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No. 71

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

May 13, 2003.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TIM MURPHY 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 7, 2003, 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 Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

### MILITARY ENVIRONMENTAL EXEMPTIONS

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, while the headlines deal with the United States' struggle against terrorism and securing the peace in Iraq after the war, there is another less heralded battle, that is, for the world's environment, literally saving the planet.

When it comes to pure military might, the United States is unsurpassed. No one is even close. On the battle to save the planet, the prognosis is not quite so positive. Sea levels are

rising, glaciers are retreating, pollution around the world is on the rise, energy consumption by both the United States and the developing world is increasing, large swaths of forests continued to be devoured, the world's fisheries depleted, and coral reefs dying.

In the United States, on the environmental front, when not missing in action, is certainly not as aggressive in leadership as other developed countries in Europe and Japan. The world's greatest polluter and energy consumer is not accepting our responsibility in our capacity as the world's wealthiest and most powerful Nation.

Ironically, part of the solution is to be found with our Defense Department. The greatest source of pollution in the United States is associated with our military and the testing and development of weapons. The most serious and dangerous, of course, is the nuclear waste in various parts of the country. We have it in our Pacific Northwest. But there are sites large and small in every State of the Union, literally tens of millions of acres.

The United States has made a tremendous investment in training the finest fighting force in the world. We have made a huge financial outlay. A small portion of that outlay could be devoted to cleaning up after ourselves and protecting the environment.

Sadly, the House will soon be debating a proposal that is 180 degrees in the wrong direction. The Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Resources are looking at legislation that would completely exempt the Department of Defense from following environmental rules and regulations. It is wrong on so many different levels.

First of all, there is no need for the legislation. There has never been an example where a waiver that is able, under current law, to be authorized has ever been denied. There has never been an instance of military necessity for

training where a waiver has not been granted; not once.

The consequences of military activity occur in many unexpected ways: perchlorate pollution in lettuce in the Imperial Valley, polluted drinking water on Martha's Vineyard. Three times since I have been in Congress we have had to pull firefighters out of the woods because unexploded ordnance has been exploding around them. Exempting, exempting the military from commonsense environmental regulations that apply to the rest of America would put more of our service people at risk, put their families at risk, put their neighbors at risk of bad air, bad water, dangerous practices.

It also misses the real threat to military readiness: the notion of land use encroachment. The same sprawl and unplanned growth that threatens farm and forest land, pollutes our air and water, and congests our roadways is a real threat to our ability to train and maintain the world's mightiest fighting force. Failure to plan and manage these impacts is a serious, ongoing problem that is ignored by the pending legislation.

It is also wrong on the most fundamental level. It is missing an opportunity to use the Department of Defense to set the highest standards. My experience with our military personnel is that given the right resources, the right orders, they can achieve any mission. If part of their order is to protect the environment, to clean up from past mistakes, to set standards of environmental stewardship, they will hit a homerun every time. It would have a transformational effect for the world dealing with tragic debris, environmental carnage of past actions.

There is also a fundamental arrogance and hypocrisy that the Federal Government's rules and regulations are necessary to protect the environment. It will impose them on a small business or local government, but not on the

□ 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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United States Government. Indeed, there are those who would try to work to take this misguided military exemption to try and extend it to all Federal activities. That would be a tragedy. It would not only underscore fundamental hypocrisy; it would put more pressure on small business and local governments and individuals because the Federal Government refuses to do its part.

In order to win the battle to protect the environment, America must provide leadership. A critical part of that leadership has always been our military. To send them a signal that environmental stewardship does not matter and that they do not have to play by the same rules the rest of us do is the wrong signal for them; it is the wrong signal for the rest of America; and it is certainly the wrong direction for our efforts against global warming, air and water pollution.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope the House will have the presence of mind to reject this wrong-headed approach.

#### PENSION SECURITY IS A VICTORY FOR WORKING AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) is recognized during morning hour debates.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, another week, another victory for working Americans. On the heels of our bipartisan passage of the President's jobs and growth package, this week the House will consider the Pension Security Act of 2003.

This legislation will empower employees and make them better informed about their retirement investment options. It will make businesses more accountable to their employees and corporations more accountable to their most valuable investors. And by giving rank-and-file employees increased flexibility and information, this legislation will better protect American savings from the effects of some misguided companies.

The legislation will allow employees with company stock to sell it and diversify their portfolios after just 3 years, rather than up to 10 as under current law. Employees will still be allowed to own shares of their own company, but companies could no longer require their employees to do so.

The Pension Security Act will help employees get even more personal investment advice than current law dictates. It also provides tax incentives to help working Americans pay for additional retirement planning services. And with this bill, we will ensure that all workers have access to quality advice about investment strategies, diversification, and risks.

To help keep people informed will also require companies to provide their employees with quarterly benefit statements with information about their investment performance and rights to di-

versify. Finally, this bill will confirm that when workers do not have access to their accounts during so-called blackout periods, companies must act in their employees' best interests.

Mr. Speaker, this is another step towards the establishment of a pension and retirement savings system in this country that does what it is supposed to do. Employees will be assured their investments are theirs, that the diversification strategy they employ will be tailored to their needs, and that they will have access to expert advisors bound to serve the interests of them and not anyone else. By empowering employees with more flexibility and information in their retirement planning, we will be adding to the long-term financial security of our Nation.

So as I said, Mr. Speaker, another week, another victory for working Americans.

#### REPUBLICANS DENY WORKERS EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS DURING ECONOMIC DOWNTURN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the Republican leader of the House, began his talk by saying, a victory for working Americans last week. It is hard to think it was a victory for working Americans when we have over 1 million people who are unemployed, who are receiving unemployment compensation, and 36,000 of those in Ohio, their benefits expire on May 31; and this Republican Congress and this President refused to extend their unemployment benefits.

Last November many of us in this House, many of us on the Democratic side, called for an extension of unemployment benefits for the 23,000 workers in Ohio and 1.1 million-or-so workers nationwide whose benefits were set to expire at the end of the year. After bowing to public outrage, the White House begrudgingly gave congressional Republicans the green light to help the unemployed. They were reluctant; but because of the pressure they received from people in my State of Ohio and across the country from unemployed workers and people who care about unemployed workers, Republicans could not ignore the expiring of unemployment benefits any longer.

It is 5 months later, and we are going down that same road again. Several days ago, House Republicans passed President Bush's tax cut that gives millionaires an average tax cut of \$93,000. If you make \$1 million a year, you get a tax cut of \$93,000. Fewer than half the people in my State, or about half the people in my State of Ohio, will get less than \$200 from that same tax cut bill; but the 1 percent wealthiest people whose income averages

\$968,000 a year will get a \$93,000 tax break. That is twice as much as the median total income of people in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I supported a Democratic alternative that extends unemployment benefits to help families struggling through the Bush recession and to provide real economic stimulus by putting the money in the pockets of those who will spend it, those who are unemployed, those who need it most, those who are most likely to put that money into the economy to create economic activity to create jobs. Our plan provides tax stimulus for small businesses and manufacturing that is the core of Ohio's economy and offers immediate relief to States like Ohio, almost all the 50 States, which are drowning in red ink, help to maintain Medicaid, avoid further job losses and cuts in critical programs, and prevent tax increases, so that States do not feel forced to raise taxes as most of them, Republican and Democratic Governors alike, are doing.

Did the House Republican leadership embrace this commonsense plan? No. Did the Republicans vote to extend unemployment benefits for 1 million Americans whose benefits are running out and who cannot find a job as hard as they are willing to work, one of the best ways to spur economic growth? No. Did the Republicans extend unemployment benefits? No. Did the Republicans give assistance to cash-strapped States all over the country that are raising taxes, cutting health care, and raising tuition rates on middle-class families? No. And why is the Republican answer to all of our economic problems always, always tax cuts for the rich?

The President's tax cut plan echoes the 2001 President's tax cut plan in other ways. The 2001 tax cut delivered 40 percent of its benefits to the richest 1 percent of the people in this country. They marketed it as a tax break for ordinary folks, and now they are saying it again. Keep in mind, half of the tax cut goes to people whose average income is \$968,000 a year. The typical family, though, gets a tax break of about \$200 next year; but families with incomes of \$1 million get \$93,000.

Two years ago, the President got his tax cut through Congress, which he claimed would create jobs. Two years later, today, we have lost since then 1.7 million jobs, and now they are saying we should do it again.

The latest unemployment statistics show 360,000 Ohioans are out of work, 33,000 more than were reported in January.

□ 1245

Ohio has lost a quarter of a million jobs since President Bush took office. President Bush has the worst job creation record, averaging a loss of 68,000 jobs a month, of any President in the last 58 years. Every month that President Bush has been in office, we have seen a decrease in the number of jobs

in this country. We have lost 563 jobs for every working hour of every working day since President Bush took office.

During that time period in President Clinton's first term, nearly 11 million jobs were created, including nearly a half million manufacturing jobs. Yet we have seen over 1 million manufacturing jobs vanish since President Bush moved into the White House.

Over the next decade, 27 percent of the tax cut, about the share that goes to the bottom 90 percent of the population, would go to these very high-income families. Despite these economic statistics, President Bush will not ask Congress to do what his father asked Congress a dozen years ago. In the wake of the recession of the early 1900s, they extended unemployment benefits; the same thing that President Bush and House Republicans should do.

#### AMERICA APPRECIATES ALLIED SUPPORT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY). Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I want to revisit the war in Iraq, if I may.

On March 25 of this year, Mr. Speaker, I came to the House floor and said the following: "Many insist that this is a unilateral operation. Not true. There are many supporters, but they are reluctant to openly oppose Saddam. They fear him. They, in fact, Mr. Speaker, are afraid. Many of his neighbors loathe Saddam, but they stand in fear. But the Bush-Blair wagon will move forward with the support, albeit sometimes anonymous, of other nations."

Mr. Speaker, as we have continued to praise our U.S. troops, I want us to avoid ignoring our allies, because as I said on this floor about 2 months ago, it is not a unilateral effort. I recently read in the Sergeant Shaft article, which appears regularly in the Washington Times, a letter from an Australian commander who wrote, "When are the British and Australian troops going to be included in the television coverage?"

A fair question. Now, I am not critical of the coverage, Mr. Speaker, as it is only natural to praise our own troops first, but we certainly do not want to turn deaf ears to the contributions of our allies, Great Britain, Australia, Spain, Poland, many others.

I was recently in Denmark regarding the sensitive issue of maritime security and learned while there of the impressive assistance we have received from the Danes in this war effort.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, another point. Some Members of the Congress have been openly critical of President Bush's recent visit with our troops aboard the carrier *Lincoln*, alleging excessive costs. Some of these same critics are hardly paragons of restraint

when it comes to pork barrel spending of taxpayers' dollars. I am more inclined, Mr. Speaker, to place a higher value upon the troops' enthusiastic welcome to the President as opposed to some sour grapes criticism after the fact.

To sum up, Mr. Speaker, President Bush has demonstrated responsible leadership. We have been a beneficiary of able assistance from our allies, which we need to openly and gratefully acknowledge; and we need to be patient and deliberate in restoring some sense of order in Iraq. But the people of Iraq who demanded the removal of Saddam need to demonstrate patience and deliberation as well.

#### HONORING PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor this afternoon to commend my colleagues' attention to a resolution that I will introduce today honoring Pregnancy Resource Centers.

According to surveys of women who have had abortions, 90 percent indicate they would have preferred other options had they simply known about them. The tragedy and irony in many situations is that most women are flooded with the pro-abortion message, but are rarely offered any other message of choice. Rather, unknowing clients are led to believe that abortion is the only solution to their problem.

Through costly advertising, young women go into abortion clinics and are assured that help is only a few hundred dollars away. Harmful consequences of abortions are minimized or simply ignored. Alternatives like parenting or adoption are not encouraged. In fact, they are rarely mentioned.

Sadly, it is only later that they learn there are alternatives. Desperately trying to spread this message to young women are the 2,500 Pregnancy Resource Centers across America. Through education and support, Pregnancy Resource Centers meet women's emotional and physical needs. They provide one-on-one counseling regarding the facts about adoption, abortion, and parenting so that the client may make a wise and informed decision about her pregnancy. Centers are dedicated to helping each woman resolve her situation in a way that equips her with better life skills for her future.

Practical help like parenting classes, support groups, education, and job skills classes are offered through many Pregnancy Resource Centers as well. Maternity clothes, baby needs, and even temporary housing is offered. Some Crisis Pregnancy Centers have full medical services on the premises, and unlike abortion clinics, these centers offer support for women suffering from postabortion syndrome.

For those women who have undergone an abortion, the devastation can be real and ongoing if she does not receive help. Most centers are committed to the healing, body and soul, of women who have suffered from an abortion. They offer medical and counseling services and stand alongside these women in their healing process.

Life-affirming pregnancy centers provide an example of love and compassion to women and their unborn babies. These centers have been upholding the value of all human life, born and unborn, for several decades. Women are increasingly turning to these centers for physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual help. They are always treated with the utmost dignity and respect and are provided with accurate, up-to-date information in order to make informed decisions about their pregnancy, sexual health, and relationships. Because everyone should have access to this information, all services are free of charge.

I am honored to represent one such center in my hometown of Ocala, Florida. The Women's Pregnancy Center has been serving the people faithfully of Marion County for 22 years. This center serves nearly 1,500 women a year of all ages and backgrounds. They serve these women and men faithfully and discreetly.

In today's culture, abortion is too often the first thought for women facing unplanned pregnancy, but there are alternatives, and Pregnancy Resource Centers can provide them. These centers are not only the most strategic and effective, but often the most needed of the forces engaged in the defense of the unborn. It is fitting that we recognize these courageous and struggling agencies that seek to bring purpose to the surprises of life. Never are these needs greatest than in the smallest of families, a mother and her growing baby.

I invite Members to join in providing support for more than 2,500 Crisis Pregnancy Centers around the United States of America. The good work of these centers merits our recognition, and the compassionate staff deserve our admiration.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to become an original cosponsor of this resolution to demonstrate their support for Pregnancy Resource Centers and their tens of thousands of volunteer staff who are encouraging the protection and value of all human life in America.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 54 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. STEARNS) at 2 p.m.

## PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, You long to sustain us in our most difficult times. You desire to renew us in moments of rest.

Grant to the Members of the House of Representatives gifted moments throughout this week when Your presence is felt and Your companionship is realized in their work.

You can offer both healing and strengthening power to Your people when they seem caught by conflict and anxiety-producing situations.

Free all of them, Lord, interiorly that they may be their very best and Your chosen instruments to guide and even restrain the energies of this land of the free.

In You we move, act and have our very being, now and forever. 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.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. MICHAUD 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.

## BRENDA NICHOL

(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, Brenda Nichol has taught for the Armstrong-Indiana Intermediate Unit in western Pennsylvania for 8 years now. But on April 4, Brenda was notified that the small cross necklace she was wearing around her neck would have to be concealed by clothing or removed when she was in school. School officials claim that wearing the necklace in school violates the unit's policy as well as Pennsylvania school code regulations that prohibit school employees from wearing religious clothing or symbols in school. When asked to remove the necklace, Brenda refused. On April 8 she was suspended. On April 16 she was notified that the suspension would be for a year without pay.

Mr. Speaker, this is outrageous. School personnel, just like students, do not check their constitutional liberties at the schoolhouse door. Brenda is a dedicated teacher who has a constitutional right to wear her little cross pendant around her neck at school. I hope the court will overturn the intermediate unit's harsh punishment for their ridiculous decision.

## CYPRUS

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, several weeks ago, this House for the first time in 6 years spoke unanimously and decisively on the current situation involving Cyprus. On March 27, this body voted 422-0 to express our disappointment that a United Nations-backed settlement plan would not be presented to the people of Cyprus for their consideration. The resolution, introduced by this Member, also called for the Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders to quickly return to the negotiating table to find a fair and lasting settlement acceptable to all.

Since passage of that resolution, two extraordinary events have taken place on that divided island. The first took place over Easter holiday when Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr. Rauf Denktash, announced a freedom of movement policy whereby the border separating the two sides would be open for the free passage of the island's population. In another welcome move shortly thereafter, the Cyprus Government announced that it was initiating 19 confidence-building measures. Some of those included lifting of trade restrictions between the north and the south and the de-mining of the Greek Cypriot side of the buffer zone.

Mr. Speaker, whatever the impact the actions of this House had on events which have taken place on Cyprus, a new and positive attitude has taken hold on that island. This Member would like to commend Mr. Denktash for taking the bold and most welcome actions he initiated. In addition, this Member wishes to offer a special note of congratulations to President Papadopoulos for the comprehensive and impressive measures his government has put forward and has begun to implement.

Others include the hiring of Turkish Cypriot professionals in the Cyprus Government; restoration of direct telecommunications between the Greek Cypriot side and the north as well as with Turkey; permitting Turkish Cypriot athletes to participate as members of national sporting teams of the Republic of Cyprus; improved health care opportunities for Turkish Cypriots; and an accounting of missing personnel, just to name a few.

Of further interest, Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan traveled to north Cyprus last weekend. It was this Member's hope that the visit would help pave the way for the eventual resumption of settlement negotiations between

the two Cypriot sides. In the meantime, however, it was also this Member's hope that Turkey could be helpful in building confidence on the island by announcing several new initiatives as well. These could include the demining of the Turkish side to the buffer zone; placing the town of Famagusta under U.N. control for its reconstruction and return of its original inhabitants; addressing the issue of the enclaved people living in northern Cyprus, and to restart the missing persons' investigative committee.

Mr. Speaker, while open borders, telecommunications and demining will not ultimately settle the division of the island, these measures, hopefully, will lead to more trust and a willingness to quickly resume the negotiations, and find a settlement for this division, which is the strong desire of this House.

## MOURNING THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JOHN ROUSSELOT

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I take this time to inform our colleagues of the sad news that we received yesterday of the passing of our former colleague, Congressman John Rousselot. John Rousselot was one of the most dynamic and hardworking Members of this institution. He loved the People's House. He was an individual who in many ways was proposing ideas far ahead of his time. I was talking to our staff director of the Committee on Rules, Billy Pitts, who reminded me that he helped John Rousselot decades ago author the first balanced budget proposals. We all now know that both sides of the aisle talk about fiscal responsibility as we pursue our goal of trying to rein in wasteful Federal spending. No one did that with greater enthusiasm and passion than John Rousselot. He served with distinction on both the Banking Committee and the Ways and Means Committee, and he often would come forward with many creative proposals.

I have the privilege, Mr. Speaker, of now representing much of the area that Mr. Rousselot represented, and he is remembered very fondly by his constituents. No one was more tireless in their work in behalf of the concerns of the individuals whom he represented. I know the thoughts and prayers of all of my colleagues go to the family members of John Rousselot. I want to say that I personally will miss his advice and counsel greatly.

## IN MEMORY OF MATTHEW J. RYAN, FORMER SPEAKER OF PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE

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

Mr. ENGLISH. Today, Mr. Speaker, the House has the melancholy responsibility to take up a resolution memorializing one of the great leaders of the

Pennsylvania State legislature who passed recently. I am referring to former State Speaker of the House Matthew Ryan whose 41-year extraordinary career, including repeated service as Speaker of the House beginning in 1981, is an extraordinary testament to how so much of our legislative talent and our best legal minds are still concentrated in our State legislatures.

I worked for the State House. I knew Speaker Ryan. I knew what an extraordinary individual he was and how, at a time when affiliation with parties is something that has lost public favor, he was one of the finest products of the Delaware County Republican organization, a great friend, an individual who absolutely dominated the State House by the force of his mind and the force of his personality and led it in very positive directions, a man who was far more bipartisan than the reputation of that institution but always a strong Republican and always a strong advocate of creating jobs and of welfare reform. We will miss him dearly. I hope his memory and his example will long be with us.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions 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.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

#### CONVEYANCE OF DECOMMISSIONED COAST GUARD CUTTER

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 517) to direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to convey the Coast Guard Cutter *Bramble*, upon its scheduled decommissioning, to the Port Huron Museum of Arts and History located in Port Huron, Michigan, for use for education and historical display, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 517

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

#### SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF DECOMMISSIONED COAST GUARD CUTTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a vessel described in subsection (b) to the person designated in subsection (b) with respect to the vessel (in this section referred to as the “recipient”), without consideration, if the person complies with the conditions under subsection (c).

(b) VESSELS DESCRIBED.—The vessels referred to in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) The Coast Guard Cutter BRAMBLE, to be conveyed to the Port Huron Museum of Arts and History (a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of Michigan), located in Port Huron, Michigan.

(2) The Coast Guard Cutter PLANETREE, to be conveyed to Jewish Life (a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of California), located in Sherman Oaks, California.

(c) CONDITIONS.—As a condition of any conveyance of a vessel under subsection (a), the Commandant shall require the recipient to—

(1) agree—

(A) to use the vessel for purposes of education and historical display;

(B) not to use the vessel for commercial transportation purposes;

(C) to make the vessel available to the United States Government if needed for use by the Commandant in time of war or a national emergency; and

(D) to hold the Government harmless for any claims arising from exposure to hazardous materials, including asbestos and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), after conveyance of the vessel, except for claims arising from use of the vessel by the Government under subparagraph (C);

(2) have funds available that will be committed to operate and maintain the vessel conveyed in good working condition—

(A) in the form of cash, liquid assets, or a written loan commitment; and

(B) in an amount of at least \$700,000; and

(3) agree to any other conditions the Commandant considers appropriate.

(d) MAINTENANCE AND DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—Prior to conveyance of a vessel under this section, the Commandant shall, to the extent practical, and subject to other Coast Guard mission requirements, make every effort to maintain the integrity of the vessel and its equipment until the time of delivery. The Commandant shall deliver a vessel conveyed under this section at the place where the vessel is located, in its present condition, and without cost to the Government. The conveyance of a vessel under this section shall not be considered a distribution in commerce for purposes of section 6(e) of Public Law 94-469 (15 U.S.C. 2605(e)).

(e) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Commandant may convey to the recipient of a vessel under this section any excess equipment or parts from other decommissioned Coast Guard vessels for use to enhance the vessel’s operability and function as an historical display.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) and the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS).

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

H.R. 517 conveys the Coast Guard Cutter *Bramble* to the Port Huron Museum of Arts and History located in Port Huron, Michigan, for use for education and historical display. The amendment we are considering also conveys the Coast Guard Cutter *Planetree* to Jewish Life, a nonprofit corporation that promotes the understanding of Jewish culture and history. The *Bramble* is completing a nearly 60-year-long career, performing the same tasks of buoy tending, ice breaking, search and rescue and law enforcement for which she was commissioned in 1944.

One of 39 original *Iris* Class 180-foot seagoing buoy tenders built in Duluth, Minnesota, the *Bramble* has served admirably all over the United States, including Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto

Rico. The Cutter *Bramble* has served on the Great Lakes since 1962 and has been homeported in Port Huron since 1975. With new technology evolving, the door has opened for a new class of buoy tenders to replace the 180-foot Coast Guard Cutters. The 225-foot Coast Guard Cutter *Hollyhock* will replace the *Bramble*, which will be decommissioned on May 22, 2003. The Cutter *Hollyhock* will be homeported in Port Huron.

Although the *Bramble* has reached the end of her service life to the Coast Guard, I can think of no better mission that she can continue to perform than public service. Serving as an educational and historical platform, she will remain a vital link to Port Huron’s rich maritime heritage.

The Cutter *Planetree*, a 180-foot seagoing buoy tender commissioned in 1943, also has a long history of excellent service to the Coast Guard and to this Nation. She served in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. In addition to operating from ports in Guam, the Great Lakes and throughout the Pacific Northwest, the *Planetree* made her Alaska debut in 1974 when she was transferred to Juneau. Decommissioned in 1999 in her homeport of Ketchikan, the *Planetree* currently is berthed in the San Francisco area where she was retired to a naval vessel graveyard. The *Planetree* was replaced by the new 175-foot buoy tender *Anthony Petit*. This legislation will make it possible for *Planetree* to resume her public service mission by serving as a symbolic ship honoring the original 66 exodus ships, their crew members, and the 77,000 Holocaust survivors those vessels carried to Israel.

This legislation dealing with the *Bramble* was introduced by the gentleman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and, as it is being considered today, also includes the *Planetree* provision requested by the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN). This bill allows the public to continue to receive benefits from these vessels after their services are no longer required by the Coast Guard.

I urge all Members to vote for this important legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 517, a bill to authorize the conveyance of two Coast Guard cutters to nonprofit organizations so they can use them for education and historic displays.

The 180-foot buoy tender *Bramble* was commissioned in 1944 and served our Nation until its decommissioning on May 22, 2002. The *Bramble* has sailed the waters from Alaska and Hawaii to Puerto Rico. Since 1962, she has served on the Great Lakes and has been homeported in Port Huron, Michigan, since 1975.

□ 1415

H.R. 517 will authorize the conveyance of *Bramble* to the Port Huron Museum of Arts and History where she

will continue to be open to the public for educational and historical display purposes.

H.R. 517 also provides for the conveyance of the 180-foot buoy tender *Planetree* to the Jewish Life Corporation. The *Planetree* was commissioned in 1943 and served our Nation until it was decommissioned in 1999. During her service to our country, the *Planetree* served in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Since 1974, the *Planetree* has served in Ketchikan, Alaska. The Jewish Life Organization will use the *Planetree* to teach the public about the original 66 Exodus ships, their crewmembers and the 77,000 Holocaust survivors those vessels carried to Israel.

These conveyances include the standard requirements that Congress has used in the past for similar vessel conveyance, including prohibition of the vessel from being used for commercial transportation purposes, agreeing to make the vessels available to the Federal Government in a time of war or national emergency, and a requirement that the organizations have the necessary funds to operate and maintain the vessels in good working condition. There must be a minimum amount of at least \$700,000 in financial resources available.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 517.

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to proudly support H.R. 517. This is a bill which would direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to convey the Coast Guard cutter, the *Bramble*, to the Port Huron Museum of Arts and History in Port Huron, Michigan, upon its decommissioning on May 22, 2003.

The *Bramble* is also known by its nickname, "The Thorn of the Great Lakes." It is concluding 59 years of service to our Nation. This proud ship has a remarkable history which began in the Great Lakes, and so it is fitting that she remain there to memorialize its great maritime past.

First commissioned in 1945 in Duluth, Minnesota, she departed the Great Lakes for California to perform navigational duties. She continued these duties in Alaska in the Aleutian Island chain. She participated in "Operation Crossroads," the first test of atomic bombs' effects on surface ships at Bikini Island.

In 1957, after being outfitted as an icebreaker, the *Bramble* traveled 4,500 miles in 64 days, making her the first surface ship to circumnavigate the North American continent.

In 1962, the *Bramble* returned to the Great Lakes, and today she resides in Port Huron, Michigan, also commonly known as the Blue Water Area. This is

an area that is very rich with maritime heritage.

Her duties include servicing hundreds of navigational buoys, weather buoys, fog signals, shore lights, and light-houses as well. This good ship has received many awards during its tour of duty. Just to name a few: The Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation, the American Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, the Arctic Service Medal, and the Special Ops Service Medal.

One additional duty that the *Bramble* has performed for many years has actually affected me personally. I race every year in the longest freshwater sailboat regatta in the world. It is called the Port Huron to Mackinac Sailboat Race. This is an event that attracts literally hundreds of boats and thousands of sailors, and as the fleet progresses its way up Lake Huron, the *Bramble* has traditionally followed the fleet, always on call in case of some tragedy. This has been a huge comfort to the sailors that participate in this race, including myself. This year will be my 27th such race. And actually after 25 of these races they induct them into something called the "Old Goat Society," or in my case an old nanny goat. I think I am the only nanny goat in the United States Congress.

This year, though, the *Bramble* will not be following the fleet. A new cutter called the *Hollyhock* will do the honors, and I am certain that the Coast Guard will continue to demonstrate the skill and the bravery and the professionalism that it has always been known for.

Nevertheless, the *Bramble* has become an integral member of the Port Huron community, and over these many years of service, the community has come to view this ship as belonging to the town and to its people because this ship is part of our past, so much so that a charitable nonprofit organization made up of members of the community called the Port Huron Museum of Arts and History has been formed to take possession of and to administer the *Bramble* as a tangible example of Michigan's maritime character.

Upon receiving the *Bramble*, these groups intend to open it to the public, both in Port Huron and other locations around the Great Lakes, as it promotes an appreciation for maritime history and education, as it partners with our local community college, the local school district, and provides a training platform for training cadets of the Great Lakes Maritime Academy.

Passage of H.R. 517 would ensure that the *Bramble* will continue to loyally serve the communities.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LOBIONDO), chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, for his assistance in this matter.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 517.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER).

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 517 and thank the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) for introducing this bill.

Since 1945, the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Bramble* has protected passengers in ports in the Pacific, the Atlantic, and the Arctic, before finally coming home to the Great Lakes in 1962. Here, for over 40 years, with her crew of the Coast Guard's finest, the *Bramble* met every mission be it attending our waters, servicing navigation aids, guarding against ice, and most importantly protecting human life.

Today the proud *Bramble* has reached the sunset of her sailing days, as the Coast Guard's ever-evolving mission requires newer vessels.

Mr. Speaker, we can assign the *Bramble* one final mission: that of an educator and goodwill ambassador at the Port Huron Museum of Arts and History. There is no finer way to honor the *Bramble* and the brave men and women who boarded her.

I respectfully ask the House to support this legislation.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I very much appreciate the efforts of Ranking Member OBERSTAR, and those of Chairman LOBIONDO and Ranking Member FILNER of the Coast Guard Subcommittee, and also Congresswoman MILLER and thank these Members for their support of H.R. 517.

I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation, which would transfer the title of two decommissioned Coast Guard vessels to organizations that, I'm sure you would agree, plan to put them to good use.

Let me speak in particular about the provision of the bill that would transfer the title to the Coast Guard Cutter *Planetree* to Jewish Life, a non-profit U.S. corporation based in California. Jewish Life plans to refurbish the *Planetree* to act as a floating exhibit to commemorate the 66 Exodus ships that carried Holocaust survivors to Israel following World War II, and to educate Americans about their role in this critical event in Israel's history.

The *Planetree* was decommissioned 3 years ago. The vessel is not seaworthy and has been in cold-water storage in San Francisco ever since, at some expense to U.S. taxpayers.

While many are aware of the importance of the Exodus to the establishment of Israel, few are aware of the critical role that Americans played in it. Over 200 Americans manned the Exodus ships, which were responsible for carrying 70,000 Holocaust survivors to Israel.

The vessel, re-christened the *Exodus 2004*, will tour ports in the U.S. and Europe, and participate in ceremonies at each stop commemorating the Exodus. The vessel will end its tour in Israel, where it will remain as a floating exhibit as part of a museum dedicated to the Exodus.

I believe that this certainly is a worthwhile cause, and I encourage you to vote in support of the bill.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 517, introduced by Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, would direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to convey the Coast Guard Cutter *Bramble*, upon its scheduled decommissioning, to the Port Huron Museum of Arts and History located in Port Huron, Michigan for use for education and historical display.

As amended, H.R. 517 would also direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to convey the Coast Guard Cutter *Planetree*, decommissioned on March 19, 1999, to Jewish Life, a nonprofit corporation that promotes the understanding of Jewish history and culture. The vessel will serve as a symbolic ship honoring the original 66 Exodus ships, their crewmembers, and the 77,000 Holocaust survivors they brought to Israel.

Before the vessels are conveyed, the recipients of the vessels must agree to (1) use the designated vessel for education and historical display; (2) not use the vessel for commercial transportation; (3) make the vessel available in time of war or national emergency; and (4) hold the government harmless for any claims arising from exposure to hazardous materials. The recipients must also show their financial viability.

I urge the House to pass this legislation. Returning these decommissioned Coast Guard cutters to missions of public service benefits the public by providing important education and outreach activities.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 517, 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 was amended so as to read: "A bill to direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to convey 2 Coast Guard cutters."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### TONY HALL FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 281) to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 200 West 2nd Street in Dayton, Ohio, as the "Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 281

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

#### SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building and United States courthouse located at 200 West 2nd Street in Dayton, Ohio, shall be known and designated as the "Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

#### SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building and United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) and the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS).

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring before the House H.R. 281, introduced by the gentleman from Springfield, Ohio (Mr. HOBSON), which designates the Federal building and the United States Courthouse at 200 West 2nd Street in Dayton, Ohio, as the "Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

For nearly 40 years, Tony Hall has been an example of what it means to dedicate oneself to public service and service to others. He has been an exemplary citizen of both the State of Ohio and the United States. His history of public service and service to others began with the Peace Corps, where he taught English in Southeast Asia during 1966 and 1967. When he returned to the United States, he served 4 years in the Ohio House of Representatives, and then for 6 years in the Ohio State Senate.

In 1978, he was elected to this body where he served for 12 terms before resigning his seat to accept the nomination by President Bush to serve as the United States Ambassador to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agencies.

By all accounts during his tenure in this body, Tony Hall was a tireless and outspoken advocate for combating world hunger, protecting human rights, and promoting humanitarian causes, including basic education, adult literacy, immunization, and other child survival programs and sustainable agriculture in other countries.

While in the House, Tony Hall served as chairman of the House Select Committee on Hunger and as the chairman and founding member of the Congressional Hunger Center. He also served ably on the Committee on Rules in addition to numerous other committee and caucus assignments.

This is the second time this body has considered legislation making this designation. In the previous Congress, this body agreed to H.R. 5335 by a voice vote on October 7, 2002, but it was never considered by the other body. I hope that the result of our consideration this year will be more positive.

This is a fitting tribute to a dedicated public servant. I support the legislation and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

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

H.R. 281 is a bill to designate the Federal building and courthouse in Dayton, Ohio, as the Tony Hall Federal Building and the United States Courthouse in honor of our former colleague from Ohio, Tony Hall. The bill has strong bipartisan support.

Tony Hall is a true son of Ohio. He was born in Dayton in 1942. After attending local schools, he graduated from Denison University in 1964. He was accepted into the Peace Corps and served as a volunteer in Thailand from 1966 until 1968. Upon his return he was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives, and in 1972 he was elected to the Ohio Senate. In 1978, he was elected to the United States House of Representatives where he served for 12 terms.

Tony Hall currently serves as United States Ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture. Tony Hall was a founder and cochair of the Congressional Hunger Center, a nonprofit organization created to bring awareness to the growing persistent problem of world hunger. He also served as chairman of the House Select Committee on Hunger from 1989 until 1993. Congressman Hall sponsored legislation to help immunize the world's children against major diseases and to increase United States funding for Vitamin A and C.

His passion for protecting and ensuring human rights and combating hunger brought Congressman Hall to such places as North Korea, Peru, Sudan, Bosnia, Rwanda, Somalia, Bangladesh, and Haiti. In 1994, he helped nominate Bishop Carlos Belo for the Nobel Peace Prize for the bishop's role in protecting civilians during armed conflict.

Congressman Hall was an example to all with his steadfast commitment to promoting humanity and peace in a world stricken with poverty and war. This designation is a fitting tribute to his exceptional public service, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 281.

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON).

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, the legislation which I introduced which is now under consideration has been co-sponsored by every member of the Ohio congressional delegation. It would permanently name the Dayton, Ohio, Federal building in honor of our good friend, and colleague until very recently, Tony Hall. For years Tony Hall and I worked in a partnership for the benefit of the citizens of the Miami Valley on numerous projects and initiatives. I am very happy that he can now work directly on hunger issues in the United Nations, but it was still a very sad day for this Congress and the Miami Valley to see him leave.

Tony was an All-American when he was in college, Peace Corps volunteer, a noted traveler especially in checking on hunger, a devoted husband and father, and a dedicated public servant. Tony was the area's longest-serving

Congressman and a three-time Nobel Peace Prize nominee known worldwide for his humanitarian work.

In Congress Tony was always guided by faith and family. He spent 21 years on the House Committee on Rules, was chairman of the House Democratic Caucus Task Force on Hunger, and was founder and chairman of the Congressional Hunger Center. We are all better people today because Tony Hall is in Congress, and the world is going to be a lot better off now that Tony Hall is working in the United Nations on all of our behalf and people of the world all over.

This legislation is a lasting way to pay tribute to Tony's efforts over the years, and I urge all my colleagues to support this bill as we do honor to this great servant of this Nation.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA).

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

□ 1430

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON) for his sponsorship of this resolution, which is most fitting for one of our former colleagues, Tony Hall, from the State of Ohio.

About 13 years ago it was my privilege to be a Member of the House Select Committee on Hunger, and if there are three names that stand out the most, in my humble opinion, and it is a matter of history, of our former colleagues, it is the late Congressman Mickey Leland from Texas, Bill Emerson from Missouri and Tony Hall from Ohio.

I have known Tony for these past years, and I have never known a person who is so genuine in his dedication and commitment to provide for the needs of the hungry, the poor and the needy.

I remember the time when we had left on a mission to Somalia with Bill Emerson, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) and Tony Hall. It was upon our return from that trip in Somalia that we made a recommendation to President Bush that we definitely need humanitarian aid. If there ever was an experience in my life where I have ever seen the most degrading example of seeing how human beings could have survived in those circumstances in Somalia, Mr. Speaker, this was it. I sincerely hope that none of my colleagues or anybody would ever want to experience what I saw that day.

Tony Hall was a dear friend. Not only did he serve as an outstanding member of the Committee on Rules, but he certainly made his mark as a true humanitarian and great leader, not only here in this body, but as an example for all of us, in his dedication and commitment to provide for the hungry, the poor and the needy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Ohio for bringing this resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER).

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the work of Ambassador Tony Hall and support the naming of the Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse in Dayton, Ohio.

Ambassador Tony Hall represented Ohio's Third Congressional District, which included the Dayton area, for over 24 years. Mr. Hall resigned from Congress on September 9, 2002, to accept an appointment to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture in Rome, Italy, where he oversees the World Food Program, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

Mr. Speaker, many of his colleagues will long remember Tony Hall for his compassion and steadfast commitment to the causes that he championed. Perhaps he is most well known as a leading advocate for hunger relief programs and improving international human rights conditions around the world.

As a man of faith, Tony Hall aggressively supported the President's faith-based initiative and coauthored legislation to make changes to the Tax Code which would promote faith-based charities. He also worked with his Ohio colleagues to support Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, built upon the Air Force Research Laboratory's success in research and development, and worked for the nuclear cleanup of the weapons lab facility at the Miamisburg Mound.

Ambassador Hall was nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize for his humanitarian efforts and received numerous recognitions from the United Nations for his work on preventing hunger. In 1993, he raised public awareness in America and throughout the world by fasting for 22 days.

Born in Kettering, Ohio, Mr. Hall attended Denison University, where he was an All-American tailback and named the Ohio Conference's most valuable player in 1963. He served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Thailand in 1966 and 1967, and served in both the Ohio statehouse and senate before being elected to Congress in 1978, where he served on the prestigious Committee on Rules for 22 years.

The people of the Third District of Ohio are grateful for Tony Hall's commitment to public service.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill to recognize the contributions of Tony Hall, his contributions to his district, his contributions to this House, his contributions to this country, and his contributions to the world. It is fitting that a public building, for people to see day after day, should be named for Tony Hall.

The gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) used the

word "genuine" in speaking about Tony Hall. It is, indeed, a fitting word.

There is no one, I think, who has served in this body, certainly in recent times, whose works have done more to illuminate his faith than Tony Hall. Extraordinarily popular in his district, he did many things over a couple of decades for his district, for Wright-Patterson, for others, but it was really a transforming experience that he had on overseas congressional travel when he saw hunger face to face, when he saw people dying before his eyes, that he devoted himself primarily to eradicating hunger from the globe, and I would say in his district. I know in my own district in New Jersey he has inspired workers to redouble their efforts to fight hunger, just as he did back home, not just overseas, but through food banks and various programs, to eradicate hunger at his doorstep, as well as across the oceans.

When the House, unfortunately, abolished the Select Committee on Hunger some years ago, he took to fasting, as has been noted, and all over America people saw his football player frame emaciated. He did not succeed in restoring that select committee, but he did draw attention to the problem.

His faith, his deep religious faith, carried him to work even harder on the issue of hunger, and when he saw recently that he could do even more as America's representative in Rome to the international food and hunger organizations, he took that opportunity. It is a loss to the House of Representatives, but it certainly is a gain, a life-saving gain, to millions of people around the world.

It certainly is fitting that we pay tribute to this man of faith, this genuine public servant, Tony Hall.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF).

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 281, to designate the Federal Building and United States Courthouse at West 2nd Street in Dayton, Ohio, as the "Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

Our former colleague, Tony Hall, was nominated by President Bush to be the United States Ambassador to the United Nations food and agriculture agencies located in Rome, Italy, and resigned his seat as the representative of the Third District of Ohio last September to take the post in Rome, where he has continued his passionate work as a leading advocate for ending hunger and promoting food security around the world.

I want to especially thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON). It was interesting to always watch the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON) and Tony Hall together, a Republican and a Democrat, side by side, different voting districts, but very good friends. I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr.

HOBSON) for introducing this and moving this so quickly, and also for the relationship they had, to honor Tony in his hometown in Dayton by attaching his name to the Federal building and courthouse. It is an appropriate recognition.

I personally, as we all do, miss Tony very much, our colleague in the House, but I know he is absolutely the right person to serve as the United States representative to the World Food Program. No one else could do a better job.

Tony Hall's name is synonymous, as the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) was saying, with the cause of alleviating hunger, both domestically and worldwide, as a result of his faith. He believes that food is the most basic of human needs, the most basic of human rights. He has passionately worked to convince others that the cause of hunger, which often gets lost in this legislative shuffle and pushed aside by more visible issues, deserved the prominent share of attention.

He worked as a tireless advocate for the cause of human rights, and he actually led the effort in bringing to the attention of this Congress the conflict diamond trade in authoring legislation, which has since been passed, to certify that diamonds Americans buy are not tainted with the blood of the people of Sierra Leone and other African nations.

Tony has never been deterred in his effort to help make positive differences in the lives of suffering people. In his years in Congress, he traveled to wherever the need arose and met with whomever he could to effect change.

I believe Tony's life destiny was to be a servant. He is an inspiration to everyone fortunate enough to know him. He has had a wonderful combination of compassion and passion, filled with a spiritual purpose; compassion to see the suffering in the less fortunate in the world, and the passion to do something about it.

I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON) again and all those who cosponsored this bill on both sides of the aisle, and look forward to seeing this building named with Tony Hall's name.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I, too, want to join in supporting this legislation and also in paying tribute to Tony Hall. I knew Tony and knew of Tony long before I came to Congress. During the 1970s, I used to spend a great deal of time in the Dayton-Cincinnati-Columbus area, Xenia and all of those places, and got to hear of Tony Hall and the kind of person that he was, a man who would spend his time dealing with the issue of hunger, which is not necessarily one of the most popular issues that one can deal with in the House of Representatives. But Tony made it a hallmark, made it his business to continuously raise that issue while a Member, and now con-

tinues to do so as he goes to work with world hunger.

I think it is a tremendous testament to him. I am pleased to join with my colleagues in support of this resolution and urge its passage.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GILLMOR).

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

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to be here to speak on behalf of this legislation to honor Tony Hall. I have known Tony for probably 30 years. I served with him for a long time in the State senate in Ohio and had the opportunity to serve with him in the United States Congress. Tony made a mark, both nationally and internationally, as a leader in the fight against hunger. I most recently had the opportunity to meet with him in his new position as Ambassador in Rome.

This is an honor very well deserved, and I am pleased to speak in support of the bill.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 281, designating the Federal Building and United States Courthouse, located at 200 West 2nd Street, in Dayton, OH, the "Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

Born and raised in Dayton, OH, Congressman Hall attended the public schools of Dayton, graduating from Fairmont High School in 1960. He went on to attend Denison University in Granville, OH.

While most Members know that Congressman Hall earned success in the classroom, what many don't know is that he also earned high honors for his work on the gridiron, being named a Little All American as a running back at Denison University.

After graduation, he served in the Peace Corps in Thailand, upon his return he served in both the Ohio House of Representatives and the State Senate before being elected to honorably serve for 12 terms in this body.

While in this body, and as the founder and chairman of the Congressional Hunger Caucus, Congressman Hall aggressively fought to ensure that no person, anywhere, went hungry.

In 2002, Tony Hall accepted a Presidential appointment to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Programs, a post from which he can continue this important work. I join my colleagues in wishing Tony Hall the best of luck in his new position.

I support the legislation, and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 281.

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. BURGESS. 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.

#### AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR D.C. SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 128) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the D.C. Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 128

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring).*

#### SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR D.C. SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN.

On June 6, 2003, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate, the 2003 District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run (in this resolution referred to as the "event") may be run through the Capitol Grounds as part of the journey of the Special Olympics torch to the District of Columbia Special Olympics summer games at Gallaudet University in the District of Columbia.

#### SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITY OF CAPITOL POLICE BOARD.

The Capitol Police Board shall take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the event.

#### SEC. 3. CONDITIONS RELATING TO PHYSICAL PREPARATIONS.

The Architect of the Capitol may prescribe conditions for physical preparations for the event.

#### SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 4 of the Act of July 31, 1946 (40 U.S.C. 193d; 60 Stat. 718), concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) and the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS).

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

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 128 authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 18th annual District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run, which will occur 6 June, 2003. This event is cosponsored by the United States Capitol Police, who will host opening ceremonies on the Capitol Grounds, and, once lit, the torch will be carried to Fort McNair.

□ 1445

This event is the Special Olympics' largest grass-roots fund raiser, raising

over \$20 million during 2002. More than 85,000 law enforcement officers participated in the event worldwide last year, and an estimated 2,000 law enforcement officers representing 60 local and Federal law enforcement agencies will participate in this year's event.

Though the torch run will not occur until June 6, the District of Columbia Special Olympics is hosting their summer games this week on the campus of Catholic University. The sponsors of the event work with the Architect of the Capitol and the United States Capitol Police to comply with all applicable regulations relating to the use of the Capitol Grounds.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join the law enforcement community in supporting the special Olympics and join me in supporting this resolution.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this event needs little introduction. 2003 marks the 35th anniversary of the D.C. Special Olympics. The torch relay event is a traditional part of the opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics in the District of Columbia.

Each year, approximately 2,500 Special Olympians compete in over a dozen events. More than 1 million children and adults with special needs participate in the Special Olympics worldwide programs. The event is supported by literally thousands of volunteers.

The goal of the games is to help bring mentally challenged individuals into larger society under conditions whereby they are accepted and respected. Confidence and self-esteem are the building blocks of these Olympic games.

I enthusiastically support the resolution and the very worthwhile endeavor of the Special Olympics. I urge support for House Concurrent Resolution 128.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my full support for House Concurrent Resolution 128, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 2003 DC Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

This event occurs in over 35 countries, but was founded by the Chief of Police in Wichita, Kansas, who saw a unique opportunity to raise funds and increase awareness about the Special Olympics. The event was then adopted by the International Association of Police Chiefs.

This is the 18th year the event has been held on the Capitol Grounds, and each year it is the largest single grass-roots fundraising event for the Special Olympics.

Every two years, law enforcement officers representing their State or Nation's Torch Run program comprise a final leg team which carries the "Flame of Hope" into the opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics World Games.

I am proud to support this resolution, and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 128.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BURGESS. 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 House Concurrent Resolution 128, H.R. 281, and H.R. 517, the matters just considered by the House.

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

There was no objection.

#### DELBERT L. LATTA POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 985) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 West Washington Street in Bowling Green, Ohio, as the "Delbert L. Latta Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 985

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

#### SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 West Washington Street in Bowling Green, Ohio, shall be known and designated as the "Delbert L. Latta Post Office Building".

#### SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Delbert L. Latta Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 985.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 985, introduced by my distinguished colleague from the State of Ohio (Mr. GILLMOR), designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 West Washington Street in Bowling

Green, Ohio, as the Delbert L. Latta Post Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, this is a special day for this House as we have a chance here to honor one of our own former Members. U.S. Representative Delbert Latta, or Del, as he was affectionately known, worked 30 years for the people of the great State of Ohio's fifth district. He was one of the House's most devoted Members, and I am proud to be a part of these proceedings to honor him today.

Del grew up in northwest Ohio before serving our country in the Ohio National Guard and Marine Corps Reserve. After graduating from Ohio Northern University's law school in 1943, Del Latta began to practice law in Bowling Green. Ten years later, he sought and won a seat in the Ohio State senate, to which he was reelected two times. Finally, in November of 1958, Del Latta was elected to the 86th Congress, beginning a career where he spent most of his time fighting for fiscal prudence.

Not known as one of this body's most attention-seeking Members, Congressman Latta was definitely one of its most diligent. He held pivotal seats on the Committee on Rules, the Committee on Agriculture, and the Committee on the Budget during his time in the House. In 1975, he became the ranking member of the Committee on the Budget, a post he held for 13 years until his retirement. In that position, Del Latta played an important role by consistently fighting for budget-balancing measures and against wasteful government spending. He was the dean of his home State of Ohio's congressional delegation when he chose to not seek reelection in 1988, and he returned home to Bowling Green.

In addition, perhaps the most suitable aspects of renaming this post office building after Congressman Latta is the fact that this very facility once housed Congressman Latta's district office in Bowling Green.

Therefore, I urge all Members to recognize the public service career of former Ohio Congressman Del Latta by supporting the passage of H.R. 985. I thank my colleague from Ohio for introducing this important measure.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 985, legislation which names a postal facility in Bowling Green, Ohio, after Delbert L. Latta. H.R. 985, introduced by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GILLMOR) on February 27, 2003, has met the committee cosponsorship requirement and enjoys the support of the entire Ohio delegation.

Delbert L. Latta is a former Member of Congress who represented the Fifth Congressional District in Ohio from 1959 to 1989. A native of "Beautiful

Ohio," the title of the State song, Mr. Latta was born and educated in the State whose motto is, "With God all things are possible." He went on to serve in the Ohio National Guard and the U.S. Marines before settling down and practicing law in Bowling Green.

Prior to his election to the U.S. House of Representatives, Delbert Latta served in the State senate for three terms. In November of 1958, he was elected to the 86th Congress. During his 30 years in Congress, Representative Latta served on the House Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on the Budget, and the Committee on Rules. In 1988, Representative Latta decided not to run for reelection and returned home to Bowling Green, Ohio, where he is active in numerous community and civic organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GILLMOR) for seeking to honor former Congressman Del Latta in this matter, and I urge swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GILLMOR), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I am very pleased to rise and ask my colleagues to support H.R. 985, which would duly honor a man who was my predecessor in this body, Congressman Del Latta. Del served for 30 years in this Chamber, and it was 30 years of distinguished service to the people of the fifth district of Ohio.

It designates the post office at 111 West Washington Street in Bowling Green as the Delbert L. Latta Post Office building, and I think it is particularly appropriate, because Del spent a great deal of time in that building. During most of his career in Congress, his congressional office was located there.

He was born in Weston, Ohio, in Wood County. He attended Findlay College and Ohio Northern University; and before World War II, from 1938 to 1941, he served in the Ohio National Guard and in the U.S. Army. He was in the Marine Corps Reserve from 1942 to 1943. He was admitted to practice law in 1944. He served later in the Ohio senate for three terms, from 1953 to 1958. After some gap in service, I had the privilege of also representing that State senate district. He was elected to the 86th Congress in November 1958.

During his tenure, he had a number of very important assignments: the Committee on Rules; the Committee on the Budget, where he was ranking minority member; and he also served three terms on the House Committee on Agriculture. He was very well known as the cosponsor of the Graham-Latta bill, which was a major tax cut bill in the Reagan administration. And after deciding he would not run for re-

election in 1988, he returned to his home in Bowling Green, and Del remains active in the community today.

Among his achievements in public service are his involvement in the Watergate hearings and his role as dean of the Ohio delegation. The character, hard work, and the commitment he brought to public life had a significant effect on our State and on our Nation's public policy, and his accomplishments should not go unnoticed.

So I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers on this issue, and I want to again thank the gentleman from Ohio for introducing this important legislation. I urge all Members to support the adoption of this measure.

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 Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 985.

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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#### HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF FORMER SPEAKER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MATTHEW J. RYAN

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 178) honoring the life and work of former Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Matthew J. Ryan and offering the deepest condolences of the United States House of Representatives to his wife and family on his death.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 178

Whereas Matthew J. Ryan, born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, led a distinguished career of public service devoted to the United States and the State of Pennsylvania;

Whereas Matthew J. Ryan served as a First Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps from 1954 to 1956;

Whereas Matthew J. Ryan began his service to the 168th District of Pennsylvania in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1962;

Whereas Matthew J. Ryan was elected Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1981, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, and 2003;

Whereas Matthew J. Ryan was the second longest serving Member and the third longest serving Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in its 321 year history;

Whereas Speaker Ryan's ability to negotiate with and unite Members possessing differing viewpoints in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives contributed to the betterment of Pennsylvania throughout his six terms as Speaker;

Whereas Speaker Ryan will be remembered for his quick wit and gracious demeanor, attributes which endeared him to colleagues and citizens alike;

Whereas Speaker Ryan received hundreds of awards and commendations during his four decades of service, including the National Conference of State Legislators' "Legislator of the Year Award" and the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce's "Citizen of the Year Award"; and

Whereas the "Speaker Matthew J. Ryan Building" of the Pennsylvania Capitol complex will forever serve as a testament to Speaker Ryan's faithful service to the State and as a reminder of his unwavering leadership in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the United States House of Representatives honors the outstanding life and work of former Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Matthew J. Ryan and offers its deepest condolences to his wife and family on his death.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY).

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

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 178, introduced by my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON), honors the life and work of former Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Matthew J. Ryan and offers the deepest condolences of the United States House of Representatives to his wife and family on his death.

Mr. Speaker, Matthew Ryan was one of the most influential public servants in the great State of Pennsylvania for more than 20 years. After winning his first term to the State House in 1981, he ultimately rose to the level of Speaker where he served the longest tenure as House Speaker of any Republican in Pennsylvania history.

Speaker Ryan was a well-regarded member of the Pennsylvania State House, largely due to his close relations with all representatives of both parties. Current Pennsylvania Governor, Ed Rendell, a Democrat, kindly spoke to Speaker Ryan's effectiveness and affability, saying that he consistently provided "strong and effective leadership without resorting to destructive partisanship."

Governor Tom Ridge, who is now the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, often spoke in affectionate terms of the positive working relationship he had with Speaker Ryan; and similarly, Governor Mark Schweiker, who followed Governor Ridge, talked of Matt Ryan in the most endearing of terms.

Longtime Delaware County GOP Chairman Thomas Judge, Sr. has said, "You couldn't get mad at him. He was just an individual who would say he would disagree with you, and he certainly would give his viewpoint, but when you left the room, you were friends. He never held a grudge."

Because of this respect, Speaker Ryan's colleagues in the legislature

honored him by rededicating the Capitol Annex in Harrisburg as the Matthew J. Ryan Legislative Office Building. Luckily, they could do that before Matt Ryan passed away so he could see his name on that building.

□ 1500

Matt Ryan, sadly, passed away on March 29, 2003, after a long battle with stomach cancer. He is survived by his wife, Delaware County Judge Patricia H. Jenkins; five children, Matt, Jr., Maureen, Katie, Terry and Jayne, and 12 grandchildren.

As the resolution states, we offer each of them the condolences of this House and the reassurance that Matthew J. Ryan will never be forgotten. Therefore, I urge all members to support the adoption of House Resolution 178 that honors the career and life of Matthew J. Ryan; and I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) for introducing this important measure.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, Matthew J. Ryan, is well known throughout Pennsylvania as an advocate for welfare reform, tax relief and creating jobs.

Speaker Ryan served in the House for 41 years. During that time he served as Republican policy chairman and whip and for longer than anyone else who ever held office.

Speaker Ryan was the elected Speaker for the first time in 1981, and colleagues from both sides of the aisle lauded him for the nonpartisan way in which he presided over that session. Elected Speaker again in 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, Ryan is respected by his peers as a caucus unifier, feisty debater, parliamentary tactician, government expert, Pennsylvania booster, and a committed leader who plays fair and with esprit.

A member of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts since 1995, Ryan founded Arts Education Day at the State capitol, an annual event that features hundreds of young performing and visual artists from across the State. For this and other support of arts education, in 2001 he received the Champion of Arts Education Award from the Pennsylvania Alliance for Arts Education.

In his 1981 acknowledgment speech, Ryan is quoted as saying, "We representatives of the Pennsylvania House, honored by our special heritage and enabled by our unique tradition, have sworn our pledges to serve our Commonwealth, to serve our country, and to save the dream of William Penn, and this service begins when this day's meeting ends."

Speaker Ryan served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania well, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I do not have any additional requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from the State of Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER).

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 178, honoring the life and work of the former Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, Matthew J. Ryan. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wonderful family.

Matt Ryan was a legendary figure in Pennsylvania politics and a true definition of an American statesman. As we remember Matt, we speak of dignity, wisdom and fairness. We also recall his strong-willed determination and focus in serving the State that he loved so dearly. In the world of politics it is rare to find someone who was so effective on so many levels and touched so many people.

Speaker Ryan offered an extended hand to both friend and foe, and it is fitting that his legacy includes friends and admirers who sat on both sides of the aisle.

Earlier this year, the Speaker told colleagues, "I'll be back," when he was forced to take leave and battle his illness. It was perhaps unnecessary because Matt Ryan has never left. He will always be with us.

The State of Pennsylvania has lost a leader, and the United States has lost one of its great citizens. I am honored to support House Resolution 178, to recognize the life and work of our distinguished and deeply missed Speaker.

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

Madam Speaker, I want to again thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) for introducing this important legislation. Unfortunately, he was not able to be here personally.

I urge all Members to support the adoption of this measure.

Mr. HOEFFEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Matthew J. Ryan, the former Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

Speaker Ryan, who passed away on March 29, 2003, dutifully served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for over 40 years. I am glad to see that his life and work are being honored here today in the United States House of Representatives, and I deeply share the sentiments expressed in H. Res. 178.

Speaker Ryan climbed the ranks in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and I had the distinct pleasure of working with him while he was serving as the Majority Leader and then when he was first elected as Speaker in 1981. His leadership and sense of humor will be greatly missed as will his tireless work for the citizens of Pennsylvania.

Matt Ryan had a very effective way of maintaining order in the Pennsylvania House from the Speaker's chair. When the debate became loud and tempers were flaring, Matt would gently tap the gavel on the desk rather than

bang the gavel head, and his gentle persuasion always returned the House to order.

I also want to express my condolences to Speaker Ryan's wife and family on their loss. I thank them for sharing Speaker Ryan with us with the people he represented. Speaker Matthew J. Ryan will be greatly missed, and I am very grateful to him and the work he did throughout his career.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 178.

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.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD REMOVE THE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAQ COMPLETELY AND WITHOUT CONDITION

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 160) expressing the sense of Congress that the United Nations should remove the economic sanctions against Iraq completely and without condition, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 160

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 661 established sanctions as a result of Saddam Hussein's unprovoked, illegal aggression against the sovereign Arab State of Kuwait;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 687 continued the sanctions, which were intended to deprive the government of Saddam Hussein of maintaining or acquiring the means to threaten other states or peoples, or to continue to oppress his own people;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, through the Oil-for-Food program, allowed for humanitarian goods to flow to Iraq while maintaining the sanctions regime and control over Iraq's oil revenue;

Whereas the Coalition that liberated Iraq poses no risk to other states or peoples, and there is no reason to believe that the people of Iraq, liberated from the tyrant Saddam Hussein, pose such a risk;

Whereas the Coalition is providing for the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people;

Whereas the people of Iraq are now ready to rebuild their nation after over 30 years of tyranny;

Whereas the sanctions established by United Nations Security Council Resolutions 661 and 687 prohibit the importation of goods necessary for the Iraqi people to rebuild their country;

Whereas these sanctions restrict the trade of Iraqi goods, by and on behalf of the Iraqi people, necessary to allow expeditious rebuilding of Iraq and recovery from the tyranny of Saddam Hussein; and

Whereas continuing the sanctions imposed on the government of Saddam Hussein punishes the people of Iraq for the actions of a

brutal tyrant who no longer rules them: Now, therefore, be it:

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring).* That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the United Nations should immediately act to lift the economic sanctions imposed by United Nations Security Council Resolutions 661 and 687; and

(2) member states of the United Nations should allow and encourage their nationals to trade with Iraq.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam 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. Con. Res. 160, the legislation under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this resolution calls on the United Nations to immediately and unconditionally lift the economic sanctions on Iraq. The U.N. sanctions were passed after Saddam Hussein, a totalitarian dictator, invaded Kuwait in 1990. That resolution was the first of 17 U.N. resolutions passed over the next 11 years trying to bring Saddam Hussein under control.

At the time then-President Bush organized a coalition that sent in the military, forced Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait, and subsequently loosened the hold of this murderous tyrant over the Kurdish people in northern Iraq.

Madam Speaker, in September of 1991, the United Nations modified the sanctions to contain Saddam Hussein and allowed him to trade Iraq's oil for only humanitarian supplies through the so-called Oil for Food Program. These sanctions were meant to keep Saddam Hussein's military from developing more weapons and becoming a greater threat.

However, after an impressive military success, Iraq is now entering a new day and is no longer a threat. Coalition forces have freed the Iraqi people, and the U.N. sanctions which once strove to contain a murderous tyrant now contain the Iraqi people themselves. The Iraqi people have historically been one of the most highly educated, industrious, and entrepreneurial people in the Middle East. To rebuild their country, Iraq and the Iraqi people must be able to trade freely. Every additional day that these sanctions remain is an additional day that the people of Iraq are suffering from Saddam Hussein's tyranny.

The President has called on the United Nations to end these sanctions.

I have introduced this resolution, and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the chairman, and the ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) have moved it through the Committee on International Relations so members of the Security Council would understand that the United States Government speaks with a single voice in Iraq.

The coalition returned political freedom to the Iraqi people, but with these sanctions the U.N. is withholding the opportunity for economic freedom and recovery from Saddam Hussein's tyranny. I hope that Congress can send a strong message demanding that the United Nations immediately correct this mistake and lift the economic sanctions against Iraq.

Madam Speaker, let me briefly describe the resolution before us. This resolution recognizes that the United Nations sanctions were imposed on the regime of Saddam Hussein, not on Iraq or its people. Iraq had become a murderous toy for a totalitarian dictator. The Iraqi people did not choose to invade Kuwait. Their Arab neighbors and Saddam Hussein actually went and did it. The Iraqi people did not choose to go to war with Iran in the 1980s. Saddam Hussein did. The Iraqi people certainly did not decide to use chemical weapons against either Iranian soldiers or on Iraqi Kurds. Saddam Hussein did.

These sanctions were not imposed on the Iraqi people. They were imposed on the regime led by a crazy man who exploited the resources of Iraq for his own gains. And when this regime fell, so did the basis for his sanctions.

The resolution recognizes that the coalition freed the Iraqi people for a better future. It recognizes that at this time the coalition is providing for the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people. The coalition is working as hard and as fast as it can to have Iraq standing on its own two feet, but restricting trade makes this very difficult.

Newspaper reports have said that after the Iran/Iraq war, it took 3 years for electric power to come back to some parts of Baghdad. The U.S. is pushing to get the people of Baghdad working and getting them electricity by this June.

The coalition is working with the United Nations and other organizations to provide as much as possible for the Iraqi people after the more than two decades of neglect of Iraq's infrastructure.

This resolution also recognizes that with the liberation of the Iraq, the effects of the sanctions have shifted. Sanctions were imposed, Madam Speaker, because the resources of Iraq were used to serve the dangerous interests of a single man. The sanctions help contain his ability to build an army and threaten Iraq's neighbors and the Iraqi people themselves.

Now that Saddam Hussein's regime has ended, the resources of Iraq can now serve the people of Iraq. When they seek to trade their goods for

goods of others, it is in their own interest, not in those of a tyrant. The Iraqi people want to trade to rebuild their country, devastated by 30 years of misrule. Before Iraq was liberated, the sanctions contained Saddam Hussein. Now they contain the Iraqi people. The continuation of these sanctions has, in effect, equated the people of Iraq with their former dictator.

A majority of Iraqis have lived most of their adult lives under Saddam Hussein. The transition to a free enterprise economy will be difficult, impossible while trade sanctions continue.

Madam Speaker, I offer this resolution because some members of the Security Council have hesitated in ending these sanctions for what appear to be selfish reasons. In doing so they undermine the Iraqi people, and they continue to undermine their own credibility and that of the United Nations.

I know my colleagues in Congress will join me in calling on the United Nations to end the economic sanctions on Iraq.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam 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. Madam Speaker, I want to thank and commend my good friend, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH), my colleague, for his authorship of this resolution. I certainly want to commend him for his leadership and his expertise not only as a member of the Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia, but his firm understanding of the issues now at hand. I also want to commend the chairman of our Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), and our senior ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for their providing support of this legislation that is now before us.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution.

First, I would like to express my condolences to the families of all those who died in yesterday's suicide bombing attack in Saudi Arabia. I hope for the speedy recovery of those who were injured. This attack demonstrated that in the midst of the very crisis facing these countries, we need to maintain our focus on the war on terrorism and remain focused on protecting our homeland.

Madam Speaker, the resolution before us today calls for an end to sanctions against Iraq, an issue that holds the key to resolving virtually every major economic and social problem in newly liberated Iraq. Sanctions on Iraq, established by the United Nations Security Council Resolution 661 and reaffirmed in United Nations Security Council Resolution 687, have been in place for nearly 13 years since the August 1990 Iraq invasion of Kuwait.

These sanctions were intended to deprive Saddam Hussein insofar as it was possible of the means to carry out the most nefarious of his policies, threatening his neighbors and Iraq's own citizens, developing weapons of mass destruction and supporting terrorism.

□ 1515

Madam Speaker, clearly the need for United Nations sanctions on Iraq, indeed the very logic of sanctions, has now expired with the defeat and demise of Saddam Hussein's regime. Neither the coalition authorities nor the Iraqi people liberated from Saddam's tyranny pose any sort of threat to neighboring states. Nor, we can be certain, Madam Speaker, will the coalition authorities or a subsequent Iraqi regime support terrorism or develop weapons of mass destruction.

It is, therefore, time for the international community to decisively lift the sanctions and to allow the Iraqi people to resume a normal economic life and proceed with the reconstruction of their country, a crucial first step towards developing the healthy political and social environment in which democracy and social harmony can flourish.

Madam Speaker, I know that this matter is now being negotiated by our diplomats at the United Nations, and I have confidence that they will soon reach a satisfactory solution, I would certainly like to commend our Secretary of State, Colin Powell, for his outstanding leadership in this area.

This resolution strengthens our diplomats' hands by reinforcing the message that the world should support, and certainly not impede, economic development in liberated Iraq.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 160 and urge an end to anachronistic sanctions on Iraq.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR).

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 160, a bill to remove the economic sanctions against Iraq. For too long, the sanctions have drained the Iraqi society and its vital economic energy. In their wake, we find a country whose standard of living has declined significantly, its middle class has all but disappeared, and its infrastructure is in total disrepair.

Now that dictator Saddam Hussein, the inspiration for the sanctions regime, has been defeated, there no longer remains any justification for its continuation. I hope that the lifting of the sanctions will lead to a prosperous Iraq economy which will benefit the people and bring them back into the world of free and open commerce.

I think that this bill, which signals the commitment of the United States to reconstruction in Iraq, is a good step in the right direction. I trust that the United Nations will respond positively to this initiative.

The removal of sanctions, however, will not alone bring prosperity to Iraq. Before there is prosperity, there must first be security. It is my firm belief that the United States, by intervening militarily in Iraq, has assumed the responsibility for the safety and the security of the Iraqi people.

I applaud the gentleman from Michigan's initiative on the economic front. We must also pay attention to the security front.

As we continue to assist Iraq in its reconstruction, I think we need to establish here in Congress an institutional framework for postconflict resolutions and for postconflict operations. Part of that institutional framework would be to strengthen the U.S. Government's ability to respond to authority gaps left by failed or otherwise collapsed states.

I propose to draft legislation for the creation of an integrated security component in NATO, which would train and equip special units which would provide for the security of the civilian population serving as an interim police force.

I urge my colleagues today to support H. Con. Res. 160, and I look forward to working with the sponsor and other interested Members of Congress to develop this postconflict legislation to close the security and justice gaps so that Iraq and countries emerging from conflict can achieve the economic prosperity to which they, and we, aspire.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to say in relation to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) that our Committee on International Relations is looking carefully at these issues and looks forward to working with my colleague, and certainly in a bipartisan effort to deal with this possible legislation.

I would like to say also, Madam Speaker, that the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) is one of the outstanding Representatives in Congress that is both exceptionally capable and also a good friend. Concluding my comments, I again urge the United Nations to act swiftly. In the language of the resolution the United Nations Security Council Resolution 661 established sanctions as a result of Saddam Hussein's unprovoked illegal aggression against the sovereign Arab State of Kuwait. This resolution is expressing the sense of Congress that now the United Nations should remove the economic sanctions against Iraq completely and without condition.

It is the hope of the United States to have this resolution in the United Nations passed by June 3. It is my personal opinion that if the United Nations refuses to pass this resolution, the United States and the coalition

should act aggressively to still allow oil and other products to be exported from Iraq to allow necessary supplies be purchased to go to Iraq for rebuilding.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 160, 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 Michigan. Madam 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.

#### COMMENDING THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEBRIS COLLECTION EFFORT FOLLOWING THE SPACE SHUTTLE "COLUMBIA" ACCIDENT

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 222) commending those individuals who contributed to the debris collection effort following the Space Shuttle *Columbia* accident.

The Clerk read as follows:

##### H. RES. 222

Whereas on February 1, 2003, the Space Shuttle *Columbia* and its crew of seven heroic astronauts were lost in a tragic accident;

Whereas the breakup of *Columbia* scattered debris over a large area of Texas, as well as Louisiana, Nevada, California, and possibly other States;

Whereas the Federal Emergency Management Agency was designated the lead agency for directing other Federal agencies in the recovery of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* debris;

Whereas personnel from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the United States Forest Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other agencies assisted in the recovery of the *Columbia* debris;

Whereas personnel from State and local agencies assisted in the recovery of the *Columbia* debris;

Whereas many citizens, including National Aeronautics and Space Administration contractor personnel from multiple States, volunteered their time to assist in the recovery of the *Columbia* debris;

Whereas two searchers perished and three others were injured in a helicopter crash while searching for *Columbia* debris;

Whereas citizens of eastern Texas offered their whole-hearted support, both physical and emotional, to the debris search teams; and

Whereas the combined efforts of all of these individuals and organizations resulted in the collection of more than seventy thousand pieces of debris, far more than was

originally thought possible, providing accident investigators with vital evidence that will assist in determining the cause of the accident: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives does offer its gratitude on behalf of the American people to the thousands of individuals who worked tirelessly to recover the Space Shuttle *Columbia* debris.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BURGESS. Madam 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.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, the morning of February 1 was a tragic day for our space program, our Nation, and the world when the Space Shuttle *Columbia* broke apart upon re-entry over the skies of Texas.

Our Nation and our Congress have honored the memory of the seven astronauts who gave the last full measure of devotion to the cause of space exploration, and we pay our respects to the families of those affected by the tragedy.

Today, with this resolution, we honor over 20,000 Americans who worked long hours over the past several months under difficult weather and terrain conditions to find the remains of the *Columbia* crew and scattered pieces of the space shuttle. In a painstaking search over 680,000 acres, the search teams recovered over 83,000 pieces of the shuttle in order to piece together a puzzle and find answers for what went terribly wrong that morning.

This resolution honors the great Americans from NASA, the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, the EPA, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Defense, the Department of Transportation, the United States Forest Service, the Park Service, the Texas National Guard, Louisiana National Guard, fire crews from 42 States, State and local authorities, as well as many farmers, land owners, and citizens who helped locate, document, and pick up the pieces over the past several months.

Over 20,000 Americans from over 130 Federal, State and local agencies came together as a team for this noble effort, walking their specific search grids. Their selfless acts of dedication and generosity honored the memory of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* crew and greatly aided the *Columbia* Accident Investigation Board. The search teams endured snow and ice storms as well as brambles and swamps in their search.

We especially honor the pilot and Forest Service Ranger who lost their lives in a helicopter crash while searching for material in the Angelina National Forest in east Texas on March 27 of this year.

To quote President Bush in honoring the crew of the Space Shuttle *Columbia*, "This cause of exploration and discovery is not an option we choose; it is a desire written in the human heart. We are that part of creation which seeks to understand all creation. We find the best among us, send them forth into unmapped darkness, and pray they will return. They go in peace for all mankind, and all mankind is in their debt."

Likewise, all mankind is in the debt of the search and recovery teams for their noble effort and sacrifice. Thus, the House of Representatives offers its gratitude on behalf of the American people and to the thousands of individuals who worked tirelessly to recover the Space Shuttle *Columbia*.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I might consume.

Of course, as has been pointed out very aptly by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), our country suffered a major tragedy on February 1, 2003. Of course, that was the day that the sky over my home State of Texas was filled with fiery debris from the Space Shuttle *Columbia*. We all mourn the loss of the seven brave men and women who perished that day, and will never forget their sacrifice. They made the ultimate sacrifices in the cause of space exploration and, of course, in the cause of science.

In the weeks and months since the loss of *Columbia* and its crew, the focus has been on finding the cause of the accident, not to place blame but to prevent future tragedy. Examination of shuttle debris has been a very important part of that investigation.

We know that it has not been an easy job to collect this. It has been a tedious job, and it has been day in and day out, long hours. It was scattered over at least two States with the bulk of it spread over a wide area of my home State of Texas. Yet within hours of the accident, we had teams of people, men and women, young men and young women, out scouring the countryside for that debris; and it was a very impressive effort.

It involved people from a number of Federal agencies, including personnel from the Federal Emergency Management Agencies, from NASA, from the United States Forest Service, and the EPA among others. It also involved people from State and local agencies who worked very long hours, in all kinds of weather; and it also involved citizens from many States who volunteered their time and volunteered their energy to this task. We owe all of them our thanks.

We also offer our condolences to those who perished when their heli-

copter crashed during the search for debris.

We know, Madam Speaker, and I also want to note, that there is another aspect of the story that needs to be highlighted, and that is the heartwarming response of my east Texas friends and my neighbors in the search in the area who comprised the search teams. There have been countless examples of folks in Texas opening their homes and hearts to those who have been engaged in the grueling work of debris recovery, and I am very proud of all of them.

The concentrated multiagency debris collection effort that was led by FEMA ended on April 30 when FEMA turned over the responsibilities for any further collection efforts to NASA. While that effort will continue, we can take stock of what has been accomplished today. It is an impressive accomplishment.

Nearly 85,000 pounds of debris, about 38 percent of *Columbia*'s dry weight, was recovered. That was far more than had been hoped for when the search began in February. In addition, nearly 83,000 specific items have been recovered; and more than 79,000 of those have been identified. Most importantly, the board investigating the *Columbia* accident has said that the debris collected so far has been invaluable in helping them in their efforts to determine the cause of the accident.

Madam Speaker, I think the Nation owes a debt of gratitude to the thousands of individuals and organizations who work so tirelessly to recover the space shuttle debris. I do not personally think that that search is over because, as my colleagues know, common sense tells us and our knowledge of history, of weather facts, there is still snow on the ground in a lot of the area where the shuttle began to come apart. There are some very deep lakes that because of weather hazards we have not really been able to search those.

□ 1530

We need to really wait until that snow vanishes as the summer comes on, to where we can really look particularly around Fallon, Nevada, in that area, where a lot of our indications are that the very first major part of that Shuttle came apart. Then we need to get to the American people not 10 reasons that might have caused it, but get to the cause of it, because we have three more shuttles that we want to send up. We still have to have a presence in space, but we want it to be a safe presence, we want it to be safe for the men and women who will man them.

I think it is to be noted that I introduced House Resolution 222 as a way for this body to express our thanks on behalf of all America. We have a number of cosigners, and I hope we have more. I think it is the right thing to do, and I hope my colleagues will support it.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

After hearing the ranking member's remarks, I am again reminded of the valuable leadership that the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) brings to the Committee on Science, and the Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics in particular. I appreciate his bringing this bill to the floor for our attention.

Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the other members of our Committee on Science, and certainly our chairman, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT), we commend the adoption of this resolution.

Two words in the English language are not spoken enough, and these words are "thank you." With this resolution before us, the House of Representatives, on behalf of government, on behalf of the American people, thank the thousands of search and discovery crews who scoured through thick forests and brambles, dove underwater in freezing lakes and reservoirs, trudged through swamps in icy temperatures and storms in search of the bits and pieces left over from the Space Shuttle *Columbia* tragedy. It was grim work that lasted many months, and those who undertook the solemn duty in east Texas and elsewhere deserve our thanks and praise.

Few things embody the triumph and tragedy that make up the fabric of our country more than the space program. The space program's very purpose, to discover what lies beyond our world, is at the heart of the American spirit. The thousands of Americans who aided in the *Columbia* debris search have become a vital part of our Nation's space program. They allow us to learn what went wrong that fateful morning of February 1 so that we can fix it and forge ahead with a stronger space program with the best balance between manned and unmanned flight.

With this resolution we honor those who walked more than 700,000 acres on foot, surveyed more than 1.6 million acres in aircraft, and swept over at least 23 square miles of lakes and reservoirs over the last several months to find what remained of the Space Shuttle *Columbia*. Now the 83,000 pieces of evidence are being shifted through at Kennedy and Johnson Space Centers and elsewhere, and the *Columbia* Accident Investigation Board is beginning to form findings and recommendations to make our Nation's space program better than it was before.

Just as the thousands of search crews took it upon themselves to have a solemn duty, we in Congress will soon be asked to perform our solemn duty to uphold the values and build on the legacy of the *Columbia* astronauts we lost. We have a duty to them, their families, the NASA family, the search crews, and to everyone who gains so much in-

spiration from the drive to discover what exists beyond our world. The lives lost cannot be in vain.

Today, with this resolution, we honor those who performed their duty. And to the thousands of men and women who engaged and congregated in east Texas in search of what remained of mission STS-107, the Space Shuttle *Columbia*, we say "thank you."

Mr. HALL. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the delegate from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA), who is on the Committee on International Relations, a very important committee.

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, not taking anything away from the spirit of this important resolution to commend and to honor some 20,000 of our fellow citizens in civilian life, and all who represented local, State, and Federal agencies who assisted with the collection of debris and materials of the Space Shuttle *Columbia*, I certainly want to commend my good friend, the gentlemen from Texas (Mr. HALL), for bringing this resolution to the floor for consideration by this body.

Absolutely, we should pay special tribute to our fellow Americans who assisted with the conduct of searching for the parts of the *Columbia* Shuttle. Just last week, the U.S. India Political Action Committee and the American Jewish Committee provided a special plaque that is now placed in the National Air and Space Museum commemorating the bravery of our astronauts who were part of the Space Shuttle *Columbia*. The inscription on this plaque that is now in the space museum states: "In memory of the astronauts on the Space Shuttle *Columbia* who came together from around the world, who gave their lives in the pursuit of progress for all humanity."

Madam Speaker, this being the month of May, I was honored last week to be invited by the President to the White House for his official proclamation of this month as being the National Asia Pacific Heritage Month. On behalf of some 12 million Asia Pacific Americans, I want to touch upon one specific Asian Pacific American. Of course, this tragedy touched all of us as Americans, but particularly affected were Indian Americans because they lost the first Indian American astronaut, Dr. Kalpana Chawla. Along with our Indian American friends, we also lost six other extraordinary individuals.

Dr. Kalpana Chawla came to symbolize the best amongst us. Born in Karnal, India, she studied in the United States and received her doctorate from the University of Colorado. Her life and professional success symbolizes the success of the Indian American community today in our country. In serving her adopted country, she demonstrated that Indian Americans are at the forefront of national achievements.

Again, I just wanted to point that out, again recognizing the bravery of the astronauts who participated in this *Columbia* Shuttle. I thank my good friend from Texas for allowing me to say a few words in support of this resolution.

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

Mr. HALL. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON), who is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Research of the Committee on Science, and my fellow Congresswoman from the neighboring county of Dallas.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I wish to thank my leadership and my distinguished colleagues that I am pleased to join this afternoon to praise the extraordinary individuals who contributed to the debris collection effort following the Space Shuttle *Columbia* accident.

On February 1, 2003, our great Nation was shocked to learn that the Space Shuttle *Columbia* and its crew of seven heroic astronauts were lost in a tragic accident. And although the explosion of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* sprinkled debris over much of Southwestern America, a large portion of that debris was scattered over a large portion of my home State of Texas.

This resolution honors the personnel from FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA, and the United States Forest Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other agencies assisting in the recovery of the *Columbia* debris. In addition, they were assisted by many, many volunteer citizens giving their time and effort to help in this investigation of national importance.

We wish to especially recognize the citizens of east Texas as they offered their wholehearted support, both physical and emotional, to the debris search teams. Their combined efforts resulted in the collection of more than 20,000 pieces of debris, far more than was originally thought possible, providing accident investigators with vital evidence that will assist in determining the cause of the accident.

Let it be known that these selfless individuals and their actions are very much appreciated. Their contributions to collection aided in continuation of the investigation and further space exploration.

I pledge to do what I can to help our space program recover from this terrible setback so that these important endeavors can flourish in the future. And as a senior member of the Committee on Science, I will work closely with my House colleagues to assist NASA and Harold Gehman, Jr., who leads the special investigation commission.

Madam Speaker, I will end by simply saying that the best way to show our appreciation for these heroes is to continue this research and be a visionary

for our future, because we know that without vision, people perish.

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

Mr. HALL. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and a long-time supporter of NASA, being from the Houston area.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the resolution of my good friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL).

Human space flight is America's ultimate commitment to scientific exploration and research, and astronauts receive and deserve the most glory because they take the ultimate risk, as we know from the *Columbia* and the crew of *Apollo 1*, and the *Challenger*. They all made the ultimate sacrifice.

It is interesting, this resolution, because yesterday I had the opportunity in my district to visit three middle schools, Hambrick Middle School in Aldine ISP, Patrick Henry and Stevenson Middle Schools in the Houston Independent School District, with NASA astronaut Franklin Chang Diaz to encourage our young children to pursue careers in math and science and engineering so they can get great jobs and maybe even work for NASA one day. This is a great experience. I have been able to do that for a number of years with the astronauts in our community, because space exploration is not just the here and now, it is the future.

That is why this resolution, I think, is so important because it does look into the future. To get our Space Shuttles back into orbit, we need to know what went wrong and how to fix it. To do this, 30,000 people from local, State, and Federal agencies participated in the search for debris from the *Columbia* to try to piece together what happened. These efforts resulted in 82,000 pieces weighing 80,000 pounds, when workers covered 1.6 million acres on the ground and in the air. Importantly, many wing pieces, tiles, and the flight data box have been recovered and are being analyzed by NASA engineers right now.

Amazingly, with the tremendous efforts of the search parties, five of the nine experiments aboard *Columbia* have been recovered, including one experiment developing cancer treatment drugs.

□ 1545

I would like to close by noting that the Federal Emergency Management Agency is assuming most of the \$300 million tab on this important operation; \$1.2 million will reimburse Texas for the over-900 Texas National Guard personnel who participated.

I urge my colleagues to remember the expense needed for human space flight when we consider NASA's funding later this year. Shuttle maintenance and safety requirements are the highest priority. We need to take the lessons learned from the *Columbia* recovery search to heart and put them

into practice. Again, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) and urge my colleagues to suspend the rules and pass this resolution.

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

I urge the passage of this resolution. I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) for his participation and his support. He is a man of medicine and a very valuable member of the Committee on Science. I thank him for his input and will expect and appreciate his support of this resolution which I know is coming.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 222.

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. BURGESS. Madam 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. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution just considered.

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

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1833

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GILCHREST) at 6 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 281, by the yeas and nays;  
House Concurrent Resolution 160, by the yeas and nays;

House Resolution 222, by the yeas and nays.

The first and third electronic votes will be conducted as 15-minute votes. The second vote in this series will be a 5-minute vote.

TONY HALL FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 281.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 281, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 0, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 183]

YEAS—407

Abercrombie	Cardin	Evans
Ackerman	Cardoza	Everett
Aderholt	Carson (IN)	Farr
Akin	Carson (OK)	Fattah
Alexander	Carter	Feeney
Allen	Castle	Ferguson
Andrews	Chabot	Filner
Baca	Chocola	Flake
Bachus	Clay	Fletcher
Baird	Clyburn	Foley
Baker	Coble	Ford
Baldwin	Cole	Fossella
Ballance	Collins	Frank (MA)
Ballenger	Combest	Franks (AZ)
Barrett (SC)	Cooper	Frelinghuysen
Bartlett (MD)	Costello	Frost
Barton (TX)	Cramer	Gallegly
Bass	Crane	Garrett (NJ)
Beauprez	Crenshaw	Gerlach
Becerra	Crowley	Gibbons
Bell	Cubin	Gilchrest
Bereuter	Culberson	Gillmor
Berkley	Cummings	Gingrey
Berman	Cunningham	Gonzalez
Berry	Davis (AL)	Goode
Biggart	Davis (CA)	Goodlatte
Bilirakis	Davis (FL)	Gordon
Bishop (GA)	Davis (IL)	Goss
Bishop (NY)	Davis (TN)	Graves
Bishop (UT)	Davis, Jo Ann	Green (TX)
Blackburn	Davis, Tom	Green (WI)
Blumenauer	Deal (GA)	Grijalva
Boehlert	DeFazio	Gutknecht
Boehner	DeGette	Hall
Bonilla	Delahunt	Harman
Bonner	DeLauro	Harris
Bono	DeLay	Hart
Boozman	DeMint	Hastings (FL)
Boswell	Deutsch	Hastings (WA)
Boucher	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hayes
Bradley (NH)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hayworth
Brady (PA)	Dicks	Hefley
Brady (TX)	Dingell	Hensarling
Brown (OH)	Doggett	Herger
Brown (SC)	Dooley (CA)	Hill
Brown-Waite,	Doolittle	Hinchee
Ginny	Doyle	Hinojosa
Burgess	Dreier	Hobson
Burns	Duncan	Hoefel
Burr	Dunn	Hoekstra
Burton (IN)	Ehlers	Holden
Calvert	Emanuel	Holt
Camp	Emerson	Honda
Cannon	Engel	Hooley (OR)
Cantor	English	Hostettler
Capito	Eshoo	Houghton
Capuano	Etheridge	Hoyer

Hunter  
Hyde  
Inslee  
Isakson  
Israel  
Istook  
Jackson (IL)  
Jackson-Lee  
(TX)  
Janklow  
Jefferson  
Jenkins  
John  
Johnson (CT)  
Johnson (IL)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones (NC)  
Jones (OH)  
Kanjorski  
Kaptur  
Keller  
Kelly  
Kennedy (MN)  
Kennedy (RI)  
Kildee  
Kilpatrick  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Kirk  
Klecza  
Kline  
Knollenberg  
Kolbe  
Kucinich  
LaHood  
Lampson  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Leach  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Linder  
LoBiondo  
Lofgren  
Lowey  
Lucas (KY)  
Lucas (OK)  
Lynch  
Majette  
Maloney  
Manzullo  
Markey  
Marshall  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (MO)  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCollum  
McCotter  
McCrery  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McHugh  
McInnis  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McNulty  
Meehan  
Meek (FL)  
Meeks (NY)  
Menendez  
Mica

## NOT VOTING—27

Blunt  
Boyd  
Brown, Corrine  
Buyer  
Capps  
Case  
Conyers  
Cox  
Edwards

Forbes  
Gephardt  
Granger  
Greenwood  
Gutierrez  
Hulshof  
Issa  
Lantos  
Lewis (CA)

Sanders  
Sandlin  
Saxton  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Scott (GA)  
Scott (VA)  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Shadegg  
Shaw  
Shays  
Sherman  
Sherwood  
Shimkus  
Shuster  
Simmons  
Simpson  
Skelton  
Slaughter  
Smith (MI)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Snyder  
Solis  
Souder  
Spratt  
Stark  
Stearns  
Stenholm  
Strickland  
Stupak  
Sullivan  
Tancredo  
Tanner  
Tauscher  
Tauzin  
Taylor (MS)  
Taylor (NC)  
Thomas  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Thornberry  
Tiahrt  
Tiberi  
Tierney  
Toomey  
Towns  
Turner (OH)  
Turner (TX)  
Udall (CO)  
Udall (NM)  
Upton  
Van Hollen  
Velazquez  
Visclosky  
Vitter  
Walden (OR)  
Walsh  
Wamp  
Waters  
Watson  
Watt  
Waxman  
Weiner  
Weldon (FL)  
Weldon (PA)  
Weller  
Wexler  
Whitfield  
Wicker  
Wilson (NM)  
Wilson (SC)  
Wolf  
Woolsey  
Wu  
Wynn  
Young (AK)

□ 1853

Mr. BARTON of Texas changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the next question will be a 5-minute vote.

## EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD REMOVE THE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAQ COMPLETELY AND WITHOUT CONDITION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 160, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 160, 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 409, nays 0, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 184]

YEAS—409

Abercrombie  
Ackerman  
Aderholt  
Akin  
Alexander  
Allen  
Andrews  
Baca  
Bachus  
Baird  
Baker  
Baldwin  
Ballance  
Ballenger  
Barrett (SC)  
Bartlett (MD)  
Barton (TX)  
Bass  
Beauprez  
Becerra  
Bell  
Bereuter  
Berkley  
Berman  
Berry  
Biggart  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (NY)  
Bishop (UT)  
Blackburn  
Blumenauer  
Boehler  
Boehner  
Bonilla  
Bonner  
Bono  
Boozman  
Boswell  
Boucher

Flake  
Fletcher  
Foley  
Ford  
Fossella  
Frank (MA)  
Franks (AZ)  
Frelinghuysen  
Frost  
Gallegly  
Garrett (NJ)  
Gerlach  
Gibbons  
Gilchrest  
Gillmor  
Gingrey  
Gonzalez  
Goode  
Goodlatte  
Gordon  
Goss  
Graves  
Green (TX)  
Green (WI)  
Greenwood  
Grijalva  
Gutknecht  
Hall  
Harman  
Harris  
Hart  
Hastings (FL)  
Hastings (WA)  
Hayes  
Hayworth  
Hefley  
Hensarling  
Herger  
Hill  
Hinchev  
Hinojosa  
Hobson  
Hoefel  
Hoekstra  
Holden  
Holt  
Honda  
Hooley (OR)  
Hostettler  
Houghton  
Hoyer  
Hunter  
Hyde  
Inslee  
Isakson  
Israel  
Issa  
Istook  
Jackson (IL)  
Jackson-Lee  
(TX)  
Janklow  
Jefferson  
Jenkins  
John  
Johnson (IL)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones (NC)  
Jones (OH)  
Kanjorski  
Kaptur  
Keller  
Kelly  
Kennedy (MN)  
Kennedy (RI)  
Kildee  
Kilpatrick  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Kirk  
Klecza  
Kline  
Knollenberg  
Kolbe  
Kucinich  
LaHood  
Lampson  
Langevin  
Lantos  
Larsen (WA)  
Larsen (CT)  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Leach  
Lee

Levin  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Linder  
LoBiondo  
Lofgren  
Lowey  
Lucas (KY)  
Lucas (OK)  
Lynch  
Majette  
Maloney  
Manzullo  
Markey  
Marshall  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (MO)  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCollum  
McCotter  
McCrery  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McHugh  
McInnis  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McNulty  
Meehan  
Meek (FL)  
Meeks (NY)  
Menendez  
Mica  
Michaud  
Millender-  
McDonald  
Miller (FL)  
Miller (MI)  
Miller (NC)  
Miller, George  
Mollohan  
Moore  
Moran (KS)  
Murphy  
Murtha  
Musgrave  
Myrick  
Nadler  
Napolitano  
Neal (MA)  
Nethercutt  
Ney  
Northup  
Norwood  
Nunes  
Nussle  
Oberstar  
Oxley  
Pallone  
Pascarell  
Pastor  
Paul  
Payne  
Pearce  
Pelosi  
Peterson (MN)  
Peterson (PA)  
Petri  
Pickering  
Pitts  
Platts  
Pombo  
Pomeroy  
Porter  
Portman  
Pryce (OH)  
Putnam  
Quinn  
Radanovich  
Rahall  
Ramstad  
Rangel  
Regula  
Rehberg  
Rehberg  
Renzi  
Reyes  
Reynolds  
Rodriguez

Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rogers (MI)  
Rohrabacher  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Ross  
Rothman  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce  
Ruppersberger  
Ryan (OH)  
Ryan (WI)  
Ryun (KS)  
Sabo  
Sanchez, Linda  
T.  
Sanchez, Loretta  
Sanders  
Sandlin  
Saxton  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Scott (GA)  
Scott (VA)  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Shadegg  
Shaw  
Shays  
Sherman  
Sherwood  
Shimkus  
Shuster  
Simmons  
Simpson  
Skelton  
Slaughter  
Smith (MI)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Snyder  
Solis  
Souder  
Spratt  
Stark  
Stearns  
Stenholm  
Strickland  
Stupak  
Sullivan  
Tancredo  
Tanner  
Tauscher  
Tauzin  
Taylor (MS)  
Taylor (NC)  
Thomas  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Thornberry  
Tiahrt  
Tiberi  
Tierney  
Toomey  
Towns  
Turner (OH)  
Turner (TX)  
Udall (CO)  
Udall (NM)  
Upton  
Van Hollen  
Velazquez  
Visclosky  
Vitter  
Walden (OR)  
Walsh  
Wamp  
Waters  
Watson  
Watt  
Waxman  
Weiner  
Weldon (FL)  
Weldon (PA)  
Weller  
Wexler  
Whitfield  
Wicker  
Wilson (NM)  
Wilson (SC)  
Wolf  
Woolsey  
Wu  
Wynn  
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—25

Blunt  
Boyd  
Brown, Corrine  
Buyer  
Capps  
Carter  
Case  
Conyers  
Cox

Edwards  
Forbes  
Gephardt  
Granger  
Gutierrez  
Hulshof  
Johnson (CT)  
Lipinski  
Miller, Gary

Moran (VA)  
Price (NC)  
Rush  
Schrock  
Sweeney  
Terry  
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are less than 2 minutes remaining on this vote.

□ 1902

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMENDING THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEBRIS COLLECTION EFFORT FOLLOWING THE SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA ACCIDENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILCREST). The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, House Resolution 222.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 222, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 411, nays 0, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 185]

YEAS—411

Abercrombie  
Ackerman  
Aderholt  
Akin  
Alexander  
Allen  
Andrews  
Baca  
Bachus  
Baird  
Baker  
Baldwin  
Ballance  
Barrett (SC)  
Bartlett (MD)  
Barton (TX)  
Bass  
Beauprez  
Becerra  
Bell  
Bereuter  
Berkley  
Berman  
Berry  
Biggart  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (NY)  
Bishop (UT)  
Blackburn  
Blumenauer  
Blunt  
Boehlert  
Boehner  
Bonilla  
Bonner

Bono  
Boozman  
Boswell  
Boucher  
Bradley (NH)  
Brady (PA)  
Brady (TX)  
Brown (OH)  
Brown (SC)  
Brown-Waite,  
Ginny  
Burgess  
Burns  
Burr  
Burton (IN)  
Calvert  
Camp  
Cannon  
Cantor  
Capito  
Capps  
Capuano  
Cardin  
Cardoza  
Carson (IN)  
Carson (OK)  
Carter  
Castle  
Chabot  
Chocola  
Clay  
Clyburn  
Coble  
Cole  
Collins  
Combest

Cooper  
Costello  
Cramer  
Crane  
Crenshaw  
Crowley  
Cubin  
Culberson  
Cummings  
Cunningham  
Davis (AL)  
Davis (CA)  
Davis (FL)  
Davis (IL)  
Davis (TN)  
Davis, Jo Ann  
Davis, Tom  
Deal (GA)  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
Delahunt  
DeLauro  
DeLay  
DeMint  
Deutsch  
Diaz-Balart, L.  
Diaz-Balart, M.  
Dicks  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Dooley (CA)  
Doolittle  
Doyle  
Dreier  
Duncan  
Dunn

Ehlers  
Emanuel  
Emerson  
Engel  
English  
Eshoo  
Etheridge  
Evans  
Everett  
Farr  
Fattah  
Feeney  
Ferguson  
Filner  
Flake  
Fletcher  
Foley  
Ford  
Fossella  
Frank (MA)  
Franks (AZ)  
Frelinghuysen  
Frost  
Gallegly  
Garrett (NJ)  
Gerlach  
Gibbons  
Gilchrest  
Gillmor  
Gingrey  
Gonzalez  
Goode  
Goodlatte  
Gordon  
Goss  
Graves  
Green (TX)  
Green (WI)  
Greenwood  
Grijalva  
Gutknecht  
Hall  
Harman  
Harris  
Hart  
Hastings (FL)  
Hastings (WA)  
Hayes  
Hayworth  
Hefley  
Hensarling  
Hergert  
Hill  
Hinchee  
Hinojosa  
Hobson  
Hoeffel  
Hoekstra  
Holden  
Holt  
Honda  
Hooley (OR)  
Hostettler  
Houghton  
Hoyer  
Hunter  
Hyde  
Insee  
Isakson  
Israel  
Issa  
Istook  
Jackson (IL)  
Jackson-Lee  
(TX)  
Janklow  
Jefferson  
Jenkins  
John  
Johnson (CT)  
Johnson (IL)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones (NC)  
Jones (OH)  
Kanjorski  
Kaptur  
Keller  
Kelly  
Kennedy (MN)  
Kennedy (RI)  
Kennedy  
Kilpatrick  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Kirk  
Klezcka

Kline  
Knollenberg  
Kolbe  
Kucinich  
LaHood  
Lampson  
Langevin  
Lantos  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Leach  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Linder  
LoBiondo  
Lofgren  
Lowey  
Lucas (KY)  
Lucas (OK)  
Lynch  
Majette  
Maloney  
Manzullo  
Markey  
Marshall  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (MO)  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCollum  
McCotter  
McCrery  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McHugh  
McInnis  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McNulty  
Meehan  
Meek (FL)  
Meeks (NY)  
Menendez  
Mica  
Michaud  
Millender-  
McDonald  
Miller (FL)  
Miller (MI)  
Miller (NC)  
Miller, George  
Mollohan  
Moore  
Moran (KS)  
Murphy  
Musgrave  
Myrick  
Nadler  
Napolitano  
Neal (MA)  
Nethercutt  
Ney  
Northup  
Norwood  
Nunes  
Nussle  
Oberstar  
Obey  
Olver  
Ortiz  
Osborne  
Ose  
Otter  
Owens  
Oxley  
Pallone  
Pascrell  
Pastor  
Paul  
Payne  
Pearce  
Pelosi  
Pence  
Peterson (MN)  
Peterson (PA)  
Petri  
Pickering  
Pitts  
Platts  
Pombo  
Pomeroy  
Porter  
Portman  
Pryce (OH)

Putnam  
Quinn  
Radanovich  
Rahall  
Ramstad  
Rangel  
Regula  
Rehberg  
Renzi  
Reyes  
Reynolds  
Rodriguez  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rogers (MI)  
Rohrabacher  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Ross  
Rothman  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce  
Ruppersberger  
Ryan (OH)  
Ryan (WI)  
Ryun (KS)  
Sabo  
Sanchez, Linda  
T.  
Sanchez, Loretta  
Sanders  
Sandlin  
Saxton  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Scott (GA)  
Scott (VA)  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Shadegg  
Shaw  
Shays  
Sherman  
Sherwood  
Shimkus  
Shuster  
Simmons  
Simpson  
Skelton  
Slaughter  
Smith (MI)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Snyder  
Solis  
Souder  
Spratt  
Stark  
Stearns  
Stenholm  
Strickland  
Stupak  
Sullivan  
Tancredo  
Tanner  
Tauscher  
Tauzin  
Taylor (MS)  
Taylor (NC)  
Thomas  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Thornberry  
Tiahrt  
Tiberi  
Tierney  
Toomey  
Towns  
Turner (OH)  
Turner (TX)  
Udall (CO)  
Udall (NM)  
Upton  
Van Hollen  
Velazquez  
Visclosky  
Vitter  
Walden (OR)  
Walsh  
Wamp  
Waters  
Watson  
Watt  
Waxman  
Weiner  
Weldon (FL)  
Weldon (PA)  
Weller

Wilson (SC)  
Wolf  
Woolsey  
Wu

Wexler  
Whitfield  
Wicker  
Wilson (NM)

Wynn  
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—23

Ballenger  
Boyd  
Brown, Corrine  
Buyer  
Case  
Conyers  
Cox  
Edwards

Forbes  
Gephardt  
Granger  
Gutierrez  
Hulshof  
Lipinski  
Miller, Gary  
Moran (VA)

Murtha  
Price (NC)  
Rush  
Schrock  
Sweeney  
Terry  
Young (FL)

□ 1921

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.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 660

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 660.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILCREST). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana? There was no objection.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1527, NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2003

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-97) on the resolution (H. Res. 229) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1527) to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board for fiscal years 2003 through 2006, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1000, PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2003

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-98) on the resolution (H. Res. 230) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1000) to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide additional protections to participants and beneficiaries in individual account plans from excessive investment in employer securities and to promote the provision of retirement investment advice to workers managing their retirement income assets, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order

of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### TURKEY'S DECADE-OLD BLOCKAGE AGAINST ARMENIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor this evening to discuss the decade-old blockade against Armenia by Turkey. This is one of the most egregious violations of international law by Turkey, and it is one that hardly gets any attention in the international community. I have been encouraged, however, by two recent reports on the Turkish blockade. The first was done by the State Department at the request of me and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) and the second was written by members of the European Parliament.

Last year, members of the Congressional Caucus of Armenian Issues, of which the gentleman from Michigan and I are cochairs, identified a bill that would grant some Turkish goods duty free status. We protested very early about this, Mr. Speaker; and when it came time to include the bill, we obtained assurances from the administration that they would try to offset this provision for Turkey by pressing for Armenia's accession to the World Trade Organization. The letter from Deputy Secretary Armitage in this regard specifically stated, and I quote, "The administration is pressing Turkey to restore economic, political and cultural links with Armenia, and is encouraging Turkey to open its border with Armenia. We believe that such action would promote the economic development of both Turkey and Armenia." We were also promised, Mr. Speaker, a report by the State Department and the U.S. trade representative on the Turkish blockade by March 31 of this year.

Mr. Speaker, the report we received was entitled: "The Economic Impact of Turkish/Armenian Border Closure and Diplomatic Contacts with Both Parties on This Issue." I have included a copy of this report for the RECORD, Mr. Speaker. This report was only three pages long, Mr. Speaker; but it made clear some of the administration's views on the Turkish blockade. It stated: "The United States has long pressed for the opening of the border and the free flow of trade in the region." The report also listed various attempts that the United States has pressed Turkey on this issue and it stated: "Most recently the issue was raised with Turkish officials during Secretary Powell's April 2 visit to Ankara, Turkey."

Mr. Speaker, although members of the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues are encouraged by Secretary Powell's helpful comments during a very tense time in the Middle East, we also encourage a greater commitment

by the administration to pressing Turkey to discontinue its incredibly damaging blockade.

The second report that I mentioned, Mr. Speaker, was coordinated with a conference sponsored by the European Parliament and the Turkish-Armenian Business Development Council, and it included members of the European Parliament and business community of both Turkey and Armenia. The title of the conference was: "Still an Iron Curtain: Armenia-Turkey relations, 10 years after the border was closed."

This conference, Mr. Speaker, highlighted not only the economic numbers that justify the lifting of the blockade but also the real Armenian and Turkish citizens that want the decade-old interruption of their normal life and commerce to end. The TABDC estimates that 30 to 40 percent of Armenia's GNP is lost each year solely to the border closure. Every year the Armenian Caucus pushes for a robust level of U.S. aid for Armenia, but these efforts to help revive the economy and civil society are hamstrung by Turkey's insistence in joining ranks with its belligerent brother, Azerbaijan. The State Department report also included a 2001 World Bank report entitled: "Trade, Transport and Telecommunications in the South Caucasus: Current Obstacles to Regional Cooperation." This report repeats what is already common knowledge, that closed borders retard trade and development.

Mr. Speaker, it has been far too long for Armenia to suffer under the yoke of Turkey. This is the only situation in the world where one member of the WTO is blockaded by another. We have known for years about Turkey's illegal blockades; but since Armenia's accession to the WTO, Turkey's actions are egregious even more. There can be no excuse for Turkey to continue the blockade of Armenia and still hold itself up as a democracy, purportedly respecting the rights of all its citizens and neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, finally, I call on the Bush administration to continue to press Turkey hard to drop the 10 years of blockade against its sovereign neighbor. It is crucial for the United States to be seen in the international community as a peaceful arbitrator between enemies. The release of this burden on the peoples of Armenia and eastern Turkey would help the region recover from the market disruption after the fall of the Soviet Union. For peace to prosper, for democracy to truly take hold and for the economies of all the countries of the South Caucasus to move forward into the 21st century, relations must be normalized throughout the region. This region was mired in war and genocide before the rise of the Soviet Union. It should be an imperative of the Bush administration not to let this region slip back further economically.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, DC, April 7, 2003.

Hon. FRANK PALLONE, JR.,  
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. PALLONE: As promised in Deputy Secretary Armitage's letter dated September 20, 2002, regarding the Turkey/Armenia border issue, enclosed is the State Department Report, Economic Impact of Turkish/Armenian Border Closure and on Diplomatic Contacts with Both Parties on This Issue. Also enclosed for your information is the 2002 World Bank Report entitled Trade, Transport and Telecommunications in the South Caucasus: Current Obstacles to Regional Cooperation.

I am pleased to note that the Administration's efforts on Armenia's accession to the WTO were successful and that Armenia became a member in December 2002.

We hope this information is useful to you. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance on this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

PAUL V. KELLY,

Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs.

Enclosures: As stated.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TURKISH/ARMENIAN BORDER CLOSURE AND DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS WITH BOTH PARTIES ON THIS ISSUE

Citing Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan during the hostilities over Nagorno-Karabakh, the Government of Turkey closed its border with Armenia in March 1993. Turkey took this action following the Armenian seizure of Kelbajar, an Azerbaijani province outside Nagorno-Karabakh. Prior to that time, the border was open for one train a week between Kars in Turkey and Gyumri in Armenia. The United States has long pressed for the opening of the border and the free flow of trade in the region.

Azerbaijan, too, severed all economic relations with Armenia and has refused to allow any direct trade. The trains between the two countries had already ceased operating owing to harassment of crews and torn-up tracks on both sides. As a result, trade between land-locked Armenia and neighboring markets has been distorted and Azerbaijan and Turkey have cost the most direct transportation corridor between their countries and the Mediterranean and Caspian Seas. Although there has been a cease-fire and an ongoing Nagorno-Karabakh peace process since 1994, the governments of Azerbaijan and Turkey say they will only open their borders with Armenia only when there is a settlement to the conflict.

The full extent of these trade distortions will ultimately be eliminated only with the opening of both borders. However, assuming only the Turkish/Armenian border were reopened, one would expect: a reduction in transportation costs to and from Armenia, an increase in Turkish-Armenian trade, and an improved overall economic environment in Armenia and eastern Turkey. Armenian Foreign Minister Oskanian has stated that the border closures were among the major hindrances to increasing export volumes and attraction of foreign investments to Armenia. And it is true today that transportation costs and customs duties can increase the prices of Armenian imports and exports by as much as 100 percent and in some cases even more due to the need to ship goods via Georgia or Iran. If the Turkish-Armenian border were to open, some economic observers estimate that overall transportation costs to and from Armenia might fall by 50 percent or more.

Assuming that these savings lead to lower prices, one would expect overall trade between Turkey and Armenia, as well as transit traffic between Armenia and Western Europe via Turkey, to increase in real terms as

well. Regional trade has been declining as a result of the border closure in recent years and unofficial reports indicate that a reopening of the Turkey-Armenia border would lead to enhanced trade and enable Turkey to provide a larger portion of the nearly \$1 billion worth of goods that Armenia imports each year. Also, existing transportation routes preclude trade in certain products, including building stone, produce, flowers, and meats. Opening the border would open the possibility to a profitable trade in such goods. Placing a voltage adjuster near the border would allow the transfer of excess electricity generated in Armenia to the energy-poor regions of eastern Turkey.

This increased economic activity and the improved access to local markets would have a positive impact on the economic environment throughout the region, especially in Armenia and eastern Turkey. The full economic potential of the region is unlikely to be achieved until there is a normalization of relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan as well. The opening of that border would enable the reopening of the railroads from Armenia to Azerbaijan and the creation of an uninterrupted railroad link between Istanbul and Baku and the Mediterranean and Caspian Seas. This would lead to enhanced trade between Turkey and the Caspian and Central Asian regions.

The internal conditions in Armenia and throughout the region must be prepared to take full advantage of an open border. As stated in the World Bank's Trade, Transport and Telecommunications in the South Caucasus: Current Obstacles to Regional Cooperation, (attached) "In the long run a peace settlement will only generate widespread and sustainable benefits, if the institutional and physical milieu is sufficiently supportive. The realization of these potential benefits appears highly unlikely, at present, as the current institutional and physical milieu is anything but supportive and offers few incentives for new development." The World Bank report makes a very rough estimate of regional trade normalization, and therefore open borders with both Turkey and Azerbaijan. The report found that open borders with Turkey and Azerbaijan could result in significant increases in Armenia's exports (\$269-342 million) and GDP likely would rise up to 30-38 percent on a one-time basis. The percentage impact on Turkey's overall trade figures would be much less, but likely beneficial as well. It also bases its estimate on older trade figures (1999 or earlier).

The U.S. Government has budgeted approximately \$1.336 billion to fund assistance programs in Armenia, plus \$218 million in surplus Department of Defense and privately donated humanitarian commodities since Fiscal Year 1992. In Fiscal Year 2002, all U.S. Government agencies budgeted \$103 million for assistance programs in Armenia.

The Governments of Armenia and Turkey have stated that they are willing to pursue improved relations. The U.S. Government continues to press the Government of Turkey at every appropriate opportunity to open the border with Armenia. Most recently the issue was raised with Turkish officials during Secretary Powell's April 2 visit to Ankara. The U.S. Government also urges the Government of Armenia to continue to raise these issues with the Turkish government. U.S. officials brought up the subject during Foreign Minister Oskanian's visit to Washington in February. In its role as Co-Chairman of the OSCE's Minsk Group, the U.S. is actively engaged in the search for a peaceful, mutually-acceptable resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, including the normalization of regional trade relations, which would stabilize the situation in the region and provide the basis for greater eco-

nomical growth in Armenia, Azerbaijan and eastern Turkey.

On the diplomatic front, in 2002 the Armenian Government increased diplomatic contact with the Government of Turkey. It encouraged working-, mid-, and senior-level diplomatic contacts with Turkey and accepted a Turkish proposal for trilateral ministerial consultations. Armenian Foreign Minister Oskanian held three rounds of discussions with Turkish Foreign Minister Cem, including one that also included Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Guliev. Following the change in government in Turkey last summer, the Armenian Foreign Minister also met once with the Foreign Minister of the interim Turkish Government. The Government of Turkey altered its stance on Armenia's WTO accession last year, helping to pave the way for Armenia's accession in December 2002. Turkish President Sezer sent President Kocharian a letter congratulating him on his March 5 re-election.

Drafted: CG Istanbul, Jonathan Henick; EUR/CACEN: Margaret Pawlick; Embassy Yerevan David Gehrenbeck.

Approved: The Deputy Secretary.

□ 1930

#### CALIFORNIA AUTISM REPORT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHOCOLA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, for some time I have been coming to the floor on a regular basis talking about the problem of the epidemic of autism. Just a few short years ago, 1 in 10,000 children were autistic. Today it is closer to 1 in 200. Think about that. We have had a 50-fold increase in the number of children who are autistic, and yet we have not had any real attention paid to the problem.

I wrote a letter to President Bush and to his administration, asking that there be a national conference called with leading scientists and experts from around the country and around the world to get together to try to find out why we are having such a terrible problem with this epidemic of autism, and this epidemic is one that is going to be with us for many, many, many years. These children who become autistic are going to grow up, live to be 65, 70 years old, but they are not going to be able in many cases to take care of themselves; so they are going to be dependent upon the taxpayers, upon society to take care of them, and so it is extremely important that we address this situation right now.

I have on this lectern beside me pictures of children from across the country who are autistic, and I and the parents of these children believe that many of them, maybe most of them, became autistic because of mercury that was in vaccines put in by the pharmaceutical companies under the title of thimerosal. Thimerosal is a preservative that was put in children's vaccines and other vaccines for a long time, since the 1940s, and now that we give children 25 to 30 vaccines before they start kindergarten, the cumu-

lative effect of all that mercury going into their system and into their brain is an epidemic of autism, and yet nothing is being done about it.

We passed a Vaccine Injury Compensation Fund that was supposed to provide a nonadversarial approach to helping solve these problems of these autistic children and their families because of the huge amount of money that they have to lay out to take care of their children, and yet it has not worked. We have been trying to correct that, but we have not received the kind of cooperation from the other body that we need to get that job done.

Today we have got a new report from California, the Department of Developmental Services, and it says that in the past 4 years the amount of autistic children that have been found has doubled, in 4 years. That is in the State of California alone, and this has been going on all across the country. In some parts of the country, the number of children that are born and becoming autistic is much greater than 1 in 200. It is down to 150 in parts of New Jersey and Georgia and elsewhere in this country, and we must pay attention to it. We must get to the bottom of it, and we must provide a mechanism for these parents and these children to be taken care of before it is too late.

As I said before, it was 1 in 10,000 children were autistic. Now it is 1 in about 200. There has been almost a 300 percent increase in autism in 11 years, from 1987 to 1998, and in California they said that their report has led to numerous subsequent epidemiological studies in autism throughout the United States as well as the global health community, and yet we have not as a Nation addressed this problem.

It has been said in this study that in just a short period of time in California, autism will be more prevalent than cancer in children, than diabetes in children, Down Syndrome in children, and within 3 to 4 years will surpass in total number of cases both cerebral palsy and epilepsy in California. That is just California alone.

This is a silent epidemic, and most people in America who are not conversant with what autism is do not even realize it, and many of my colleagues unfortunately do not understand the gravity of this situation. So tonight and every night I am going to be coming down here. Tonight I am talking about the study that was done in California, but I am going to be coming down here reading letters from autistic families, from parents of autistic children who have noplacement to turn and nowhere to go, because when they go to the Vaccine Injury Compensation Fund for support and help, they are turned down without any review of their situation. We are trying to open that up.

There is about \$2 billion in that fund right now, and we need to make it nonadversarial. If children are damaged by vaccines, if they are damaged by the mercury in vaccines, then those parents ought to be having access to that

program as quickly as possible. It has been closed to them so far, many of them. We need to open it up with a 2-year look-back provision so that they can get in and have their case reviewed, because to have their child in that situation, to have them not be able to look at them, talk to them, running around flapping their arms, having chronic diarrhea and constipation is something that parents must not live with, and this Government needs to address this problem.

California has talked about it in this report, and the Congress of the United States and the White House need to come to grips with this problem right away.

#### THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION'S ECONOMIC POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the latest economic news is out, and it is not good. The trade deficit for March was announced today. It hit the second highest level in history, \$43.5 billion more imports coming into our country than exports going out. What we are exporting are more U.S. jobs.

Why do we have such a high trade deficit? Rising oil prices and continued deterioration in our trade accounts because of NAFTA, especially Mexico as well as Canada. The March trade deficit with Mexico alone was a record \$3.9 billion. The deficit with Canada was the highest since 2 years ago, January 2001.

NAFTA is not working for the United States. NAFTA is the great sucking sound. We are exporting our jobs, not our goods, and we are importing more goods from Mexico than ever in our history.

Unemployment in America has hit a 6 percent high with almost 9 million people out of work now. Just today the Bureau of Labor Statistics put out detailed information on joblessness in America. Where is Ground Zero in the Bush recession? It is the Visalia-Tulare-Porterville area in California with 18.1 percent unemployment. Of metropolitan areas with populations over a million people, the highest unemployment was found in Portland, Oregon, and San Jose, California, 8.4 percent each. I just returned from the San Jose area.

Indeed, of the 272 metropolitan areas for which year-to-year comparisons can be made, the largest declines in employment were found in San Diego, followed by Tulsa, Oklahoma; Flint, Michigan; and my home community of Toledo, Ohio. Ohio is first in our Nation in lost jobs as a percentage of our workforce since George Bush came into office in 2001. No State has suffered more than Ohio from the Bush administration's failed economic policies.

The dollar is hitting new lows in part due to impolitic comments made by

our Treasury Secretary John Snow on Sunday talk shows. Is the Bush administration committed to a strong dollar? They say they are, but many experts are questioning the commitment in light of Secretary Snow's comment on Sunday that a falling dollar should help exporters. In fact, it is hard to make any sense of the Bush administration's economic policy. The administration seems bound and determined to start and hold a losing hand. All they can talk about are tax breaks for the wealthy.

But it is the consumer that is keeping our economy out of a depression. It is the middle-class consumer that made America great. It is the great middle class that fights our wars, makes our goods, delivers our services, and keeps our country strong. But the Bush administration wants to cut taxes for the super-rich, even though we know that that policy will lead to recession and more job losses.

In fact, look at what happened in our country after the first Bush set of tax breaks to the wealthy back in 2001: More and more job losses, over 2 million of them. They talked to us about jobless recovery. What is a jobless recovery? That is all we seem to have are jobless recoveries. Every time this group gets in office, they give us more unemployment. And, indeed, if the Members look back to 1981 when, under the Reagan administration, our Vice President, DICK CHENEY, was the head of the Republican Policy Committee here in the House, they did the same thing. They called it the Economic Tax Recovery Act of July 29, 1981, and do the Members know what happened back then? The minute the same kind of tax program was enacted, guess what happened? More and more and more job losses.

I came here in January 1983 to try to help dig America out of a hole, a job-loss hole as well as a deficit hole. It took us almost 15 years, and now we are back to the same mess we had back then. I say if it is strike one, strike two, and now strike three, they ought to be out.

The Republicans in this kind of trickle-down tax program are really going to gouge the middle class again. So I would say, Mr. Speaker, just take a look at the record. It is the same old story. And what do we get? More job losses, an administration that does not want to extend unemployment benefits to those who have been out of work. They say go find a job somewhere, except for one thing: More and more jobs are being lost every day. And the Buckeye State rings in number one in terms of job losses.

Mr. Speaker, America should do better, and America will do better a year from now when we elect a new President.

#### THE HIGH PRICE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor of the House again tonight to talk about something that needs to be resolved, and we in Congress need to get serious about it, and that is the high price that Americans pay for prescription drugs relative to the rest of the world. And we see this chart here, and again I do not ask people to take my word for this. I would ask them to do their own research, but the interesting thing is millions of Americans are doing that research for themselves, and they are coming to exactly the same conclusion, and that is Americans pay far more than anyone else in the industrialized world for the same drugs.

Let us look at this chart. These numbers are average numbers, and they are from the year 2002. The source is the Life Extension Foundation, but there are other groups doing the same kind of research, getting essentially the same results.

Let us look at some of the drugs that we buy in large quantities in the United States. Cipro, we all know about Cipro after the anthrax scare. It is a very effective antibiotic. It is made by a German company called Bayer. We in the United States usually call it Bayer, Bayer Aspirin, for example. In the United States, the average price for a 30-day supply is about \$88. That same drug can be bought in Canada for \$53.55, but in Germany where they make the drug, they sell it for \$40.75.

Going on down the list, here is another very important drug. It is a miracle drug for many people suffering with diabetes called Glucophage. In the United States, according to Life Extension Foundation, the average price for a 30-day supply is \$124.65. That same drug can be bought in Canada in the same dosage for \$26.47, and in Germany they can buy it for \$22.

Let us look at Norvasc, another very popular drug here in the United States; \$67 here, \$46 in Canada and only \$33 in Europe.

Mr. Speaker, I am not here to say shame on the pharmaceutical industry, and perhaps I should, but the truth of the matter is it is shame on us. We are requiring Americans to pay anywhere from 30 to 300 percent more.

Last week I had down on the floor a little box of some drugs, a very powerful and wonderful drug. It is called to tamoxifen. Tamoxifen is perhaps the best anti-breast cancer drug ever discovered, but let me share this. In the United States, and we checked it out at the local pharmacy here in Washington, for 100 tablets, 20 milligrams, the price was \$360. We can buy that same package of drugs in Munich, Germany for \$59.05; \$60 there, \$360 here, six times more that Americans are required to pay for this life-saving drug.

That is wrong, and we should do something about it.

Let me talk about the law because many people, particularly our friends at the FDA, are hiding behind the law. This is the actual law that they use to keep Americans from importing FDA-approved drugs from FDA-approved facilities, and here is what it says: The Secretary of the Treasury shall deliver to the Secretary of Health and Human Services upon his request samples of food, drugs, devices, and cosmetics which are being imported or offered for import to the United States, giving notice thereof to the owner or consignee who may appear before the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and some more legal goop, but here is what it comes down to. There are three criteria.

□ 1945

The first is, if it appears from the examination of such samples or otherwise, that one such article has been manufactured, processed or packed under unsanitary conditions. We cannot say that about these drugs.

Or, two, such article is forbidden or restricted in sale in this country in which it was produced or from which it was exported. These are legal drugs in both the United States and in the other countries we are talking about.

Or, three, and this is the last one, such article is adulterated, misbranded or in violation of section 355 of this title. These drugs are legal. We are not talking about bringing in illegal drugs; we are talking about legal drugs from countries that are FDA approved.

It is not shame on them; it is shame on us for letting this situation exist.

Let me just tell you what this amounts to. Our own Congressional Budget Office tells us that, over the next 10 years, seniors in the United States of America will spend \$1.8 trillion on prescription drugs. Simple arithmetic, do the math yourself, we believe, and I think this is being very conservative, if we simply open up markets, as we do with every other product in this country, just open up those markets, we can save a minimum of 35 percent; 35 percent of \$1.8 trillion is \$630 billion. Shame on us.

We are going to be talking here on the House floor in the next several weeks about a prescription drug benefit, maybe under Medicare, maybe under Medicaid. Clearly there are a lot of seniors falling through the cracks. But the issue is not so much coverage; the issue is affordability. We need to do something about it.

I am going to introduce a bill later this week. I hope my colleagues will join me in cosponsoring that bill.

#### HONORING JOHN P. BROWN, III

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHOCOLA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a favorite son of Ohio, a husband, father, grandfather, public servant, and State AMVETS President. I am speaking of John P. Brown, III.

Mr. Speaker, John's life story imbues the kind of selflessness and sacrifice that is indicative of so many of our veterans. He served two tours in Vietnam. He was chosen to serve in the elite Honor Guard at the U.S. Naval Station in Philadelphia. John's contributions did not end there, though. He and his wife have raised a wonderful family, including three children, Charlene, Stephanie and Christopher, and seven grandchildren.

For 31 years, John worked for Ameritech and its predecessors. And more recently, he worked as a military liaison for Ohio's 17th Congressional District.

In Ohio, John's name is synonymous with veterans advocacy. He has given, and he continues to give, greatly to many, many veterans causes. He is a former vice commander for Ohio AMVETS. He is the local post commander, the founder and trustee of the Mahoning Veterans Memorial. He has been the host of a veterans radio talk show for 19 years; and for the last year, he served honorably as the commander of Ohio AMVETS.

John's love of country and commitment to military service is shared by his wife, Jan C. Brown, who is retired from the United States Air Force. Together, J.P. and Jan Brown answer in the affirmative the challenge presented by President John F. Kennedy, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

Obviously, I could talk for quite some time about John's accomplishments and contributions, but I think it is more important for us to recognize what a decent, honorable, and rare man John is as a person.

The truth is that our democracy simply could not function without the sacrifice, dedication, and just plain hard work of people like John Brown. Many veterans are in his debt today, and so are many, many Ohioans.

Mr. Speaker, I go to John for guidance and advice regarding veterans health care and other issues important to our Nation's veterans, and he helps me be a better Congressman.

In recognition of John's many accomplishments, he is being honored at an AMVETS testimonial dinner in Youngstown, Ohio, on Saturday Evening. I cannot be at that event; but today, on this floor of the United States House of Representatives, I salute my friend, John P. Brown, III; and I honor his service to our country.

#### SNATCHING DEFEAT OUT OF THE JAWS OF VICTORY IN AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, for approximately 5 years I warned this body about the threat that the Taliban regime posed to the United States and the free world and the threat posed by the al Qaeda terrorist network, which was then operating out of Afghanistan. For years I was a voice in the wilderness; and later it was found, of course, that those warnings should have been heeded.

Tonight, I rise to alert my colleagues that our State Department may well be in the process of snatching defeat out of the jaws of victory in Afghanistan.

First and foremost, let us note that we, the American people, have not done right by the people of Afghanistan. These poor people, in their war-torn land, they again have helped us out, but again we have not stepped forward with the type of commitment to rebuild their country and to help them rebuild what would have been warranted by the sacrifices they have made.

Their bravery and their sacrifice helped defeat, not just helped defeat, it dramatically and specifically defeated the Soviet Army that was occupying their country, and that defeat of the Soviet Army was a major factor in the end of the Cold War. After the Cold War and after the Soviet Army left, we walked a way to leave them amidst land mines and rubble.

However, after we were attacked 10 years later by the Taliban and the al Qaeda, the Northern Alliance in Afghanistan, which are the northern tribes, you might say, of Afghanistan, rallied to our side and were instrumental in eliminating the Taliban regime and defeating al Qaeda. Without their support, we would have lost many hundreds, if not thousands, of troops in Afghanistan. These brave people, however, after they helped us defeat the Soviet Union, then they helped us defeat the Taliban, these brave people are still sleeping in the rubble.

We have not built, as Newt Gingrich noted recently, one new mile of road in Afghanistan. Three weeks ago, I was in Afghanistan and drove across the country on the same roads, the hole-pocked roads and horrible conditions that have existed there for years. Not one mile of new road, not one new energy project has been built, although most all Afghans live in the darkness of a nonelectric world.

We need to offer them a way out of their despair. We need to let them know that America's word counts and that they can count on us because they have helped us. We need to repay our debt to the people of Afghanistan. We need to offer them a way to lay down their rifles and pick up shovels and start rebuilding their country.

Instead, we have not done what is right by the people of Afghanistan, and our State Department seems to be not competent to get that job done, because for a year and a half the job has not been proceeding as it should.

Instead, our State Department is, what? Our State Department is pushing that our allies in the war against the Taliban, the Northern Alliance, should, without reservation, disarm and dismantle their military forces; this at a time when those people who sided with the Taliban could well take over the central government and as the Taliban are still skirmishing throughout the country periodically. Yet our State Department wants our allies to disarm.

By the way, our allies, and I visited them 1 month ago, want one thing and one thing only: the Northern Alliance, those who fought with us against the Taliban, are asking only that they have the right to elect their local leaders, their local mayors and provision leaders. That is what they are asking for. Is that not understandable? Is this not what America is all about?

It is funny that our State Department, however, is pushing a system that is totally contrary to the American experience. They, instead, are insisting that Afghanistan have, get this, a French-like centralized system of government, in which the provision leaders and the local leaders would be appointed. The local police chief is appointed by the centralized government in Kabul, the capital city. The school masters are appointed by the centralized government in Kabul.

This is not freedom. This is not what America is all about. Yet our State Department pushes in exactly the wrong direction. We need to oversee what the State Department is doing in Afghanistan before it collapses and before the heroin production in that country destroys any hope for those people to have a decent life in the future.

#### MAKING PUBLIC RECORDS REGARDING RELOCATION TO ARGENTINA OF WORLD WAR II CRIMINALS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to this evening call to the attention of the Members of the House that tomorrow I, along with 22 original co-sponsors, will introduce a resolution calling on the Government of Argentina to make public all of its official records pertaining to the relocation to Argentina of Nazis and other criminals of World War II.

Just 60 years ago, the world witnessed the most horrific crime ever perpetrated, the Holocaust. Hitler's campaign of genocide murdered 6 million Jews, 220,000 Roma, 200,000 mentally and physically disabled persons, and millions more homosexuals, Russians, Poles, and others. This campaign, known as the "Final Solution," was carried out with ruthless efficiency by Hitler's Nazi regime and its collaborators.

Following the fall of that regime in 1945, the Nuremberg Trials were estab-

lished to prosecute those responsible for carrying out the genocide campaign. While many of the Nazis and war criminals who perpetrated these atrocities were tried at Nuremberg, others escaped Europe and fled.

Many of those who escaped sought refuge in Argentina, where the government of Juan Peron offered them a safe haven. While many historians believe at least 300 war criminals fled to Argentina, there is no accurate number available.

Those we do know about include some of the Holocaust's most notorious figures: Edward Roschmann, the "Butcher of Riga," and probable organizer of the ODESSA network; Eric Priebke, the SS captain involved in massacres of Italian victims; and Adolf Eichmann, chief of the Jewish Office of the Gestapo and responsible for implementing the "Final Solution." There are many others who belong on the list.

This era of Argentina's history is over, and Argentina has attempted to come to grips with this history. Despite these efforts, there is much we do not know about this era. Two prominent examples demonstrate this fact.

The fate of Klaus Barbie is not certain, as he briefly resided in Argentina on his way to a third country. Josef Mengele spent a short time in Argentina before leaving for Paraguay, but the details of his flight are uncertain as well.

Did the Government of Argentina know that these men traveled through the country? How long did they reside in Argentina? These questions and others remain unanswered. As two of the most dangerous and destructive men during the Holocaust, their actions after World War II should be known. Access to the documents that Argentina has may provide information on the final whereabouts of these and other war criminals.

Historians and researchers, however, are still encountering obstacles to Argentina's archives as repeated requests for documentation from that time period have been disregarded or refused. The New York Times reported on this in March of this year, and other researchers and historians have confirmed this fact.

My resolution calls on Argentina to build upon the steps it has already taken to shed light on the relocation of Nazis to Argentina following the end of World War II and to make public all official records pertaining to this era.

The world must always learn from its history. Knowledge of past events can guard against such things occurring in the future. Access to these records is necessary to form a full understanding of the Holocaust's aftermath and to thwart future attempts by war criminals to avoid prosecution. And just as important, if not more, the Nazis and war criminals who avoided prosecution for their roles in the Holocaust must be exposed. The world deserves to know of their crimes and their fates. The people

of Argentina deserve nothing less than complete knowledge of their country's history. And the families of Holocaust victims deserve a full account of this time period.

Argentina should be praised for its recent efforts to investigate and bring to light the events of this time period as a member of the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance, and Research. Argentina also signed the Declaration of the Stockholm International Forum on the Holocaust and therefore agreed to "throw light on the still obscured shadows of the Holocaust" and to "take all necessary steps to facilitate the opening of archives in order to ensure that all documents bearing on the Holocaust are available to researchers."

□ 2000

In 1997, Argentina created the Commission of Inquiry into the Activities of Nazism in Argentina to identify Nazis who settled in the country, determine if Nazi loot had arrived in Argentina, and evaluate the impact of Nazism on Argentine society. However, documentation and details regarding these events in Argentina's history have still not been made available, despite commitments from Argentina's Government to do so. By making these documents and information public, the Government of Argentina will be making an enormous contribution to all those who seek an accurate accounting of history.

Before I close, I want to make clear that the purpose of this resolution is not to lay blame on Argentina, but to foster a clear and complete understanding of the events following the Holocaust. It is important to note that just prior to the start of World War II, 30,000 to 40,000 Jewish immigrants entered Argentina and sought asylum, thousands more than other countries were permitting at the time, and efforts are being made by the current government to expose these facts regarding the Holocaust.

I call on the Argentine Government to fully support the efforts it has previously made on this issue and to release any and all information and documents it has on the relocation of Nazis and other war criminals to within its borders after World War II. Recognition of these events is critical for a full understanding of the Holocaust and its aftermath.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHOCOLA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GREEN of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. TURNER of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### WINNING THE PEACE IN POST-WAR IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOFFEL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, this evening I would like to talk about the situation in Iraq and discuss whether or not we are taking the necessary steps to win the peace in that country. We have just seen a remarkable and important military victory in Iraq. We were successfully able to remove the threat posed by the regime of Saddam Hussein, remove his threat that was a direct confrontation with regional peace, and even world peace, due to his murderous regime and what we believe to be his possession of weapons of mass destruction. Our Armed Forces performed brilliantly. Our young men and women in uniform were brave and courageous, did everything that their military leaders and their political leaders asked them to do, and performed in an outstanding manner. We are proud of what they have done. All of America should be proud of our armed services today.

While the military victory is ours, the military mission is not yet fully accomplished. While we have deposed Saddam Hussein, we have not yet found his weapons of mass destruction, weapons that he had in the early and mid-1990s. The United Nations inspectors were finding them then. We must find those weapons now and destroy them or find out where they have been taken or hidden and hold their new owners accountable for their safe disposal.

But now that we have achieved this wonderful military victory, the question is, can we also win the peace. I think the answer right now is that we are not yet winning the peace in Iraq. Iraq is posing very significant challenges to its own people, to the coalition partners, and to everyone in the world interested in social justice and the creation of democratic countries with economic opportunity and freedom for people.

In Iraq there are some major challenges today. Security remains a huge challenge. There has been looting, lawlessness, car-jackings, break-ins. Humanitarian aid is lagging. There is a great need for medicine, for clean water, electricity. Relief workers are reporting it hard to do their jobs because of the lack of their own personal safety in Iraq. The much-needed reconstruction has not started yet. The demands of religious and ethnic groups are loud and unresolved, and the advent of pluralism and self-government seems to be a very long way off.

Two reports today help to illustrate these problems. The International

Committee for the Red Cross, in an Iraq bulletin dated today, May 13, 2003, reports in Baghdad and central Iraq, under the general situation that security is, by far, the most important concern for Iraqis. Numerous security incidents happen daily in the capital: looting, banditry, ambushes, car-jacking, physical attacks and killings. Schools have reopened, which is very good news; but most parents are concerned about their children's safety.

The International Committee for the Red Cross reports on the medical situation in Baghdad hospitals. Hospitals and health centers are open again, functioning at about 50 percent of their capacity; but in most places, the cleaning staff have not yet returned to work. The main needs at the medical facilities are fuel to run the electricity and to simply transport the staff to and from the hospitals. Salaries and specific medical and surgical supplies are in need. Water is being distributed and electricity is available in hospitals, but only for a few hours a day.

In the community, reports the Red Cross, water and sanitation is a huge issue, again because of the lack of security. The looting of essential facilities is severely obstructing normal work. The Red Cross reports that one water plant recently visited had its generator and two main pumps stolen. Electricity production has not improved over the last 10 days, and there are huge problems in economic security as well, according to the Red Cross. They are delivering blankets and distributing food and nonfood items; market prices are much higher than they were before the war. Food stocks in average households could last for up to a month, but the average family has huge problems with a lack of cash income and the shortage of fuel and gas.

Also today, Mr. Speaker, the BBC reported from Basra in a report dated May 13, 2003, of some of the problems they are having in that area. Cholera is endemic. There have been 19 cases identified in Basra in the last 2 days alone. Dirty water is being blamed for that outbreak. They have problems with a variety of gastroenteritis and even hepatitis. The BBC reports that doctors have to function and practice in ill-equipped hospitals where they have just barely enough drugs and intravenous fluids to treat the victims, but the victims are afraid to come to the hospitals because of the lack of security. Finally, in Basra, car-jacking is a crime described by the BBC as taking off. If people go out in a decent car, the chances apparently are good that they will be walking home after being car-jacked.

So, Mr. Speaker, the problems are clear. And in the last several weeks the efforts by the United States on the ground in postconflict Iraq are certainly well-meaning, but they often seem poorly planned, reactive to events rather than anticipating events, and out of touch with the reality of post-Saddam Iraq. In every major area we

seem to have problems. The major challenges are peace-keeping, humanitarian aid, reconstruction, and new governance. And in every area we have problems. We are not projecting the confidence or success that we should project with the quick and unanticipated rotation of American officials that we are seeing in and out of Iraq. Apparently, every day, changes are being made. Most of us were just getting used to the notion of Jay Garner running the American operation. Well, he is out and Paul Bremer is in. And seven or eight of the American officials that came with Jay Garner are apparently on their way out of the country as well.

Finally, there are obvious disturbing and harmful conflicts and jealousies between our own State Department and our own Department of Defense. We are not working from the same page.

Now, what are we going to do about all of this? What has the Bush administration proposed lately to try to resolve and address all of these problems? Well, I believe they have made a startling proposal from the White House: a draft resolution asking the United Nations to recognize the United States of America and Great Britain as occupying powers in Iraq, occupying powers, for at least 1 year's duration and, most likely, far beyond. And the question is tonight, Do we want this country to be an occupying power in Iraq or anyplace else, for that matter?

I think it is worth taking a look at some of the details of the draft proposal submitted by the United States last Friday to the United Nations, a proposal that the United States hopes the U.N. Security Council will approve after reflection and debate. It suggests that the United States of America and the United Kingdom, our great ally, be recognized as occupying powers under applicable international law. The resolution goes on to designate Great Britain and the United States as the authority and calls upon the authority to promote the welfare of the Iraqi people through the effective administration of the territory to restore conditions of security and stability so that the Iraqi people may freely determine their own political future.

Now, those are worthy goals, goals that all of us can share. The question is, do we really want the United Nations Security Council to designate the United States and Great Britain as the authority responsible for making this happen, as occupying powers? The draft resolution goes on to suggest that the Secretary General work with this new authority, the United States and Great Britain and the people of Iraq, with respect to the restoration and establishment of national and local institutions for representative governance.

The resolution further calls upon the Security Council to support the formation by the people of Iraq with the help of the authority of an Iraqi interim authority as a transitional administration. The resolution further says that

the U.N. Security Council should decide that funds in the Iraqi Assistance Fund shall be disbursed at the direction of the authority, that is, the direction of the United States and Great Britain as an occupying power. The Iraqi Assistance Fund would be set up by virtue of cooperation between the International Monetary Fund, the Arab Fund, the World Bank, and other donations. The draft resolution calls upon the Security Council to decide that all export sales of petroleum and petroleum products and all proceeds from such sales shall be deposited into the Iraqi Assistance Fund, that fund to be controlled by the United States and Great Britain as occupying powers.

Finally, the draft resolution calls upon the U.N. Security Council to recognize Great Britain and the United States for the exercise of the responsibilities set forth in this resolution for an initial period of 12 months from the date of adoption, to continue thereafter as necessary until the Security Council decides otherwise.

So this resolution would have the United States and Great Britain deemed occupying powers, referred to as the authority, and given full responsibility to implement this resolution for at least 12 months, and to continue in that capacity unless the Security Council acts affirmatively to stop that grant of authority. Certainly this authority is considered by its proponents to be of duration well beyond 1 year.

□ 2015

Mr. Speaker, this House has to decide whether it is in the best interest of the United States to be such an occupying power, for 1 year, for 1 month, for 10 years. Do we want that role for this country, or do we want to internationalize operations in Iraq, seek help from allies, and turn to a multilateral rather than a unilateral approach to the challenges in Iraq?

The morning after our military victory, we awoke to those four challenges I have referred to: peacekeeping, humanitarian aid, reconstruction, and governance. How we face those challenges will determine whether we win the peace, whether we win the battle for the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people, whether we enhance our status in the Muslim world and maintain our credibility as the leader of free and democratic nations.

I fear we could fail to meet those challenges if we pursue an aggressive, antagonistic, confrontational diplomacy that makes demands on our allies, but does not listen to them. We could fail if we embrace unilateralism and abandon our traditional reliance on multilateralism. And we could fail if we allow the reality or even the appearance of an American military colonial government in Iraq. And certainly asking the United Nations to designate us as an occupying power comes very close to that military colonial government approach.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest eight steps that we take as a House and as a country to deal with these challenges:

First, the State Department, not the Defense Department, should now be in charge of American policy in Iraq. It is time to turn to the diplomats who have a history of working with other countries to try to foster democracy, to try to nation-build, a term President Bush used to disparage, but now he is jumping in with both feet to embrace. I think the State Department is better suited to our needs in Iraq now that the military victory has been so well won by the Defense Department.

Secondly, we should internationalize the stabilization and reconstruction operations as much as we can and not try to do this all by ourselves or with Great Britain or just with our coalition partners.

Thirdly, American troops in the field will certainly be needed for some period of time to help keep the peace; and, in fact, military operations on a, happily, much smaller scale are still occurring, but we should move quickly to spread the burden of peacekeeping in Iraq, and I suggest we turn to NATO. NATO is a robust military alliance that has the ability and the military punch to take on peacekeeping in Iraq. NATO defeated one tyrant in Kosovo and can surely keep order in post-Saddam Iraq.

Fourth, while emergency relief certainly must begin with the State Department and the United States Agency for International Development, which have decades of experience of relief operations, and which have strong relations with nongovernmental organizations around the world, there is no organization with more experience in humanitarian relief than the United Nations. It has vast resources, great experience and expertise. These attributes are unparalleled, and clearly the United Nations needs to be involved directly as the organization that would lead efforts for humanitarian assistance.

Fifthly, we must engage expert multilateral organizations including the United Nations, certainly the World Bank, certainly the International Monetary Fund, in the reconstruction of Iraq's infrastructure. A debt restructuring meeting is needed to help deal with Iraq's estimated \$383 billion of foreign debt, compensation claims, and pending contracts.

Sixth, we should convene a donors conference soon after the military victory. Funds will be needed right away for quick-start reconstruction programs, and we ought to ask the donor nations of the world to come forward quickly for funding. And, incidentally, Mr. Speaker, this would be a wonderful opportunity for the Arab world to step forward with its resources and help to rebuild Iraq as part of this international effort.

Seventh, Iraqis must establish corruption-free control over their own oil. We need to help them establish a trans-

parent and reformed industry, transparent in that it accounts for oil revenues and the operations of the oil companies, and an operation that would devote the profits to rebuilding the country itself.

Finally, we should urge the United Nations to sponsor a conference on the formation and direction of a transitional Iraqi-based government. I do not believe it is in our best interest for the United States to be the primary sponsor of an effort under way to set up an interim Iraqi authority. We ought to bring in our allies and our friends and ask the United Nations to do this.

This was done with great skill in Afghanistan, our military victory in Afghanistan. We built on Afghanistan's history of what is called the *loya jirga*, or the Meeting of Councils, and we, the United Nations, sponsored this *loya jirga*, and from that operation President Karzai emerged as a leader. And I believe the same thing could be successfully done in Iraq with the sponsorship of the United Nations.

Mr. Speaker, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, among many others, have pointed out that we needed to take a hard look at the reality of Iraq as a country. As Carnegie said, "Iraq is not a political blank slate to be transformed at American will into a democratic, secular, pluralist and Federal state. Instead, Iraq is a difficult country with multiple social groups and power centers with conflicting agendas."

We need to recognize that difficulty, Mr. Speaker. We need to involve the United Nations in our efforts. We need to build the institutions of democracy. It is absolutely the right long-term goal to be advocating for self-government and the democratic selection of self-government in Iraq, but before we can have successful elections, we need to develop the institutions of democracy. Free press. We need to establish for the first time in Iraq's history the notion of a free press, free to criticize government officials, free to speak freely. We need the notion of free speech in Iraq. Iraq does not have such a history, and no democratic elections will succeed before we establish free speech. That must come first.

We need to create a civil society in Iraq. We need to establish justice, trained lawyers and honest judges, and a justice system that works successfully to redress grievances for average citizens. There is a rule of law vacuum in Iraq, and we must fill that vacuum before we can credibly hold national elections.

We need to create economic opportunity in Iraq to help give people hope and give them a stake in society.

Mr. Speaker, we have got great challenges in Iraq, and I do not mean to minimize those challenges, but we will do best if we call upon our friends, if we institutionalize and internationalize our efforts to bring freedom and democracy to Iraq. We should not do this in a unilateral way. We should do

it in a multinational way, and we must surely guard against being perceived as a colonial military power or an occupying power in Iraq.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, in Iraq and in the rest of the Middle East and throughout many areas in Europe, there is a great need for economic assistance, and I would suggest this House consider the establishment of a modern-day Marshall Plan, a plan modeled after our great success in Western Europe after World War II in which over 4 years we helped 14 countries with \$13 billion of assistance to get those allies and former enemies of ours in World War II back on their feet economically. That \$13 billion in the 1940s would be the equivalent of \$100 billion today. That is a great deal of money, but that is an amount of money over several budget years, and with the help of our allies around the world, that is certainly achievable.

And what we can achieve with a modern-day Marshall Plan in Iraq and the rest of the world that has those kind of challenges is the establishment of not just economic opportunity where there is now grinding poverty, but the recognition that there is a sense of hopelessness among many in that part of the world, a sense that life cannot possibly be better for them as the future comes forward, a sense that many people have that things can only go downhill, and that their children will be born into more poverty with less opportunity and more hopelessness than they are currently experiencing.

It is that sense of hopelessness that we have got a moral obligation to try to change, and it is in our own national security interest that we would do so, because if we truly want to win the war on terror, which we desperately want to win, and which is certainly the greatest challenge facing us internationally today, we have to make sure we can offer hope and opportunity along with the rest of the civilized world to those countries that have such despair and hopelessness that some people turn in completely irrational ways to the life of suicide bomber or the terrorist rather than turning to a belief in social justice and a pluralistic society.

That is the goal we have for ourselves. That is the challenge we have now. We have an opportunity in Iraq to show that we believe in a multilateral approach to international challenges. We have an opportunity to say we believe in a pluralistic society that gives economic opportunity and creates social justice for people; that we will do so in a thoughtful way that avoids colonialism, avoids occupying power status, but rather turns in collaborative ways with allies in a multinational approach to give hope and opportunity to the people of Iraq and all people in the world that believe as we do in freedom and justice and democracy.

#### HEALTHY FOREST INITIATIVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHOCOLA). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CANNON. 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 general leave.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I have some graphics that I would like to use down at the other podium if I might.

Mr. Speaker, as members of the Western Caucus, we come to the floor today to discuss H.R. 1904, The Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003. This bill will be marked up tomorrow in the Committee on the Judiciary and is expected to be brought to the floor early next week.

Let me put this map up. What you see here is a map. If we can focus on the graphic here, what you see here is a map of the United States, and you can understand by looking at this map why we as members of the Western Caucus are concerned with healthy forests.

You will recognize that there is a color chart. What it indicates is that everything in yellow or green or red or the other colors other than white represent Federal lands that are managed by the Federal Government that includes also many lands from the Eastern part of the United States. And as you might guess, we have in the Western Caucus also people who are from the Eastern part of the United States.

□ 2030

We have at least a couple of people here tonight from the Western Caucus who will address some of the issues that are related to the problems of healthy forests.

If we get a fairly tight shot on this, what we can see in this graphic on the left, most of these pictures were taken from an area where there is a forest fire. The picture on the left is a picture of an area that had been thinned and prepared and did not burn. The picture on the right is the terribly scarred and destroyed timber, and by the way one cannot kill the timber by fire without killing a lot of endangered species and destroying watershed and creating huge difficulties for the environment.

That is the difference between the policy that we hope to implement through the Healthy Forest Act and what we currently have in much of our forests today. I am going to talk in particular and show some pictures later on about the effects of mud slides in a town very close to where I live in Utah, but I would like to end my piece of this introduction by quoting the

President when he said, "I have sent you a healthy forest initiative to help prevent the catastrophic fires that have devastated communities, killed wildlife and burnt away millions of acres of treasured forests. I urge you to pass these measures for the good of both the environment and the economy."

I think if we focus on what the President said, we will realize this is a matter of major concern for all America, not just Americans who live in the West, not just for those people who live near federally managed forests in the East. This is a problem for all America, and it relates to our concerns for a healthy environment, for our concerns for endangered species and concerns for our economy.

I yield to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER).

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's leadership on this issue.

The Representative from Utah is the chairman of the Western Caucus this year, and given the motivation by the Chief Executive to move forward on the healthy forest initiative, I join with my chairman of the caucus as well as the rest of the caucus in an enthusiastic effort to try to make sure that the healthy forest initiative goes forward.

Mr. Speaker, as we debate the healthy forest issue tonight, I am reminded that we were approaching the 100th-year anniversary of what Idahoans refer to as the "big blowup," that is, the fires of 1910. It was a series of 1,763 fires that ravaged some 3 million acres and killed 85 people during August of 1910. The hardest hit areas were the Clearwater National Forest, the Coeur d'Alene national forests of Idaho, the Lolo and the Cabinet national forests of Montana.

I would like to share with my colleagues, if I might, an excerpt from "The Big Burn," a book that was written on the Northwest fires by Stan Cohen and Don Miller:

"Daylight was shut out as far north as Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada; as far south as Denver; and as far east as Watertown, New York. To the west, officers of a British vessel 500 miles out of San Francisco said that they were unable to take observations for ten days because of smoke in the atmosphere caused by the big burn. Some claim that smoke from the big blaze reached one-third of the way around the world."

This big burn started near a little town called Elk City, Idaho, a small community surrounded by dead and dying trees. That community is struggling to keep its one and only lumber mill in business. During the past 20 years, we have seen the growth of the surrounding forests double and the mortality rate from bugs and from viruses triple, all while the timber cuts steadily decline. In short, the sustainability of the forest is declining as the trees die.

A variety of factors have caused this monumental and potentially national disaster, including severe insect infestations, the practice of fighting nearly every wildfire and a passive forest management philosophy. The forest health crises on our public lands can no longer be ignored.

There are over 190 million acres of Federal land at risk to catastrophic fire. The national forest system is home to more than 72 million acres of high-risk catastrophic wildfire and more than 26 million acres at high risk to insect infestation and disease.

The administration must be commended for the action that it has already taken, which precipitated the healthy forest initiative through its current regulation to reduce procedural delays in preparing projects to reduce the fire danger and address forest health problems; but more must be done.

The Healthy Forest Restoration Act seeks to streamline bureaucratic procedures that stymie legitimate management efforts without unduly restricting public participation. Forest management projects could still be subject to rigorous environmental analysis as well as administrative challenges and lawsuits, but the process would be completed in a matter of months rather than in a matter of years.

Tough environmental safeguards in the bill would provide heightened restriction on management activities in inventoried roadless areas, and old growth trees would receive additional protection. At the same time, priority would be given to management projects near communities and the watershed.

The measure would also facilitate use of otherwise valueless wood, brush and slash for production of biomass energy, a key component in our upcoming energy bill; authorize Federal programs to support community-based partnerships addressing forest stewardship and watershed protection and restoration needs at the State and local level; and direct additional research on the early detection and containment of disease and insect infestations.

We cannot tolerate another season of death and destruction. We are past the analysis paralysis point, Mr. Speaker; and the point in this debate is that we must move forward. It is time we got to work on the ground. The sooner we get this legislation through Congress, the sooner we begin ensuring the future of our forests. We need to act quickly before Idaho is faced with another big burn.

I thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding to me.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Idaho for his comments, and if the gentleman would engage in a colloquy, I have some statistics to go along with what the gentleman is just saying.

Apparently, the National Association of Public Administration did an analysis of the forest service and found

that it spends 40 percent of its time and 20 percent of its money on planning. This is the analysis paralysis that the gentleman referred to. Is that the gentleman's experience in Idaho?

Mr. OTTER. It has been, and when I served on the Committee on Resources last year with the gentleman from Utah, as he will recall, Dale Bosworth, the new supervisor of the forest, indicated to us that, and he was the one that coined the term "analysis paralysis," and he indicated to us that so many of the resources of the forest agency are being consumed by not only procedures in court but also preparing to go to court and then filing such an analysis of overwhelming environmental studies hopefully to prevent themselves from having to go to court. I believe that the gentleman's figures of 40 percent and upwards are indeed quoted from Mr. Bosworth's testimony.

Mr. CANNON. That is the planning part of what the forest service does because the forest service, 20 percent of their resources go to planning; but around 50 percent, I have heard as much as 58 percent of the resources of the forest service, go for litigation. So we are spending the vast amount of our time and money playing and being paralyzed by analysis and not using that money to actually make our forests more healthy.

Mr. OTTER. I think that is one of the key components in this forest health restoration act and that is allowing for that opportunity to go to court if that is necessary, but the players must be part of the process prior to the plan being delivered and then taking them to court later.

As the gentleman will recall, many times in the testimony that we received in the Committee on Resources last year, there would be one or two of these interest groups that would be involved in the planning process, that would be involved in the environmental analysis, in the NEPA process and all the public hearings, and they would be agreeing and they would be working with the forest service; and then when the forest service had blocked the sale, the sale in some cases had gone through, then another interest group that had never had a dog in the fight suddenly rushes over to court with a \$20 bill and then a 34 cent stamp, and filed an action to stay any future action on that sale.

In many cases, if it were the restoration or the recovery from a burn or some other kind of insect infestation, the opportunity window for harvesting what good that can come out of that forest was lost.

Mr. CANNON. In part, that is because if we get an infestation in dead trees, we only have until the next season, the next summer before those pine bark needles or whatever, the infestation is mature and goes into the live and healthy forest.

Mr. OTTER. That is right, and I think some of the pictures that the gentleman will show later will be very

obvious in what can happen to a healthy forest that is overgrown and weakened as a result of the closing canopy and weakened as a result of the overgrowth.

I can tell my colleague that testimony I received up in a little town called Grangeville, Idaho, just last weekend, my colleague, Senator CRAIG from the Senate, who is from Idaho, joined me in that hearing, and we were told that in many cases there is as much as 80 tons per acre of fuel that has grown as a result of lack of harvest.

We had a sustainable yield, sustainable harvest program for years; and when we got away from that and took a passive attitude toward the management of our forests, the watershed, the habitat, the result was that the forest continued to grow. It did not stop. The forest continued to grow; and as a result, we have had a tremendous overgrowth, and just as is the case with any species, we get them crowded in too close of an area and if one gets sick, they all get sick; and that is where we are with our forests.

Mr. CANNON. While we are talking, let me just show a picture here that the gentleman was referring to earlier. If we can get a focus on that, we are talking in terms of statistics, but we can see on the left the terrific fire where we have got this large fuel load on the floor and in the forest, and on the right we have a thinned healthy forest; and we can see there is not really much of a transaction.

In fact, the Native Americans used to burn the forests with great regularity. When the Pilgrims first came, they could drive their carriages through the forest, and all the way down to the Revolutionary War they were burning the Hudson in areas around there to maintain health.

The problem is if we, through huge litigation costs and complicated processes, interfere with the healthiness of a forest, we get the fuel load and this terrible destruction as opposed to relatively healthy maintenance by occasional fires that the Native Americans used to manage those areas before.

Mr. OTTER. The other thing I would like to bring to my colleague's attention is the picture he shows there, the one closest to him which would be on the left. When we have that healthy a fuel loaded, what happens when that forest does burn, just as it shows there, it burns so hot that it actually calcines the Earth; and when it calcines the Earth 16, 18, 20 inches deep, it burns all of the natural nutrients right out of the soil. So the result is that nothing will grow there for years and years. It is like trying to grow something in a jar of marbles. There is not anything to hold the root system. There is not anything to feed the root system.

The big blowup that I referred to in my opening statement, part of the big burn of that 3 million acres was a place in Idaho in the St. Joe, just up from the St. Joe called Slate Creek, and that

fire was in 1910, and today there are still areas in those reaches where nothing grows because the nutrients were burnt out of the soil over a hundred years ago, and there has been nothing to replace it.

Mr. CANNON. That is the kind of thing that happens when we get a huge fuel load in the forest and get the destruction like we have, this is the kind of destruction the gentleman is talking about happening where it actually turns the ground into where we burn the nutrients right out of the soil with an intense fire.

Mr. OTTER. Let me just go ahead and make one more analogy for anybody that may be watching this.

In the old days I know when I was growing up and we raked the leaves and everything in the fall of the year, we would rake them up into a pile; and if we burn them on the lawn, if we even have that little bit of fuel, even that little bit of heat, we would have a spot there for years to come. Just imagine magnifying that by 100 or 150 times and then how long that that spot is going to be there.

Mr. CANNON. We sort of forget how intense a fire can be. Even a grass fire can burn at great intensity, and we have got a ladder that takes us all the way up to the trees. We get a terrific burn, but let me give the gentleman a couple more statistics.

The forest service does more environmental statements than any other Federal agency, nearly twice as many as any other agency that does these; and this is the Federal Highway Administration. So they spend a lot of their time doing it more than any other agency, and in addition, they have to go through an 800-step decision-making process to complete the Upper South Platte Restoration Project, which simultaneously took 3 years to complete.

□ 2045

Talk about analysis paralysis: An 800-step process and 3 years while there may be some kind of either buildup of fire load, fuel load, or an infestation. That is just absolutely unacceptable and part of the cause for the problems we are seeing last summer and this summer.

Mr. OTTER. And sometimes it gets to the point where good people get very frustrated. I know in Idaho we have had some good people quit the Federal agencies there because of the fact that they just were not allowed to do their job, and they just got frustrated and they left.

Another aspect of that is since 1989, just 14 short years, we have shut down half of our ability to saw logs. We have shut down half of our lumber mills, about 37 lumber mills thus far. All those jobs are gone.

We get to the point that in many places in Idaho, these small communities that lived and worked for generation after generation, that grew up in those communities, school systems counted on those communities, the in-

frastructure around it, and when those lumber mills shut down, the towns died, the schools went away, and people then transferred. They end up having to transfer into the more populated areas, and to then go through vocational education to get a new job, ruining the historical fabric, ruining the work ethic, if you will, of the folks not only in the agencies, but also those folks that watched their grandfathers and grandmothers and their mothers and fathers that grew up in those areas, that went to college from those areas, and then came back to become silviculturalists or become foresters because their great effort in life, their great desire in life was to go to work for the Forest Service.

I have traveled around the world in many capacities. In my private business capacity I was the president of the international division, and between that and being the Lieutenant Governor of Idaho for 14 years, it was my job to sell our groceries, to get around the world and strut our stuff and show these other countries what we had, and in the process I went to some 82 different countries. One of the things I found, when we got into some of these developing countries, is that they wanted to know about the School of Forestry, the College of Forestry at the University of Idaho. It had a reputation worldwide.

I talked with the President here just a while back and he said, you know, we may have to close down that school. We have already closed down some of the other natural resource schools because nobody is managing them anymore. We are making all our decisions in court. None of the decisions are being made on the forest floor. None of the decisions are really being made for the health and the cleanliness of the watershed, for the health and cleanliness of the water itself, the streams that run into those reaches of the mountains. As a result, we are losing our national reputation. We are losing, unfortunately, one of our real national heritages in our culture.

Mr. CANNON. I think that is absolutely true. The West has had a pretty severe drought. I think everyone in the Nation by now knows that we have had a severe drought. In Utah, and maybe the gentleman has had the same experience, we have had recently the worst of all worlds. We have had more rain in the last 2 or 3 weeks than we have had in the last 4 or 5 years. As a result of that, Utah is pretty green now on the surface. The problem is, come July, we have now added a couple of steps in that ladder we are missing, that fire ladder, so that fire will take off like crazy. We went from what we thought would have been a lesser burn season this year, because of the dryness and because of the lack of that ladder, to now what looks like maybe a much worse burn season. Is that what the gentleman is facing in Idaho?

Mr. OTTER. We have had some great rains. In fact, the farmers all call them

million-dollar rains. I think Bonneville Power said the other day they had an \$80 million week, the week that it rained so hard up in the Pacific Northwest. Because of the watershed, because of the snow and the watershed going into the reservoirs, they were going to have much more water in those reservoirs for the production of power than they thought they were going to have.

But any time there is that much fuel, and as the gentleman knows, come July and August when we hit those 100, 105 day temperatures out in the West, out in our country, out in the Rockies, that is going to dry that fuel. And unless we graze it with the cattle or have some other method of removing that, we are going to have that stairstep that the gentleman talked about, that stepladder that the gentleman talked about. We will have the grasses low, which will then meet the interface of the browse and the brush itself, and then right on up into the trees.

Mr. CANNON. And that is why it is so important to look at what the President said when he pointed out, "I have sent you a healthy forest initiative to prevent the catastrophic fires that devastate communities, kill wildlife, and burn away millions of acres of treasured forest. I urge you to pass these measures for the good of both our environment and our economy."

We need to do this now because our problem is acute right now as we speak.

Mr. OTTER. Tomorrow is not too soon. And I know, looking at Idaho, where we have the overgrowth, where we have high unemployment, all these counties that I talked about where that 1910 fire went up, I have six counties that run right up through that vein where that 1910 fire went that all have double-digit unemployment, they are all ready to go to work. All we need to do is to pass the hiring mechanism, and that hiring mechanism, that action mechanism is this bill.

Mr. CANNON. I thank the gentleman for his participation.

We have the pleasure of having with us a man of great experience in this area, and I would yield now to the gentleman from South Dakota. Let me say first, however, that he comes to us with a world of experience as the long-time Governor of the State and having followed these issues and been responsible for them from the State point of view for a very long time.

Mr. JANKLOW. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, and I have to apologize for this laryngitis I have this evening.

I asked myself as I sat here listening to my colleagues from Utah and from Idaho, why am I sitting down here this evening in an empty Chamber when I could be like everybody else and be someplace else? The fact of the matter is I am here because it is incredibly important that the people of America understand what we are doing to ourselves, because that is what it is. We are on a self-destructive tour that is

really bringing about the death of human beings. All we need is to have one of these fires in the West, like we have had in the last several years.

Now, I live in the State of South Dakota. The State of South Dakota in the year 2000, we had a couple of forest fires that burned 132,000 acres of the 1.2 million acres in the Black Hills National Forest. That is approximately 10 percent of the entire Black Hills burned down in 2000. We had 600 soldiers and airmen on Active Duty. We had all of the South Dakota Highway Patrol there. We had 150 local fire departments, all but one of them volunteer fire departments, from all over South Dakota. In addition to that, I called the Governor of Minnesota, the Governor of Wisconsin, the Governors of Nebraska, Montana, and Wyoming. I told them this was beyond our capability. I asked them for help, and they sent their fire trucks. The inmates in our State prison system put in 43,632 hours fighting these fires.

But I tell my colleagues what is more important. At a time during our Nation's destiny, at a time in our Nation's history when we need funding for schools, we need money for diabetes research and cancer research, we need money for Lou Gehrig disease research and muscular dystrophy, we need money for all kinds of things, we have spent \$6 billion, \$6 billion, in the last 3 years in this country just fighting the forest fires through the U.S. Forest Service. And that does not count the hundreds of millions and billions that have been spent by local governments, the time for volunteers, or I should say the volunteer farmers and ranchers and citizens who have never booked for their own time, utilizing their own equipment and their own resources to try to put these fires out in the West.

Now, the government, if it wants to, has the right to burn down its forests, but it does not have the right to burn private people's property. It did not have the right to kill 23 firefighters in this country last year. It did not have the right to burn down hundreds of homes, hundreds of homes in this country last year. And it does not have the right to destroy private property like they treat their own.

The reality of the situation is that for decades, every time we had insect infestation, we sprayed them and tried to kill the insects. Every time we had a fire, we tried to put it out. And all we did was allow the forest to do what these gentlemen call building the fuel loading per acre, building what is called the ladder fuels in the forest. The ladder fuels are where we have a fire down on the bed of the forest, but then they get so hot they climb up to the top of the trees where they are called crowning, and then they start racing from treetop to treetop.

We had a fire in the Black Hills in the year 2000, the Jasper fire, moved 10 miles in 1 day. Ten miles in one day. All the firemen could do was run for their lives. I gave an evacuation order

for 64 square miles of the Black Hills of South Dakota. I was asked by the forest supervisor to evacuate an area 8 by 8; 64 square miles of people went running for their lives grabbing what they could. You should have seen the panic in their faces as all of a sudden they get the word to run for their lives. They race into their houses, some of them trying to grab papers, some trying to grab the parakeet, the cat or the dog; some frantically looking for their children and family members; all thinking this fire will be upon them in a moment's notice, and we not knowing which direction or where those fires are going to go.

For too long we have made political decisions in these forests. Before our committee came the representative for the Foresters of America. The representative for the Foresters of America testified on behalf of the State foresters, and what did he say? He said he represented every one of the 50 State professional foresters in the country. And every one of them, through their testimony, said they support, they support, this healthy forest initiative.

This initiative guarantees that the public has a right to be heard. As a matter of fact, a substantive decision cannot be made unless the public is given notice and an opportunity to be involved. What it does say is if you do not involve yourself in the decision process, then you cannot involve yourself in the appeal process. That has been the law in the civil jurisdictions of America since almost this country was founded. If you try a case in the civil courts, and you do not raise an issue, you cannot raise it for the first time on appeal. You have to raise it in what they call the trial court to raise it in the appellate court.

Well, we are setting up the same process administratively in this bill. We say if you have a comment, if you have an objection, if you are for it or against it or just want to be interested, you must participate and give your input into the decision, or you cannot be involved in the appellate process.

This comes about as a result of all the Western Governors, all of them, Democrat and Republican alike, standing shoulder to shoulder, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Utah, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Alaska, New Mexico, Colorado, all coming together in a summit saying to the Federal officials, the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Glickman at the time, and the Secretary of the Interior Mr. Babbitt that there has to be a better way. We all agreed with each other. And out of it came the healthy forest initiative that the Western Governors supported, and from that it moved forward to this legislation.

For too long the decisions have been made by judges. Judges should interpret the law. The decisions need to be made in a democracy by the majority, after consulting, after receiving input, after having suggestions and involve-

ment by the minority. But the majority has to rule.

Mr. Speaker, the most important thing of all is what I have saved until now, and that is that when these forests burn, Mr. Speaker, like the fires from hell as they burn in the West, thousands and thousands of acres, all of that ash material in the air, look how it shortens the lives of people with emphysema. We have no records of how many people have had their life shortened and ended that have emphysema or bronchitis, or suffer from asthma, or suffer from lung cancer or sinus trouble or a whole host of the cardiovascular kinds of problems.

□ 2100

Imagine a little child, the family bringing him home at birth from the hospital, the excitement and the joy as all the extended family and the community gathers together in Rapid City, South Dakota; in Custer, South Dakota; Gillette, Wyoming; Boise, Idaho; Colorado Springs or Pikes Peak. And here you have this tiny child breathing all these contaminants, these carcinogens, these things that will inhibit the development of the lung tissue and affect the ability of this child to live.

For too long, we have played politics with our natural resources. For too long we have played politics with our, and I use the word, national resources. And for too long we have played politics with the lives of our elderly, our working people, and our children. So I have a great deal of pride to say that I come here to support this legislation. It is good legislation.

Mr. Speaker, let me also say that when it came out of our committee, when it passed out of the Committee on Agriculture, it was by a voice vote, a strong, strong bipartisan vote. Democrats and Republicans stood together from all over this country on that committee, and a significant majority of them voted "aye" when asked if they supported this legislation. So I am excited about this legislation. It is going to finally turn the corner. We have, the testimony was, 120 million acres. If you can imagine the size of that, the State of South Dakota is 80 million acres. So it is something that is almost twice the size of the State of South Dakota that is in danger of fires. And 70 million of those acres of forests throughout America, only the national forests, 70 million of them are in extreme danger of fire. This is wrong. This is unconscionable. This is immoral. This is something we can fix.

And so I ask you, Mr. Speaker, and I ask you, ladies and gentlemen of this Congress, support this bill. Vote to save our natural resources and our national resources. Vote to extend the lives of our people. Vote to stop spending all the money that we have to spend on these unhealthy forests. Vote to stop spending all the money that we waste on fires, and let us invest it in the children of America, the sick of America, the problems of America.

Mr. CANNON. Would the gentleman consent to a colloquy?

Mr. JANKLOW. Yes, sir.

Mr. CANNON. I was struck by a number of the things you pointed out. People with emphysema suffering. By the way, a large forest fire in the West affects people across the whole country.

Mr. JANKLOW. Sir, the fires in Idaho stink up the air and plug up the lungs in South Dakota and Minnesota.

Mr. CANNON. And places east.

Mr. JANKLOW. And places east. All the way across the country. It affects the sunlight. It affects the haze that we get, the smell that we get. But more importantly, that haze is what we are breathing into the lungs of our sick people and our healthy people.

Mr. CANNON. And our children.

Mr. JANKLOW. And our little children.

Mr. CANNON. There are people who do not care very much about children or people with emphysema.

Mr. JANKLOW. I think they care. I do not think they think about it. Because sometimes, especially in this country, we all get so driven that we are going to accomplish our objective our way that we ignore the needs of other people. It is the old expression, and in my State we say, those are the kind of people that say, it's my way or the highway. That is what we are dealing with. These are not crazy people. These are not screwballs. They are very bright people, but it is their way or no way.

Mr. CANNON. So they tend to stop the ability we have to clean up our forests, to thin them out, to preserve them.

Mr. JANKLOW. Sir, all I want to do is save them. I am for saving the forests. I am 63 years old. I am out of here soon. But I have got grandchildren. I have got five grandchildren. These forests belong to them. Those forests are their heritage, and they are entitled to see them and not breathe them.

Mr. CANNON. That is right. To see them and not breathe them. Most of the people who, by the way, have a hard time with what we are doing in our forests, who create litigation to stop us from creating healthy forests, are also people who are adamantly opposed to adding CO<sub>2</sub> to the environment, and instead of sequestering CO<sub>2</sub> like we do when we have healthy forests, these people are unleashed to get a torrent of CO<sub>2</sub>.

Mr. JANKLOW. Sir, the forest fire in Utah, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, you pick your State, Washington, Oregon, California, South Dakota, the forest fires there in the last several years, each of the years, those fires, it will take over 100 years to sequester the carbon back into the soil. Everybody knows that carbon dioxide, everybody knows the release of that carbon contributes to global warming. We hear that all the time with respect to smokestack industries and burning of coal and burning of petrochemicals. The fires in the West release a year's

supply of automobiles. But the sequestration to get them back in the soil will take a century.

Mr. CANNON. You get almost infinitely more mercury in the system from a forest fire than you get from all the coal-fired power plants around the world.

Mr. JANKLOW. You not only get more mercury but now you have destroyed the watershed. You have destroyed the things in the hills that contribute to clean and healthy waters running in the streams. In Lead, South Dakota, in Deadwood, the home of Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane, Deadwood, the home of the largest gold mine in the western hemisphere, the old Homestake gold mine, the community of Deadwood had the Grisly Gulch fire that burned about 12,000 acres and only by the reason of the volunteer firemen and women because the Forest Service only sent three fire trucks for a fire that was racing into the communities of Lead and Deadwood. These fires were stopped by the volunteers. Then a couple of weeks later, 2 inches of rain came one evening and a river of muck came roaring down the hills, doing millions of dollars worth of damage with this muck and ash that was 2, 3, 4 feet deep in some spots.

But just as importantly, it now cleared away the hillside, so every time it rains, for dozens of years, every time it rains, you are going to have these waters racing down the hills into the valleys. But in addition to that, when you mix water with these ashes, you get lye. You get lye. When you take these little baby fish and these little fry, you kill them with lye. Lye is not good for human beings when they drink it. It is not a healthy substance. There are carcinogens in that. We have Federal laws that will put you in jail if you give cancer-causing ingredients to people. Yet no one seems to be bothered by giving cancer-causing ingredients to people as a result of forest fires. We cannot stop forest fires, but we can stop these kinds of forest fires by good forestry.

All I am asking for is best science. That is all I am asking for is best science.

Mr. CANNON. When I wrap up, I am going to show some pictures of these devastating mud flows that happen after a forest fire. I could not help while you were talking but think about the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) when he was talking about working out deals with environmentalists. Then an unrelated group comes in and stops the process. It seems to me what the President has asked for in this legislation is a comprehensive response to a large problem in our system as opposed to these fragmented environmental groups who stop us here and there and everywhere.

Mr. JANKLOW. I will not attack the environmental groups. I am an environmentalist.

Mr. CANNON. I am an environmentalist.

Mr. JANKLOW. My grandchildren drink the water. They bathe in it. Their food is cooked in it. I want it to be nothing but healthy. But the worst environment in the world, a lousy environment, is when you are cold and you are hungry and you are unemployed. That is a bad environment. That is what the West being burned up is doing to people.

Mr. CANNON. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, although Utah is primarily an arid State, it is famous for its beautiful and Sierra landscapes. In fact, I invite anyone who might be listening to come to southern Utah and visit Lake Powell, which is this incredible barren red rock and beautiful blue water juxtaposed together. It is absolutely remarkable. In spite of that view that many people have of the beautiful part of Utah, we have about 16 million acres of forest, about 8 million of those are managed by the National Forest Service; and so we have a huge interest in what happens. I would like to give just a couple of anecdotes to sort of help people understand why it is so important that we create some changes. We had some recent severe weather in the eastern part of the State of Utah, in the Uinta Basin and we had a blow-down of a number of trees. This happened in 2000. The dead trees developed a spruce beetle infestation, which then spread to some of the live trees nearby. The Forest Service acted quickly and decided it was a very small situation, only a few thousand board feet, maybe 12 or so truckloads of wood, a small area of destruction. They moved quickly with an environmental analysis and did a 90-page environmental assessment. Shortly after making the decision, they were given an appeal, a 19-page appeal that stayed the whole process and that is now under review.

We are looking now in Utah at another area that is going to be terrifically unhealthy and terrifically subject to the kind of devastating fires that you see in this graphic, if we can focus the camera on that for a moment. You see the haze and the smoke and the billowing carcinogens that are going to be breathed in South Dakota by children and other ill people and people all the way east of us where the prevailing winds blow.

Let me give you a second vignette which I think is significant and instructive. We had a huge fire in an area that is one of our most beautiful forested areas. It has the Green River, which is among the most exciting trout fishing in the whole world. I know that many of the people from other States will claim that, but this is really marvelous trout fishing.

A fellow was driving along with a camper when the wheel came off and as one would expect, he began dragging the trailer without the wheel and sparks flew. He saw what happened, realized he was dragging the trailer, realized that sparks were flying everywhere and that actually had caused the beginnings of a fire, stopped his truck

and started to put out the fire. A Forest Service agent came by almost immediately and ordered him back into his truck to drive away from the fire and to not put the fire out, which was at that point controllable. He got back in his truck, started to pull forward, he emitted sparks from the dragging axle, started a couple of other little fires, a local policeman came by and ordered him to stop. He said, Just be consistent. Do I stop or not? At that point a group of river runners stopped by. They had water in their car. They jumped out to help put out the fire. The Forest Service agent told them not to do that. The fire then raged out of control and burned hundreds of thousands of acres. As the news reports, the cost was \$3 million to suppress the fire. The local rural electric cooperatives there tell me that it cost them over \$600,000 just to replace the poles with their electric power lines on them. The lost revenue from tourism that did not come has not been evaluated, but the area was hit hard by irrational activity, irrational activity that resulted, that came from the fact that we have unhealthy forests.

I would like to just show some pictures, including some of the areas where we have the aftermath of a fire. So if we could focus the camera here, we have the burned area in the Squires Forest. It is devastating. We thought of drawing an owl in here, an endangered owl with a little wisp of smoke coming out of his head to point out that this is bad for endangered species. The following pictures are pictures that were taken in a little town called Santaquin just outside my hometown of Mapleton. If we can focus tightly on that, what we see is a river of mud that has come downhill and affected these homes. Here is a closeup picture. You can see that that mud has come down from this direction and affected these houses. We do not think of mud as having a lot of power because it normally does not come knocking on the door, but you can see as you look down here how high up the mud has come, halfway to the door and windows and filled the whole yard.

In this picture, we can see that it has carried rocks and debris that are going to crush things. Here you have a whole area of the house has been torn out by this mud as it comes down. You can see the devastation of this home here. This is just dirt that got saturated with water after a forest fire. We had similar forest fires just north of this area in Provo. The difference is we had three-quarters of an inch in a very short period of time, in a very harsh storm that caused this to flow, whereas we cannot control nature. In Provo we had about the same amount of water, but it was more gradual over a longer period of time. We can see the terrific destruction, cars buried, windows shattered, mud going into basements, cars stranded. When you unleash the forces of nature, it is just almost beyond imagining how much damage can be done to an area because of that.

We have a problem today, Mr. Speaker. We have a problem. We have forests that are not healthy. That is the result of years and years and years of neglect. It is the result of years and years and years of people who have been narrow in their interests and who have stopped the sale of timber, who have stopped the thinning of timber, who have stopped our forest men and women who understand how to have healthy forests, stopped them from doing what they know how to do and left us with desperate circumstances, 70 or 75 million acres of forestland that is ready to be destroyed by fire.

□ 2115

We have suffered in the West with the worst drought in recent history, probably as bad as anything back to the Dust Bowl of the 1930s. These are terrible things. They have displaced people, destroyed farms and lives, and now we are going to add to that the further destruction of the forests through fire.

We had thought, and, in fact, we had some charts earlier that showed the anticipated fire damage in the West was going to be less this year than it was last year. Last year, of course, was a record year. We burned much of that which was ready to burn last year. Unfortunately, this year we have had some water over much of the West, and that, unfortunately, has created a fire ladder so that what was not as endangered 2 months ago is now viewed as being subject to devastating fires.

If we look at Utah today, it is as green as I have ever seen it. Unfortunately, that green over the next month or 2 or 3 is going to turn to brown grass that will light at any provocation, a lightning strike, a match or a cigarette carelessly thrown out of a window, a campfire burning out of control. Those things could all happen and will happen, we suspect, this summer with devastating effects.

We need to pass the forest health bill now.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JANKLOW).

Mr. JANKLOW. Mr. Speaker, I am going to be extremely brief. This healthy forest initiative is an initiative that is incredibly important. It is not very often that we deal with things of that much substance. This is one of those opportunities. For too long we have made the forests into political issues where people fight with each other. The reality of the situation is every time we get that strong of emotions on all sides, usually we end up with a bad result. That is what we have here.

There is no one, there is no one, who says these forests are healthy, and when I say forests, I am talking about a couple hundred million acres of land in America, virtually the entire part of many of our States. In my State it is the Black Hills, which is the westernmost portion of the State. But there is no one who says these forests are being

properly managed. There is no one who says we have been doing the right thing.

The arguments are what do we do to fix the problem, or do we just let God burn them down? It is okay to let God burn them down, but we are burning up people in the process. We are burning up people's homes in the process. We are destroying people's lives. We are shortening the lives of people. We are making it incredibly unhealthy for human beings. We are contributing to the wiping out of endangered species, be they plant life or be they animal life. So what we need to do is something different.

This is a reasonable approach that involves input from all corners of the philosophies. It preserves the right of anybody who does not like the decision to go to court, but more than anything else, it starts us on another track away from the track that we all agree has not worked.

For the sake of this country, for the sake of its resources, for the sake of our families, for the sake of endangered species, for the sake of our economy, and for the sake of our health, we need to pass this initiative.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JANKLOW). I appreciate that, and I am reminded of his earlier words about the unanimity of the Committee on Agriculture, and it dawns on me that those people who see the problem and understand it have a tendency to agree. Locals who know it have a tendency to agree. We have lots of people with incoherent or separate, disparate ideas who get to pursue those ideas, through litigation or otherwise, stopping the process.

What we have here before us with this bill is a coherent and considerate approach that is good for the air, will help with clean air, will help with clean water, will help people in the economy, will help endangered species, and will also help species that are not endangered now. So I urge passage of this bill, Mr. Speaker.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CASE (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business in the district.

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness.

#### 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 Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HINCHEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GREEN of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TURNER of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. ROHRABACHER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. MUSGRAVE, for 5 minutes, May 14 and 15.

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, today and May 14.

Mr. ROHRABACHER, for 5 minutes, today and May 14.

#### BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on May 9, 2003, he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 289. To expand the boundaries of the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Complex and the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 14, 2003, 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:

2145. A letter from the Directors, FinCEN, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Customer Identification Programs for Futures Commission Merchants and Introducing Brokers (RIN: 1506-AA34) received May 1, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2146. A letter from the Regulatory Contact, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Fees for Rice Inspection Services (RIN: 0580-AA82) received May 6, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2147. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Useful Life of Facility Determination (RIN: 0572-AB80) received May 6, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2148. A letter from the Under Secretary, Food Stamp Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Food Stamp Program: Anticipating Income and Reporting Changes [Amendment No. 376] (RIN: 0584-AB57) received May 2, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2149. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the

Agency's final rule—*Bacillus Thuringiensis* Cry1F Protein in Cotton; Temporary Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-2003-0147; FRL-7302-4] received April 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2150. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Air Force, Case Number 00-04, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

2151. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Navy, Case Number 02-08; to the Committee on Appropriations.

2152. A letter from the Director of Defense Research and Engineering, Department of Defense, transmitting the Annual Report of the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2153. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Division of Corporation Finance, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Mandated Electronic Filing and Website Posting for Forms 3, 4 and 5 [Release Nos. 33-8230, 34-47809, 35-27674, 1C-26044; File No. S7-52-02] (RIN: 3235-A126) received May 8, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2154. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Head Start Program (RIN: 0970-AB54) received May 1, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2155. A letter from the Director, Division of Acquisition Management Services, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule—Audit Requirements for Grants, Contracts, and Other Agreements (RIN: 1291-AA26) received May 1, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2156. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maine; Total Reduced Sulfur from Kraft Paper Mills [ME-062-7011a; A-1-FRL-7491-7] received April 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2157. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Revisions to Regulation for Control of Fuel-Burning Equipment, Stationary Internal Combustion Engines, and Certain Fuel-Burning Installations [MD139-3098a; FRL-7478-1] received April 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2158. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans Florida: Martin Gas Sales, Inc. Variance [FL-93-200318 (a); FRL-7491-5] received April 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2159. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Louisiana; Rescission of the Section 182(f) and 182(b)(1) Exemptions to the Nitrogen Oxides Control Requirements for the Baton Rouge Ozone Nonattainment Area [LA-60-1-7562; FRL-

7492-9] received April 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2160. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Extension of Alternative Compliance Periods under the Anti-Dumping Program [FRL-7492-1] received April 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2161. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Priorities List for Uncontrolled Hazardous Waste Sites [FRL-7490-3] received April 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2162. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Texas: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [FRL-7491-1] received April 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2163. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Implementation of Sections 309(j) and 337 of the Communications Act of 1934 as Amended [WT Docket No. 99-87]; Promotion of Spectrum Efficient Technologies on Certain Part 90 Frequencies [RM-9332] received May 1, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2164. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Part 90 of the Commission's Rules and Policies for Applications and Licensing of Low Power Operations in the Private Land Mobile Radio 450-470 MHz Band [WT Docket No. 01-146, RM-9966] received May 1, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2165. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting notification concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) to Canada for defense articles and services (Transmittal No. 03-16), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b); to the Committee on International Relations.

2166. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting a copy of Transmittal No. 07-03 which informs of an intent to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the United States and the United Kingdom for Ballistic Missile Defense, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

2167. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification that effective March 23, 2003 a 15% danger pay allowance has been established for Syria, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5928; to the Committee on International Relations.

2168. A letter from the Comptroller General, General Accounting Office, transmitting the Month in Review: March 2003 Reports, Testimony, Correspondence, and Other Publications, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 719(h); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2169. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

2170. A letter from the Executive Director, Marine Mammal Commission, transmitting

the Commission's Commercial Activities Inventory Report, as required by the Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998 and detailed in OMB Circular No. A-87 (revised); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2171. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting the eighth annual report on amounts paid to telecommunications carriers and manufacturers during FY 2002, and estimates of amounts expected to be paid in the current fiscal year; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2172. A letter from the Attorney, Office of Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Security Treat Assessment for Individuals Applying for a Hazardous Materials Endorsement for a Commercial Drivers License [Docket No. TSA-2003-14610; Amendment No. 1572-1] (RIN: 1652-AA17) received May 1, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2173. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Security Zones; San Diego Bay, CA [COTP San Diego 03-010] (RIN: 1625-AA00 [Formerly RIN: 2115-AA97]) received May 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2174. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Security Zones; Captain of the Port Houston-Galveston Zone [COTP Houston-Galveston-02-009] (RIN: 1625-AA00 [Formerly RIN: 2115-AA97]) received May 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2175. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Security and Safety Zone: Protection of Large Passenger Vessels, Portland, OR [CGD13-03-012] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2176. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Dragon Boat Race, Willamette River, Portland, OR [CGD13-03-014] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2177. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Chesapeake Bay, Norfolk, Virginia [CGD05-03-040] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2178. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Colorado River, Between Laughlin Bridge and Harrah's Hotel and Casino (This Section of the Colorado River divides Arizona and Nevada) [COTP San Diego 03-018] (RIN:1625-AA00) received May 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2179. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Ocean-side, California [COTP San Diego 03-017] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2180. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Security Zone, Bayou Casotte, Pascagoula, MS [COTP Mobile-03-009] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2181. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Amtrak Railroad Bridge, Susquehanna River, Havrede Grace, Maryland [CGD05-03-043] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2182. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Construction or Alteration in the Vicinity of the Private Residence of the President of the United States [Docket No. FAA-2003-14973; Special Federal Aviation Regulation No.98] (RIN: 2120-AH83) received May 6, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2183. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Guidance Under Section 817A Regarding Modified Guaranteed Contracts [TD 9058] (RIN: 1545-AY48) received May 6, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2184. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting notification that the Department of Energy requires an additional 45 days to transmit the implementation plan for addressing the issues raised in the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's Recommendation 2002-2, Weapons Laboratory Support of the Defense Nuclear Complex, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2286d(e); jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Commerce.

2185. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification that shrimp harvested with technology that may adversely affect certain sea turtles may not be imported into the United States unless the President makes specific certifications to the Congress by May 1; jointly to the Committees on Resources 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. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida: Committee on rules. House Resolution 229. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1527) to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board for fiscal years 2003 through 2006, and for other purposes (Rept. 108-97). referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. LINDER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 230. Resolution providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1000) to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide additional protections to participants and beneficiaries in individual account plans from excessive investment in employer securities and to promote the provision of retirement investment advice to workers managing their retirement income assets (Rept. 108-98). Referred to the House Calendar.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself and Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico):

H.R. 2068. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself and Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico):

H.R. 2069. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide increased foreign assistance for tuberculosis prevention, treatment, and control, and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations, 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. GREENWOOD (for himself, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. FOSSELLA):

H.R. 2070. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revitalize and improve the MedicareChoice program; 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. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BERRY, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. CAMP, Mr. CLAY, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. DOYLE, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. FARR, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. LEACH, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MOORE, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. SMITH of Michigan, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. OTTER, Mr. PAUL, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. ROSS, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SNYDER, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. TANNER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. WHITFIELD):

H.R. 2071. A bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. FOLEY (for himself, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. PAUL, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. NEY, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. MCHUGH, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. HAYWORTH, and Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida):

H.R. 2072. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the marriage penalty in the computation of the income tax on social security benefits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GIBBONS:

H.R. 2073. A bill to amend title 32, United States Code, to provide assistance to States for the discharge of homeland security activities by the National Guard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GUTIERREZ (for himself and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts):

H.R. 2074. A bill to require certain disclosures in connection with any international

money transfer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida:

H.R. 2075. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1905 West Blue Heron Boulevard in West Palm Beach, Florida, as the "Judge Edward Rodgers Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. JOHN:

H.R. 2076. A bill to further the protection and recognition of veterans' memorials, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for grants to repair veterans memorials, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. MORAN of Kansas (for himself, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. PEARCE):

H.R. 2077. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to enhance essential air service; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. OSE:

H.R. 2078. A bill to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require equitable funding of pension plans maintained by corporations which also maintain executive pension plans; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. PICKERING (for himself, Mr. JOHN, Mr. BERRY, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ROSS, Mr. GREENWOOD, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. OTTER, Mr. UPTON, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. GOODE, Mr. BONNER, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. SIMPSON):

H.R. 2079. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with regard to new animal drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SAXTON:

H.R. 2080. A bill to prevent International Monetary Fund loans for Iraq from being used to pay off Iraq's creditors; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. WU:

H.R. 2081. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce to 5 percent the maximum rate of tax on net capital gain on assets held for more than 5 years; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. HAYES, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. SCHROCK, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. REYES, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. AKIN, Mr. KLINE, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. THORBERRY, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. MCHUGH):

H. Con. Res. 177. Concurrent resolution recognizing and commending the members of the United States Armed Forces and their leaders, and the allies of the United States and their armed forces, who participated in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan

and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and recognizing the continuing dedication of military families and employers and defense civilians and contractors and the countless communities and patriotic organizations that lent their support to the Armed Forces during those operations; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, 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. PALLONE (for himself, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. BOYD, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. GOODE, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. HOLT, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. KIND, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. KLECZKA, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. MYRICK, Mrs. NORTHEUP, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. ROSS, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. WEXLER, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H. Con. Res. 178. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the goals of Veterans Educate Today's Students (VETS) Day, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HEFLEY (for himself, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. WAXMAN, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RAMSTAD, and Mr. STUPAK):

H. Res. 231. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. MICHAUD:

H. Res. 232. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 17) to provide economic security for America's workers; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. STEARNS (for himself, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. RENZI, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. PITTS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. GOODE, Mr. WALSH, Mr. WOLF, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TERRY, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. HAYES, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. KLINE, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. CHABOT, Ms. ROSLEHTINEN, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. BUYER, Mr. MANZULLO, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

H. Res. 233. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to pregnancy resource centers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

## MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

45. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of Michigan, relative to Senate Resolution No. 49 memorializing the United States Congress and the Department of Agriculture to provide assistance, including financial assistance, in the effort to deal with the infestation of the emerald ash borer; to the Committee on Agriculture.

46. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Washington, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 4021 memorializing the United States Congress requesting for the Bonneville Power Administration to refrain from adopting rate increases at this time; to the Committee on Resources.

47. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Michigan, relative to Senate Resolution No. 17 memorializing the United States Congress to pursue and support fuel cell research projects in Michigan; to the Committee on Science.

48. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Washington, relative to Substitute House Joint Memorial No. 4004 memorializing the United States Congress to amend the United States Code to expressly provide for the itemized deduction of state and local retail sales taxes for federal income tax purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

## PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, private bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LATOURETTE:

H.R. 2082. A bill for the relief of Michael Dvorikin; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LEE:

H.R. 2083. A bill for the relief of Geert Botzen; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 107: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 122: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. CASE, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. MATHESON, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. KIND, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 176: Mr. JANKLOW.

H.R. 192: Mr. ROTHMAN.

H.R. 217: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 218: Ms. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 221: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.

H.R. 223: Mr. OTTER.

H.R. 240: Mr. DAVIS of Florida.

H.R. 241: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina and Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA.

H.R. 290: Mr. WEXLER.

H.R. 296: Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 303: Mr. KNOLLENBERG.

H.R. 339: Mr. YOUNG of Florida.

H.R. 347: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 371: Mr. TURNER of Texas, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. BACA, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mrs. MALONEY.

H.R. 375: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 391: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. HAYWORTH, and Mr. MCINNIS.

H.R. 438: Mr. SIMMONS.

H.R. 440: Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 466: Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. STUPAK, and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.

H.R. 504: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 528: Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 571: Mr. HOEKSTRA.

H.R. 591: Mr. GOODE.

H.R. 673: Mr. SHUSTER.

H.R. 687: Ms. HARRIS, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. PUTNAM.

H.R. 692: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 709: Mr. MILLER of Florida.

H.R. 713: Mr. TOWNS.

H.R. 714: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.

H.R. 720: Mr. MILLER of Florida.  
 H.R. 731: Mr. TANCREDO.  
 H.R. 737: Mr. WEINER.  
 H.R. 759: Mr. OSE.  
 H.R. 785: Mr. SAXTON, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. LEACH, and Mr. CANTOR.  
 H.R. 792: Mr. Meehan and Ms. Kilpatrick.  
 H.R. 800: Mr. WELDON of Florida.  
 H.R. 804: Mr. MICHAUD.  
 H.R. 813: Ms. DELAUNO.  
 H.R. 816: Ms. ESHOO.  
 H.R. 817: Ms. ESHOO.  
 H.R. 872: Mr. UPTON and Mr. HOEKSTRA.  
 H.R. 876: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. HILL, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. GERLACH, and Mr. PICKERING.  
 H.R. 879: Mr. HAYES and Mr. KNOLLENBERG.  
 H.R. 883: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.  
 H.R. 898: Mr. LANGEVIN.  
 H.R. 919: Ms. LEE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. CAMP, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FARR, Mr. TANNER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. BACA, Mr. MOORE, Mr. FORD, and Mr. MENENDEZ.  
 H.R. 931: Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina.  
 H.R. 936: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.  
 H.R. 970: Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. CASE, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SHAYS, and Ms. WATSON.  
 H.R. 980: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Ms. ESHOO.  
 H.R. 1006: Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. McNULTY, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. SHAYS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. KILDEE.  
 H.R. 1085: Mr. SCHROCK and Mr. BAKER.  
 H.R. 1115: Mr. COBLE, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. CANNON, and Ms. HART.  
 H.R. 1118: Mr. UDALL of Colorado and Mr. GERLACH.  
 H.R. 1120: Mr. FROST.  
 H.R. 1125: Mr. RAHALL, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.  
 H.R. 1137: Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma and Mr. MORAN of Kansas.  
 H.R. 1174: Mr. CUMMINGS.  
 H.R. 1207: Mr. SWEENEY.  
 H.R. 1209: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. BOYD, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. CLAY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. NADLER, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MOORE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. COOPER.  
 H.R. 1222: Mr. ROSS.  
 H.R. 1257: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 1276: Mr. NUNES and Mr. COOPER.  
 H.R. 1288: Mr. MARKEY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. PAUL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. BEAUPREZ, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. JENKINS, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. EVANS.  
 H.R. 1301: Mr. PASTOR, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. KLINE, and Mr. SWEENEY.  
 H.R. 1305: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.  
 H.R. 1309: Mr. MCGOVERN.  
 H.R. 1315: Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio.  
 H.R. 1322: Mr. OLVER, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. FILNER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.  
 H.R. 1348: Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota and Mrs. MALONEY.  
 H.R. 1359: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California and Ms. LOFGREN.  
 H.R. 1376: Mrs. JONES of Ohio.  
 H.R. 1421: Mr. GRIJALVA.  
 H.R. 1459: Mr. WOLF.  
 H.R. 1460: Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA.  
 H.R. 1162: Mr. SANDERS and Mr. MCGOVERN.  
 H.R. 1502: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.

H.R. 1508: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.  
 H.R. 1512: Mr. HOEKSTRA.  
 H.R. 1574: Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee and Mr. PUTNAM.  
 H.R. 1577: Mr. KOLBE, Mr. RENZI, Mr. STUPAK, and Mr. GRIJALVA.  
 H.R. 1615: Mr. HINCHEY.  
 H.R. 1621: Mr. FARR, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. LEE, Mr. LANTOS, and Mr. GRIJALVA.  
 H.R. 1628: Mr. GUTIERREZ.  
 H.R. 1659: Mr. FILNER.  
 H.R. 1677: Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. WAXMAN, and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida.  
 H.R. 1683: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina and Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA.  
 H.R. 1693: Mr. EMANUEL.  
 H.R. 1698: Mr. RAMSTAD and Mr. RUSH.  
 H.R. 1700: Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, and Mr. DEUTSCH.  
 H.R. 1708: Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. BUYER, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. UPTON, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, and Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.  
 H.R. 1709: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas and Ms. LEE.  
 H.R. 1713: Mr. LEVIN and Mr. SHERMAN.  
 H.R. 1721: Mr. CAMP.  
 H.R. 1736: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, and Mr. JEFFERSON.  
 H.R. 1742: Mr. SMITH of Texas and Mr. BERMAN.  
 H.R. 1769: Mr. TERRY, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, and Mr. DOOLITTLE.  
 H.R. 1771: Mr. RENZI, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. REYES, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. NEY, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. UPTON, Mr. BUYER, and Mr. EHLERS.  
 H.R. 1784: Mr. DEUTSCH, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. ENGEL.  
 H.R. 1807: Mr. GILLMOR and Mr. MICHAUD.  
 H.R. 1814: Mr. RANGEL, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Ms. BORDALLO.  
 H.R. 1850: Mr. RANGEL.  
 H.R. 1886: Mr. ALLEN.  
 H.R. 1887: Ms. WATSON.  
 H.R. 1904: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.  
 H.R. 1910: Mr. KIND, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mrs. BONVO, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. EVANS, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. GREENWOOD.  
 H.R. 1931: Mr. MURTHA and Mr. GILLMOR.  
 H.R. 1933: Mr. HOLDEN and Ms. NORTON.  
 H.R. 1935: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.  
 H.R. 1944: Mr. LEACH.  
 H.R. 1981: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. DELAUNO, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. DEFazio.  
 H.R. 2012: Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. LOBIONDO.  
 H.R. 2017: Mr. WEXLER and Mr. MCDERMOTT.  
 H.R. 2020: Mr. HOYER, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. HILL, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. BISHOP of New York.  
 H.R. 2028: Mr. SKELTON, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. HYDE, and Mr. COBLE.  
 H.R. 2047: Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky.  
 H.J. Res. 48: Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida.  
 H. Con. Res. 56: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.  
 H. Con. Res. 98: Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, and Mr. BONNER.  
 H. Con. Res. 111: Mr. KIND and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.  
 H. Con. Res. 130: Ms. CARSON of Indiana.  
 H. Con. Res. 160: Mr. UPTON.  
 H. Con. Res. 161: Mr. BEAUPREZ, Mr. MOORE, and Mrs. MUSGRAVE.

H. Con. Res. 176: Mrs. CAPITO.  
 H. Res. 28: Mr. NADLER, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. TANCREDO.  
 H. Res. 59: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.  
 H. Res. 66: Mr. PITTS.  
 H. Res. 136: Mr. STUPAK and Mr. PAUL.  
 H. Res. 140: Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. WEINER, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. FOLEY, and Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia.  
 H. Res. 167: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas and Mr. GRIJALVA.  
 H. Res. 199: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. WATSON, and Mr. FARR.  
 H. Res. 214: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. FROST, and Mr. CASE.  
 H. Res. 222: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BELL, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. MOORE, Mr. GORDON, Mr. WU, Mr. WEINER, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. COMBEST.

#### DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 660: Mr. SOUDER.

#### PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

12. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, relative to Resolution No. 4173 petitioning the United States Congress that the Council supports the men and women serving in the armed forces and honors their commitment to our Nation's safety, security and freedom; to the Committee on Armed Services.

13. Also, a petition of the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners, Minnesota, relative to Resolution No. 03-4-232SIR2 petitioning the United States Congress that the Board urges federal, state, and local government agencies, religious institutions, employers, schools, charitable organizations, and all of our citizens to do all that is humanly possible to assist the families and loved ones of our Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

14. Also, a petition of the Legislature of Rockland County, New York, relative to Resolution No. 127 of 2003 petitioning the United States Congress to request that the United States Postal Service issue a stamp honoring Helen Hayes; to the Committee on Government Reform.

15. Also, a petition of the City Commission of the City of Hollywood, Florida, relative to Resolution No. R-2003-110 petitioning the United States Congress that the City Commission supports SCR1166, a concurrent resolution ratifying the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to equal rights for men and women and encourages the Florida State Legislature to authorize the resolution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

16. Also, a petition of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors, California, relative to Resolution No. 2003-24 petitioning the United States Congress that the Board urges the Legislature of the State of California to reaffirm its commitment to strengthening our cities and counties as the first line of defense of our people; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

## AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 1000

OFFERED BY: MR. SANDERS

AMENDMENT NO. 1: Insert after section 216 the following new sections (and conform the table of contents):

**SEC. 217. PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF INTERNAL REVENUE LAWS AND NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 shall be applied and administered without regard to proposed regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury, included in proposed regulations published in the Federal Register on December 11, 2002 (relating to reductions of accruals and allocations because of the attainment of any age; application of non-discrimination cross-testing rules to cash balance plans) (67 FR 76123), which pertain to plan amendments adopting a cash balance formula, and without regard to any other regulation which reaches the same or a similar result. The Secretary of the Treasury shall take no action in contravention of section 204(b)(1)(G), 204(b)(1)(H)(i), or 204(g) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, section 411(b)(1)(G), 411(b)(1)(H)(i), or 411(d)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or section 4(i)(1)(A) of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967.

(b) DIRECTIVE.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall apply section 411(b)(1)(H) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 without regard to the portion of the preamble to Treasury Decision 8360 (56 Fed. Reg. 47524-47603, September 19, 1991) which relates to the allocation of interest adjustments through normal retirement age under a cash balance plan, as such preamble is and has been since its adoption without the force of law.

**SEC. 218. PROTECTION OF PARTICIPANTS FROM CONVERSIONS TO HYBRID DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS.**

(a) ELECTION TO MAINTAIN RATE OF ACCRUAL IN EFFECT BEFORE PLAN AMENDMENT.—

(1) AMENDMENT TO ERISA.—Section 204(b)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1054(b)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(I)(i) Notwithstanding the preceding subparagraphs, in the case of a plan amendment to a defined benefit plan—

“(I) which has the effect of converting the plan to a plan under which the accrued benefit is expressed to participants and beneficiaries as an amount other than an annual benefit commencing at normal retirement age (or which has a similar effect as determined under regulations issued under clause (iv)), and

“(II) which has the effect of reducing the rate of future benefit accrual of 1 or more participants,

such plan shall be treated as not satisfying the requirements of this paragraph unless such plan meets the requirements of clause (ii).

“(ii) A plan meets the requirements of this clause if the plan provides each participant who has attained 40 years of age or 10 years of service (as determined under section 203) under the plan at the time such amendment takes effect with—

“(I) notice of the plan amendment indicating that it has such effect, including a comparison of the present and projected val-

ues of the accrued benefit determined both with and without regard to the plan amendment, and

“(II) an election upon retirement to either receive benefits under the terms of the plan as in effect at the time of retirement or to receive benefits under the terms of the plan as in effect immediately before the effective date of such plan amendment (taking into account all benefit accruals under such terms since such date).

“(iii) For purposes of clause (i), an accrued benefit shall include any early retirement benefit or retirement-type subsidy (within the meaning of subsection (g)(2)(A)), but only with respect to a participant who satisfies (either before or after the effective date of the amendment) the conditions for the benefit or subsidy under the terms of the plan as in effect immediately before such date.

“(iv) The Secretary shall issue regulations under which any plan amendment which has an effect similar to the effect described in clause (i)(I) shall be treated as a plan amendment described in clause (i)(I). Such regulations may provide that if a plan sponsor represents in communications to participants and beneficiaries that a plan amendment has an effect described in the preceding sentence, such plan amendment shall be treated as a plan amendment described in clause (i)(I).”.

(2) AMENDMENT TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section 411(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to accrued benefit requirements for defined benefit plans) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(I) ELECTION TO MAINTAIN RATE OF ACCRUAL IN EFFECT BEFORE CERTAIN PLAN AMENDMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the preceding subparagraphs, in the case of a plan amendment to a defined benefit plan—

“(I) which has the effect of converting the plan to a plan under which the accrued benefit is expressed to participants and beneficiaries as an amount other than an annual benefit commencing at normal retirement age (or which has a similar effect as determined under regulations issued under clause (iv)), and

“(II) which has the effect of reducing the rate of future benefit accrual of 1 or more participants,

such plan shall be treated as not satisfying the requirements of this paragraph unless such plan meets the requirements of clause (ii).

“(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—A plan meets the requirements of this clause if the plan provides each participant who has attained 40 years of age or 10 years of service (as determined under subsection (a)) under the plan at the time such amendment takes effect with—

“(I) notice of the plan amendment indicating that it has such effect, including a comparison of the present and projected values of the accrued benefit determined both with and without regard to the plan amendment, and

“(II) an election upon retirement to either receive benefits under the terms of the plan as in effect at the time of retirement or to receive benefits under the terms of the plan as in effect immediately before the effective date of such plan amendment (taking into account all benefit accruals under such terms since such date).

“(iii) TREATMENT OF EARLY RETIREMENT BENEFITS AND RETIREMENT-TYPE SUBSIDIES.—For purposes of clause (i), an accrued benefit shall include any early retirement benefit or retirement-type subsidy (within the meaning of subsection (d)(6)(B)(i)), but only with respect to a participant who satisfies (either before or after the effective date of the amendment) the conditions for the benefit or

subsidy under the terms of the plan as in effect immediately before such date.

“(iv) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations under which any plan amendment which has an effect similar to the effect described in clause (i)(I) shall be treated as a plan amendment described in clause (i)(I). Such regulations may provide that if a plan sponsor represents in communications to participants and beneficiaries that a plan amendment has an effect described in the preceding sentence, such plan amendment shall be treated as a plan amendment described in clause (i)(I).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE AND RELATED RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section apply to plan amendments taking effect before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) SPECIAL RULE.—In the case of a plan amendment taking effect before 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the requirements of section 204(b)(1)(I) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (as added by this section) and section 411(b)(1)(I) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section) shall be treated as satisfied in connection with such plan amendment, in the case of any participant described in such sections 204(b)(1)(I) and 411(b)(1)(I) in connection with such plan amendment, if, as of the end of such 90-day period—

(A) the notice described in clause (i)(I) of such section 204(b)(1)(I) and clause (i)(I) of such section 411(b)(1)(I) in connection with such plan amendment has been provided to such participant, and

(B) the plan provides for the election described in clause (i)(II) of such section 204(b)(1)(I) and clause (i)(II) of such section 411(b)(1)(I) in connection with such participant's retirement under the plan.

**SEC. 219. PREVENTION OF WEARING AWAY OF EMPLOYEE'S ACCRUED BENEFIT.**

(a) AMENDMENT TO ERISA.—Section 204(g) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1054(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(6)(A) For purposes of paragraph (1), an applicable plan amendment adopted by a large defined benefit plan shall be treated as reducing accrued benefits of a participant if, under the terms of the plan after the adoption of the amendment, the accrued benefit of the participant may at any time be less than the sum of—

“(i) the participant's accrued benefit for years of service before the effective date of the amendment, determined under the terms of the plan as in effect immediately before the effective date, plus

“(ii) the participant's accrued benefit determined under the formula applicable to benefit accruals under the current plan as applied to years of service after such effective date.

“(B) For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) The term ‘applicable plan amendment’ means a plan amendment which has the effect of converting the plan to a plan under which the accrued benefit is expressed to participants and beneficiaries as an amount other than an annual benefit commencing at normal retirement age (or which has a similar effect as determined under regulations of the Secretary).

“(ii) The term ‘large defined benefit plan’ means any defined benefit plan which had 100 or more participants who had accrued a benefit under the plan (whether or not vested) as of the last day of the plan year preceding the plan year in which the plan amendment becomes effective.

“(iii) An accrued benefit shall include any early retirement benefit or retirement-type subsidy (within the meaning of paragraph

(2)(A), but only with respect to a participant who satisfies (either before or after the effective date of the amendment) the conditions for the benefit or subsidy under the terms of the plan as in effect immediately before such date.”.

(b) AMENDMENT TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section 411(d)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to accrued benefit may not be decreased by amendment) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) TREATMENT OF PLAN AMENDMENTS WEARING AWAY ACCRUED BENEFIT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), an applicable plan amendment adopted by a large defined benefit plan shall be treated as reducing accrued benefits of a participant if, under the terms of the plan after the adoption of the amendment, the accrued benefit of the participant may at any time be less than the sum of—

“(I) the participant’s accrued benefit for years of service before the effective date of the amendment, determined under the terms of the plan as in effect immediately before the effective date, plus

“(II) the participant’s accrued benefit determined under the formula applicable to benefit accruals under the current plan as applied to years of service after such effective date.

“(ii) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subparagraph—

“(I) APPLICABLE PLAN AMENDMENT.—The term ‘applicable plan amendment’ means a plan amendment which has the effect of converting the plan to a plan under which the accrued benefit is expressed to participants and beneficiaries as an amount other than an annual benefit commencing at normal retirement age (or which has a similar effect as determined under regulations of the Secretary).

“(II) LARGE DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN.—The term ‘large defined benefit plan’ means any defined benefit plan which had 100 or more participants who had accrued a benefit under the plan (whether or not vested) as of the last day of the plan year preceding the plan year in which the plan amendment becomes effective.

“(III) PROTECTED ACCRUED BENEFIT.—An accrued benefit shall include any early retirement benefit or retirement-type subsidy (within the meaning of subparagraph (B)(i)), but only with respect to a participant who satisfies (either before or after the effective date of the amendment) the conditions for the benefit or subsidy under the terms of the plan as in effect immediately before such date.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE AND RELATED RULES.—(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section apply to plan amendments taking effect before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) SPECIAL RULE.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the amendments made by this section shall not apply in connection with any participant with respect to any plan amendment which has taken effect before 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act if, as of the end of such 90-day period, the plan provides that the participant’s accrued benefit shall at no time be less than the sum described in section 204(g)(6)(A) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (as added by this section) or section 411(d)(6)(F)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section) in connection with such plan amendment.

H.R. 1000

OFFERED BY: MR. SANDERS

AMENDMENT No. 2: Insert after section 216 the following new section (and conform the table of contents):

**SEC. 217. CONVERSION OF RETIREMENT PLANS APPLICABLE TO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO CASH BALANCE PLANS UPON FINAL ISSUANCE OF CERTAIN REGULATIONS RELATING TO CASH BALANCE PLANS.**

(a) RECOMMENDATIONS BY OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT PROVIDING FOR CONVERSION OF RETIREMENT PLANS FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO CASH BALANCE PLANS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall transmit to each House of the Congress draft legislative language and related regulations necessary to provide for conversion of the defined benefit portions of the retirement plans applicable to Members of Congress under chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code, to cash balance plans.

(b) ENACTMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS UPON ISSUANCE OF FINAL REGULATIONS ON CASH BALANCE PLANS.—Effective on the later of—

(1) the date of the issuance by the Secretary of the Treasury in final form of proposed regulations published in the Federal Register on December 11, 2002 (relating to reductions of accruals and allocations because of the attainment of any age; application of nondiscrimination cross-testing rules to cash balance plans) (67 FR 76123), which pertain to plan amendments adopting a cash balance formula, or any other regulation which reaches the same or a similar result, or

(2) 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,

the draft legislative language transmitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall take effect as positive law, and the related regulations transmitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall take effect as final regulations thereunder.

(c) CASH BALANCE PLAN.—For purposes of this section, the term “cash balance plan” means a plan under which—

(1) the normal form of benefit is an immediate payment of the balance in a hypothetical account (without regard to whether such an immediate payment is actually made available), and

(2) the employer regularly credits the employer contributions as a percentage of pay, plus interest at a specified rate, into such hypothetical account which is nevertheless commingled with the hypothetical accounts for all participants and remains subject to investment decisions made solely by the employer.

H.R. 1527

OFFERED BY MR. UDALL OF COLORADO

AMENDMENT No. 1: Page 2, after line 3, insert the following:

**TITLE I—NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD**

Page 2, line 4, strike “2” and insert “101”.  
Page 3, line 3, strike “3” and insert “102”.  
Page 3, line 20, strike “4” and insert “103”.  
Page 5, line 6, strike “5” and insert “104”.  
Page 6, line 13, strike “6” and insert “105”.  
Page 6, after line 16, add the following:

**TITLE II—APPLICABILITY OF SCHOOL BUS SAFETY STANDARDS**

**SEC. 201. PROHIBITION ON PURCHASE, RENTAL, OR LEASE OF NONCOMPLYING 15-PASSENGER VANS FOR USE AS SCHOOLBUSES.**

(a) PROHIBITION.—Section 30112(a) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting “(1)” before “Except as provided in this section”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) Except as provided in this section, sections 30113 and 30114 of this title, and subchapter III of this chapter, a person may not purchase, rent, or lease any motor vehicle designed or used to transport 9 to 15 passengers that the person knows or reasonably should know will be used significantly to

transport children from child care and preprimary, primary, and secondary school students to or from child care facilities, school, or an event related to school, unless the motor vehicle complies with the motor vehicle standards prescribed for schoolbuses under section 30125 of this title.”.

(b) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to any purchase, rental, or lease of a motor vehicle required under a contract entered into before the date of enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 202. PENALTY.**

Section 30165(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “A” before “person” and inserting “(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, a”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) The maximum amount of a civil penalty under this paragraph shall be \$25,000, in the case of—

“(i) the manufacture, sale, offer for sale, introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce, or importation of a schoolbus or schoolbus equipment (as those terms are defined in section 30125(a) of this title) in violation of section 30112(a)(1) of this title; or

“(ii) a violation of section 30112(a)(2) of this title.

“(C) Subparagraph (B) does not affect the maximum penalty that may be imposed under subparagraph (A) for a related series of violations.

“(D) Notwithstanding section 3302(b) of title 31, penalties collected under subparagraph (B)—

“(i) shall be credited as offsetting collections to the account that funds the enforcement of subparagraph (B);

“(ii) shall be available for expenditure only to pay the costs of such enforcement; and

“(iii) shall remain available until expended.”.

H.R. 1527

OFFERED BY MR. UDALL OF COLORADO

AMENDMENT No. 2: Page 2, after line 3, insert the following:

**TITLE I—NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD**

Page 2, line 4, strike “2” and insert “101”.  
Page 3, line 3, strike “3” and insert “102”.  
Page 3, line 20, strike “4” and insert “103”.  
Page 5, line 6, strike “5” and insert “104”.  
Page 6, line 13, strike “6” and insert “105”.  
Page 6, after line 16, add the following:

**TITLE II—ENHANCED VAN SAFETY**

**SEC. 201. DYNAMIC ROLLOVER TESTING PROGRAM.**

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR ROLLOVER TESTING.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, under section 30117(c) of title 49, United States Code, shall—

(1) develop a dynamic test on rollovers by 15-passenger vans for the purposes of a consumer information program; and

(2) carry out a program of conducting such tests.

(b) AMENDMENT.—Section 30117(c) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) by striking “Not later than 2 years from the date of the enactment of this subsection.”; and

(2) in paragraph (3) by inserting after “or less” the following: “, and to vans designed or used to carry 9 to 15 passengers, including the driver, irrespective of gross vehicle weight rating”.

**SEC. 202. NEW CAR ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.**

The Secretary of Transportation shall require the testing of 15-passenger vans at various load condition levels as part of the rollover resistance program of the National

Highway Traffic Safety Administration's new car assessment program.

**SEC. 203. TESTING AND EVALUATION OF VAN STABILITY TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS.**

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR TESTING AND EVALUATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall test and evaluate various technological systems to determine the effectiveness of such systems in assisting drivers of 15-passenger vans to control the vans under conditions that cause vehicle rollover.

(b) SYSTEMS TESTED.—The technological systems tested and evaluated under this section shall include electronic stability control systems, rear-view mirror-based rollover warning systems, traction systems, lane departure systems, and antilock brakes.

(c) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall consult with manufacturers of 15-passenger vans in the testing and evaluation of technological systems under this section.

**SEC. 204. APPLICATION OF FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS.**

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue a final rule initiated pursuant to the proposed rulemaking published in the Federal Register on January 11, 2001, Docket No. FMCSA-2000-7017, relating to the application of Federal motor carrier safety regulations to the commercial operation of 15-passenger vans.

**SEC. 205. DEFINITION.**

In this title, the term "15-passenger van" means a van designed or used to carry 9 to 15 passengers, including the driver.

**SEC. 206. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title.

H.R. 1527

OFFERED BY: MR. UDALL OF COLORADO

Amendment No. 3: Page 2, after line 3, insert the following:

**TITLE I—NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD**

Page 2, line 4, strike "2" and insert "101".  
Page 3, line 3, strike "3" and insert "102".  
Page 3, line 20, strike "4" and insert "103".  
Page 5, line 6, strike "5" and insert "104".  
Page 6, line 13, strike "6" and insert "105".

Page 6, after line 16, add the following:

**TITLE II—ENHANCED VAN SAFETY**

**SEC. 201. DYNAMIC ROLLOVER TESTING PROGRAM.**

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR ROLLOVER TESTING.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, under section 30117(c) of title 49, United States Code, shall—

(1) develop a dynamic test on rollovers by 15-passenger vans for the purposes of a consumer information program; and

(2) carry out a program of conducting such tests.

(b) AMENDMENT.—Section 30117(c) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) by striking "Not later than 2 years from the date of the enactment of this subsection,"; and

(2) in paragraph (3) by inserting after "or less" the following: ", and to vans designed or used to carry 9 to 15 passengers, including the driver, irrespective of gross vehicle weight rating".

**SEC. 202. NEW CAR ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.**

The Secretary of Transportation shall require the testing of 15-passenger vans at various load condition levels as part of the rollover resistance program of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's new car assessment program.

**SEC. 203. TESTING AND EVALUATION OF VAN STABILITY TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS.**

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR TESTING AND EVALUATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall test and evaluate various technological systems to determine the effectiveness of such systems in assisting drivers of 15-passenger vans to control the vans under conditions that cause vehicle rollover.

(b) SYSTEMS TESTED.—The technological systems tested and evaluated under this section shall include electronic stability control systems, rear-view mirror-based rollover warning systems, traction systems, lane departure systems, and antilock brakes.

(c) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall consult with manufacturers of 15-passenger vans in the testing and evaluation of technological systems under this section.

**SEC. 204. APPLICATION OF FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS.**

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue a final rule initiated pursuant to the proposed rulemaking published in the Federal Register on January 11, 2001, Docket No. FMCSA-2000-7017, relating to the application of Federal motor carrier safety regulations to the commercial operation of 15-passenger vans.

**SEC. 205. DEFINITION.**

In this title, the term "15-passenger van" means a van designed or used to carry 9 to 15 passengers, including the driver.

**SEC. 206. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title.

**TITLE III—APPLICABILITY OF SCHOOL BUS SAFETY STANDARDS**

**SEC. 301. PROHIBITION ON PURCHASE, RENTAL, OR LEASE OF NONCOMPLYING 15-PASSENGER VANS FOR USE AS SCHOOLBUSES.**

(a) PROHIBITION.—Section 30112(a) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(1)" before "Except as provided in this section"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) Except as provided in this section, sections 30113 and 30114 of this title, and subchapter III of this chapter, a person may not purchase, rent, or lease any motor vehicle designed or used to transport 9 to 15 passengers that the person knows or reasonably should know will be used significantly to transport children from child care and preprimary, primary, and secondary school students to or from a child care facility, school, or an event related to school, unless the motor vehicle complies with the motor vehicle standards prescribed for schoolbuses under section 30125 of this title."

(b) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to any purchase, rental, or lease of a motor vehicle required under a contract entered into before the date of enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 302. PENALTY.**

Section 30165(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "A" before "person" and inserting "(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, a"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) The maximum amount of a civil penalty under this paragraph shall be \$25,000, in the case of—

"(i) the manufacture, sale, offer for sale, introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce, or importation of a schoolbus or schoolbus equipment (as those terms are defined in section 30125(a) of this title) in violation of section 30112(a)(1) of this title; or

"(ii) a violation of section 30112(a)(2) of this title.

"(C) Subparagraph (B) does not affect the maximum penalty that may be imposed under subparagraph (A) for a related series of violations.

"(D) Notwithstanding section 3302(b) of title 31, penalties collected under subparagraph (B)—

"(i) shall be credited as offsetting collections to the account that funds the enforcement of subparagraph (B);

"(ii) shall be available for expenditure only to pay the costs of such enforcement; and

"(iii) shall remain available until expended."