanchez  
 Ney Sanders  
 Northup Sandlin  
 Norwood Sawyer  
 Nussle Saxton  
 Oberstar Schaffer  
 Obey Schiff  
 Olver Schrock  
 Ortiz Scott  
 Osborne Sensenbrenner  
 Ose Serrano  
 Otter Sessions  
 Owens Shadegg  
 Oxley Shaw  
 Pallone Sherman  
 Pastor Sherwood  
 Paul Shimkus  
 Payne Shuster  
 Pelosi Simmons  
 Pence Simpson  
 Peterson (MN) Skeen  
 Peterson (PA) Skelton  
 Petri Slaughter  
 Phelps Smith (MI)  
 Pickering Smith (NJ)  
 Pitts Smith (WA)  
 Platts Snyder  
 Pombo Souder

NAYS—1

Miller, Gary

NOT VOTING—30

Armey Davis (FL)  
 Baird Davis (IL)  
 Barcia Dingell  
 Biggert Gutierrez  
 Blagojevich Lewis (CA)  
 Bonilla Linder  
 Brady (PA) Lipinski  
 Clayton Pascrell  
 Condit Riley  
 Cummings Roukema

□ 1926

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 371) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding Women's History Month.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 371

Whereas Women's History Month provides our country the privilege of honoring the

countless contributions that American women have made throughout our history;

Whereas these contributions have enriched our culture, strengthened our Nation, and furthered the Founders' vision for a free and just Republic that provides opportunity and safety at home and is an influence for peace around the world;

Whereas since its beginnings, our land has been blessed by noteworthy women who played defining roles in shaping our Nation. Sakajawea was a Native American woman who befriended the explorers, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, 150 years ago as they crossed the great Northwest. She helped Lewis and Clark's expedition complete the first successful overland transcontinental journey. Lucretia Mott courageously wrote and spoke against slavery and the lack of equal rights for women, helping America recognize the inherent wrong in the institutional subjugation of others and the need to strive for equality, freedom, and justice for all. Elizabeth Blackwell was the first woman in America awarded a medical degree, and she dedicated her pioneering efforts as a physician to helping others;

Whereas Helen Keller overcame debilitating physical disabilities, showing us the power of a determined human spirit. Clara Barton developed a vision for helping others through her service to the wounded during the Civil War. She realized that vision by founding the American Red Cross after the war, an organization that has since become renowned for its effectiveness in helping those who suffer or are in need;

Whereas recently, the Red Cross reached out to aid Afghan women traumatized by the repressive rule of the intolerant Taliban regime, which for years had mercilessly oppressed Afghanistan and Afghan women in particular;

Whereas today, thousands of United States women are furthering the cause of freedom through service in government, the military, and other organizations, as we seek to defeat terrorism and bring justice to those responsible for the September 11 attacks;

Whereas the history of American women is an expansive story of outstanding individuals who sacrificed much and worked hard in pursuit of a better world, where peace, dignity, and opportunity can reign;

Whereas the spirit of loving determination that shaped these pursuits continues to serve as an example to those who seek to better our Nation;

Whereas American women of strength, vision, and character have long influenced our country by contributing their time, efforts, and wisdom in vastly diverse ways to improve and enhance our government and communities, our schools and religious institutions, our businesses and the military, and the arts and sciences; and

Whereas women also have fundamentally shaped our civilization in the care and nurturing of families.

Whereas today, women in the United States are furthering the Founders' vision by working to advance freedom, increase equality, and administer justice in every corner of our land, through their everyday work in schoolrooms, boardrooms, courtrooms, homes, and communities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the many contributions American women have made to help make our Nation free, strong, and a force for peace and justice around the world,

(2) encourages every American to learn more about these important contributions and to celebrate their noble legacies as we work to build a brighter future for our Nation and for all of the world's people, and

(3) calls upon all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 371.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 371, introduced by our distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), acknowledges the importance of Women's History Month. I commend her for bringing this resolution to the floor.

Women's History Month, the month of March, recognizes the many contributions American women have made to make our Nation free, strong, and a force for peace and justice around the world.

Women's History Month also encourages every American to learn more about these important contributions, and to celebrate the noble legacies of women as we work to build a brighter future for our Nation and for all the world's people.

Furthermore, Women's History Month calls upon all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities. Women's History Month provides our country the privilege of honoring the countless contributions that American women have made throughout our history. Women have enriched our culture and strengthened our Nation. Women have furthered the Founders' vision for a free and just republic that provides opportunity and safety at home and is promoting peace around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, there are countless examples of women who have contributed to our society. It would take us all evening to go through that litany.

To give just a flavor or a touch of some important examples set by women, we need look no further than Helen Keller, who overcame debilitating physical illness; Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman in America awarded a medical degree; Clara Barton, who developed a vision for helping others through her service to the wounded during the Civil War. She later founded the American Red Cross, an organization that has since become renowned for its effectiveness in helping those in suffering or in need.

There was Sacajawea, a Native American woman who guided the famous Lewis and Clark expedition.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, thousands of women across our Nation are furthering the cause of freedom and opportunity. They serve in government, the military, and other organizations. They serve in Congress.

Women are playing an important role as we seek to defeat terrorism and bring justice to those responsible for the September 11 attacks. The best example is President Bush's distinguished national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice.

Women of strength, vision, and character have long influenced our country with their time, efforts, and wisdom in vastly diverse ways to improve and enhance worthwhile causes in their individual communities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the distinguished gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) be permitted to control the remainder of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

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

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to join with my colleagues in expressing our very enthusiastic support of this resolution, which seeks to recognize Women's History Month.

One would think that we would not need to have a special resolution or a special designation of a month in order to raise the consciousness and appreciation of the people all across the country on the many contributions that women have made in all fields of human endeavor, whether it be sciences or in exploration or in politics or in all manner of social services.

□ 1930

But the fact remains that we do have this month, and it is very important that the Congress pay special note of this month and its designation in order to call upon all institutions, all entities, all organizations and people, schools in particular, that this month has special significance for the women all across this country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD), the cochair of the Women's Caucus in support of this resolution.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my dear friend and colleague, and a woman who has established herself as a leader in this country. I would really like to speak about my very own Congresswoman, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK), the first Asian American ever to be elected to this body, and what a leader she has become and she is.

The gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) was instrumental in passing

Title 9 in this Chamber to enable our young girls to see opportunities that they had not seen before in the fields of sports and other areas of education. We have such a leader as the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) with us today, who is helping to groom the younger Members who are coming in and helping them to learn the process of this august body.

As we recognize Women's History Month, it is the leaders such as the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK), the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and others who have distinguished themselves in this body.

Mr. Speaker, I last evening spoke to a group of women veterans in celebration of this particular week dedicated to women veterans. We find that women have increased in our armed services from about 7 percent to 14 percent. They are now not only just the nurses in our armed forces, but they serve now and are really flying fighter planes in Afghanistan and other parts of the world, as we know, and see hot spots throughout the world. Certainly women have positioned themselves on the front lines of these very hot spots.

Women have positioned themselves in high tech, in viewing tomorrow's era, in viewing tomorrow's world, where young women will become scientists and biologists. And so today I am happy to recognize Women's History Month and to advance the leadership of women throughout the globe and to even put a spotlight on the women of this House, those who have been leaders for all of us.

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

Mr. Speaker, today I stand here in support of Women's History Month and Resolution 371. Before 1970, women's history was rarely the subject of serious study. Since then, however, this field has undergone a metamorphosis. Today, almost every college offers women's history courses and most major graduate programs offer doctoral degrees in the field.

It is no secret that the representation of women and men in government is not equal, but it is also worth noting that this Congress has the most females ever serving in the history of the United States. The strides women have made into public service, holding leadership positions on all levels of government, is something we should recognize and celebrate.

I would like to take a moment and recognize some remarkable women from West Virginia: Phyllis Curtain, a remarkable opera star; Pearl S. Buck, a fantastic author; Mattie Lee, a woman who created a home for women, where they could live and work early in the 1920s and 1930s in our country; Karen LaRoe, President of the West Virginia University Institute of Technology; Bertie Cohen, a community volunteer; and Henrietta Marquis, a physician in Charleston, West Virginia, who recently passed away, who practiced into her 90s. These women, all

West Virginians, all different, were pioneers of their time.

We know that democracy needs all genders, races, religions and ethnicities to participate in order to provide proper representation. As a mother and a wife, I think I bring a different perspective to the debate over issues than a husband or father would. Neither one is more right than the other, just different. The plurality of these different people working together as one government can better serve West Virginia and the rest of America.

I stand here today to celebrate all of the bold actions and wonderful achievements of the women who have gone before me. I ask my colleagues to stand up as we celebrate Women's History Month and work to broaden our perceptions to include all of those who normally could be excluded, especially in giving our sisters and daughters an opportunity to serve their communities, their States and their country.

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

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as we ask this House to recognize Women's History Month, I think it is important to know how this whole project began.

In 1970 women's history was a very fledgling idea. It was started by the Education Task Force of Sonoma County, California. A Commission on the Status of Women was initiated and they put together a Women's History Week for that county. Our colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY), told me early on of her participation in establishing and recognizing this week. There were many projects that people participated in.

Finally, in 1979, the director of the Sonoma County Commission established a Women's History Institute, and from there it grew and grew until March of 1980 when President Jimmy Carter issued a Presidential message to the American people encouraging the recognition and celebration of women's history all throughout America. And so, from that point of March 1980, the recognition of women's history week at that time was part of the national agenda.

The Senators on the other side co-sponsored a joint resolution and in March 8, 1981, the first national Women's History Week was established. This has provided for the establishment of many clearinghouses. All across the country, schools have also adopted it as a project, and women within local communities have been recognized for the outstanding work that they have performed not only for their community but for the State.

In 1987, at the request of national women's organizations, museums, libraries and other leaders in this country, the national Women's History Project was formed, and Congress was petitioned to expand the national celebration to an entire month. So, since

1987, this has been a great event for women to celebrate.

So I am very pleased on behalf of our colleagues to join in this request to have the House unanimously endorse the designation of March as National Women's History Month for the year 2002.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) for her wonderful statement and also for the pioneering ways that you did that allowed me to come and be elected this very first time to my first term in Congress. I thank the gentlewoman for her contributions, and I thank her in joining me in celebrating March as Women's History Month.

I urge all of the Members to support this resolution and to reflect upon our democracy. This special month creates an opportunity for all of us to remember the women who have played a critical role in the life of our great country.

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 gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 371.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed until tomorrow.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of my special order today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

#### GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, today I proudly rise to celebrate Greek Independence Day and the strong ties that bind the nations of Greece and the United States.

One hundred eighty-one years ago the people of Greece began a journey that would mark the symbolic rebirth of democracy in the land where those principles of human dignity were first espoused. They rebelled against more than 400 years of Turkish oppression.

The revolution of 1821 brought independence to Greece and emboldened those who still sought freedom across the world. I commemorate Greek Independence Day, Mr. Speaker, each year for the same reasons we celebrate our Fourth of July. It proved that a united people, as is taking place today, a united people, through sheer will and perseverance can prevail against tyranny.

The lessons the Greeks and our colonial forefathers taught us provide strength to victims of persecution throughout the world today. Men such as Aristotle, Socrates, Plato, and Euripides developed a then-unique notion that men could, if left to their own devices, lead themselves rather than be subject to the will of a sovereign. It was Aristotle who said, "We make war that we may live in peace."

On March 25, 1821, Archbishop Germanos of Patras embodied the spirit of those words when he raised the flag of freedom and was the first to declare Greece free.

Revolutions embody a sense of heroism, bringing forth the greatness of the human spirit in the struggle against oppression.

News of the Greek revolution met with widespread feelings of compassion in the United States. The Founding Fathers eagerly expressed sentiments of support for the fledgling uprising. Several American Presidents, including James Monroe and John Quincy Adams, conveyed their support for the revolution through their annual messages to Congress. William Harrison, our ninth president, expressed his belief in freedom for Greece saying, "We must send our free-will offering. The Star Spangled Banner must wave in the Aegean . . . a messenger of fraternity and friendship to Greece."

It should not surprise us that the Founding Fathers would express such keen support for Greek independence, for they themselves had been inspired by the ancient Greeks in their own struggle for freedom. As Thomas Jefferson once said, "To the ancient Greeks we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves . . . American colonists, out of gothic darkness."

□ 1945

Our two nations share a brotherhood bonded by the common blood of democracy, birthed by Lady Liberty and committed to the ideal that each citizen deserves the right of self-determination.

We must always remember that the freedom we enjoy today is due to a

large degree to the sacrifices made by men and women in the past, in Greece, in America, and all over the world.

Clearly apparent in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks, freedom comes with a price. Thousands have sacrificed their lives to protect that freedom. Today, American military personnel are tracking terrorism at its many sources. It is another reminder that freedom must be constantly guarded. In the words of President Bush in his recent State of the Union address: "It is both our responsibility and our privilege to fight freedom's fight."

Madam Speaker, on this 181st birthday of Greek independence, when we celebrate the restoration of democracy to the land of its conception, we also celebrate the triumph of the human spirit and the strength of man's will. The goals and values that the people of Greece share with the people of the United States reaffirms our common democratic heritage. This occasion also serves to remind us that we must never, never take for granted the right to determine our own fate.

Mr. Speaker, today I proudly rise to celebrate Greek Independence Day and the strong ties that bind the nation of Greece and the United States.

One hundred and eighty one years ago, the people of Greece began a journey that would mark the symbolic rebirth of democracy in the land where those principles to human dignity were first espoused.

They rebelled against more than four hundred years of Turkish oppression. The revolution of 1821 brought independence to Greece and emboldened those who still sought freedom across the world. I commemorate Greek Independence Day each year for the same reasons we celebrate our Fourth of July. It proved that a united people, through sheer will and perseverance, can prevail against tyranny. The lessons the Greeks and our colonial forefathers taught us provide strength to victims of persecution throughout the world today.

Men such as Aristotle, Socrates, Plato, and Euripides developed the then-unique notion that men could, if left to their own devices, lead themselves rather than be subject to the will of a sovereign. It was Aristotle who said: "We make war that we may live in peace." On March 25, 1821, Archbishop Germanos of Patras embodied the spirit of those words when he raised the flag of freedom and was the first to declare Greece free.

Revolutions embody a sense of heroism, bringing forth the greatness of the human spirit. It was Thomas Jefferson who said that, "One man with courage is a majority." Quoting Jefferson on the anniversary of Greek independence is particularly appropriate. Jefferson, and the rest of the Founding Fathers, looked back to the teachings of ancient Greek philosophers for inspiration as they sought to craft a strong democratic state. And in 1821, the Greeks looked to our Founding Fathers for inspiration when they began their journey toward freedom.

The history of Greek Independence like that of the American Revolution, is filled with many stories of courage and heroism. There are many parallels between the American and Greek Revolutions.

Encouraged by the American Revolution, the Greeks began their rebellion after four centuries of Turkish oppression, facing what appeared to be insurmountable odds. Both nations faced the prospect of having to defeat an empire to obtain liberty. And if Samuel Adams, the American revolutionary leader who lighted the first spark of rebellion by leading the Boston Tea Party, had a Greek counterpart, that man would be Alexander Ypsilantis.

Ypsilantis was born in Istanbul, and his family was later exiled to Russia. Ypsilantis served in the Russian army, and it was there, during his military service, that he became involved with a secret society called the "Philiike Hetairia," which translated means "friendly society." The "friendly society" was made up of merchants and other Greek leaders, but the intent of the society was to seek freedom for Greece and her people.

The group planned a secret uprising for 1821 to be led by Ypsilantis. He and 4,500 volunteers assembled near the Russian border to launch an insurrection against the Turks. The Turkish army massacred the ill-prepared Greek volunteers, and Ypsilantis was caught and placed in prison, where he subsequently died. However, the first bells of liberty had been rung, and Greek independence would not be stopped.

When news of Greek uprisings spread, the Turks killed Greek clergymen, clerics, and laity in a frightening display of force. In a vicious act of vengeance, the Turks invaded the island of Chios and slaughtered 25,000 of the local residents. The invaders enslaved half the island's population of 100,000.

Although many lives were sacrificed at the altar of freedom, the Greek people rallied around the battle cry "Eleftheria I Thanatos"—liberty or death, mirroring the words of American Patriot Patrick Henry who said: "Give me liberty or give me death." These words embodied the Greek patriots' unmitigated desire to be free.

Another heroic Greek whom many believe was the most important figure in the revolution was Theodoros Kolokotronis. He was the leader of the Klephts, a group of rebellious and resilient Greeks who refused to submit to Turkish subjugation. Kolokotronis used military strategy he learned while in the service of the English Army to organize a force of over 7,000 men. The Klephts swooped on the Turks from their mountain strongholds, battering their oppressors into submission.

One battle in particular, where Kolokotronis led his vastly outnumbered forces against the Turks, stands out. The Turks had invaded the Peloponnese with 30,000 men. Kolokotronis led his force, which was outnumbered by a ratio of 4 to 1, against the Turkish army. A fierce battle ensued and many lives were lost, but after a few weeks, the Turks were forced to retreat. Kolokotronis is a revered Greek leader, because he embodied the hopes and dreams of the common man, while displaying extraordinary courage and moral fiber in the face of overwhelming odds.

Athanasios Diakos was another legendary hero, a priest, a patriot, and a soldier. He led 500 of his men in a noble stand against 8,000 Ottoman soldiers. Diakos' men were wiped out and he fell into the enemy's hands, where he was severely tortured before his death. He is the image of a Greek who gave all for love of faith and homeland.

While individual acts of bravery and leadership are often noted, the Greek Revolution

was remarkable for the bravery and fortitude displayed by the typical Greek citizen. This heroic ideal of sacrifice and service is best demonstrated through the story of the Suliotes, villagers who took refuge from Turkish authorities in the mountains of Epiros. The fiercely patriotic Suliotes bravely fought the Turks in several battles. News of their victories spread throughout the region and encouraged other villages to revolt. The Turkish Army acted swiftly and with overwhelming force to quell the Suliote uprising.

The Suliote women were alone as their husbands battled the Turks at the front. When they learned that Turkish troops were fast approaching their village, they began to dance the "Syrtos," a patriotic Greek dance. One by one, rather than face torture or enslavement at the hands of the Turks, they committed suicide by throwing themselves and their children off Mount Zalongo. They chose to die rather than surrender their freedom.

The sacrifice of the Suliotes was repeated in the Arkadi Monastery of Crete. Hundreds of non-combatants, mainly the families of the Cretan freedom fighters, had taken refuge in the Monastery to escape Turkish reprisals. The Turkish army was informed that the Monastery was used by the Cretan freedom fighters as an arsenal for their war material, and they set out to seize it. As the Turkish troops were closing in, the priest gathered all the refugees in the cellar around him. With their consent, he set fire to the gunpowder kegs stored there, killing all but a few. The ruins of the Arkadi Monastery, like the ruins of our Alamo, still stand as a monument to liberty.

News of the Greek revolution met with widespread feelings of compassion in the United States. The Founding Fathers eagerly expressed sentiments of support for the fledgling uprising. Several American Presidents, including James Monroe and John Quincy Adams, conveyed their support for the revolution through their annual messages to Congress. William Harrison, our ninth President, expressed his belief in freedom for Greece, saying: "We must send our free will offering. 'The Star-spangled Banner' must wave in the Aegean . . . a messenger of fraternity and friendship to Greece."

Various Members of Congress also showed a keen interest in the Greeks' struggle for autonomy. Henry Clay, who in 1825 became Secretary of State, was a champion of Greece's fight for independence. Among the most vocal was Daniel Webster from Massachusetts, who frequently roused the sympathetic interest of his colleagues and other Americans in the Greek revolution.

It should not surprise us that the Founding Fathers would express such keen support for Greek independence, for they themselves had been inspired by the ancient Greeks in their own struggle for freedom. As Thomas Jefferson once said, "To the ancient Greeks . . . we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves . . . American colonists, out of gothic darkness." Our two nations share a brotherhood bonded by the common blood of democracy, birthed by Lady Liberty, and committed to the ideal that each individual deserves the right of self-determination.

We all know that the price of liberty can be very high—history is replete with the names of the millions who have sacrificed for it. Socrates, Plato, Pericles, and many other great scholars throughout history warned that we

maintain democracy only at great cost. The freedom we enjoy today is due to a large degree to the sacrifices made by men and women in the past—in Greece, in America, and all over the world.

Clearly apparent in the aftermath of the September 11th attacks, freedom comes with a price. Thousands have sacrificed their lives to protect our freedom. Today, American military personnel are tracking terrorism at its many sources. It is another reminder that freedom must be constantly guarded. In the words of President Bush in his recent State of the Union address, "it is both our responsibility and our privilege to fight freedom's fight."

Mr. Speaker, on this 181st birthday of Greek Independence, when we celebrate the restoration of democracy to the land of its conception, we also celebrate the triumph of the human spirit and the strength of man's will. The goals and values that the people of Greece share with the people of the United States reaffirms our common democratic heritage. This occasion also serves to remind us that we must never take for granted the right to determine our own fate.

#### GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise also today with my colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), the co-chair of the Hellenic Caucus, which I chair with him, to recognize the Hellenic Americans and their heritage and their tremendous contribution to our country and really to the world.

The ancient state of Greece inspired our country in so many ways, from the architecture, the design of the very building in which we are residing right now, to the design of our government; and today we pay tribute to Greece's declaration of independence from the Ottoman Empire on March 25. In 2002 it will be the 181st anniversary.

History tells us that in 1821 Greece rose up in a bloody revolt against the repressive might of the Ottoman Empire. Determined to end 400 years of slavery or die in the attempt, Greek patriots began their unyielding struggle for liberty and independence.

The legend says that on March 21, 1821, Bishop Germanos of Patras hoisted the Greek flag at the monastery of Agia Lavra in the Peloponnese in an act of defiance that marked the beginning of the war of independence.

At a time when we in the United States are fighting to preserve our democracy from terrorists, I find a great deal of significance in our firemen raising the American flag at the World Trade Center after the attack on September 11. That act symbolized our war for democracy and freedom, as did the flag at Agia Lavra many years ago.

To honor Greek Independence Day and honor the victims and heroes of September 11, the Federation of Hellenic Societies of New York is spon-

soring the annual Greek Independence Day Parade for New York City. As many of my colleagues know, New York City is the home of the largest Hellenic population outside of Greece and Cyprus.

I would now like to place in the RECORD the members of the board of directors, the officers, all of whom are organizing this important tribute.

The members of the Board of Directors are: Bill Stathakos, President; Demos Siokis, 1st Vice President; Peter Michaleas, 2nd Vice President; Demetrius Kalamaras, 3rd Vice President; Demetrius Demetriou, General Secretary; Demetrius Katchulis, 1st Ass't. Secretary; Chris Orfanakos, 2nd Ass't. Secretary; Elias Tsekerides, Treasurer; George Kalivas Ass't. Treasurer; Ekaterine Livanis, Public Relations.

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This year, the board has elected the grand marshals for the parade. They will be from both sides of the ocean, representing the strong bond and friendship between Greece and the United States. From the U.S. Alax Spanos and Denise Mehiel; and from Greece, Apostolos Kakkomanis and Dora Kakoyiani. Ms. Kakoyiani was a victim of a terrorist who assassinated her husband. These outstanding individuals will lead the parade to symbolize that no terrorist can extinguish the light of democracy and freedom.

As the representative of the 14th Congressional District, where a large number of my constituents are of Hellenic descent, I have often had the opportunity to speak with them about the victims and heroes of 1821. Today, we speak also about the heroes and victims of 2001.

The Hellenic community, as every community in New York and worldwide, was hit heavily by the travesty of September 11. Those of Hellenic decent that were lost that day were: Ioanna Ahladiotis; Anastasios-Ernestos Alikakos; Katerina Bandis; Peter Brennan, a firefighter; John Catsimatides; Thomas A. Damaskinos; Anthony Demas; Gus Economou; Michael Eleferis, also a firefighter; Anna Fosteris; Kenneth Grouzalis; Steve Hagis; Bill Haramis; Nick John; Steve Kokinos; Danielle Kousoulis; James Maounis; George Merkouris; Peter-Constantios Moutos; James Papageorge; George Paris; Theodoros Pigis; Daphni Pouletsos; Richard Poulos; Tony Savvas; Muriel Siskopoulos; Timothy P. Soulas; Andreas Stergiopoulos; Michael Tarrou; Michael Theodoridis; William Tselepis; Jennifer Tzemis; Steve Zannettos; Gus Zavvos; Steve Savvas, from the New York Police Department; and Prokopios Paul Zios. These victims are the patriots. They gave their lives on that terrible attack against our country and our democracy.

The members of the fire department, police department, port authority and

military will continue to lead this war and to protect us on the homeland and abroad.

On this day of independence and strong bond with Greece, the Hellenic and Philhellenic community remember that the future has much to offer: the Olympics in Greece and New York; the efforts of the Hellenic Caucus to seek a peaceful understanding with Turkey on the issues of the Greek Islands and Cyprus occupation.

On this day of Greek independence, let us remember the words of Plato: "Democracy is a charming form of government, full of variety and disorder, and dispensing a kind of equality to equals and unequals alike."

I ask the Members of the Congress to rise with me and pay tribute to the heroes of 1821 and 2001. We will not forget you.

Zeto E Eleftheria. Se Ollo to Kosmo.

Mr. GILLMAN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of the celebration of Greek independence, and I thank our colleagues, the gentleman from Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS and the gentelady from New York, Mrs. MALONEY, who have once again shown great leadership in their efforts to organize this special order for Greek Independence Day.

Since the people of Greece declared their independence on March 25, 1821, the people of the United States and Greece have enjoyed close relations, and generations of Greek immigrants have helped to strengthen and enrich the relations between our two nations. However, our mutual devotion to democratic ideals is rooted deep in history. Some 2,500 years ago, ancient Greek city-states helped to plant the seeds of democratic thought among men. The admiration that our Founding Fathers had for those very ideals are evident in our own Constitution, and in the letters our Founding Fathers exchanged with one another in charting the course for American democracy.

Since the rebirth of a democratic Greece in 1974, a vibrant Greek democracy serves once again as an inspiration to its neighbors and the world. Our two Nations continue to stand together as friends and allies in a region of the world beset by strife and hardship.

Accordingly, I wish to thank the people of Greece for their continued friendship, and I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring the Nation of Greece on the 181st anniversary of its independence.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues today to recognize the 181st anniversary of Greek Independence Day. As the U.S. Representative of a region with over 5,000 people of Greek descent, I know that this important event will be joyously celebrated throughout Northwest Indian.

I would like to honor not only this important day in Greek history, but the strong and unique relationship that exists today between the United States and Greece. The development of modern democracy has its roots in ancient Athens. The writings of Plato, Aristotle, Cicero and others were the first to espouse the basic tenets of a government of the people and by the people. While these ideals were not always followed in ancient Greece, these writings provided a roadmap for later governments in their attempts to establish democracy in their countries.

The Founding Fathers of the United States were particularly influenced by the writings of

the ancient Greeks on democracy. A careful reading of "The Federalist Papers" reveals the significant role the early Greeks played in the formation of our government. Thomas Jefferson called upon his studies of the Greek tradition of democracy when he drafted the Declaration of Independence, espousing the ideals of a government representative of and accountable to the people. Decades later, these ideas were a catalyst in the Greek uprising and successful independence movement against the Ottoman Empire—the event we celebrate today.

On March 25, 1821, the Archbishop of Patros blessed the Greek flag at the Aghia Laura monastery, marking the proclamation of Greek independence. It took 11 years for the Greeks to finally defeat the Ottomans and gain their true independence. After this long struggle against an oppressive regime, Greece returned to the democratic ideals that its ancestors had developed centuries before.

Today, the United States' relationship with Greece is as strong as ever. Greece has been our ardent supporter in every major international conflict of this century, and they play an important role in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union. Greece has also been a key participant in the United Nations peacekeeping force in Bosnia, providing troops and supplies. In turn, the United States has worked to attain a peaceful settlement to the conflict in Cyprus, the island nation that was brutally invaded by Turkey in 1974.

Madam Speaker, I would thank our colleagues, Mr. BILIRAKIS and Mrs. MALONEY, for organizing this Special Order, and I join all of our House colleagues in recognizing Greek Independence Day. I salute the spirit of democracy and family that distinguish the Greek people, as well as their courage in breaking the bonds of oppression 178 years ago. I look forward to many more years of cooperation and friendship between our two nations.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 181st anniversary of Greek Independence Day, and I thank my colleagues, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mrs. MALONEY, for their leadership on Greek-American issues and for organizing today's tribute.

Greece has long held a special place in the hearts and minds of Americans. From the architecture of this building to the design of our government, we are indebted to the best ideas of the Greeks. They brought us a rational explanation for the universe, provided the basis for Western medical science, and laid the foundation of Western philosophy on which our country is built. As Thomas Jefferson acknowledged, "to the ancient Greeks, we are indebted for the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness."

As the ancient state was an inspiration to the United States, the modern state of Greece is a trusted friend. From the first World War to the current struggle against terrorism, Greece and the United States have fought side by side for the principles of liberty and self-determination the ancient Greeks set forth so eloquently. A valued member of NATO, Greece today is a thriving democracy that Aristotle would recognize and of which he would be proud.

But it almost wasn't this way. For nearly 400 years, the land that gave the world democracy lived under tyranny. Between 1453 and 1821, as part of the Ottoman Empire, the Greek

people lived without freedom of religion, access to education, or representative government. Surrounded by the ruins of their noble heritage, however, they never lost their identity as a free people. On March 25, 1821, drawing inspiration from our own struggle for independence, the revolution against the oppressive Ottoman rule began. The revolution succeeded, and a free, democratic nation was reborn.

Here in the United States we are blessed by the presence of many Greek-Americans. In San Francisco, the Greek-American community is a vibrant part of our wonderful diversity. From the daily contributions of thousands of hardworking citizens to the leadership of former Mayors George Christopher and Art Agnos, Greek-Americans have enriched San Francisco and our nation.

After enjoying the recent Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, the world now turns its attention to the 2004 summer games to be held in Athens, Greece. The 108th anniversary of the modern Olympics will be held where the games were born some 3,000 years ago. The innovations of ancient Greece continue to light our world, and modern Greece, our friend and ally, continues to uphold its legacy.

It is my honor, as a member of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, to join my colleagues in celebrating Greek Independence Day.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to be able to participate in honoring 181 years of Greek Freedom and Independence. I want to express my appreciation to Congressman BILIRAKIS and Congresswoman MALONEY for their leadership on Greece and Cyprus and for keeping all Members informed and educated on Hellenic issues.

While there is much to celebrate this year about Greece—its strong and growing economy, its role in the European Union, and the preparations for the 2004 Summer Olympics—I most want to mention the clear and unwavering support that Greece has given to the international campaign against terrorism.

In his address to the U.N. General Assembly on November 13, 2001, Foreign Minister George Papandreou called for the abandonment of rivalries and a new spirit of international cooperation in a "common fight for humanity" against terrorism. Mr. Papandreou went on to describe a global community engaged in issues and programs that are very near and dear to my own heart, calling on nations to reach beyond their borders to alleviate disease and starvation, to oppose sex, religious and racial discrimination, to protect the environment, to include the poor in the benefits of development, and to provide equal educational opportunities.

Greece has known the scourge of terrorism and has long fought a battle against domestic and international terrorist groups. Now Greece is a full partner in the international war against terrorism. It has provided the United States the use of its airspace, air bases and naval facilities on Crete, as well as intelligence sharing and investigation of suspect bank accounts that may be linked to terrorist activities worldwide. In addition, Greece has sent several C-130 planes with food and other needed supplies for Afghan refugees, offered to send peacekeeping troops to Afghanistan, and is working with the international community in the development of post-conflict development priorities for Afghanistan.

Greece has long been a crossroads for many cultures. As such, we have much to learn from Greece about diversity, tolerance, democratic inclusion, and how to create a genuine multicultural society that honors its past and looks forward to the challenges of the future.

I am proud to be able to honor Greece on 181 years of freedom and independence.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, as we approach Greek Independence Day, it is a great honor for me to pay tribute to one of the United States' most important allies and one which is held in such deep affection by millions and millions of Americans.

Western civilization as we know it today owes the deepest debt and, indeed, its very origins, to the Greek nation. Greek philosophy, sculpture, and theater set standards to which today's practitioners still aspire. And, as the cradle of democracy, Athens is the spiritual ancestor of our own Republic. The history of Greek independence is one of the inspiring stories of our time. It is the tale of the revival of an ancient and great people through sheer commitment, sacrifice, and love of freedom and heritage. Transmitted through the generations, the ideals of the ancient Greeks inspired their revolutionary descendants in the nineteenth century, and great and gallant stalwarts of the War of Independence such as Theodore Kolokotronis and Rigas Velestinlis wrote of their belief in the rights of man.

The histories of the United States and Greece have been intimately intertwined ever since the beginning of modern Greek sovereignty. The cause of Greek independence evoked sympathy throughout the Western world. Well known is Lord Byron, whose uncompromising commitment to Greece was epitomized by his declaration "In for a penny, in for a pound." Less renowned but no less committed were the many American Philhellenes, who repaid their debt to Greek culture by crossing the ocean to fight for Greek liberation. I am pleased that these American citizens were honored with a monument in Athens 2 years ago.

Greek citizens also crossed the ocean in the other direction, emigrating to the United States, where they enjoyed great success and shared their prosperity with their kinfolk in their original homeland. They have served as a bridge of understanding between our two nations, and they have refreshed America with their spirit, their patriotism, and their hard work. Today, some five million Americans claim Greek ancestry, with understandable pride.

Greece is one of less than a handful of nations which has stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the United States in every major war of the 20th century. Our close relations became even closer after World War II. The Truman Doctrine helped save Greece from communism, indeed helped save it for the Western world, and the Marshall plan helped in its economic regeneration. In 1952, Greece joined NATO, formalizing the deep, mutual commitment of Greece and the rest of the Western world to protecting freedom.

In more recent times, Greece has been one of the world's amazing success stories. A full-fledged member of the European Union for two decades, Greece has become increasingly prosperous; it has whipped chronic inflation and qualified to join the "Euro currency zone." Its once unsettled domestic politics has long

since given way to an incontestably stable, yet colorful, democracy.

Greece remains our critical strategic partner in today's post-cold war world. We cooperate closely in promoting peace and stability in the Balkans. Economic ties with Greece are vital to virtually every Balkan state. Athens has been a firm supporter of inter-communal talks in Cyprus, and it remains committed to a just, lasting, and democratic settlement of the Cyprus issue. And I'm sure everybody in this body applauds Greece's historic and courageous effort to resolve differences with its neighbor Turkey.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the Greek people on the 181st anniversary of their independence and I join my colleagues in thanking them for their vast contributions to world civilization and especially to our Nation.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, it is an honor today to join my colleagues, Representatives BILIRAKIS and MALONEY in celebrating Greek Independence Day.

Much like the ruins of ancient Greece, the traditions and thoughts this society brought to the world are still standing. On this day which marks Greece's Independence, we celebrate the spirit of liberty and self-determination as manifested in 1821 when Greece began a 7 year struggle against the Ottoman empire, which led to the restoration of democracy to the land of Aristotle and Plato.

Madam Speaker, as the first Olympic flame ignited in ancient Greece spread the spirit of sportsmanship and friendship around the world for centuries to come, Greece gave the world the tool with which to create a more just and peaceful society that continues to spread across the globe today—democracy. Hence, as the Olympic flame makes its way back to Athens in 2004, we celebrate today, that 181 years ago, democracy was returned to its birthplace continuing to make Greece a pillar of liberty and civility for the world to look onto.

The tenants of rule of law, due process, and civil liberties were philosophical notions in ancient society, which the modern world took, developed and solidified in legal customs and traditions creating a safer world for the oppressed. Aristotle spoke of democracy and said, "If liberty and equality are chiefly to be found in democracy, they will be best attained when all persons alike share in the government to the utmost." It is this legacy of democracy which our forefathers emulated for our young republic in its founding days.

It is not surprising to see an ever stronger partnership between the United States and Greece in forging a commitment to democracy and respect for every individual's inherent right to freedom around the world. Greece was a strong ally of this country during World War II and is a continual friend in NATO. Today, as the world once again joins together to fight terror and oppression, the country of Greece has made valuable contributions in terms of personnel and technical support for his global effort.

Greece's commitment to peace and stability in the Aegean region can be further noted through the continual leadership it has displayed in helping shepherd along the current talks taking place in Cyprus.

Madam Speaker, the democratic heritage shared by the United States and Greece make them formidable allies in the defense of democracy around the world. It is with great joy that I stand here today and join the Greek

Community in celebrating their Day of Independence.

Mr. COYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join in this special order commemorating Greek Independence Day.

At the time of the American Revolution, most of Greece was part of the Ottoman Empire. At that time, Greece had been under Ottoman rule for 400 years. Some Greeks held positions in the Ottoman government, and Greek merchants throughout the empire were active and successful, but the Greek people were unwilling subjects of the Ottomans. Greek Orthodox Christians were a religious minority within the empire, and were subject to discrimination on that basis. Moreover, the Ottoman Empire had begun the long, slow period of decline that would end in its disintegration in the wake of World War I. The Ottoman government was becoming increasingly characterized by corruption and violent oppression.

In the late 1700s and early 1800s, the Greek people developed a national identity. Many Greeks began to come into greater contact with Western Europeans, and through these contacts they gained exposure to the ideas of liberty and self-government that had been developed in ancient Greece and revived in modern times by the French and American revolutions. The development of a vision of an independent Greek nation at that time was due in no small part to the interaction of these radical ideas with the increasing deprivations of the Ottoman government.

In March of 1821, Greek patriots rebelled against the Ottomans. The rebellion lasted for eight tumultuous years, but the Greek people persevered in their uphill struggle.

The Greeks' heroic struggle inspired support from people in Western Europe and the United States. Many people in these countries developed an interest in Greek culture, architecture, and history. Europeans and Americans identified with the Greek people because of the ancient Greece's legacy as the cradle of democracy. A number of private citizens like Lord Byron were so inspired by the Greeks' fight for freedom that they actually traveled to Greece and risked their lives to support this revolution. Many of the people of Europe pressured their governments to intervene on the side of the Greeks, and as a result, in 1826 Great Britain and Russia agreed to work to secure Greek independence. France allied itself with these states the following year. Foreign assistance helped turn the tide, and in 1829 the Ottoman Empire signed a treaty recognizing Greece as an autonomous state.

Madam Speaker, it is important that we recognize the courage and heroism of these early Greek patriots, who fought and died for the same principles of freedom that inspired our forefathers to rebel against Great Britain. I am pleased to join our country's many Greek-American citizens in observing this very special day.

Mr. SWEENEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of celebrating March 25, 2002, as Greek Independence Day. The ancient Greeks developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people. The Founding Fathers of the United States drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy.

Greece is one of only three nations in the world, beyond the former British Empire, that

has been allied with the United States in every major international conflict in the twentieth century. Greece played a major role in the World War II struggle to protect freedom and democracy through such bravery as was shown in the historic Battle of Crete and in Greece presenting the Axis land war with its first major setback, which set off a chain of events that significantly affected the outcome of World War II.

Greece and the United States are at the forefront of the effort for freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights. Those and other ideals have forged a close bond between our two nations and their peoples.

March 25, 2001, marks the 180th anniversary of the beginning of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire and it is proper and desirable to celebrate with the Greek people and to reaffirm the democratic principles from which our two great nations were born.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the Greek people and their successful struggle for independence from Ottoman occupation that began nearly 181 years ago. Greek Independence Day has special symbolic resonance for Americans. Our forefathers founded our democratic system of government on the principles of popular representation introduced to this world by the ancient Athenians.

Our word democracy is, in fact, of Greek derivation and literally translates as people ("demo") rule ("kratos"). The ancient Greek experiment with democracy, however, was a visionary aberration that was centuries ahead of its time. Democracy did not last long in Ancient Greece as the fist of empires—Romans, Byzantine, and Ottoman—silenced democratic yearnings for nearly two millennia.

Although democracy temporarily disappeared, the Greeks continued to thrive and prosper. As the Roman Empire expanded in the early centuries after the birth of Christ, the Greek peoples dominated the eastern half of the Roman Empire, known as Byzantium, and it was in the Greek city of Constantinople where the Roman emperor Constantine converted himself and the entire Roman Empire to Christianity.

Upon the fall of Rome in 476 AD, the Greek-led Byzantine Empire emerged as a potent force in the world and the protectorate of Christian Orthodoxy. The Greeks remained strong and independent until the Central Asian Ottomans crushed the Byzantine armies and conquered the spiritual capital of the Byzantine world at Constantinople in 1453.

The victory of the Ottomans cast the Greek speaking peoples into more than 400 years of occupation. But even while under the yoke of Ottoman rule, the Greeks were an impressive force. As successful and educated merchants, they dominated the Ottoman middle class and were the backbone of the Ottoman economy.

Still, the Greeks were not meant to be subject peoples and they began to oppose the imperial policies of the Ottoman government. Greeks, many of whom were educated in the universities of the West, began to adopt revolutionary ideas from France, Great Britain, and the United States. The concept of the nation-state, self-determination, and liberal democracy found their ways into the Greek villages and cities from Athens to Constantinople.

On March 25, 1821, Greek patriots from the southern tip of the Peloponnese to the northern outskirts of Macedonia finally rebuked the

yoke of the Ottomans and declared the independence of the Greek people from subjugation. At first, the Hellenic fighters met with violent failure, but their just cause ignited the imaginations of their people and of scores of Western philhellenes, such as the English poet Lord Byron, who left their homelands to fight and die with the Greeks for their liberation.

The United States was never far from the minds of the revolutionary Greeks, nor was the struggle of the Greeks unnoticed by Americans. As Greek revolutionary commander Petros Mavromichalis, one of the founders of the modern Greek state, said to the citizens of the United States in 1821, "It is in your land that liberty has fixed her abode and . . . in imitating you, we shall imitate our ancestors and be thought worthy of them if we succeed in resembling you."

By 1833, the Greeks had secured independence and with it a place in history as the first of the subjugated peoples in Europe to overthrow their Ottoman masters.

As the Greek nation developed and grew, it emerged as a stalwart ally of the United States. The Greek people fought alongside the American and Allied forces in both of the world wars of the twentieth century. The Greeks again took up arms against their Ottoman foes in the First World War and then handed the Axis powers their first defeat in World War II when the Greek army pushed back the forces of Mussolini. Soon after, however, they would suffer through a long and painful Nazi occupation.

After World War II, Greece became an instrumental member of the NATO alliance. Greece's strategic location made it a vital buffer between the Western Democratic world and Soviet Communism.

Over the last 30 years, Greece has made major strides forward for its people. In 1974, Konstantine Karamanlis finally restored democracy to Greece, bringing representative government back to its birthplace. Greece became a member of the European Community and then the powerful European Union.

Today, Greece continues to move in the right direction thanks to the enlightened leadership of Prime Minister Costas Simitis. He and Foreign Minister George Papandreou are working with their Turkish counterparts to end generations of strained relations between Turkey and Greece. Economically, Greece is prospering and recently became a member of the European Monetary Union. In 2004, Greeks will display their successes to the world when they host the Olympics, another Greek invention, in Athens.

Strategically, Greece remains important. It is a force of stability in the volatile Balkans where it continues to promote open markets and democracy. The Greek government is also united with the United States in its war on terrorism. Greece has sent a troop contingent to participate in the international force in Afghanistan and has allowed U.S. aircraft use of its airspace and its airbases.

I cannot overstate the importance of strong ties between Greece and the United States. As an American citizen who believes firmly in the principles of democracy and as a representative of thousands of Greek-Americans that live in Central New Jersey, I rise today in humble recognition of Greek Independence Day.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 181st anniversary

of Greek independence. One hundred and eighty one years ago, after nearly 400 years of oppression under the Ottoman Empire, the courage and commitment to freedom of the Greek people prevailed in a revolution for independence. It is an honor today to celebrate Greek Independence Day in the House of Representatives.

Greece and the Greek people have made remarkable contributions to the United States and societies throughout the world. The achievements of Greek civilization in art, architecture, science, philosophy, mathematics, and literature have become legacies for nations across the globe. In addition, and most importantly, the Greek commitment to freedom and the birth of democracy remains an essential contribution for which we as Americans are eternally grateful.

Greek civilization has inspired the American passion for truth, justice, and the rule of law by the will of the people. The forefathers or our Nation recognized the spirit and idealism of ancient Greece when fighting for American independence and drafting our Constitution. Forty-five years after our own revolution for independence, this tradition and commitment to freedom was carried forward by the Greek people through their successful revolutionary struggle for sovereignty.

Greek Americans can take pride today in the contributions of Greek culture and in their ancestors' sacrifice. The effects of the vibrant Greek people can be witnessed throughout the United States in our government, culture, and economy, as well as in our commitment to freedom and democracy throughout the world. We, as Americans, are grateful for these gifts.

Madam Speaker, it is important for us to recognize and celebrate this day together with Greece to reaffirm our common democratic heritage. I am proud to join in this celebration and offer my congratulations to Greece and Greeks throughout the world on this very special day.

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I offer my congratulations to the Hellenic Republic on the 181st anniversary of its independence from the Ottoman Empire.

Two and a half millennia ago, Greek philosophers and politicians developed the democratic ideals that inspired our Founding Fathers and became the foundation for the American political system. Greek thinkers made discoveries that for thousands of years helped advance the world's knowledge of science, medicine, mathematics, and astronomy. Greek drama and poetry became the model, in many ways, for much of Western literature. The list of Greek contributions to world culture is endless.

After freeing itself from foreign domination, including nearly 400 years under Ottoman rule and occupation by Nazi Germany, Greece is once again a fierce proponent of freedom and democracy. It is a key NATO ally, a partner in the war against terrorism, a critical contributor to stability in the Balkans, and a participant in the International Security Assistance Force that is working to bring peace and stability to Afghanistan. Greek military observers and police serve in United Nations Peacekeeping missions on the Iraq-Kuwait border, on the Ethiopia-Eritrea border, and in Bosnia, Kosovo, and the Republic of Georgia. The democratic ideals of ancient Greece continue to thrive in the Hellenic Republic today.

The 3 million Americans of Greek descent have made critical contributions to American business, culture, education, art, and politics and helped ensure the success of this great nation.

Madam Speaker, my fellow colleagues, please join in congratulating the Greek government and our fellow Americans of Greek heritage as they celebrate the 181st anniversary of Greek independence.

Mr. ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Greek Independence Day.

In this year following the horrific terrorist attacks on our Nation, in which our democratic society has been challenged like never before, it is important that we join together and honor the ideals that embody Greek Independence Day. On this 181st anniversary of the decision by the Greek people to rise up against the Ottoman Empire and live freely, we celebrate democracy, a common bond that the United States shares with Greece.

For the thousands of Greek-Americans that I represent, Greek Independence Day celebrates the sacrifice made by their family members, friends, and fellow countrymen. The decision by the Greeks to govern themselves was a courageous action, and we honor the spirit of those who lost their lives in this quest for freedom. This spirit will be on display for all the world to see when Athens hosts the Olympic Games in 2004.

During this celebration of Greek Independence, Congress memorializes the sacrifice of a generation of Greeks so that freedom and independence could be secured for the Greek people. America is involved in a similar struggle now. As we continue our struggle based on our love of democracy, freedom, rule of law, tolerance and justice, we draw strength and inspiration from the Greek people who shed blood and tears in their struggle for independence.

Today, we honor the just cause that the Greek people fought for in 1829, and I join my colleagues in recognition of this special anniversary and the strong U.S.-Greece relationship.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today to salute the nation of Greece and celebrate the 181st anniversary of Greek independence from the Ottoman Empire. This great day in Greek history commemorates the successful struggle of the Greek people for national sovereignty.

The Ancient Greeks forged the notion of democracy, something for which the United States and the rest of the world will always be thankful. Indeed, we owe Greece the inspiration for our own democratic form of government. As Thomas Jefferson pointed out, Greece is "the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness". I think it is safe to say that the Founders of both Greece and the United States would be proud of the tremendous achievements of both nations.

Throughout the past 181 years, there have been repeated challenges to the independence of Greece, yet its people have stridently fought to maintain both their democracy and their independence. The United States and its people have been proud to stand by her and provide strength, assistance and friendship to overcome those struggles. Greeks across the United States and throughout the world have much to celebrate on this great day of independence.

Today, the United States shares many common threads with Greece, including commitments to democracy, peace and human rights. Greece has sent us her sons and daughters in past generations, helping us to build our proud nation. We will not forget the fierce resistance with which Greece opposed the Axis powers in World War Two, nor their equally staunch resistance to the expansion of communism in the war's immediate aftermath. Greece has been one of our strongest allies ever since. For nearly 5 decades now Greece has been a key NATO member, helping to stabilize its area of the Mediterranean. Since Greece and the United States share many interests and many values, the celebration of the 181st Anniversary of Greek Independence gives us the opportunity to call for an even closer collaboration between both our countries.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to celebrate once again Greek culture and to toast the Greek people. It is an honor to rise and commemorate the 181st Greek Independence Day. On this day we celebrate more than just Greece's independence, we celebrate Greece as a nation and as a friend.

Mr. MCNULTY. Madam Speaker, the American people join with the people of Greece in celebrating the 181st Anniversary of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire.

The bedrock of our close relationship with Greece is our mutual devotion to freedom and democracy and our unshakable determination to fight, if need be, to protect these rights.

Greek philosophers and political leaders—Cleisthenes and Pericles and their successors—had great influence upon America's Founding Fathers in their creation of these United States.

We, as a nation, owe a great debt to Greece. Greece is the birthplace of democracy, as we know it.

Thomas Jefferson said, "To the ancient Greeks, we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves (American colonists) out of Gothic darkness."

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 were an attack on democracy and freedom—not just against our people, but also against all freedom-loving people everywhere in the world. The Greek people understand this.

I congratulate the people of Greece and wish them a Happy National Birthday.

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate the Greek people on the 181st anniversary of Greek independence from the Ottoman Empire. The thoughts and ideas emanating from the Greek Isles have had a profound influence on the world. Ancient Greece's embrace of democracy, contributions in philosophy, spirit of athletic competition, and fierce adherence to freedom have shaped America in deep and significant ways. America would not be the country it is without the remarkable influence of Greece.

Again, I congratulate the Greek people on their country's day of independence and hope for many, many years in which freedom and democracy reign throughout Greece.

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, today, as Greece celebrates its 181st anniversary of its struggle for independence, I join my colleagues in congratulating the people of Greece and Greek-Americans, many of whom I am proud to call constituents.

When we celebrate Greek Independence Day, we celebrate the fight for freedom. An-

cient Greece was the world's first democracy. With modern Greece, it stands as an example to people around the world of overcoming tyranny.

Since its war of independence, Greece has been a strong ally to the United States. In turn, the U.S. has opened its heart to multitudes of Greek immigrants. The contributions of the Greek community in the United States are immeasurable.

The strong relationship between Greece and the United States is steeped in culture, history, and philosophy and remains of critical importance. Since September 11, Greece shared in our loss—21 of its citizens died at the World Trade Center—and has stepped up its efforts to combat terrorism at home and abroad. Equally important is Greece's membership in NATO, and its role in ensuring the security of Europe's southern flank.

I remain committed to strengthening U.S.-Greek ties, and to working on issues of interest to the Greek American community, including a permanent solution in Cyprus.

I thank my colleagues, Mr. BILIRAKIS, for organizing this special order to highlight the important contributions of Greece to our country.

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today, as a member of the Human Rights Subcommittee, to join in commemorating the 181st Anniversary of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman empire.

I congratulate Greece on celebrating its 181st anniversary. The Greek people have much to be proud of.

As a senior member of the International Relations Committee, I have long been involved in, and have followed issues affecting the Greek-American community.

I am aware that Greece achieved its independence from the Ottoman Empire in 1829.

During the second half of the 19th century, and the first half of the 20th century, it gradually added neighboring islands and territories with Greek-speaking populations.

Following the defeat of communist rebels in 1949, Greece joined NATO in 1952. A military dictatorship, which in 1967 suspended many political liberties and forced the king to flee the country, lasted seven years.

Democratic elections in 1974 and a referendum created a parliamentary republic, and abolished the monarchy.

Greece joined the European Community or EC in 1981 (which became the EU in 1992).

I originally introduced a bill in March 2000, calling for the return of the Parthenon Marbles to their rightful home in Greece.

I am re-introducing that same bill tonight.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Greek people in their celebration of democracy. Once again, congratulations on your 181st anniversary celebration!

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 181st anniversary of the revolution that earned the independence of the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire. Nearly 400 years ago, after the fall of Constantinople, Bishop Germanos of Patras raised the Greek flag at Agia Lavras, sparking a powerful revolution against the Ottoman oppressors.

Following the triumphs of 1821, Greece continued to prove itself as a loyal ally of the United States and an internationally recognized advocate of democracy. Greece is one of only three nations in the world beyond those of the former British Empire to be allied

with the United States in every major international conflict of the 20th century. In the Balkans, Greece has played a steady hand of democracy in the face of regional unrest and instability.

Now, in the wake of September 11, Greece again stands firm with the United States. Our efforts in the war against terror would not be as successful without the continued assistance from our allies in Greece. Greece's role as a stable democracy and key NATO ally is critical as the international community fights against global terrorism.

On this special occasion, I commend and thank the Greek people for their spirit and their ongoing pursuit of peace. To Greece, a free and democratic ally: "Cronia polla hellas".

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, on March 25th, Greece celebrates its 181st year of independence. I am here tonight to praise a society that represents, in a historical sense, the origins of what we call Western culture, and, in a contemporary sense, one of the staunchest defenders of Western society and values. There are many of us in Congress, on both sides of the spectrum, who are staunchly committed to preserving and strengthening the ties between Greek and American people. I would particularly like to thank the co-chairs of the Hellenic Caucus, Congressman BILIRAKIS from Florida, and Congresswoman MALONEY from New York for their fine leadership and their tireless efforts to strengthen the ties between our two countries.

Just two years after the Greek people began the revolution that would lead to their freedom, one of our predecessors in this Chamber, Massachusetts Congressman Daniel Webster, referring to the 400 years during which the Greeks were ruled by the Ottoman Empire, observed, "These Greek people, a people of intelligence, ingenuity, refinement, spirit, and enterprise, have been for centuries under the atrocious and unparalleled Tartarian barbarism that ever opposed the human race."

The words Congressman Webster chose then to describe the Greek people—intelligence, ingenuity, refinement, spirit, and enterprise—are as apt today as they have ever been.

In the years since, Americans and Greeks have grown ever closer, bound by ties of strategic and military alliance, common values of democracy, individual freedom, human rights, and close personal friendship.

The qualities exhibited by the nation of Greece, Madam Speaker, are a reflection of the strong character and values of its individual citizens. The United States has been greatly enriched as many sons and daughters of Greece made a new life in America. They, and their children and grandchildren, have enriched our country in countless ways, contributing to our cultural, professional, commercial, academic, and political life.

The timeless values of Greek culture have endured for centuries, indeed for millennia. As Daniel Webster noted, 400 years of control by the Ottoman Empire could not overcome the Greek people's determination to be free. But, I regret to say, Madam Speaker, to this day, the Greek people must battle against oppression. For almost 27 years now, Greece has stood firm in its determination to bring freedom and independence to the illegally occupied nation of Cyprus.

Given instability around the world, now is a good time to heal the wound in Cyprus that

has poisoned the relations between Greece and Turkey for so many years.

I am concerned, however, that Turkey is once again not negotiating in good faith. Over the years, I have become quite familiar with the Turkish side's well-known negotiation tactics. The Turkish side agrees to peace negotiations on the Cyprus problem only for the purpose of undermining them once they begin and then blames the Greek Cypriots for their failure.

The time has come for Denktash to realize his demands for recognition of a separate state are not acceptable. The framework has already been laid by the United Nations Security Council's Resolutions establishing a bizonal, bicomunal federation with one single international personality and one single citizenship.

Like their forefathers who were under the control of a hostile foreign power for four centuries, the Cypriot people hold fast in defiance of their Turkish aggressors with every confidence that they will again be a sovereign nation. They will. And the United States will be by their side in both the fight to secure that freedom and the celebration to mark the day when it finally arrives.

I will continue to work with my colleagues here in Congress to ensure that the United States government remains on the right side of this issue—because there is no gray area when it comes to this conflict.

In closing I want to congratulate the Greek people for 181 years of independence and thank them for their contributions to American life.

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#### INTRODUCTION OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF IRAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to talk about a resolution which I have had drafted and will be introducing very shortly, and I hope my colleagues will join in supporting. I would like to read it tonight. It is a resolution supporting the people of Iran:

"Concurrent resolution, expressing the sense of Congress in support of the people of Iran and their legitimate quest for freedom, economic opportunity, and friendship with the people of the United States.

"Whereas, the first day of spring, celebrated by millions worldwide as Nowruz, the Persian Iranian New Year, symbolizes renewal, birth and new beginnings;

"Whereas, the people of the United States respect the Iranian people and value the contribution that Iran's culture has made to the world civilization over three millennia;

"Whereas, the United States recognizes the legitimate aspiration of the Iranian people for democratic, civil, political and religious rights and the rule of law;

"Whereas there exists a broad-based movement and desire for political change in Iran that represents all sec-

tors of Iranian society, including youth, women, students, military personnel and religious figures and that is pro-democratic, seeking freedom and economic opportunity;

"Whereas, the Iranian people have increasingly expressed their frustration at the slow pace of reform while still pursuing nonviolent change in their society;

"Whereas, in four consecutive elections the Iranian people have opted for nonviolent reform;

"Whereas, following the tragedies of September 11, 2001, thousands of Iranians filled the streets spontaneously and in solidarity with the United States and the victims of the terrorist attacks; and

"Whereas, the people of Iran deserve the support of the American people.

"Now, therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, that the Congress of the United States expresses its heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the courageous people of Iran for their brave expressions of support following the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States;

"Two, recognizes and supports the people of Iran in their daily struggle for democracy, reform, human rights, economic prosperity and the rule of law;

"Three, makes a clear distinction between the peace-loving people of Iran, endowed with a rich culture and history and the unelected officials of Iran; and

"Four, urges the President of the United States to:

"A, engage and support the people of Iran in their legitimate aspiration for freedom and democracy;

"B, to continue to pursue areas of common interest with the people of Iran while taking an uncompromising stance on terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, and the human rights of Iranian citizens; and

"C, to use available diplomatic means to support the Iranian people's demand for an immediate release of all political prisoners and for the removal of the ban on the freedom of the press."

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important resolution. We need to send a clear message that we stand with the freedom-loving people of Iran.

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#### FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, in the memory of our former beloved colleague, Claude Pepper of Florida, who fought at our side in 1938 to preserve the Social Security system, I rise this evening to make my remarks.

I want to talk about fiscal responsibility, responsibility to our Nation, responsibility to the future, responsibility to our children, responsibility to our senior citizens.

Hubert Humphrey used to place particular emphasis on those Americans who are in the dawn of life and those who are in the twilight of life. I also rise to talk about fiscal responsibility to our veterans who have sacrificed and are sacrificing so much to keep freedom's flame burning brightly in America and throughout the world.

Last week the Congressional Budget Office reported that the President's budget spends \$1.63 trillion of the Social Security trust fund surplus over the next 10 years. That is \$261 billion more than the administration initially claimed. The budget office also reports that the President's policies spend Social Security trust fund money in every single year for the foreseeable future.

We have heard the administration officials, and some Republican leaders are extremely unhappy with the Congressional Budget Office for telling the truth; but that is why we have a Congressional Budget Office, to provide nonpartisan information, whether we like the results or not. We rely on it to be factual.

Tomorrow, Madam Speaker, this body will take up the President's budget for fiscal year 2003, and the unfortunate reality is that the President's policies will lead to the exhaustion of the entire Social Security trust fund surplus for the next 10 years and then some, according to the House Committee on the Budget minority staff.

The administration does this by using off-the-books accounting. We learned from the Enron-Arthur Andersen scandal that off-the-books accounting can get us into big trouble in a hurry. Indeed, even the administration admits that it spends some of the Social Security surplus despite Republican promises last year they would protect 100 percent of the Social Security trust fund surplus.

Remember the lock box promise? Well, the Republicans have picked the lock and are proceeding to take our money out of the lock box every day, money that belongs to the senior citizens of this country.

The Bush administration inherited a \$5.6 trillion surplus; but now 8 months later, \$4 trillion is gone and that jumps to \$5 trillion next year if we take their budget on its word.

Madam Speaker, this is the most radical fiscal reversal in American history. The budget surplus is exhausted, deficits are back, and the lock box is gone.

What does it mean? For one thing it means that Congress may not be able to provide relief for the Medicare providers who are facing deep cuts in reimbursement.

□ 2000

It means veterans will have to pay more for prescription drugs. The Veterans Administration is proposing to raise the copayment for veterans by 250 percent.

It means the wealthiest Americans will continue to get giant tax cuts, but

American's 35 million senior citizens will not get a prescription drug benefit.

It means that programs for women, infants, and children will be endangered. For the people in the dawn of life and the twilight of life, this budget gives the back of its hand, and it is not right.

Over the 5-year period from 1996 to 2000, Enron paid no taxes for 4 of the last 5 years and received a net tax rebate of \$381 million. This includes a \$278 million rebate in the year 2000 alone. Over the same period, the company's profits, before Federal income taxes, totaled \$1.785 billion. Just their profits. In none of those years was the company's pretax profit less than \$87 million. At the 35 percent tax rate, Enron's tax on profits in the last 5 years should have been \$625 million. But the company was able to use tax benefits from stock options and other loopholes to reduce its 5-year tax to substantially less than zero. Among the loopholes that Enron used to avoid tax liability was the creation of more than 800 subsidiaries in tax havens such as the Cayman Islands.

Madam Speaker, is it any wonder that we cannot do the right thing for America's children, for America's veterans, and America's seniors? Is it any wonder that this Congress cannot act responsibly? Is it any wonder that the Social Security trust fund is being violated every day, even as I speak here?

As long as the big campaign contributors call the shots in Washington, we are going to see continued raids on the lockbox, and the American people are going to have to pay the bills that Enron, with an assist from the politicians, avoided.

The responsible vote tomorrow on the budget resolution is "no."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. ROHRABACHER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### FISCAL YEAR 2003 BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, this week we in the U.S. Congress will debate the budget resolution for fiscal year 2003. Last year, after almost a decade of work, we finally had a budget surplus. This year, we will again plunge into deficit spending and raid the Social Security and Medicare trust funds.

No Member of Congress is opposed to paying the necessary cost of defending our country, securing our homeland, and supporting our military personnel. However, this defense did not have to come at the expense of other important

domestic programs. We are in this fix because the trillion dollar tax cut over 10 years, enacted last year, left us no room to deal with the emergency we are now facing.

I want the people of the 15th District of Texas to know what the 2003 budget will mean to them. It means that people in my district will not get vital assistance to combat our decade-long water drought because the President has eliminated the Drought Assistance Program from the 2003 budget.

It means the "One Stop Capital Shop" that helps small minority businesses stay in business in the poorest county in the Nation will have to close.

It means there will be even less funding to combat the epidemic of tuberculosis, hepatitis, and HIV/AIDS that is rampant on the southern border and, if not checked, will spread throughout the country.

Finally, it means that the bipartisan education bill, of which we were all so proud because President Bush signed it in January 2002, will not be fully funded, and poor and minority children will again be shortchanged. That is not right.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### CITIZEN SOLDIER AND AMERICAN PATRIOT RELIEF ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Ms. HOOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Madam Speaker, yesterday the Oregon National Guard's 42nd Air Ambulance Company, headquartered in our State capital, Salem, Oregon, received word it had been activated in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Air Ambulance is no stranger to call-ups. They were last activated to serve in Bosnia, where they garnered heavy acclaim. Nor is the Oregon Guard a stranger to call-ups. Although we have just over 6,000 Guardsmen and women, Oregon trails only Texas and Georgia in the number of activated troops, and each of those States has 20,000-plus soldiers and airmen.

That is a testament to the Oregon Guard's military readiness, especially in light of the fact that we do not have any active duty military bases in our State, except for Umatilla Depot, which is largely a repository for chemical weapons.

As I speak, F-15s from the Oregon Air Guard are patrolling the skies above North America, being assisted by air traffic control units. All this is happening while an additional 500 Guardsmen are preparing for a lengthy deployment in the Sinai Desert, and a

military intelligence company from Lake Oswego is rotating through Bosnia.

Madam Speaker, these deployments come at a high personal and professional cost. Activated Guardsmen and women not only leave behind their families, they leave behind careers and their own businesses. Additionally, the Pentagon often activates these units for 179 days, a day short of the 180-day-period which would give nonprior-service Guards VA benefits. Many of these activated troops lose their private health insurance, forcing their families to enroll in military health insurance plans, which means a whole new set of doctors, dentists and pharmacists to deal with.

The list of hardships goes on and on. They are well known to anyone who cares about the impact this war is having on our local communities. That is why I think it is important that our Guards and Reservists receive more than just a pat on the back for the job they are doing in this war against terrorism.

I am developing comprehensive legislation which would remedy some of the concerns I just mentioned. The Citizen Soldier and the American Patriot Relief Act recognizes the sacrifices made by our citizen soldiers, and I look forward to sharing it with my colleagues.

Until then, I ask that every American keep all of our troops in their thoughts and their prayers. It is because of our military men and women and their service, and their service alone, that we enjoy the privilege of meeting in this institution, free from terror and other failed attempts to strip away our liberty.

I thank all of our military men and women for their service.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. WYNN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. KIRK addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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#### THE FISCAL YEAR 2003 BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman

from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Madam Speaker, I rise today as we celebrate Women's History Month to review some of the budget items that impact on women's issues.

There are some issues in the FY 2003 budget proposal impacting on women that I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues.

It was disappointing, Madam Speaker, to find that the title X family planning program is not going to see an increase in funding. In fact, the program will be level funded at \$266 million for the 2003 fiscal year.

Title X is the only Federal program devoted solely to the provision of family planning and reproductive health care. The program is designed to provide access to contraceptive supplies and information to all who want and need them. Title X is designed to assist low-income women. For many clients, especially women of color, title X clinics provide the only continuing source of health care and health education.

A growing number of uninsured women desperately need this care offered by title X clinics, because they cannot meet the increase in cost of Federal services. If the title X program had kept pace with inflation in recent years, it would now be funded at \$564 million. That would have been more than double the current level.

We Democratic women are pleased to see that the budget would provide \$8.4 million for the Women's Bureau at the Department of Labor. Unfortunately, this is a decrease of \$1.8 million from the 2002 fiscal year. The question I have, Madam Speaker, is what services to women are going to be cut to make up for this shortfall?

Already, one organization has been threatened with closure. Women Work, the national network for women's employment, was led to believe that the Women's Bureau did not intend for its continuing funding. Happily, this did not happen. Programs continue to be needed to assist women to find their way into employment. The Women's Bureau, especially the decentralized Women's Center, have played a major role in this area and deserve to be fully funded.

The welfare of children is, of course, of great concern to all of the Members of this House, not just the women Members. I am pleased to see that this budget includes \$421 million for child welfare and abuse programs. These funds provide services to prevent child abuse and neglect. While it is laudable that this money has been allocated to such a worthy cause, it must be noted that the funding has been maintained at the same level as last year.

Americans want to see all children in happy and safe homes and protected from abusive situations. For this reason, Democrats would like to see these programs strengthened.

It is pleasing to see that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will

receive \$5.8 billion in this budget, but Democratic women have noted that there will be a decrease of \$1 billion from the 2002 fiscal year. This is a very large reduction in the CDC budget.

We all agree that every child born should be a healthy baby. It is disappointing to see that the Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities Center will receive \$1 million less than last year.

There is also a tragic imbalance and racial disparity in terms of babies born in the African American and white communities in our country. A black baby born today is twice as likely to die within the first year of life as a white baby. That baby is twice as likely to be born prematurely and at low birthweight. In order to help address these major problems and health concerns, we would like to see a modest amount of \$3 million restored to the Public Health Service's Office of Minority Health that is located in the Department of Health and Human Services.

The Fiscal Year 2003 budget includes \$156 million for environmental disease prevention. This is a \$1 million reduction. Cutting funding for environmental disease prevention is another unfortunate budgetary reduction.

Madam Speaker, we Democrats are deeply disappointed with this budget and believe that it will have some very unfortunate repercussions for the well-being and provision of social and health services to the American public, and particularly how these cuts will affect women.

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#### 2003 BUDGET RESOLUTION AND NATIONAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, several of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle have risen tonight to decry the budget that has been proposed by the majority party and that we will be voting on tomorrow, the budget resolution, that is to say, and they have each identified specific parts of it that they find unattractive, unappealing, or in some way something that they can complain about.

The real issue, of course, that is perhaps annoying to them, I think, or at least discomfoting to them, and the one that was never referenced, but is the one accurate representation of the budget resolution that the majority party will offer tomorrow, is that it is balanced. That is to say, this budget resolution will set out for the Congress of the United States and for the American people a budget that will spend no more money than we will take in.

Now, this is something that is not very comfortable to the minority party. They have really not operated under that kind of restriction for as

long as they held control of this House. For 40 years, of course, profligate spending of the minority party Members, when they were in control of this House, put us into a situation that we in fact had robbed the Social Security trust fund every single year. There were IOUs in that trust fund that approximated \$800 billion by the time that we took over.

In the last 4 years, something again that the minority party does not discuss when they talk about the budget or our control during that period of time, in the last 4 years we have paid down almost \$450 billion of the national debt. That is an unheard of, unprecedented phenomenon that came as a result, of course, of the fact that we had an economy that was expanding and government revenues were increasing.

But does anyone listening to the debate tonight on this floor think for a second that if the Democratic Party had been in charge during that particular period of time that we would have taken the dollars coming in to the government and not spent them on new programs and expanding the Federal Government?

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Madam Speaker, I hasten to add that I think even Members of the other party would recognize that is the history that they give us. So to come tonight, and I am sure as will happen tomorrow to the floor of the House of Representatives, and talk about the need to be more concerned or more focused on the budget issue begs the question.

What happened when they had the reins of control here? What did they do? The fact is that they spent not only every dollar that came in, but hundreds of billions of dollars that did not come in, hundreds of billions of dollars that we had to borrow from the taxpayers.

We have tried to change that direction in the last 4 years; and we are going to offer a balanced budget, a frightening concept perhaps to the other side, but it is one with which they will have to deal.

The primary issue that I raise tonight is not, however, the one dealing with the budget. There will be plenty of discussion dealing with that tomorrow; but it is the issue of our national security, because of course that is the most important thing with which this Congress can ever deal. Whether we are talking about budget or anything else, the reality is we have relatively few true responsibilities given to us by the Constitution of this Nation. They are delineated in the Constitution, and the Constitution is added to by the Bill of Rights.

The last of the 10 amendments to the Constitution is very specific, and it says in case there is something you are confused about in the list of things that are the responsibility for the Federal Government, we are going to make

it even more clear, that is, if it is not clear, it is not your responsibility, it is the responsibility of the States and the people therein.

But there is something that is uniquely our responsibility, and that is the defense of the Nation. We cannot rely upon States individually to raise the budget to defend the country through any other process. That, of course, is our responsibility. There are several ways to do that. One is to make sure that our military is quality funded, make sure that the men and women serving in the military of the United States have every possible weapon at their disposal and in our arsenal that would first protect them; and, secondly, get the job done wherever we send them.

Time and again when we are watching television or reading reports in the Congress about the marvelous and incredible undertakings with which the military is involved, we recognize that the valor of the men and women who serve really and truly is the bottom line. We can give them all of the equipment in the world, but it boils down to the individual that is there on the field of battle and what is in his or her heart at the time. We can be proud and we are proud of the people that serve in our military, and we work hard to make sure that they have what is necessary to get the job done and to protect them because they are, in turn, protecting the Nation.

We recognize that the fight for the Nation, that the battle goes on in a variety of different venues. It is not like any other war. This has been said many times. The war we are in is not like any other war we have ever been in, or likely to be in, in that it will not be marked by a confrontation between two huge armies until one capitulates and the state that they represent or are fighting for has fallen. That is certainly not going to be the conflicts of the 21st century. The conflict arises in Afghanistan, the Republic of Georgia, the Philippines, and Indonesia. All over the world, we find we have to stamp out the tentacles of fundamentalist Islam as represented by al Qaeda specifically, and the terrorists who have as their end-desire the destruction of this Nation.

We know that is the case, and we know we are doing a good job there. I commend the President of the United States for his leadership and my colleagues for their support of all of the appropriations that have been passed and made available so that all of the people out there are fully equipped.

But there is another thing, there is another side to this battle that we pay little attention to, unfortunately. Far too little attention. It is the battle that goes on to defend our own borders.

The one thing that is typical in this battle, in this war, typical to other kinds of wars we have been in, is the fact of invasion where large numbers of people come across the border of one country undetected without permission

of the country they are entering; and some of them, certainly not all, thank God at this point in time, but some of them have ill-intent. Some of them choose and come here with the very purpose of doing us harm.

Many others, unfortunately, who come across the border, do not choose to do us any physical harm, but are not really connected to the United States in any way similar to the immigrants who have come to the United States in the heyday of immigration, in the past 100 years or so. For the most part, people coming into the United States during that period of time, during the 1800s, early 1900s, came with the distinct purpose to separate themselves from the land from which they came, and to attach themselves to a new land and a new idea and new set of principles. They wanted to break the political and even linguistic ties they had with their country of origin and start something new. They committed to America. Of course they wanted a better life and of course they looked forward to giving their children a better life, just like the immigrants of today do.

But there is a significant difference. Millions of people are looking for that better life, but they are not disassociating themselves from the country of their origin, not linguistically, not culturally and sometimes not even politically.

Today, as I speak, we find that there is something happening in the United States which has never happened before, and that is a dramatic rise in the number of people who are here in this country, relatively recent immigrants to the United States, who claim dual citizenship. That is to say they claim to be both Americans and citizens of the country of their origin. They choose not to break those ties. Now that I would suggest, Madam Speaker, has never happened before. That is a new phenomenon. Something is peculiar about that, and something is dangerous about that when we talk about what is going to be necessary in order for us to survive this clash we are in with international terrorism, which can be characterized as a clash of civilizations.

Samuel Huntington in a book I reference often called "Clash of Civilizations" talks about the fact that the United States will be significantly hobbled in its ability to lead the West if we ourselves are a cleft Nation, a Nation divided in half. That is exactly what is happening to us, and one of the reasons why I have raised the concern about massive immigration, legal and illegal, into the United States, over the past couple of decades.

The agency to which we entrust the responsibility for protecting our borders and for helping us maintain some sense or even a tiny bit of hope that we can actually control the process of who comes in, for how long, for what purpose and knowing when they leave, the

agency to which we entrust that responsibility is the INS, the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

This agency has 35,000 employees. It has a budget of about \$7.5 billion. In the budget resolution we are going to pass tomorrow, it will call for about a billion dollar increase. It is an increase of 250 percent over the last 10 years. I bring that up because we are going to hear from that agency when we talk about the problems within it that they do not have enough money, they do not have the resources. They will talk about not having enough people, but in fact we have actually increased the number of people serving in the INS by 83 percent over the last decade. A 250 percent budget increase, 83 percent personnel increase, and what do we have to show for it? We have an agency that is incapable of managing the responsibility that is given to it. They are both incapable and undesiring of doing so, and that is the real crux of the matter here.

Madam Speaker, if we had an agency made up of people from the top to the bottom who had the intent, the desire internally to patrol the borders of the United States and make sure that our Nation is secure against people who are coming in illegally, making sure that the people who do get by them there are found in the United States and deported, making sure that the people who are here even legally but then commit some crime, taken to court and ordered deported, making sure that those people leave the country, if we had an agency like that, we could be somewhat sympathetic to their needs and desires and to their protestations of wanting to do a better job.

Today, the Subcommittee on Immigration of the Committee on the Judiciary held hearings; and called in front of them, among others, were the commissioner, the head of the INS, Mr. Ziglar. I want to preference my remarks by saying that Mr. Ziglar seems to be a very nice man, a very pleasant individual. I have no doubt of that. Certainly that is my observation.

But I am going to make another observation here; and that is from everything I have been able to see, read and hear about Mr. Ziglar and the situation in the INS, I will say that he is in water way over his head; that he is not really capable to do what we have asked him to do. Perhaps we should not blame him. Perhaps the fact that we brought him from a position that had absolutely nothing to do with immigration, perhaps the fact that he has absolutely no background in the area of immigration or immigration control, perhaps that is the problem; that no one with a similar background could possibly be expected to begin to wield control in an agency of 35,000 people, all bureaucrats for the most part, or I should say they are mostly bureaucrats. I think there are 5 or 6 political appointees in that entire agency.

And it is difficult, certainly, I know. I ran the Department of Education's

regional office for 12 years, and I am aware of the difficulty of trying to manage an enterprise that is peopled by employees who have civil service protection, and in my case had the protection of the public employees union. It is difficult to fire somebody from doing a bad job.

Indeed, Mr. Ziglar said in a recent television interview which I watched, when he was questioned about the problems in the INS, specifically what was going to happen to the people who had approved the visas for Mohammed Atta and his colleague Marwan al-Shehhi, the visas that arrived on March 11, 2002, 6 months to the day after they were killed in their attack on America, visas arriving at the school that they were attending to learn to fly, that has made the news. That has made a lot of people begin to say, What is going wrong? That is a peculiar thing.

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When Mr. Ziglar was questioned about this, he said, I can fire no one, absolutely no one that was responsible for this. I have control over five or six people, but that is it.

We remember that the President said he was furious, he was mad, hopping mad or some words to that effect, but no one was fired. Furious is another way I think you could describe the President of the United States about this incident. But no one was fired. Four or five people had their job titles changed. That was it. That was the response to the visa flap.

It is almost incredible, Madam Speaker, but it is indicative of the problem we are having with this agency and our need to do something about it.

As I say, Mr. Ziglar came from a situation that did not give him any sort of real background. He came to this position after having served as the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper for the Senate. That was his job. That is his background. Again, I want to reiterate, I am sure he is a very pleasant fellow. That is not the issue. The issue is, we are in a world of hurt here.

There is another aspect to his philosophy that needs to be brought up. He has stated on more than one occasion that he is a lifelong Libertarian. Fine. There are certain aspects of Libertarian philosophy that I think are intriguing, but the fact is, there is one part of it that is quite peculiar when you consider that to then place him as the head of the INS, the agency designed to help us control the border because, of course, Libertarians believe that we should have no borders, that borders are sort of artificial and sort of anachronistic barriers to the flow of goods, trade, ideas and people, therefore, we should abolish them and have these open borders.

Not only does he feel that way, but the one political appointment he was able to bring in as his second in command is a gentleman who shares those

feelings exactly, coming from the Cato Institute. The Cato Institute is again an organization of, I think, great allure for some people, I use some of their stuff myself, but the Cato Institute is a Libertarian think tank. Their position on these issues of immigration is quite clear, open borders.

They have every right to espouse that position at the Cato Institute. Mr. Ziglar, when he was the Doorkeeper for the Senate, had every right to feel that way, to espouse that point of view. He is now the Commissioner of the INS. I would suggest that that is akin to the old fox in the henhouse. There are a million analogies you can come up with, but it is a wrong place to be for him. He is the wrong person to put there.

Now he is forced to try to defend the actions of this agency which heretofore have been allowed to essentially begin an open border or continue the process of developing open borders, because it is not unique to this administration, of course; but now, because of 9/11, because of all these embarrassing things that have happened, he is forced to try to defend this situation and to say, we really are trying. Because he is not going to stand up and say, I am still committed to open borders, I do not think, so he is going to have to suggest that there is a way he is going to deal with this.

But in reality, Madam Speaker, there is nothing that is going to change in that agency, and there are bills, I know, that are being proposed to do that, to actually split the agency in two so that it has as its one responsibility the complete, what I call social work side of immigration, the benefits side, helping people get their green card, helping people become legalized; that is one thing. And then the other side is enforcement. Today they are sort of a mixed bag, and they do neither one, not just they do not do it very well, they are a complete disaster in both cases.

So just splitting that agency, keeping all the people there, the same people who internally, in their minds, are not on the right side of the issue, they are not intent on trying to defend our borders, Mr. Ziglar actually said that himself at some point in time in a more candid interview, I think it was, with, I think it was the New York Times. He said, "I don't like the policeman part of my job. I don't want to be a policeman. I don't like that." Of course, the reality is, most of the people who are there in that agency do not like it and do not want to be that.

I am going to try to narrow it down, because I am not talking about the men and women who serve on the border, the Border Patrol people, the agents whose job it is to try to find people in the United States who are here illegally. For the most part, I should tell you that almost every single one of them I have met, and I have met many, are dedicated to doing exactly what that job says. They are

dedicated to trying to stop people from coming here illegally and find them when they are here, but they know that there is absolutely no support they get from anyone up the ladder in their administration. They are, most of them, afraid to talk openly about this.

Mr. Cutler today did testify in the hearing that I mentioned, the Subcommittee on Immigration from the Committee on the Judiciary, Mr. Cutler felt a little freer to talk today because, frankly, he was fired last week. Although the INS will suggest it was not because he is a whistleblower, I think that it is hard to make that case. I think he was fired because he is a whistleblower. That sends, of course, shock waves throughout the INS. People become less and less willing to say what they know to be the case.

I had a similar situation, someone, not a patrol agent but a judge, an immigration law judge several months ago called my office because he knows that I have been a critic of the INS. He said, "I've got to tell you something. I've been a law judge for X number of years," I will not say, because that could help identify him and he wants to be sure we do not do that. He says, "I have been an immigration law judge for several years. I am frustrated to the point that I just don't know what to do, because every single day I try my best to make sure that the people who are brought in front of me, that the adjudication process is fair; and when I know there is someone who should be sent back, who should be deported because they have robbed somebody, murdered somebody, raped somebody," because frankly, Madam Speaker, you do not come in front of an immigration court just because you have overstayed your visa. That is not it. Usually you have gotten caught doing something and then they find out, by the way, you are here as an alien or an illegal, and they bring you to immigration law court.

He said, "Every single day, I bring the gavel down and order someone to be deported and some of these people have made threats against the United States. Every day they walk out of my courtroom and they walk right back into American society."

I said, "How can that be? What happens?"

He said, "The problem is at that point in time, the INS is in charge of incarcerating, taking them away. And they just don't do it. They just don't do it. Oftentimes the INS comes into the courtroom and they are supposed to be the prosecutor in the case, but they act as the defense attorney. I know that there are thousands," he says, "I think hundreds of thousands of people who have been allowed to essentially walk, people that I know I and my colleagues have ordered to be deported for various reasons who are still simply out there."

I said, "How many do you think?"

He said, "I've done some preliminary checking here, and I think there are at least 200,000."

I said, "That's incredible. I'll check with the INS."

Of course we called them. I often say on the floor of the House here that the logo for the INS, something that should be on all of their documents, on the top of everything they send out, the logo on their Web site for the INS should simply be a person shrugging their shoulders. That is it. INS, that guy going, "I don't know, I'm not sure." Because that is all you get from them, whenever you call them, "I don't know, I'm not sure. Could be."

We said, "Do you realize there are a couple of hundred thousand people, that someone has alleged that there are a couple of hundred thousand people here?"

They say, "We don't know." We kept, of course, pushing the issue. Finally, we got the INS to say that yes, they looked into it and maybe there were 200,000 people, 250,000 people.

Shortly thereafter, I cannot remember the exact time line, but I happened to be at a meeting with Mr. Ziglar, the head of the INS. He was here in the House, he was meeting Members of the House. I went up to him at the conclusion of his speech. I said, "Mr. Ziglar, do you know about these people who have been ordered to be deported but they are still here?" He said, "Well, no, I don't."

I said, "Do you know how many we're talking about?" He said, "No, I really don't."

I said, "There are at least a couple of hundred thousand." He said, "That have been ordered deported?"

I said, "Yes." He said, "I don't know. I don't know anything about that."

It was shortly thereafter that we got the information from the INS and it was, they said, a couple of hundred thousand. It turns out, because we pressed the issue and because the media kept hounding them about exactly how many are there, how many have been actually ordered deported, they put out some sort of directive, whatever, they sent something to Congress.

In fact, after that, Mr. Ziglar testified under oath in Congress to a specific number. He said there were 314,000 that they had identified. Remember, he told me first he had no idea, he had no idea what I was talking about, he did not know that there was anything like that happening, he certainly did not know how many. But several months after that he testified in front of the Congress, 314,000.

Recently, a reporter for "Human Events," Mr. Joseph D'Agostino, has been doing his own work and looking at the records. According to his analysis, it looks to him like there were 425,000 in just the last 5 years, from 1996 to 2000. We do not know because there is no record of anything that happened before 1996, people who walked away who are still here.

So he went back to the INS. He said, "Could this be? I have come up with at least 425,000. We don't know. That is

just from 1996. We don't know. It could be a lot more than that. It could be double that amount."

They said, "Well, you're right, we're not sure ourselves. We're not sure ourselves."

Then today I am told, in response to this, they said, "We don't think he is right, either." But, Madam Speaker, this was evidently something that Mr. Ziglar said in response to a question, that he does not think these numbers that Mr. D'Agostino has pointed out are right. He does not know.

But this is the guy that told me he did not know it even existed. So why would we feel comfortable in listening to him tell us what the real numbers are when he did not know that they even had a problem? This is the head of the agency. We do not know how many. Let us say it is between 300,000 and 1 million. I think from everything I can read, that is a pretty good guess. Between 300,000 and 1 million people have simply walked out of immigration law courts and back into society.

This is a national security issue.

I started out my comments this evening by explaining that we are in a war. We are fighting it overseas, but we are not doing a very good job fighting it here at home. The borders are undefended and unprotected for the most part. Good men and women, working hard, but frankly all we do is we hand them a sieve to hold back the flood.

They know that they are working really almost against their own agency. They will tell me that and they would tell you that if you went down on the border today, Madam Speaker, and you talked to them, they know that their agency does not support their efforts.

That has got to be the most frustrating feeling, to be putting your life on the line, and I assure you they do. There have been seven killed in the recent past, seven Border Patrol people, by people who are simply waiting. By the way, not waiting just to cross the border and waiting for this Border Patrol agent to get by, but waiting to ambush them, waiting in the bushes to ambush them, just to kill them, because they hate America, for whatever reason, I do not know, but there have been seven killed in the line of duty. I was made aware of that when I went down there, and that is in the recent past. It is getting worse. It is getting more dangerous all the time.

I have tried to portray the picture, an accurate picture of the INS, of the organization to which we have entrusted the responsibility of protecting the border.

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I have indicated that they have two roles: one is in enforcement and one is in the social work side of things, the benefit side of things.

Let me tell you about a GAO report that came out just a month ago, released February 15. By the way, this is

one of a series of GAO reports on this particular agency. This report focuses on the benefit side, the social work side of INS, the thing they tell us they like to do and that they are good at.

The GAO says the INS allows the fraud to flourish by stressing that applications must be processed quickly. In some districts, adjudicators who decide whether a benefit will be granted are ordered to spend no more than 15 minutes on an application. This effectively discourages checking for fraud, the study says.

The GAO found that 90 percent of 5,000 petitions for workers sought by foreign companies, particularly in the Los Angeles area, were fraudulent, a 90 percent fraud rate. An official in the INS operations branch said that a follow-up analysis of about 1,500 petitions found 1,499 fraudulent.

This is the same agency and, by the way, these are the things that we just a few nights ago on this floor, we actually passed something called 245(i), and it provides amnesty for people who are here illegally. If they come in, all they have to do now, they can be here illegally, but we have said to them, that, okay, come on in and give us your application to determine if you are here under certain guidelines, whether you have had a job for a long time, whether you are married.

We know the last time we did this, by the way, fraud was rampant. Sham marriages occurred in the hundreds of thousands. Bogus documents for work histories were drawn up. We know that. We know what happens. And we are going to entrust to the INS the responsibility to look at another 1 million.

By the way, Madam Speaker, the 1 million or so that will apply as a result of the 245(i) extension that we passed will be added to the 4.5 million backlogged applications that the INS has right now, so there will be 5.5 million backlogged. What do you think the INS will do when they are told they have 15 minutes for every one of these things? Does anybody think anybody is going to get really checked here to determine whether the background is appropriate for coming into this country?

Now, I am told the 245(i) extension is going to be held up in the Senate, partly because Mr. DASCHLE does not want to give this win to the President, partly because a particular Member of the Senate, of the other body, I should say, has decided to put a "hold" on it.

I hope the hold works. I hope they hold it forever. I hope they never, ever, let it go in the Senate, for whatever reason. I do not care. If they want to do some political shenanigans, whatever it is, I hope they hold it and do not pass 245(i), because it is the wrong thing to do.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia). The Chair would remind the Member to refrain from improper references to the Senate.

Mr. TANCREDO. I thank the Speaker for that reminder.

The issue is, of course, this particular agency and the security of the Nation is dependent upon having an organization like the INS do its job, do it effectively and efficiently. I hope that I have indicated to you and to the Members and our colleagues the difficulty we would have if we were to just give this agency the responsibility to actually increase border security. It has to be abolished.

We have to start with something new. It has to be something we create. The President today, as I understand, has called for something far more dramatic, far more significant than the original proposal to just split the agency into two parts. He has called for the complete elimination of this part of the agency, the enforcement side, creating a brand new one that would combine various other offices, various other functions of other agencies, including Customs and Agriculture, perhaps DEA, putting them into one agency, with the clear purpose, the clear line of authority, with people who are not philosophically inclined to open borders, but actually have a belief that they have a responsibility to help defend our borders. He has called for that today, and I applaud his call for a new agency, brand new, new people, and I would suggest we take it out of Justice and perhaps put it into Governor Ridge's Homeland Security Agency. That would be appropriate.

Now, we have to do something like that, and it will be dramatic. It is a big test of our will in this body and in the other body as to whether or not we can actually accomplish this, because, of course, there is a lot of turf we are going to be treading on, and in this town turf is very important and people do not give up their turf, even a tiny little bit of it, without a big fight.

What we are saying here is we have to take some things away from you, and some things away from you, and we have to put it into another agency. It is going to be tough.

It has to be done, and I will tell you why. People will often say, hey, who are we really afraid of? Are we afraid of the people coming across the borders? They are just coming for jobs. They are not really coming here to do us any harm and that sort of thing.

Madam Speaker, I am going to be quoting from something here, an article that was put out on WorldNetDaily, written by J. Zane Walley. A lot of the references I will be making will be to this particular article. It is called "Arab Terrorists Crossing the Border."

This was a very elucidative analysis, I think, of the problem, and something that every American should be aware of, especially when we talk about the need to make sure that we are fighting the war on terrorism both here and abroad, because if we do not have a two-front war, we will certainly lose.

The article says that to date, the U.S. Border Patrol has apprehended, and this is up to this time of the year, 158,722 illegals, just in the year 2001. By

the Border Patrol's own admission, it catches one alien in five, and admits that about 800,000 have slipped across this year. Others contend that this is inaccurate. These are the ranchers down there, and they contend the agency only nets one in ten. An estimate is that over 1.5 million unlawful aliens have crossed into America in what the Border Patrol calls the Tucson Sector. By the way, that is just one part of our border, of course.

Many border ranch owners are valuably apprehensive of speaking about their desperate situation because of likely retribution by narco-militarists, the drug runners, and coyotes, the smuggling of human beings. Unsolved murders and arsons are alarmingly ordinary in Cochise County, so pure fear keeps locals from speaking on the record.

The foot traffic is so heavy that the back country has an ambience of a garbage dump and smells like an outdoor privy. In places, the land is littered a foot deep with bottles, cans, soiled disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, panties, clothes, backpacks, human feces, used toilet paper, pharmacy bottles, syringes, et cetera.

U.S. Border Patrol agents are doing the best they can, considering their sparse numbers and the impossible terrain they patrol in four-wheel drive vehicles, quad-runners and on foot. Agents of the Border Patrol have their other fears besides being ambushed by rock-chucking illegals and confrontations with assault rifle-armed narcos. They are not allowed to speak about what they cope with each day.

This is what I mentioned, Madam Speaker, as being endemic in this agent. They have intimidated their employees so that they are afraid to speak out in what they see to be as clear violations of the regulations they are asked to uphold.

One agent who spoke anonymously said, Look, I can tell you a lot of stories, but I have to be unnamed or I will be blackballed and might lose my job. He worriedly added, I have a family depending on me.

Another agent of supervisory rank stated that smuggling traffic of Mexicans has really slowed. We are experiencing a tremendous increase in what he calls OTMs. That is border lingo for "other than Mexicans." When queried about the ethnic makeup of the OTMs, he answered Central and South Americans, Orientals and Middle Easterners.

When he was questioned about that further, Middle Easterners, he said yeah, it varies, but about one in every ten that we catch is from a country like Yemen or Egypt.

Border Patrol spokesperson Rene Noriega stated that the number of other than Mexican detentions has grown by 42 percent. Most of the non-Mexican immigrants are from El Salvador or other parts of Central America, she said, but added that the agents have picked up people from all over the world, including the former Soviet Union, Asia, and the Middle East.

Arabs have been reported crossing the Arizona border for an unknown period. Border rancher George Morgan encounters thousands of illegals crossing his ranch on a well-used trail. He relates a holiday event:

"It was Thanksgiving, 1998, and I stepped outside my house and there were over 100 crossers in my yard. Damnedest bunch of illegals I ever saw. All of them were wearing black pants, white shirts and string ties. Maybe they were hoping to blend in," he chuckled. "They took off. I called the Border Patrol, and a while later Agent Dan Green let me know that they had been caught. He said all were Iranians."

According to Border Patrol spokesman Rob Daniels, 10 Egyptians were arrested recently near Douglas, Arizona. Each had paid \$7,000 to be brought from Guatemala into Mexico and then across the border.

According to the San Diego Union Tribune, hours after the 9-11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, an anonymous caller led Mexican immigration officials to 41 undocumented Iraqis waiting to cross into the United States.

The Associated Press reported that Mexican immigration police detained 13 citizens of Yemen on September 24, 2001, who reportedly were waiting to cross the border into Arizona. The Yemenis were arrested Sunday in Agua Prieta, across the border from Douglas. Luis Teran Balaguer, in the northern state of Sonora, said the evidence indicates that they have nothing to do with terrorist activities.

The Agua Prieta newspaper clearly did not agree with his assessment. The editor, Jose Noriega Durazo, claimed in a front page El Ciarin headline, "Arab terrorists were here." He quoted Agua Prieta police officials as identifying the 13 Yemenis as terrorists.

Reportedly the Mexican immigration police returned the Yemenis to a federal detention center near Mexico City, but the new information would indicate they were released and returned to Agua Prieta.

Carlos Carrillo, assistant chief, U.S. Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, told WorldNetDaily in a telephone interview Monday that nine Yemenis were reportedly holed up in a hotel in the border town of Agua Prieta, Sonora. "We have passed the tip on to the FBI," he said. When pressed for information, he said he could not confirm the number, because they were under OP/SEC, which is a counter-intelligence acronym for "operations security."

The Border Patrol field patrol agent, who spoke anonymously, confirmed the presence of nine Yemenis. The agent said they could not get a coyote to transport them, and they are offering \$30,000 per person, with no takers.

The article goes on. Some people are being offered \$50,000, specifically of Arab descent. This is happening at the same time that we are debating wheth-

er or not we actually can control our own borders or whether we should.

Today I had an interesting discussion with a member of the press, specifically a lady I think from USA Today, and it became apparent after a short time she was annoyed with the fact that I was pressing for border control. She put the pad away for a second and talked to me, you know, sort of "off the record"; and she said you cannot really expect to do this. We are going to turn into a police state. Are you really going to try to keep these people out?

So I said to her, Tell me the alternative to trying to defend the border. Just tell me what you think the alternative is? It is to abandon it. There is no other way.

You have two options. You either defend the border as well as you possibly can, and it does not mean we will absolutely be sure that no one will ever be able to get into the country without our permission. Of course not.

□ 2100

But we do everything that we can do, just like the President has said that we are going to do outside the country. He said we are going to do everything we have to do.

I ask the President to do everything that he can do, and I certainly will do everything I can do, and I will ask my colleagues in this body to do everything that we as a body can do to stop people from coming into the United States illegally, because it is dangerous.

It is not just the person coming across to get a job in a factory or a field somewhere. We cannot discriminate. We do not know. It is not easy to determine which one is coming across illegally for some purpose that is benign and which one is coming across illegally for some purpose that is quite deadly. It is impossible for us to know that.

We have only one ability, only one charge, only one responsibility. That is to defend the border against all people coming across illegally. It is our responsibility as a Congress, and although there are many people who shy away from it, who are frightened by that because they know that politically we will be attacked by the immigration support groups and various other organizations, and by people who in fact have as their purpose, even here in this body, there are many reasons that many people vote against tightening immigration laws. Some are directly political.

Some people know that massive numbers of immigrants coming into the United States, legally and illegally, will end up supporting the Democratic Party, and therefore they say, we do not want to reduce immigration, whether we are talking legal or illegal.

Many people on our side are split in that Libertarian camp that say, "I want open borders," or say, "I want cheap labor." That is the problem we deal with here.

But I ask all of my colleagues to overcome those very parochial, partisan interests in the hope of and in the desire to try and defend America as successfully as we are doing in Afghanistan. It is imperative that we do it here, also. Our very Nation's survival is at risk.

We recognize that, and we respond to the call that the President makes when we appropriate money and in every other way indicate our support for the effort to fight terrorism overseas. But why, why, Madam Speaker, is it so hard for us to get the same job done here in the United States?

It should be the first place we look, it should be the first thing we do, because the defense of this country begins at the defense of its borders.

#### FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, last year it was announced by the Congressional Budget Office that, and I am talking about February of last year, that the projected surplus over the next 10 years would be approximately \$5.6 trillion. At that time, the surpluses ran as far as the eye could see, and everybody was talking about the surpluses and how we might use those surpluses to benefit our country.

In fact, the debate at that time was how we might use those surpluses to pay down our national debt, which was approximately \$5.7 trillion at that time. The debate was how much we should pay down our surplus and whether we should pay down our surplus or if we should pay down our surplus, if we might pay it down too fast. In fact, Chairman Alan Greenspan of the Federal Reserve Board said there would be some danger in paying down our national debt too quickly.

Well, that problem has been solved. We no longer have surpluses. In fact, and I am not pointing fingers or blaming anybody here, but as the result of an economic slowdown, as a result of the horrible tragedy that confronted our Nation on September 11 last year, the economy slowed down, number one. It was really put into a tailspin on September 11. The surpluses have virtually disappeared.

In fact, the \$5.6 trillion surplus last year that was projected over the next 10 years this year, in February of this year, was projected by the Congressional Budget Office to be approximately \$1.6 trillion. Somebody said to me when I was back home, what did you all do with the other \$4 trillion? I said, well, it was a projected surplus. Projections are hopes for the future.

In fact, I speak virtually every weekend when I go home to either college classes or high school classes, government classes. I remember several

months ago speaking to one high school government class. I was talking to them about the virtues of fiscal responsibility and paying down our national debt, and what Chairman Greenspan has taught us about long-term interest rates benefiting and being lowered as a result of fiscal responsibility and fiscal restraint.

I talked to this class about surpluses and deficits, and I said finally to the class, these high school seniors in the government class, "How would you define a projected surplus?" One girl raised her hand, and she said, "Maybe yes, maybe no." I thought, what a great definition. She could probably give good instruction to some of our colleagues here in Congress who think that we can spend projected surpluses, which we know not to be the case.

It is often said that our children are our future. I think no issue goes more directly to the heart of our Nation's future than the debt limit, because what we do now and what we do in the future is going to affect our children, our grandchildren, and their children, because they are going to have to pay off the debt, whatever debt we accumulate.

I think, again, Congress could learn something from our children and do something better for our children. Apparently, Congress is one of the only groups that has not heard that surpluses can disappear, and now we are paying the price and have to make some tough choices.

The President wants to raise and Secretary O'Neill wants to raise the debt limit by roughly \$750 billion. This would raise the public debt from \$5.95 trillion to \$6.65 trillion. I am asking, and again, I am not here to lay blame or point fingers; certainly, the recession I do not believe was the President's fault, and certainly September 11 was not the President's fault. The Congress and the administration should take a hard look at our long-term budget priorities before writing a huge blank check, though, of \$750 billion.

I believe it is irresponsible to raise borrowing limits today without planning to protect our children and grandchildren from the consequences of our debt in the future. Lower numbers would be more acceptable at this time. I believe our discussion of the debt limit should be part of an overall discussion as to how to balance the budget.

We cannot throw away and we should not throw away all the progress we made over the last several years in terms of fiscal responsibility in this country. There was a lot of pain involved, and I think we learned some tough lessons, but I think Chairman Greenspan is exactly right: If we can show fiscal responsibility and fiscal restraint, it is going to have a beneficial impact on long-term interest rates, and that affects everybody in this country who borrows money for a mortgage, for a car loan, or any other type of consumer loan.

Too many people in Congress, both sides, Republicans and Democrats, worked too hard to balance the budget to so easily slip back into our old habits. I hope that does not happen.

The President said several times, and I agree with the President wholeheartedly, there are a couple of times when it is appropriate and sometimes necessary to engage in deficit spending, short-term deficit spending. One is in time of war, and the other is in time of recession.

We were in recession, we are told now we are coming out of recession, but we may still be in a time of war. I do not begrudge what the President has done and what Congress has done in supporting the President in terms of some deficit spending. But what I do want and what I think we desperately need in this country is a plan to get us back to fiscal responsibility when the threat to our Nation is past.

When they borrow, when families and businesses put together plans to pay off their debt, I go home virtually every weekend and I hear from families that they live by three simple rules, and they wish Congress would as well: Number one, do not spend more money than you make; number two, pay off your debts; number three, invest in the basics and for our future.

The basics for the country are national security, national defense, Social Security, Medicare, some transportation, things of that nature. The basics for a family are food, shelter, education, health care, and all the things that I think we could agree on.

I really think that Congress and this country need to be more like families in managing their budgets. Our government really should not be any different. We need a long-term plan to pay off our debt. Raising the debt limit by \$750 billion just allows Congress to continue its free-spending ways. We should not give a blank check to a Congress that has proven it cannot control its own spending.

Several of my colleagues and I have offered a substitute budget that would raise the debt limit by approximately \$100 billion to \$150 billion up to the end of this fiscal year, September 30 of 2002. This would prevent a fiscal default, it would stabilize markets, and it gives Congress and the President time to develop a long-term plan to return to balanced budgets and fiscal responsibility.

We should not play partisan games with the financial health of our country. An unprecedented Federal default would wreak havoc on our economy. But that is only slightly worse than the bleak outlook we will leave our children if we do not get back to fiscal restraint and fiscal responsibility.

Higher debts now mean higher taxes for our children, and that is grossly, grossly unfair. We are willing to raise the debt limit, but it must be part of a plan to balance the budget and stop spending the Social Security surpluses. Nothing less than our future and the future of our children and future generations in our country is at stake.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER).

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kansas for yielding to me. It is good to be here on this floor tonight with our fellow Blue Dog Democrats, who have consistently stood up in this Congress for fiscal responsibility.

I think all of us tonight have a great deal of concern about the suggestion that we increase our statutory debt ceiling, because we all know that the statutory debt ceiling is the last remaining line of defense to protect us from total fiscal irresponsibility in Washington.

We all thought that there was another line that protected us from fiscal irresponsibility, and that is the pledge of this Congress never to spend the Social Security trust fund monies on anything other than Social Security.

Back in 1997, all of us here tonight were present when we voted for the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. It reversed a trend that had been present in the Federal Government for 30 years of spending every year more money than the government took in. And for 3 years after that Balanced Budget Act, we actually had a surplus in the every-one.

As the gentleman from Kansas pointed out, just a year ago it was projected that we would have over \$5.6 trillion in surplus funds flowing into the Federal Treasury over the next decade, but then came a major tax cut, a recession, and a war. That surplus has disappeared.

This year, for the first time in the last 4 years, the Congress is looking at a budget that will once again return us into deficit spending, will rob the Social Security trust funds of those payroll taxes that are paid in by the working people of this country for Social Security, and that money will once again be spent to run the general government. That is wrong. And since we have crossed that line of spending Social Security trust fund monies, something that we pledged on the floor of this House not to do at least half a dozen times in votes cast by the Members here, there is no other protection against fiscal irresponsibility except the statutory debt ceiling. That is that limit in law that says that the Federal Government cannot go over a total of \$5.9 trillion into debt.

Most of us cannot understand how in the world we ever got in a position that we would authorize over \$5 trillion in debt, but when the administration comes to this Congress and says that we have to increase the debt ceiling by \$750 billion, any Member who is fiscally conservative will say, wait a minute, where is the line of defense to protect us from fiscal irresponsibility now? It will be gone.

Now, we all understand that in times of national emergency, there may be justification for a short period of deficit spending if we are in a war, as we are now. The recession has brought

Federal revenues down. It could be that the emergency presented by war would say in the short term deficit spending may be necessary, but only short term.

What we have projected now by the Congressional Budget Office is a decade of ever-increasing national debt.

□ 2115

Deficit spending is wrong. We would not do it at our house or yours. We would not do it in your business or mine because we know it just would not work. We all understand that we need to pay our debts. Why cannot Washington understand that same principle? The reason is that government can print money, and we are going to continue to print money if we increase the statutory debt ceiling, and that debt is going to be owed by our children and by our grandchildren.

Our debt today costs this country and the taxpayers of this Nation almost a billion dollars a day just to cover the interest payments on that national debt. What a waste of resources. Think what we could do if we could save that almost billion dollars every day we spend on interest. Talk about waste in government. The biggest item of waste in government today is the almost billion dollars that we pay every day in interest on that national debt.

So the Blue Dog Democrats believe that holding the line on increasing the debt ceiling is the only way to protect this Congress from continuing down that reckless path of going deeper and deeper and deeper into debt. I think we all understand that when we are in war, as I said a moment ago, we may have to do deficit spending in the short term; and we would all understand if there was a proposal before this House to increase the debt ceiling enough to cover the needs of national defense in time of war, but that is not what the proposal is. The proposal is many times over that amount, and it is designed to allow this Congress to continue down a road of deficit spending for at least another 2 years.

We have got to hold the line. We need to stand up for limiting the amount of increase in the debt ceiling. It is our only line of defense in order to prevent this Congress from fiscal irresponsibility.

We all know that increasing debt is morally reprehensible. Why should we spend money today, whether it is for defense or any other purpose, and expect our children some day to pay for it?

We are in a war today. Many men and women are in uniform in faraway places tonight, defending freedom, fighting for this country. They are making a tremendous sacrifice, and yet it seems that the American people are not being called on to join in that sacrifice because the American people have been given a pass, a pass that says, you do not have to pay for this war now. You can let your children pay for it.

So when those young men and women in uniform return to our country and begin to enter the workforce and build their careers and their life savings, they would have to look forward to paying for the war that they fought in the first part of the 21st century.

Now that is wrong. And the only way we can stop it is to hold the line on the request to increase the debt ceiling in our law.

We know that as we continue to increase debt, the demand for credit from our government increases, and it has the effect, the economists tell us, of increasing the interest rate on all kinds of loans sought by American families. So if we continue down the road of fiscal irresponsibility and allow this debt to continue to mount and mount and mount, not only do we have increasing interest costs to the Federal Government, but the cost of borrowing money for every American family will be higher because the Federal Government's appetite for credit pushes all interest rates up for everybody. So if you want to buy a car or buy a new home and finance it through a home mortgage, or send your kids to college and have to borrow the money to do it, you will pay higher interest rates in the years ahead because of the fiscal irresponsibility of your Federal Government.

We hope that the Members of this Congress will join with the Blue Dogs in standing up for fiscal responsibility, for paying down that \$5 trillion debt instead of allowing it to continue to go up. That is an issue that is important to the American people and the American family, and our failure to deal with it responsibly will result in fiscal catastrophe for this country because we cannot continue to allow debt to mount higher and higher and higher.

So I am very hopeful that our colleagues in the House will join with the Blue Dog Democrats and stand up for the proposition that we should not increase the debt ceiling by the amount of money that has been requested, and preserve that one last line of defense for fiscal responsibility.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, at this time I would like to recognize another gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM), and I yield to him.

Mr. STENHOLM. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for taking the time tonight to permit us again to discuss in what we hope are very rational, simple-to-understand terms what we are proposing.

About a year ago we stood on this floor in opposition to the budget that ultimately passed. We are in the minority. When you are in the minority you usually lose. But we also stood on the floor and offered some comments and some suggestions that we thought made a little bit of common sense.

That projected surplus that everybody was talking about was projected. It was a guesstimate. It was an estimate. It was not necessarily real. It was not necessarily unreal. But we thought the conservative thing to do

with our economic game plan for America was simply to take half of it and pay down the national debt. We were ridiculed by some saying that we were going to pay down the debt too fast.

Others suggested that it was the people's money and, therefore, we are going to give it back to them. Very popular suggestion. Some of us were also reminding people that it was the people's debt. Again, we were told do not worry about it. The national debt, the debt ceiling, is not going to have to be increased for 7 years. And we said, we hope you are right. We hope that these estimates are right. But just in case there may be an emergency, and we were not prophetic, no one could have foreseen September 11, 2001, but it happened.

We did not believe necessarily the stock market was going to go up forever. We have always recognized that there are going to be ups and downs; and we had just come through 8 years, the longest single economic expansion in the history of our country doing whatever we were doing until the 1990s, which happened to be beginning to balance the Federal budget.

And I give credit to my friends on the other side for being a part of that. And that is what we are here tonight saying, look at some of the things we did and said in the last 6 or 8 years and try to be a little bit consistent.

What we are suggesting is that some of the same things that occurred in 1996 in which the majority party, the same folks that are in control tonight, demanded that "The President of the United States and the Congress shall enact legislation in the first session of the 104th Congress to achieve a balanced budget not later than the fiscal year 2002 as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office."

What an irony. Here we are, March 19, 2002, recognizing that the balanced budgets that we have achieved over the last 2 or 3 years are now out the window as far as the eye can see. The President's budget that he submitted to the Congress does not balance without using Social Security for the next 10 years.

We Blue Dogs are suggesting that is irresponsible budgeting; that we, in fact, are not unreasonable to ask the leadership of this body in the budget tomorrow and in the actions coming up to submit a plan that will balance the Federal budget by 2007 without using Social Security trust funds. That is all that we ask.

Some of us have been here and voted consistently for these type of budgets. That is what I hope to do again tomorrow. But tonight we are calling attention to the fact that we believe it is irresponsible to ask the Congress to borrow \$750 billion without a plan of how we are going to get our budget back in balance, other than the plan that we are now under which, by their own administration, does not balance until, well, it does not. We do not go out past

10 years. In fact, this budget we will consider tomorrow is going out only 5; that is what is bothering us.

We are perfectly willing to vote for a clean debt ceiling increase with certain provisos. I do not want to see us go through what we did back in 1995 and 1996 in which we had members of the other party standing on this floor threatening to impeach Secretary Rubin for doing the things that we are now being told by the majority leadership that we are going to do, borrow on our employees, our civil service, military retirement, borrow on those retirement funds and temporarily suspend paying interest in order to get by. Why do that?

There are those of us in the Blue Dog coalition that are looking for a way to be bipartisan on something other than the war. I do not understand why the leadership of this House demands when it comes to fiscal policy that the only votes that will ever come on this floor are those that get 218 Republican votes, when there are some of us, we heard the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER), we heard the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE). We do not just say that we want to return to fiscal responsibility; we are prepared to act. But the budget that is submitted tomorrow by the chairman of the Committee on the Budget's own admission is not in balance.

And, again, I repeat what the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) said, 2003 is a different story. We are at war, an unusual war by the fact that it has not been declared by Congress and yet we are at war, and we understand that and we are perfectly willing to fund whatever it takes, both domestically and internationally, to cover that cost.

But why, we ask, would we want to just arbitrarily give a blank check to borrow \$750 billion without a plan of how we are going to use it? What are we going to spend it for? Why should we just arbitrarily send the bill to our children and grandchildren for \$750 billion additional, following an economic game plan that has already put us into a position where we cannot balance the budget for 10 years without going into the Social Security trust fund after we voted last year five times on the lockbox, cross my heart, we are not going to touch Social Security again. And yet, here we are, the first action of this year, we are going to do it again.

Not with my vote. But if we can have a little bit of cooperation, some of us submitted an alternative today that we will talk about tomorrow. But tonight we are just talking about a simple request.

□ 2130

What is it that is so wrong about submitting a plan that will get us to balance? What is it that is so right by sending a plan up that we have got to change the manner in which we score it? We agreed back in 1995 on a massive vote, and there were 148 of my friends on this side and 48 Democrats that

voted and said we want the President to submit a balanced budget. In fact, we demand that the President submit a balanced budget; and we want that budget to protect future generations, ensure Medicare solvency, reform welfare, provide adequate funding for Medicaid, education, agriculture, national defense, veterans, and the environment. Furthermore, the balanced budget shall adopt tax policies to help working families and to stimulate future economic growth. That is what we said in 1996; and we got 277 votes for it, including 48 Democrats, 229 Republicans.

What happened? If that is what we required President Clinton to do, why are we not equally asking President Bush, and I do not think it will take a whole lot of encouraging. I think this President will be amenable. In fact, I am almost sure he will be amenable, but why is that some on the other side refuse to bring that kind of a resolution to the floor and instead think of ways to circumvent, to circumvent the law of the land, to circumvent how we in fact avoid increasing the debt ceiling on a clean up and down vote, when the same folks and I will read quote after quote after quote of the same folks that said so many bad things when it was Secretary Rubin doing it?

We Blue Dogs pride ourselves in consistency. We are not perfect. I am sure that somebody will find something that I have done or said that is not totally consistent, but I bet I will be 90 percent consistent in saying let us submit a plan for how we balance our budget without touching Social Security and Medicare. As we Blue Dogs stood on this floor last year and argued for our budget in which we said take half of the projected surplus, pay down the debt, take the other half, divide it equally between the necessary increases in spending for defense, for education, for health care, for veterans and for agriculture, and the other 25 percent, a tax cut targeted at helping the economy and working families.

Well, we lost on our plan. If we had passed our plan, we would have been in a heck of a lot better shape tonight on all accounts, but today is a new year. Tonight we stand up again in asking, submit a balanced budget plan. Show us why we need to arbitrarily borrow \$750 billion. Show us what the money is going to be used for. The best way to do that is to go slow, to go slow. Do not just give us a blank check anymore than if you were a father and your son had just exceeded his credit card, and you are not going to go out and say, well, great, son, that was wonderful that you exceeded your limit, I am going to give you another \$2,000 on your credit card; just keep on doing whatever you have been doing. Families, we do not operate that way. We should not operate the country that way.

So tonight we are just, in fact, saying we are ready to support a plan. We will roll up our sleeves and work with

my colleagues on a plan. Try us. Just try us and see what might happen, instead of the partisanship that we see time and time again on economic issues. And here I will say if my colleagues sincerely believe in their budget, if they sincerely believe that it is in our Nation's best interest to borrow on our children's and grandchildren's grand future and the next 10 years and the Social Security trust fund, then just stay with my colleagues' budget and I will respect them for that.

Anybody that stands up on this floor and does what they say they believe in and stands behind it with their vote and argues for it, I will respect them; and I hope they respect those of us that have a little bit different version of this, and we will be arguing for that tomorrow, assuming we will be allowed to have our amendment on the floor tomorrow and have that amendment, which I certainly expect and hope that we will.

With these comments I would now yield back to the gentleman and to other of my colleagues who have come here to discuss this issue tonight, and I thank him for yielding.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PHELPS).

Mr. PHELPS. Madam Speaker, proudly I stand here tonight, with my Blue Dog colleagues, a group that not only just offers rhetoric but is ready to back up what we say. That is why I am proud to be a member of this organization. We are consistent. We say what we mean with integrity and we intend to accomplish, if we have the cooperation from the other side of the aisle, what needs to be accomplished on behalf of this great Nation and the Americans that deserve the best attention.

So I want to thank my colleagues for their comments, for giving me this opportunity to speak on such important issues.

I want to make it clear that I understand the need for the President's increased investment in defense and homeland security. However, I do not want this to come at the cost of economic security for our folks at home.

First and foremost, we need a budget that is made up of honest numbers. One of the most frustrating things I have experienced since I have been a Member of Congress, now my second term, is to think we would go to the ultimate degree to press for investigating private corporations such as we are right in the midst of now, the Enrons, and saying you mean your accounting firms do not even know what is what, what the numbers are, no one can come forward and swear in front of our committees on a Bible that these are accurate numbers?

Yet we as elected officials from all across America cannot even agree what is in the bank or what is real or what is funny money or fuzzy or what is projected versus what we can really count on. We really know, if the honest truth was brought out, we really know, but

not very many in this political game will step forward and admit it because with that comes a price; and no matter what the price is, for me I have to tell my colleagues the honest truth about the honest numbers.

We need a budget that is honest in numbers. We need to base it on the CBO, Congressional Budget Office, and not the OMB, the Office of Management and Budget, estimates. We bring fiscal discipline to this body. The Blue Dogs and others that might share our philosophical positions bring fiscal discipline.

As a former teacher I always like to break down the real root words and meanings of words that we throw around that is supposed to mean a lot. Do my colleagues know where discipline comes from? The word disciple. We can reflect on disciples of Christ. Disciple means the ultimate example, someone to pattern your life after, to live by, to hold up in esteem, on a pedestal. That is what we are as elected officials. We are disciples, offering discipline when it comes to spending, with honest numbers. Let us follow the examples of the ultimate people of integrity in our history.

For the past couple of years, the Republican leadership has made promises to protect Social Security, but this budget is far from protecting Social Security. Many of my constituents depend on Social Security as a means of comfort after they have worked hard all their lives. I am talking about the most frail, elderly citizens, the lowest echelon of income in America.

The budget calls for tapping the Social Security trust fund to support other government programs every year for the next 10 years at the tune of \$1.5 trillion. Our Nation cannot afford to put our Social Security system at risk when it is depended on by so many of our most vulnerable citizens.

The budget must address the declining Social Security trust fund. We must pay down the public-held debt; and I know and I understand there is a serious question, whether we should increase the debt limit coming soon; but I believe we need to hold off on increasing the debt limit unless there are certain provisions that we can come to agreement on that would help preserve what we know is true with honest numbers until we can bring the budget into balance without putting the Social Security surplus into jeopardy. That is the balancing act. We can do it if we have the will.

As Americans, it is our job to work together to take care of our folks at home. As politicians, it is up to us to come up with the best possible way to do that. We need to work together. It is easy to say that every day we need to work together, to come up with a plan that will fight the war on terror but at the same time does not sacrifice the needs of our citizens at home.

The citizens in my district are downright puzzled, confused, as to where the surpluses went; and I know we have

outlined all the real things that happened that took our surpluses away. We can talk about September 11, a terrible event, still paying the price, probably will for several years to come, psychologically, emotionally, financially, economically, every way possible. The recession, played down, really underestimated, and yet was real and still is, and give away in whatever way you want to define spending up here.

Some say spending is when you want your project funded. Spending takes on a lot of different definitions since I have been here and found out. Spending is about what my colleagues want to accuse the other side of the aisle or the other people of using it for; but when it is for my colleagues' purposes, and the majority, it is not called spending. We use something else to justify what are not real numbers, honesty in budgeting.

Finally, the priorities. If we do not think it is priority for the Americans to entrust their elected officials to manage their money, how much did we hear about we want to return their money? What do my colleagues think Social Security is that is checked off of everybody's check every week for several years as these elderly people are now in the end of their life waiting for? The word "security" means stable, someone can depend on it. Not true. It is not true.

I just hope that we can work together, come up with a plan that will give some compromises to some, stipulative outline of issues that will bring us to a reasonable debt limit; and then when we get down to the end of the summer, early fall, we will know exactly where we stand; but until then, we better be cautious. We better be truthful with the American people and save Social Security, pay down the national debt, win the war on terrorism.

Can we do it? We are the greatest country in the world. I bet my colleagues we can do it.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, next I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. TANNER).

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I am not going to add a lot to what my colleagues have said on the technical side of it. I just want to say that I came here from Tennessee in 1988; and when I came here, people said, John, please, if you get elected, go up there and do something about this horrendous national debt. We are borrowing more money every year as a people than we can pay back in our lifetimes, and we want you all to do something about it. Please, if you go up there, concentrate on retiring the debt and living within our means.

Now, we have tried to do that and I have been here, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) has been here longer than I have, and this is hard. This is not easy. The easiest thing that anybody who seeks political office can do is to promise a road or a bridge or a dam and promise to cut taxes all at

the same time. That is what we hear on the stump, and this is really tough work that we are trying to do here as Blue Dogs because we are doing something that is oftentimes not politically expedient.

We do things that we hope are in the best interest of the country and our children that are not maybe politically popular today.

□ 2145

I mean, it is tough to stand here with a new President, as we did last year, and say we really need to slow down on all these projections and all of these ideas that money is flowing into Washington as far as the eye can see. That is what we were told.

We said, to be conservative in our own business, if it were our own business, we would not run it that way. We would not devote 100 percent of a projection for 10 years to a program that we did last year. We tried to say, that is not a conservative view, it is not the way we would run our own businesses. Why on earth do our colleagues want us to run the country's business that way?

So last year, as my colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM), said, we were unsuccessful when we tried to say we need to slow down on this.

And the funniest thing I have heard since I have been here is when people around here actually, with a straight face, said that we are in danger of paying off the debt too quickly. That reminded me of a guy my size, weighs 400 pounds, and the first night on my diet somebody asks me how I feel and I say I am worried about becoming emaciated. To me, that was almost ludicrous, but that really is what we were told by people with a straight face.

As the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM), and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) have said, nobody is prophetic. We do not know, I certainly do not know what the price of cotton is going to be next Friday, yet we are supposed to base how we conduct the business of our citizens of this country on these projections.

And by the way, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PHELPS) was talking about us, and we do have a very special place here because we are privileged people to represent free men and women. That is an honor that none of us deserve, but as President Jimmy Carter said, the highest office in this land of ours is that of citizen, because a citizen is the owner of our country.

So we are very, very privileged people to be where we are, and with that privilege comes an awesome responsibility. And sometimes that responsibility is to do tough things; to say, look, in response to, we need to give the people their money back, it is theirs. Well, kids are people, too, and they do not have a voice here. But they are people, and there are a bunch of them that are not yet born, and we are

spending their money tomorrow if we pass this budget, and they do not even know about it.

Somebody asked me one time if I would agree to a supermajority to raise taxes. I said, no, there is plenty of pressure in this system not to raise taxes. But I will vote for a supermajority to borrow money, because the people we are spending their money are not here to tell us, please do not do that to me, I am 2 years old.

But what my colleagues are doing is going to not only make sure that our citizens are overtaxed, because they do not have the willpower to say no to either a tax cut that is irresponsible or to a spending program that is irresponsible. My colleagues do not have the willpower to say no to that, so they want to put it on me. That is basically what has been going on around here, and it is very simply wrong.

So as the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) said, this debt limit is really one of the last lines of defense we have to insist that the people who run the House here, the majority party, bring a budget to the floor. We cannot bring anything to the floor. We can ask for it, as we did tonight in the Committee on Rules, a substitute that puts at least in place some safeguards, but we cannot bring anything to the floor here because we are in the minority. And that is all right as long as we are treated fairly and we get a vote on what we have asked for and then people know.

But it is not easy to stand here as someone who asks for votes every 2 years and say, as much as I would like to, we just simply cannot afford that program in west Tennessee or middle Tennessee or east Tennessee or wherever; or we cannot afford to do some of the taxing initiatives in terms of tax cuts that we have been doing. We do not have the money. So I would hope that as we go into the budget debate tomorrow, we would keep in mind that we are not just talking about ourselves, but we are talking about our country.

I have been to countries that do not have a government. I have been to a country that is broke. And I have yet to find a country on the face of the earth that is strong and free and broke. And that is where we are headed when we are paying a billion dollars a day in interest. And that is going up every day because we simply, in the here and now, say let us give the people back their money, they earned it, it belongs to them. And it does, except kids are people, too, and we have not done them right. And anybody who says we have, I would have to take violent disagreement with that.

We are going to be overtaxed the rest of our lives, and we should be, because we are paying 13 percent interest before we ever get to tanks, before we ever get to any of the projects that we need in the country to give private enterprise the opportunity, with the infrastructure that only government can provide, the ability to grow and create

private sector jobs, which is, after all, the backbone of the country. We understand that. But we are going to be overtaxed the rest of our lives because people back in the 1970s and 1980s spent more money than they were willing to pay for, and now we are being asked to do the same thing.

We are going to make sure, if we keep on this course, that not only are we overtaxed the rest of our lives, but our children are going to be overtaxed all of their working lives because we simply cannot find within ourselves the ability to make tough, hard decisions that are not politically expedient.

So, Madam Speaker, I appreciate my colleague, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE), for having this special order tonight and inviting us to participate.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee, and next I am going to yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF).

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kansas for yielding to me and also thank him for the extraordinary and bipartisan work he has done to try to bring America's budget into balance.

America needs a wartime budget. We need a budget that will provide the resources necessary to win the war on terrorism, that will stimulate our economy without aggravating our deficits, and that will protect and reform Social Security and Medicare but not finance the war out of its trust funds. In sum, our country needs a budget that will call on the American people to make sacrifices to win, sacrifices they are willing to make if only their leaders will have the courage to ask and speak plainly.

The President's budget is not there yet. The budget we will vote on in the House this week calls for the most significant increase in military spending in more than two decades, and that increase will enjoy bipartisan support. The budget also proposes significant new tax cuts, and the House leadership has also signaled its interest in making last year's tax cuts permanent. Domestic spending increases only slightly or remains flat. And the budget requires sacrifice.

There is only one problem: It is not we who are being asked to sacrifice. It is our children.

Advocates of the budget call it balanced. Regrettably, it is anything but balanced. The \$2.1 trillion budget uses \$200 billion in Social Security trust funds to pay for other programs, spends all of the Medicare surplus on priorities other than paying down the national debt, fails to count the cost of the \$43 billion economic stimulus package just signed by the President, assumes that spending levels on domestic priorities will be reduced, including the President's own education initiative, and that mammoth problems, like the growth of the alternative minimum tax, will go unaddressed.

But even these glaring omissions are not enough to balance the budget. The gimmickry goes further.

The budget addresses only the next 5 years, not 10, to hide big late-year costs. And the budget relies on the White House's own budget numbers rather than the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates, which are more conservative. Although institutional memories are sometimes short, I am sure none will forget that only 6 years ago the House Republicans shut down the government twice when President Clinton failed to use CBO estimates to balance the budget.

It is no wonder that Secretary of the Treasury O'Neill will soon be before Congress asking us to raise the debt limit so that the United States of America can borrow another \$750 billion on top of the \$5.9 trillion we already owe to continue paying its bills. Only last year, the Secretary predicted that an increase in the debt limit would not be necessary for 7 years, and the President and Congress vowed we would never dip into Social Security.

It is true that the war on terrorism and long-deferred improvements to our military readiness have required the largest increase in the defense budget in two decades. But this increase of \$45 billion in military costs and almost \$20 billion in homeland security are but a fraction of the multi-trillion dollar change in the Nation's economic projections over the next 10 years. The tax cut recession played a much more significant role in expending the anticipated surplus, with the recession having the largest impact in the short term and the tax cuts playing a more prominent role in the long term.

But whatever the causes of our current economic shortfall, the fact remains that the administration has yet to come up with a budget and an intermediate or even long-term plan to restore balance to our budget and stop deficit spending.

When we had a \$5.6 trillion surplus and no war, we could afford a substantial tax cut, and I supported the President. But now we are at war, we have no surplus, and we are spending the Social Security trust fund. To propose dramatic new tax cuts at a time like this, or to make permanent those we enacted before, before it is clear whether we can afford them, means financing the war out of our parents' retirement and out of our children's education; and this just is not right.

While it may be necessary to deficit spend in the short term, while we are at war and not yet fully recovered from the recession, Congress should work with the administration to develop a balanced budget for America's future that does not rely on raiding Social Security. Everything must be on the table. Secretary O'Neill's request for a mammoth increase in our national debt should be rejected in favor of a small, short-term increase and a plan to return our country to balanced budgets.

America has always been willing to sacrifice to win its wars. She still is. But she must be asked by leaders who are willing to speak candidly about what is at stake and what it will take to win. She must be asked by those with faith in the essential generosity of the American people and who will not tell us that we can have our cake and eat it too. Our prosperity and that of our children may depend on it.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California. I also want to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PHELPS), and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. TANNER) for their remarks this evening.

I think we have heard for just about the last hour, Madam Speaker, some really good advice about what we need to be looking at in the future and what we need to do as a country. We can always choose the easy path; or we can try to do what is right by our children, by our grandchildren, and for our country. Doing what is right may sometimes be harder, but it has its own rewards.

I think we need to look at fiscal responsibility and a plan back to fiscal discipline for the future of our great country.

#### THE BUDGET; AND THE LAYOUT OF THE EASTERN UNITED STATES VERSUS THE WESTERN UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. MCINNIS) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. MCINNIS. Madam Speaker, before I start on my night-side chat, so to speak, to cover some issues that are very important in regards to the layout of the United States, the eastern United States and the western United States, and how the lands are situated, I do want to bring up a couple of points that were discussed by some of the previous speakers.

Specifically, I would like to bring my colleagues' attention to the remarks made by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER). The gentleman from the State of Texas says that Americans, speaking of the war in Afghanistan, and I am quoting him fairly accurately I think, he says that Americans are taking a pass on this. I am not sure that that is what the gentleman intended. In fact, many of the remarks I heard previously are remarks I agree with. But nobody is taking a pass on what happened on September 11 in this country, the least of which would be the American people.

Because of the fact that we have to go into debt to finance this war effort does not mean the American people are taking a pass on it. Our situation on September 10 was a whole lot different than our situation on September 11. We

did not anticipate on September 10 having to spend the kind of money that we realized on September 11 and days that followed were necessary. No American is taking a pass on this. Every American is contributing to this. We have a lot of Americans that are working in this country, and their tax dollars are going into this.

So I do not think the gentleman really intended his remarks to be quite as stinging as at least I took them.

□ 2200

Madam Speaker, let me mention a couple of other things that I think were brought out in the gentleman's remarks. Not speaking specifically to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER), but some of the people that share his ideas, they speak courageously about the fact that we need to have a balanced budget and vote no, but there are some who speak very bravely on one hand, but when it comes on votes which impact your State, you vote the other direction; you vote to continually increase the budget.

You talk about how fiscally conservative you are and how we need to keep the budget in balance and how the other party is trying to spend our children's future into oblivion, and I do not know how many times I hear the term Social Security. Show me one Congressman who wants to eliminate Social Security. Well, the war in Afghanistan, the spending on the war in Afghanistan, we threaten Social Security. If we do not win that war, everything is threatened.

Madam Speaker, I would be very interested in seeing where some of my colleagues that have just spoken, for example, where their votes were on the farm bill. The farm bill has a great impact on the State of Texas. That farm bill has gone up dramatically. That is a tough vote to take. That is one of the votes that they speak of. Maybe it is not the popular thing to do, but it is the right thing to do. The right thing to do. Let us check a specific legislator or Congressman who speaks about how we are going into debt and how the budget continues to increase; and if they are from a farm State, let us see how they vote on the farm bill or the highway bill, the bill that benefits their State with specific projects.

On one hand they say that they voted for new highways, and then they go to the conservative sections of their State and say I want a balanced budget. We cannot have our cake and eat it too; but at the microphone there is an obligation to say that Americans are not getting a pass. We are all contributing. It has to be a bipartisan debate.

I should say, and I notice one of my colleagues from the State of Texas is standing here, the gentleman's comments were pretty much in line. I do not disagree with what the gentleman from Texas said. I think it is very important that we have a balanced budget and we need to keep a handle on the debt. The management of that debt was

a whole lot different on September 10 than it was on September 11, or 2 years ago when our economy was booming than it is today when our revenues have decreased.

The management of the debt was so important 3 years ago, but now take a look at what that debt is today and take a look at the small businesses that are going out of business today. They need some tax relief. This is not the time to increase taxes on small businesses.

Mr. STENHOLM. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman from Colorado yield?

Mr. MCINNIS. Madam Speaker, I would be happy to yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. STENHOLM. Madam Speaker, concerning what the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) was saying a moment ago, was also characterized in my own comments, is in agreement with the gentleman's statements concerning September 11, 2001. That is the point that we are making tonight and we have been trying to make, is that things did change. Therefore, we do not necessarily believe that the budget that was put in place last year before 9-11 should be arbitrarily sent forward without adjusting not only for the expenditures, but also for the fact that we are going borrowing the Social Security trust funds in order to meet current operating expenses.

We would welcome the opportunity to work together with the other side in the same spirit that the gentleman began his remarks tonight. Things have changed; and, therefore, we believe that we need to change our economic game plan to bring us back into balance, and we look forward to working with the gentleman.

Mr. MCINNIS. Madam Speaker, reclaiming my time, I do not disagree with the gentleman. My sensitivity arose when I heard one of my colleagues talk about how Americans are taking a pass on the war in Afghanistan. We have disputes here regarding our budget, and we have disputes on which programs ought to be funded and which ought not to be funded; but I can tell my colleagues, there are some who stand up on one hand and say we need a balanced budget. On the other hand, when a huge bill like a farm bill or highway bill comes which has an impact on your district, you vote for those projects. That is where you get into problems here. I am just saying if you are going to preach the good word, you ought to follow the good word. That is all I am saying.

Let me move on to the issue that I came here primarily to address this evening. I find myself continually taking the microphone on the House floor to try and talk and have a conversation about those of us who live in the West, our issues in the West compared with those issues that you deal with in the East. Instead of taking on a whole gamut of issues, I have tried to narrow it down to two specific issues I want to

cover in the next few weeks, issues of which there are distinct geographical lines between the eastern United States and the western United States.

Those two issues are, number one, water; number two, public lands. Tonight I intend spending most of my time on public lands, but I think it is important to cover first of all the water issue. The eastern United States has suffered from a drought this year, including the Rocky Mountains. Colorado, where I come from, we have not had the kind of snowfall we are accustomed to.

But on an average year in the East, one of your big problems is getting rid of the water. Our problem is storing the water. Unfortunately, when the good Lord made our country, the good Lord did not equally divide the water resources with the population. The good Lord did not spread the water equally across the country.

In fact, if Members look at the map of the United States, and if I drew a line that went from here, that came down probably about like this, and then up about here, this section of the country to my left would have 73 percent of the water. So this section would have 73 percent of the water in the country.

If you went over here in the Northeast and took a little box like this and came down here, so you intersect at this point right here, that section of the country would have about 13 percent of the water. Then the balance of the country, this huge portion right here, the portion where I live, has 14 percent of the water, although it has over half the land mass of the Nation.

So water is a huge difference between the West and East. The State of Colorado, our lowest elevation is about 3,500 or 3,400 feet. Colorado is the highest State in the Nation. It is the highest area of the continent, the Rocky Mountains. Colorado is the only State in the Union that has no incoming water for its use. All of the water in the State of Colorado flows out for other people's use.

The Colorado River, for example, when we compare it to the Mississippi, it is not as big as compared to the Mississippi, but it is critical in the West. The Colorado River supplies water for 23 States, 24 million people, probably more now because that statistic is a couple of years old; 24 million people depend on that water for their drinking water. The Colorado River is one of five rivers that have their headwaters in the State of Colorado. We have the Rio Grande, the Platte, the Arkansas, the Colorado, et cetera. That is why they call Colorado the Mother of Rivers. But water is something that I urge my eastern colleagues, when we have issues that come up and we hear about our dam storage projects or Lake Powell or Lake Mead, do not summarily agree with some of the more radical movements in our country that say those dams ought to be taken down. These dams are critical for our existence in the West.

In the West from a State like Colorado, for a period of about 60 to 90 days we have all of the water we could possibly use. When does that period of time fall? That period of time falls starting about right now. It is called the spring runoff. In Colorado we have over 300 days of sunshine a year, but that does not mean that it is warm enough to melt the snow. This time of year we get temperatures close to 70 degrees and drop down to 20 degrees at night. The spring is starting. Those massive amounts of snow that have accumulated in the mountains will begin this runoff.

For this 60- to 90-day period of time, water is plentiful; and that usually does not coincide with the time of need for agriculture. Most of the water across our country is used for agriculture. It is not used for direct human consumption, although obviously going into agriculture, it ends up in human consumption. It is that period of time after the 60 to 90 days that we are concerned. We have to have the ability to store the water.

If we take a look back at the Native Americans and the first people that occupied the West to the best of our knowledge, you will find that they stored water. Why? Because you cannot exist in that country without the storage of water. We do not have enough water on a continual basis that comes down for us to be able to exist year round. That is why we have those storage projects; and, unfortunately, we cannot ever really time what days are going to be the warmest days. Some years the sun in Colorado, which is almost always out during the day, the sun in Colorado sometimes heats up faster than we thought. Days in March, for example, which we thought would be around 40 or 50 degrees may jump up to 70 degrees. So the water may run off sooner than expected.

There are a lot of factors of nature we have to deal with; and, yes, we have to alter nature, not alter nature where there is permanent damage, but to provide for mankind. We cannot just ignore the use of the water. We have to divert and grow our crops. I ask for understanding because I know that in some of these upcoming bills, including the farm bill, there are I think people with good behavior, colleagues with good intent, who are inserting water language in things like the farm bill that do not impact people in the East because they do not deal with the issue. The water law in the West is different than the water law in the East, but the ramifications to the people of the West on some of the water language that is being inserted in some of these bills is huge. It has very significant impacts, and rarely does an Eastern Congressman insert into a bill language dealing with water that has a beneficial or a positive meaning for water in the West.

We constantly find ourselves in the West, because we have the smallest population in the country, we con-

stantly find ourselves under siege when it comes to issues of water. I am asking for more understanding from my colleagues of the East because a lot of people depend on that water that comes out of the West. A lot of my colleagues that are from the East do not really know. I bet some did not know until tonight that our water law is significantly different than the water law in the East. Take a look at what the water laws are for the State of Massachusetts or the State of Kentucky, and compare it to the water laws of the State of Colorado or the State of Utah. We have two entirely different systems, water systems, and the law recognizes that.

That is why we have two distinct sets of water laws for those States. But it is unfair for one State to impose obligations or to impose some kind of commitment on another State's water system when that State does not have a clear understanding of the water law of the other State. Or, unfortunately, in some cases they do have a clear understanding of the damage that that language will do to water in the West, and they intentionally insert it in.

□ 2215

That is why we in the West constantly feel we have to be on guard, especially when it comes to our water issues.

We could talk about water for the rest of the evening, but I want to cover that in more detail later on. I want to talk about now the other distinct difference between the East and the West, and that is our lands. Public lands.

Public lands are just exactly how it sounds, lands owned by the public, lands owned by the government. In the East, there are very few lands that are owned by the government. In the East, when we first settled this country, of course, our population came in the East. Our primary population was on the East Coast. The idea, when our country was first settled, that the government would own the land was only an idea of temporary duration. People were trying to get away from the British throne where the government controlled you. They wanted independence. They wanted the ability to cultivate their own lands. They wanted the ability to own land, to have the right of private property.

And so when our country was first settled, any lands that were owned by the government or conquered by the government or purchased by the government were very quickly turned over to private ownership. People got to enjoy that right of private property.

But soon what happened is, they began to settle the West. You began to see a vast accumulation. If you look over here on this chart, the color on this chart reflects government lands. Look at the East. Where is the white part of the chart? It is in the eastern United States. Your public lands, your massive amounts of public lands are not in the East; they are in the West.

They are not spread evenly around the country. The public lands are concentrated in one portion of our country and that is the western United States.

Needless to say, there are big differences between somebody who lives on land that is not surrounded by public lands, where the government owns very little of your neighbor's land, or is not your neighbor, versus somebody who has the Federal Government as a neighbor, who is completely surrounded by government ownership.

My district is a good example. In my district, there are approximately 120 communities; 119 of those 120 communities are completely surrounded by Federal lands. If you take a look at my district, we have four national parks. We have any number of national monuments. We have BLM lands. If you take a look at this, just make that comparison, I will point out, if you look to my left, my district is right here, this colored area of the map. Compare that even to eastern Colorado or compare that to some of these other States, Illinois or even back here in Kentucky, Virginia, some of these States over here on the East Coast. You do not see that public land.

And so we in the West, just like our water, feel like we have to take even a more aggressive or progressive step toward trying to work with our colleagues in the East to say, look, we are dealing with something that you never deal with. We are dealing with something of which our life is entirely dependent upon and you do not have to worry about that dependency. In the East you are not dependent on Federal lands or public lands for your well-being. In the West, we are completely surrounded by them.

What do I mean by dependence on public lands? Think about it. Pick a town that many of you would know right off the top, Aspen, Colorado. I was just in Aspen yesterday. Aspen is a community completely surrounded by public lands. You cannot drive to Aspen without crossing public lands. You cannot fly to Aspen without flying over public lands. You cannot recreate near Aspen without recreating on public lands. You cannot have any water in Aspen without getting it either coming across public lands, stored upon Federal lands or originating on Federal lands. You cannot have a cellular tower without it being on public lands. You cannot have power come in your community without it coming across public lands. These are issues that for the most part my good colleagues in the East do not have to deal with. And we have to deal with it.

And so my purpose here this evening is to just kind of give you an idea of the vastness of the public lands and the concentration of those public lands in the western United States.

If you take a look at the forest, we often hear about the forests in the West. Here is an interesting factor for you. Do you know that the forests in the eastern United States, the forests

over in this area as compared to the forests in the western United States are about equal? That is kind of surprising. In other words, the forest land in the East is about equal to the forest land in the West. So what is the difference? The difference is that the forests in the East are privately owned. The forests in the West are government-owned.

Here is another interesting thing for you. More than 80 percent, if you take a look at the lands here, 80 percent of your public lands are in the West. Take a look at your national parks. There are at least 375 to 400 national parks. Let us say it is 375. Of the 375 national parks, 114 of those parks are in the West. So roughly a third to almost a fourth. A little over a third of the national parks are in the West. But 87 percent of the national parklands are in the West.

So your national parks in the East, you may have a national park, but your land mass is very small. Why? Because it is primarily private property. But when you come to the West, we only have about one-fourth, a little over one-third of the parks, yet we have over 87 percent of the land that is located in the West.

Before I take this map off, let me just reemphasize. The color on this map depicts government lands. Let me give a little history, very briefly, before I take this map off. Primarily the reason that you have got these massive amounts of Federal lands, in the early days it was fully expected that the citizens of this country would have private property, the right to have private property. They were trying to escape the throne, so the government was not going to own that land. Then as the country began to expand, our leaders in Washington said, how do we encourage people to leave the comfort of the East Coast and to go west to conquer the land, so to speak?

Back then a deed did not mean anything. If John and Susan had a deed to a piece of property, it did not mean much like it does today. Today a deed protects your interest and protects your rights. You do not have to possess the land, to be on it, to own it. But in the old days, you had to be on the land probably with a six-shooter strapped to your side. You could not just have a deed. It did not mean much. You needed to get out there and sit on it.

And so what we saw happen was a policy begin to become developed that, look, we have got to give some kind of incentive to these people to go to the West. We cannot let this land go unoccupied or some other foreign country will take the land from us. We need to get our people onto these lands. How do we do it? And somebody came up with the idea, let's do the same thing that we did in the Revolutionary War. What we did in the Revolutionary War is, we tried to bribe the British soldiers to join the American forces, and in exchange for them deserting the British forces, we would give them land, land

that they could own, land that they could have of their own, land grants.

That is what our leaders in Washington, D.C., decided to do, give land grants to the settlers that go to the West. If they go out there, we will give them 160 acres if they till the land, cultivate the land, live on the land, and they use the land as if it were their own. We will give them 160 acres or 320 acres. As you can see, as depicted on this map, that worked pretty well until they hit this area.

What is this area? A good part of that area is the Rocky Mountains. What happens when you hit the mountains, when you hit 3,000 feet in elevation? That is the lowest elevation in the State of Colorado. Where I live is at about 5,000. The average elevation in the State of Colorado is 6,000 feet and this area of Colorado represents the highest place on the continent. When you get into the Rocky Mountains, all of a sudden instead of taking 160 acres to support a family, it may take 500 acres or 1,000 acres or 2,000 acres to support a family. You can feed a lot of cattle on 160 acres in the East. Sometimes you cannot even feed one cow on 160 acres in the West.

So they came running back to Washington, D.C., and said, look, the people are not settling in the mountains, they are going around. They are going to the valleys in California. They cannot support themselves with just 160 acres.

So a very conscious decision was made, not a decision to keep the land in the West in the government's hands so no generation could ever utilize that; in fact, just the opposite. The decision was made, look, because we have given so much land to the railroads and we are under a lot of political heat for doing that, we cannot really give out the 3,000 acres or 2,000 acres or whatever would be the working equivalent of 160 acres in the East, so let us go ahead and keep these lands in the government's name and let the people go out there and use the land as if it were their own. There are certain responsibilities that they would have to carry out, and as time goes by and we understand more of the issues of land use, of environmental use, of water and so on, we put more and more guidance in place of how to utilize those lands, but we have always protected the concept called multiple use, a land of many uses.

When I grew up, the government lands, as you entered government lands, especially as you entered national forests, there was always a sign there that said, for example, "You are entering the White River National Forest, a land of many uses."

That is how the land in the West was developed, the land of many uses, whether it is recreational uses, whether it is to cultivate a field, whether it is to build a home, whether it is to use the water, whether it is to protect and enjoy the environment in those areas, it is a blend of those uses. Oftentimes, here, we are challenged with very, I

guess, targeted groups, very special interest groups who live in the East and who enjoy the comfort of the East and who are not threatened by public lands. Their special interest is to eliminate our way of life in the West by eliminating the concept of multiple use.

We have right now, for example, dealing with public lands, some wealthy individuals who have moved into several of our States, including the State of Colorado, and are filing across-the-board blanket objections to every grazing permit, not grazing permits where they think they can prove somebody was bad, a bad operator on the land, and if we have got a bad operator on the land, get rid of them; we do not object to that.

But what they are doing is, they are taking their big money out of the East, they are taking the money in their pockets and they are putting it out and they are trying to eliminate all grazing, all use of the public lands for our farmers and ranchers. Remember, if you are talking about some State out here that does not have public lands, that is not a big issue to you. But if you are talking about the State of Colorado or Wyoming or Idaho or Utah or Montana, big parts of California, you are talking about our livelihood.

Think about it: The elimination of our farmers and our ranchers to be able to utilize the land in a responsible fashion through a permit process that is monitored during the period of time that they utilize that, this group of wealthy individuals are filing legal actions and other types of actions to eliminate that use of public lands.

It is their goal, over time, to eliminate multiple use. They think the toughest people out there to take down will be the farmers and the ranchers, because there is still a feeling of romance about farming and ranching in our country. So they figure if they can take out the big ones first, then they can go after the other things that we depend upon.

For example, our usage of water. As I said earlier, keep in mind that in these vast areas of the West, almost all our water comes across Federal lands, is stored upon Federal lands or originates on Federal lands. So the next thing they will go after is any kind of use of water that flows across Federal lands or originates on Federal lands. And we have already seen some effort in that way.

Obviously, they are going to try to take out ski areas, eliminate the use of being able to ski. They will go after the recreational use. They have pretty well eliminated in many of these States timbering and things like that. So we have a big challenge out there facing these public lands.

To take a comparison, I want to show the U.S. holdings, the government holdings as they are in the United States. This is, I think, a very helpful chart. I will direct you to the chart to my left of major U.S. land holdings.

The Federal Government owns more than 31 percent of all the lands in the

United States. By the way, in my comments here, I am talking about the continental United States. In Alaska, I think 98 percent of that State is owned by the Federal Government. If you want to see what kind of impact it has on the Native Americans up there, of all the people that are in those lands, ask the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), for example.

□ 2230

Its impact is dramatic. State-owned, 197 million acres. The Federal Government owns about 700 million acres. These are interesting breakdowns. The BLM owns 268 million acres; the Forest Service, 231 million acres. Now, remember what I said. The forests in the East are about equal to the forests in the West, but the big difference between the forests located in the East and the forests located in the West is the forests in the East are privately owned. The forests in the West are owned by the Federal Government.

Other Federal, about 130 million acres. The Park Service has 75 million acres. Recognize my comment there earlier. We have about 375 national parks; 114 of those 375 are in the West. Although we only have 114 national parks, those national parks take in 87 percent, 87 percent of the Federal park land in this country.

Tribal lands. Now, look at this. The Bureau of Land Management, we really have two agencies out there that manage the land for the people. One of them is the United States Forest Service. That is right here. The Forest Service manages an area of the West larger than the size of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York all combined. That is Forest Service responsibilities.

The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for a land mass larger than California and Oregon combined, mostly the drier rangeland used for grazing, mineral and energy exploration, as well as recreation. Those two agencies manage, are the primary management agencies, for us, the people, for the Federal Government out in the West.

What I am asking my colleagues to do, and why we often find ourselves at battle, not Republican and Democrat, but a lot of times East to West, where we find those differences, the origin of a lot of those differences is the fact that we in the West are concerned that some of our colleagues in the East do not understand the differences in lifestyle that come about as a direct result of whether or not your land is owned by the government or the land you own is surrounded by the government.

Let me show another chart. Keep in mind what I said earlier about the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the State of Alaska, that 96 or 98 percent of that State is owned by the Federal Government. So you can see a difference.

I have prepared a chart that gives you some States in the West and the

amount of government ownership of land compared to States in the East. By the way, the population here is in States in the East. The majority of your population is on the East Coast and the State of California.

Let us look at these western States. First of all, this box: 88 percent, 88 percent of the Nation's Federal public lands outside of Alaska lie in 11 Western States. That is where I am from. That is the message; that is the story we are trying to tell tonight.

In one of my subsequent conversations with my colleagues here, I am going to bring some letters. I am going to tell you about some of the families in the West, about how the West was won, so to speak, about survival out there. It is tough. What you hear about are the Aspens and the areas like that, all in my district, which I am very proud of. But you need to hear about the little towns like Meeker, Colorado, or Craig, Colorado, or Lander, Wyoming, or some these areas, and take a look at the good lifestyle that these people provide for their families.

But let me go on. Eleven contiguous western States, Nevada, 82, 83 percent roughly of that State is owned by the Federal Government. Compare it with Connecticut, less than 1 percent.

The State of Utah, 63 percent of the State of Utah is owned by the government; Rhode Island, about one-third of one percent.

Idaho, 61 percent owned by the government; New York, about three-fourths of one percent.

Oregon, 52 percent; Maine, just a little under 1 percent.

The State of Wyoming, almost half the State is owned by the government, compared to the State of Massachusetts, 1.3 percent of that State.

Arizona, 47 percent; Ohio, 1.3 percent.

California, almost half the State of California; Indiana, less than 2 percent.

Colorado, 36 percent; Pennsylvania, 2 percent.

New Mexico, 33 percent; Delaware, 2 percent.

Washington, 28 percent; Maryland, 2 percent.

Montana, 28 percent; New Jersey, 3 percent.

Where we see a difference, where we see a rift, so to speak, or see what we perceive as a lack of understanding, is from some of our colleagues in these States and the people of these States; and that is why I am standing here in front of you this evening.

When you take a look at the differences, what you have and what we have, and the differences it makes in your life style, whether it is whether you get water, whether it is your transportation, whether it is your recreation, whether it is your environment, this is where we see a lot of problems originate between the States, because we in the West oftentimes feel that our good friends and our fellow citizens in the East do not understand the need for us to have the concept of multiple use.

My guess is that in most of these States, go up to Rhode Island and stop

100 people on the street. Ask how many of them know what is the concept of multiple use, what does multiple use mean. Give them a hint: it applies to the Western United States. What does multiple use mean?

My guess is out of 100, 99 cannot tell you. I am not saying they are ignorant or being critical of them; I am just saying it is not in their environment. They are entirely removed from the concept of multiple use. They are entirely removed from the ramifications of public lands.

But you go to a State like Alaska, for example, which is 98 percent owned by the government, or Nevada, and stop 100 people in Nevada and say what is the concept of multiple use? What is the concept of public lands? You are going to get an entirely different viewpoint, because those people experience it.

My purpose here this evening with my colleagues is to tell you that as we talk about some of these land-use decisions, as we talk about the Endangered Species Act, as we talk about our national parks, as we talk about our Bureau of Land Management, as we talk about the U.S. Forest Service, as we talk about people that recreate, whether it is on a mountain bike or kayaking, or as we talk about water in the West, understand, please understand, there is a clear distinction between how and what the ramifications are of those issues here in the East versus those in the West.

I have often heard people say, well, now, just a minute, SCOTT. This land belongs to all of the people, and that we people in the East, you should pay more attention to us, because this land in the West, that should be preserved.

I do not disagree with that comment at all, and we do a darn good job of it. We do a darn good job, because, you know what, we depend on that land. If we abuse the land, we suffer first.

But what kind of gets under our hide, gets under our saddle back there in the West, is when we have people who say to us, look, go ahead and kick the people in the West off their lands; but since we privately own it in the East, it will not have any impact on us.

What we are saying to our colleagues in the East is, look, understand what the concept is. Before you draw a position down, before you take a vote, try and determine or take a look or educate yourself on the concept of multiple use.

You know, when you hear from somebody, for example, the National Sierra Club, I do not think the National Sierra Club, which carries a lot of heavy weight here in the United States Congress, I do not think they have ever supported a water storage project in the history of that organization. Now, a lot of the things that that organization may do might be good; but before you sign on in opposition to water projects in the West, before you sign on to some of the ridiculous things that have come out, like, for example, take

down the dam at Lake Powell and let the water go, understand what water in the West means; understand what multiple use in the West means.

The public lands in this country, as I have said over and over in my comments this evening, are not evenly spread across the 50 States. In fact, they are concentrated in about 11 States. That is where the majority of your holdings are. Eighty-some percent of those government lands are in those 11 States. The consequences to those 11 States are a whole lot different than the consequences to the other 39 States, some of whose public lands, really, are just the local courthouse.

So in conclusion and as a summary of these remarks tonight, I am just asking that my colleagues in the East begin to have a better understanding of what we face in the West. We are here in the West and we speak loudly from the West because, one, we are small in number because of population; but we also have the clearer understanding of what it is like to live with the government at your back doorstep, at your front doorstep and your side windows. Everywhere you look you have got government around you.

I would ask my colleagues from the East, work with us in the West. Help us protect that concept of multiple use. Help us continue our balanced use of the lands out there. Help us provide for future generations by using a balanced approach and by not automatically saying no water storage, not automatically saying no grazing, not automatically saying no utilization, not automatically saying take the recreation off those forests lands or take the recreation from those BLM lands.

We are totally and completely dependent upon these lands. We could not live in those States, nobody, nobody could live out there in those States in the West without this multiple use concept of Federal lands.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 0045

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DIAZ-BALART) at 12 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. CON. RES. 353, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report

(Rept. No. 107-380) on the resolution (H. Res. 372) providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 353) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2003 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2007, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3924, FREEDOM TO TELECOMMUTE ACT OF 2002

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-381) on the resolution (H. Res. 373) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3924) to authorize telecommuting for Federal contractors, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. SHOWS (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and March 20 on account of a death in the family.

Mr. SHAYS (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of personal reasons.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HINOJOSA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WYNN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GUTKNECHT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, March 20 and 21.

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ROHRBACHER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KIRK, for 5 minutes, today.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 46 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until today, Wednesday, March 20, 2002, at 10 a.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5943. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loan and Grant Program (RIN: 0572-AB70) received March 6, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5944. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Raisins Produced From Grapes Grown in California; Extension of Redemption Date for Unsold 2001 Diversion Certificates [Docket No. FV02-989-3 IFR] received March 6, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5945. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Irish Potatoes Grown in Colorado; Suspension of Continuing Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV01-948-2 FIR] received March 6, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5946. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Department of Defense, transmitting notification of the Department's decision to study certain functions performed by military and civilian personnel in the Department of the Navy for possible performance by private contractors, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2461; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5947. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting notification concerning the Department of the Air Force's Proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) to Austria for defense articles and services (Transmittal No. 02-19), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b); to the Committee on International Relations.

5948. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting notification concerning the Department of the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) to the Republic of Korea for defense articles and services (Transmittal No. 02-17), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b); to the Committee on International Relations.

5949. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting a copy of Transmittal No. 06-02 which informs the intent to sign an amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the United States and Israel concerning Counterterrorism Research and Development, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

5950. A letter from the Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Rough Diamonds (Sierra Leone & Liberia) Sanctions Regulations—received February 1, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

5951. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5952. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Guide to Preventing Computer Software Piracy—received January 14, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5953. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5954. A letter from the Director, United States Trade and Development Agency, transmitting a consolidated report on audit and internal management activities in accordance with the provisions of the Inspector General Act and the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5955. A letter from the Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress, transmitting a schedule of proposed new copyright fees and the accompanying analysis; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5956. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Tarriff of Tolls [Docket No. SLSDC 2002-11529] (RIN: 2135-AA14) received February 19, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5957. A letter from the Chairman, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Electronic Access to Case Filings—received February 14, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5958. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Dowty Aerospace Propellers Type R334/4-82-F/13 Propeller Assemblies [Docket No. 2001-NE-50-AD; Amendment 39-12623; AD 2002-01-28] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5959. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company GE90 Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No. 98-ANE-17-AD; Amendment 39-12622; AD 2002-01-27] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5960. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Dornier Model 328-100 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2002-NM-07-AD; Amendment 39-12611; AD 2002-01-17] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5961. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company CF6-80E1 Model Turbofan Engines [Docket No. 2001-NE-45-AD; Amendment 39-12595; AD 2002-01-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5962. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 767-200, -300, and -300F Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2001-NM-385-AD; Amendment 39-12609; AD 2002-01-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Com-

mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5963. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model SE 3130, SE 313B, SA 315B, SE 3160, SA 316B, SA 316C, SA 3180, SA 318B, SA 318C, and SA 319B Helicopters [Docket No. 2001-SW-38-AD; Amendment 39-12625; AD 2002-01-30] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5964. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model EC 155B Helicopters [Docket No. 2001-SW-71-AD; Amendment 39-12627; AD 2001-26-54] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5965. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model AS350B, AS350B1, AS350B2, AS350BA, AS350B3, AS350C, AS350D, AS350D1, AS355E, AS355F, AS355F1, AS355F2, and AS355N Helicopters [Docket No. 2001-SW-74-AD; Amendment 39-12626; AD 2001-26-55] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5966. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2000-NM-350-AD; Amendment 39-12512; AD 2001-23-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5967. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report on Agency Drug-Free Workplace Plans, pursuant to Public Law 100-71, section 503(a)(1)(A) (101 Stat. 468); jointly to the Committees on Appropriations and Government Reform.

5968. A letter from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on "The Appropriate Executive Agency for the Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) Programs"; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and International Relations.

5969. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report on the fiscal years 1997-1999 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 8629(b); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Education and the Workforce.

5970. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled, "Nursing Home Data Compendium 2000"; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

5971. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of intent to obligate funds for purposes of Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund (NDF) activities; jointly to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations.

5972. A letter from the Congressional Liaison Officer, United States Trade and Development Agency, transmitting a prospective funding obligations which require special notification under section 520 of the Kenneth M. Ludden Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2002; jointly to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. GOSS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 372. Resolution providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 353) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2003 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2007 (Rept. 107-380). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SESSIONS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 373. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3924) to authorize telecommuting for Federal contractors (Rept. 107-381). Referred to the House Calendar.

## TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 3925. Referral to the Committees on the Judiciary and Ways and Means extended for a period ending not later than April 9, 2002.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. HOUGHTON:

H.R. 3991. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect taxpayers and ensure accountability of the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BOEHLERT (for himself, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. QUINN):

H.R. 3992. A bill to establish the SAFER Firefighter Grant Program; to the Committee on Science.

By Mr. BRADY of Texas:

H.R. 3993. A bill to amend section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate reporting and return requirements for State and local candidate committees and to avoid duplicate reporting of campaign-related information; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HYDE (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. GILMAN, and Mr. ACKERMAN):

H.R. 3994. A bill to authorize economic and democratic development assistance for Afghanistan and to authorize military assistance for Afghanistan and certain other foreign countries; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mrs. ROUKEMA (for herself, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. KING, Mr. NEY, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. RILEY, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. GRUCCI, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. LEACH, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Ms. HART, Mr. FERGUSON, and Mr. PICKERING):

H.R. 3995. A bill to amend and extend certain laws relating to housing and community opportunity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consider-

ation of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BOEHLERT (for himself and Mr. HALL of Texas):

H.R. 3996. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for water pollution control research, development, and technology demonstration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Science, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA:

H.R. 3997. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to clarify requirements with respect to the purchase of domestic commodities and products by school food authorities in Puerto Rico under the school lunch and breakfast programs; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CALLAHAN:

H.R. 3998. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on ethyl pyruvate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CALLAHAN:

H.R. 3999. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on 5-Chloro-1-indanone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WELLER (for himself, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. BONILLA, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. LATOURETTE, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 4000. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to enhance the access of Medicare beneficiaries who live in medically underserved areas to critical primary and preventive health care benefits, to improve the MedicareChoice program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CRANE (for himself, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. SESSIONS):

H.R. 4001. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to decrease the floor for the deduction for medical care to two percent of adjusted gross income; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. DAVIS of California:

H.R. 4002. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a deduction for qualified long-term care insurance premiums, use of such insurance under cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, and a credit for individuals with long-term care needs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HEFLEY (for himself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. ANDREWS, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 4003. A bill to protect diverse and structurally complex areas of the seabed in the United States exclusive economic zone by establishing a maximum diameter size limit on rockhopper, roller, and all other groundgear used on bottom trawls; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island (for himself, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts):

H.R. 4004. A bill to authorize appropriations for the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in

Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. COYNE, Mr. LEACH, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. SHAYS):

H.R. 4005. A bill to provide for a circulating quarter dollar coin program to commemorate the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. KING (for himself, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. GRUCCI, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. RANGEL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. WEINER, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. QUINN, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. CROWLEY, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. WALSH, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. BOEHLERT, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HINCHEY, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. NORTON, Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. FALBOMAVAEGA, and Mr. UNDERWOOD):

H.R. 4006. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 100 Federal Plaza in Central Islip, New York, as the "Alfonse M. D'Amato United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SIMMONS:

H.R. 4007. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 66 South Broad Street in Pawcatuck, Connecticut, as the "Vincent F. Paulise Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mrs. THURMAN (for herself and Mr. ANDREWS):

H.R. 4008. A bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and title 5, United States Code, to allow leave for individuals who provide living organ donations; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Government Reform, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HOYER (for himself, Mrs. MORELLA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. WYNN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Mr. WOLF):

H. Con. Res. 356. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PAYNE:

H. Con. Res. 357. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Parthenon Marbles should be returned to Greece; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. RYUN of Kansas (for himself, Mr. WALSH, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, and Mrs. CAPPS):

H. Con. Res. 358. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Better Hearing and Speech Month, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STRICKLAND:

H. Con. Res. 359. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress opposing the enactment of any proposal for the establishment of a deductible for veterans receiving

health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. CAPITO:

H. Res. 371. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding Women's History Month; to the Committee on Government Reform.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

- H.R. 198: Mr. OTTER.
- H.R. 303: Mr. PENCE and Ms. VELAZQUEZ.
- H.R. 360: Mr. ORTIZ.
- H.R. 397: Mr. FLETCHER and Mr. WELLER.
- H.R. 476: Mr. SULLIVAN.
- H.R. 489: Mr. FORBES and Mr. BAIRD.
- H.R. 510: Ms. SLAUGHTER and Mr. TIERNEY.
- H.R. 556: Mr. OWENS.
- H.R. 848: Mr. HOEFFEL.
- H.R. 854: Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. LYNCH.
- H.R. 858: Mr. MOORE and Mr. ANDREWS.
- H.R. 914: Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky.
- H.R. 953: Mr. BONIOR, Mr. LEACH, and Mr. RAMSTAD.
- H.R. 1051: Mr. PASTOR, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. BACA, and Mr. COSTELLO.
- H.R. 1108: Mr. REYES.
- H.R. 1143: Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. SNYDER.
- H.R. 1146: Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida.
- H.R. 1184: Mr. BENTSEN and Mr. COSTELLO.
- H.R. 1213: Mr. GREEN of Texas.
- H.R. 1214: Mr. STRICKLAND.
- H.R. 1305: Ms. KILPATRICK.
- H.R. 1307: Mr. DICKS.
- H.R. 1354: Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. WEXLER, and Mr. TERRY.
- H.R. 1433: Mr. WAXMAN.
- H.R. 1475: Ms. WATSON, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. REYES, and Mr. CAPUANO.
- H.R. 1556: Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. BERRY, Mr. UPTON, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. ETHERIDGE, and Mr. LYNCH.
- H.R. 1581: Mr. RADANOVICH.
- H.R. 1604: Mr. BERRY.
- H.R. 1609: Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. JOHN, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. ETHERIDGE.
- H.R. 1626: Mr. ROTHMAN.
- H.R. 1672: Mr. TOWNS, Mr. STARK, and Mrs. MALONEY of New York.
- H.R. 1673: Mr. SIMPSON.
- H.R. 1683: Mr. WEXLER, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. MCKINNEY, and Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.
- H.R. 1784: Mr. STARK.
- H.R. 1795: Mr. GIBBONS and Mr. DOOLITTLE.
- H.R. 1877: Mr. SIMMONS.
- H.R. 1904: Ms. DEGETTE.
- H.R. 1978: Mr. KILDEE.
- H.R. 1990: Mr. BROWN of Ohio.
- H.R. 2125: Mr. TANNER and Mr. TRAFICANT.
- H.R. 2207: Mrs. JONES of Ohio.
- H.R. 2254: Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. SWEENEY.
- H.R. 2322: Mr. SULLIVAN.
- H.R. 2339: Mr. STRICKLAND.
- H.R. 2349: Mrs. CAPITO.
- H.R. 2406: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
- H.R. 2487: Mr. LAMPSON.
- H.R. 2570: Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. HOLT, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. RIVERS, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. COSTELLO.
- H.R. 2631: Mr. WELLER and Mr. GOODE.
- H.R. 2674: Mr. BACA.
- H.R. 2800: Mr. PENCE.
- H.R. 2806: Mr. DELAHUNT.
- H.R. 2820: Mr. EDWARDS, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. BERRY, Mr. MICA, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mrs. KELLY, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

- H.R. 2980: Mr. TOOMEY.
- H.R. 3002: Mr. OTTER.
- H.R. 3025: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.
- H.R. 3027: Ms. NORTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. WYNN, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. PAYNE.
- H.R. 3100: Mr. HOUGHTON.
- H.R. 3113: Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. ACKERMAN and Mr. SERRANO.
- H.R. 3130: Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Ms. DUNN, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Ms. HARMAN, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. REYES, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. RIVERS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. BOUCHER, and Ms. LOFGREN.
- H.R. 3206: Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut and Mr. SIMMONS.
- H.R. 3207: Mr. LYNCH.
- H.R. 3230: Mr. LAMPSON.
- H.R. 3231: Mr. FLAKE, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mr. MCINTYRE, and Mr. CASTLE.
- H.R. 3244: Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. TANNER, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. CLEMENT, and Mr. PICKERING.
- H.R. 3279: Mr. NADLER.
- H.R. 3320: Mr. OWENS.
- H.R. 3321: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. BALDACCI.
- H.R. 3336: Mr. WEXLER and Mr. LYNCH.
- H.R. 3382: Mr. NADLER.
- H.R. 3388: Mr. FOLEY.
- H.R. 3414: Mr. BALDACCI and Ms. RIVERS.
- H.R. 3443: Mr. RUSH and Mr. ROGERS of Michigan.
- H.R. 3450: Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. DEUTSCH, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. ORTIZ, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. MEEHAN, and Mr. BOUCHER.
- H.R. 3464: Mr. GILCREST, Mr. SABO, Mr. LOBIONDO.
- H.R. 3498: Mr. ETHERIDGE.
- H.R. 3524: Mr. POMEROY.
- H.R. 3580: Mr. RUSH, Mr. EHRLICH, Mr. WYNN, and Mr. BURR of North Carolina.
- H.R. 3597: Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. TIERNEY.
- H.R. 3605: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
- H.R. 3626: Mr. WEINER.
- H.R. 3661: Mr. GORDON, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
- H.R. 3679: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. RUSH.
- H.R. 3713: Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. FOLEY, and Mrs. MINK of Hawaii.
- H.R. 3717: Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. ROSS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. POMEROY.
- H.R. 3733: Mr. RODRIGUEZ.
- H.R. 3741: Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. NORWOOD.
- H.R. 3782: Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Mr. WAMP.
- H.R. 3792: Mr. LOBIONDO, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. MCKINNEY, and Mrs. MINK of Hawaii.
- H.R. 3794: Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. HOLDEN, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
- H.R. 3798: Mr. SCHAFFER, Mr. LINDER, and Mr. PENCE.
- H.R. 3802: Mr. SCHAFFER and Mr. UNDERWOOD.
- H.R. 3812: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.
- H.R. 3814: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. FILNER.
- H.R. 3818: Mr. DINGELL, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. BORSKI.
- H.R. 3827: Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. HAYES, and Mr. JONES of North Carolina.
- H.R. 3833: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan.
- H.R. 3834: Mr. WALSH and Mrs. THURMAN.
- H.R. 3884: Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. STARK, Mr. MATSUI, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

- H.R. 3899: Mr. MASCARA and Mr. HILLIARD.
- H.R. 3911: Mr. BONILLA, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. SIMMONS.
- H.R. 3924: Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. SCHROCK, Mr. OSE, and Mr. WOLF.
- H.R. 3926: Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon.
- H.R. 3929: Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. MOORE, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
- H.R. 3933: Mr. WAXMAN.
- H.R. 3938: Mr. SIMMONS.
- H.R. 3946: Mr. PENCE and Mr. KERNS.
- H.R. 3953: Mr. ENGLISH.
- H.R. 3955: Mr. UNDERWOOD.
- H.R. 3959: Mr. PASTOR.
- H.R. 3968: Mr. FROST, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. KING, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Ms. BROWN of Florida.
- H.R. 3969: Mr. WYNN.
- H.R. 3985: Mr. KILDEE.
- H.J. Res. 81: Mr. BRYANT.
- H. Con. Res. 42: Mr. COYNE, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. UNDERWOOD, and Mrs. THURMAN.
- H. Con. Res. 99: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Mr. RANGEL.
- H. Con. Res. 260: Mrs. MINK of Hawaii and Mr. OLVER.
- H. Con. Res. 315: Mr. HAYES.
- H. Con. Res. 320: Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. ANDREWS, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, and Mr. FARR of California.
- H. Con. Res. 336: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
- H. Con. Res. 346: Ms. KILPATRICK, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. MCKINNEY, and Mr. HORN.
- H. Con. Res. 351: Mr. LANTOS, Mr. HORN, Ms. KAPTUR, and Ms. KILPATRICK.
- H. Res. 346: Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, and Mr. LAHOOD.
- H. Res. 368: Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. KIRK, Mr. REYES, Mr. HORN, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida, and Mrs. BIGGERT.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H. CON. RES. 353

OFFERED BY: MR. ENGEL

- AMENDMENT No. 1:  
Paragraph (1)(A) of section 101 (the recommended levels of Federal revenues) is amended by increasing revenues for the fiscal years set forth below as follows:  
Fiscal year 2003: \$15,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2004: \$135,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2005: \$305,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2006: \$395,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2007: \$420,000,000.
- Paragraph (1)(B) of section 101 (the amounts by which the aggregate levels of Federal revenues should be reduced) is amended by reducing the reduction for the fiscal years set forth below as follows:  
Fiscal year 2003: \$15,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2004: \$135,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2005: \$305,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2006: \$395,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2007: \$420,000,000.
- Paragraph (2) of section 101 (the appropriate levels of new budget authority) is amended by increasing new budget authority for the fiscal years set forth below as follows:  
Fiscal year 2003: \$500,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2004: \$500,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2005: \$500,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2006: \$500,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2007: \$500,000,000.
- Paragraph (3) of section 101 (the appropriate levels of total budget outlays) is amended by increasing total budget outlays

for the fiscal years set forth below as follows:

- Fiscal year 2003: \$15,000,000.
- Fiscal year 2004: \$135,000,000.
- Fiscal year 2005: \$305,000,000.
- Fiscal year 2006: \$395,000,000.
- Fiscal year 2007: \$420,000,000.

Paragraph (13) of section 103 (Income Security (600)) is amended by increasing new

budget authority and outlays for fiscal years 2003 through 2007 as follows:

- Fiscal year 2003:
  - (A) New budget authority, \$500,000,000.
  - (B) Outlays, \$15,000,000.
- Fiscal year 2004:
  - (A) New budget authority, \$500,000,000.
  - (B) Outlays, \$135,000,000.
- Fiscal year 2005:

- (A) New budget authority, \$500,000,000.
- (B) Outlays, \$305,000,000.
- Fiscal year 2006:
  - (A) New budget authority, \$500,000,000.
  - (B) Outlays, \$395,000,000.
- Fiscal year 2007:
  - (A) New budget authority, \$500,000,000.
  - (B) Outlays, \$420,000,000.