

Whereas, because of the Chairman's proposal and with nearly half of the First Session of the 109th Congress having expired, the committee has been unable to carry out its charge, set out in Rule XI, to investigate allegations of misconduct by Members and staff;

Whereas, the Committee's resulting inability to carry out its duties has subjected the House to public ridicule and produced contempt for the ethics process, thus bringing discredit to the House; now be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct is hereby directed to proceed in accord with clause 3(g) of rule XI, to appoint, upon an affirmative vote of the majority of the Members of the Committee, a non-partisan professional staff.

□ 1300

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). In the opinion of the Chair, the resolution constitutes a question of privileges of the House.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. BLUNT

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I move to table the resolution.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, am I correct that if the gentleman from Missouri's motion prevails, that we will be unable to discuss the substance of the motion made by the minority leader?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The adoption of the motion to table would dispose of the resolution.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT).

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

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 219, noes 199, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 240]

AYES—219

Aderholt	Burgess	Diaz-Balart, M.
Akin	Burton (IN)	Doolittle
Alexander	Buyer	Drake
Bachus	Calvert	Dreier
Baker	Camp	Duncan
Barrett (SC)	Cannon	Ehlers
Bartlett (MD)	Cantor	Emerson
Barton (TX)	Capito	English (PA)
Bass	Carter	Feeney
Beauprez	Castle	Ferguson
Biggert	Chabot	Fitzpatrick (PA)
Bilirakis	Chocola	Flake
Bishop (UT)	Coble	Foley
Blackburn	Cole (OK)	Forbes
Blunt	Conaway	Fortenberry
Boehrlert	Crenshaw	Fossella
Boehner	Cubin	Fox
Bonilla	Culberson	Franks (AZ)
Bonner	Cunningham	Frelinghuysen
Boozman	Davis (KY)	Gallegly
Boustany	Davis, Jo Ann	Garrett (NJ)
Bradley (NH)	Davis, Tom	Gerlach
Brady (TX)	Deal (GA)	Gibbons
Brown (SC)	DeLay	Gilchrest
Brown-Waite,	Dent	Gillmor
Ginny	Diaz-Balart, L.	Gingrey

Gohmert	Mack	Rogers (AL)	Peterson (MN)	Schiff	Tierney
Goode	Manzullo	Rogers (KY)	Pomeroy	Schwartz (PA)	Towns
Goodlatte	Marchant	Rogers (MI)	Price (NC)	Scott (GA)	Udall (CO)
Graves	McCaul (TX)	Rohrabacher	Rahall	Scott (VA)	Udall (NM)
Green (WI)	McCotter	Ros-Lehtinen	Rangel	Serrano	Van Hollen
Gutknecht	McCrery	Royce	Reyes	Sherman	Velázquez
Hall	McHenry	Ryan (WI)	Ross	Skelton	Visclosky
Harris	McHugh	Ryun (KS)	Rothman	Slaughter	Wasserman
Hart	McKeon	Saxton	Roybal-Allard	Smith (WA)	Schultz
Hastings (WA)	McMorris	Schwarz (MI)	Ruppersberger	Snyder	Waters
Hayes	Mica	Sensenbrenner	Rush	Solis	Watson
Hayworth	Miller (FL)	Sessions	Ryan (OH)	Spratt	Watt
Hefley	Miller (MI)	Shadegg	Sabo	Stark	Waxman
Hensarling	Miller, Gary	Shaw	Salazar	Stupak	Weiner
Herger	Moran (KS)	Shays	Sánchez, Linda	Tanner	Wexler
Hoekstra	Murphy	Sherwood	T.	Tauscher	Woolsey
Hostettler	Musgrave	Shimkus	Sanchez, Loretta	Taylor (MS)	Wu
Hunter	Myrick	Shuster	Sanders	Thompson (CA)	Wynn
Hyde	Neugebauer	Simmons	Schakowsky	Thompson (MS)	
Inglis (SC)	Ney	Simpson			
Issa	Northup	Smith (NJ)			
Istook	Norwood	Smith (TX)			
Jenkins	Nunes	Sodrel			
Jindal	Nussle	Souder			
Johnson (CT)	Osborne	Stearns			
Johnson (IL)	Otter	Sullivan			
Johnson, Sam	Oxley	Tancredo			
Jones (NC)	Paul	Taylor (NC)			
Keller	Pearce	Thomas			
Kelly	Pence	Thornberry			
Kennedy (MN)	Peterson (PA)	Tiahrt			
King (IA)	Petri	Turner			
Kingston	Pickering	Upton			
Kirk	Pitts	Walden (OR)			
Kline	Platts	Walsh			
Knollenberg	Poe	Wamp			
Kolbe	Pombo	Weldon (FL)			
Kuhl (NY)	Porter	Weldon (PA)			
Latham	Price (GA)	Weller			
LaTourette	Pryce (OH)	Westmoreland			
Leach	Putnam	Whitfield			
Lewis (CA)	Radanovich	Wicker			
Lewis (KY)	Ramstad	Wilson (NM)			
Linder	Regula	Wilson (SC)			
LoBiondo	Rehberg	Wolf			
Lucas	Reichert	Young (AK)			
Lungren, Daniel	Renzi	Young (FL)			
E.	Reynolds				

NOES—199

Abercrombie	DeGette	Langevin
Ackerman	Delahunt	Lantos
Allen	DeLauro	Larsen (WA)
Andrews	Dicks	Larson (CT)
Baca	Dingell	Lee
Baird	Doggett	Levin
Baldwin	Doyle	Lewis (GA)
Barrow	Edwards	Lipinski
Bean	Emanuel	Lofgren, Zoe
Becerra	Engel	Lowey
Berkley	Eshoo	Lynch
Berman	Etheridge	Maloney
Berry	Evans	Markey
Bishop (GA)	Farr	Marshall
Bishop (NY)	Fattah	Matheson
Blumenauer	Filner	Matsui
Boren	Ford	McCarthy
Boswell	Frank (MA)	McCollum (MN)
Boucher	Gonzalez	McDermott
Boyd	Gordon	McGovern
Brady (PA)	Green, Al	McIntyre
Brown (OH)	Green, Gene	McKinney
Brown, Corrine	Grijalva	McNulty
Butterfield	Gutierrez	Meehan
Capps	Harman	Meek (FL)
Capuano	Herseth	Meeks (NY)
Cardin	Higgins	Melancon
Cardoza	Hinche	Michaud
Carnahan	Hinojosa	Millender-
Carson	Holden	McDonald
Case	Holt	Miller (NC)
Chandler	Honda	Miller, George
Clay	Hooley	Mollohan
Cleaver	Hoyer	Moore (KS)
Clyburn	Inslee	Moore (WI)
Conyers	Israel	Moran (VA)
Cooper	Jackson (IL)	Nadler
Costa	Jackson-Lee	Napolitano
Costello	(TX)	Neal (MA)
Cramer	Jefferson	Oberstar
Crowley	Johnson, E. B.	Obey
Cuellar	Jones (OH)	Olver
Cummings	Kanjorski	Ortiz
Davis (AL)	Kaptur	Owens
Davis (CA)	Kennedy (RI)	Pallone
Davis (FL)	Kildee	Pascarell
Davis (IL)	Kilpatrick (MI)	Pastor
Davis (TN)	Kind	Payne
DeFazio	Kucinich	Pelosi

Peterson (MN)	Schiff	Tierney
Pomeroy	Schwartz (PA)	Towns
Price (NC)	Scott (GA)	Udall (CO)
Rahall	Scott (VA)	Udall (NM)
Rangel	Serrano	Van Hollen
Reyes	Sherman	Velázquez
Ross	Skelton	Visclosky
Rothman	Slaughter	Wasserman
Roybal-Allard	Smith (WA)	Schultz
Ruppersberger	Snyder	Waters
Rush	Solis	Watson
Ryan (OH)	Spratt	Watt
Sabo	Stark	Waxman
Salazar	Stupak	Weiner
Sánchez, Linda	Tanner	Wexler
T.	Tauscher	Woolsey
Sanchez, Loretta	Taylor (MS)	Wu
Sanders	Thompson (CA)	Wynn
Schakowsky	Thompson (MS)	

NOT VOTING—15

Bono	Hobson	Murtha
Cox	Hulshof	Strickland
Everett	King (NY)	Sweeney
Granger	LaHood	Terry
Hastings (FL)	Menendez	Tiberi

□ 1323

Ms. DEGETTE changed her vote from "aye" to "no."

Mr. OXLEY changed his vote from "no" to "aye."

So the motion to table was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT JUNE 10, 2005, TO FILE PRIVILEGED REPORT ON DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations may have until midnight, June 10, 2005, to file a privileged report on a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1 of rule XXI, points of order are reserved.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT JUNE 10, 2005, TO FILE PRIVILEGED REPORT ON SCIENCE, THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE, JUSTICE, AND COMMERCE AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations may have until midnight, June 10, 2005, to file a privileged report on a bill making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

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

There was no objection?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1 of rule XXI, points of order are reserved.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I take this time for the purpose of inquiring of the majority whip the schedule for the week to come.

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

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding and also for the cooperation of those on the appropriations bills this week as we move to an early conclusion of this week's work.

Next Monday, the House will convene at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider several measures under suspension of the rules. A final list of those bills will be sent to Members' office by the end of this week. Any votes called on those measures that Members are given notice of will be rolled until 6:30 p.m. on Monday.

On Tuesday and the balance of the week, the House will consider several bills under a rule. First of all, the Science and Departments of Commerce, State and Justice Appropriation Act for fiscal year 2006. Following that, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2006; and then, finally, H.R. 2745, the United Nations Reform Act.

I yield back to my friend, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that information.

First, if the distinguished whip knows, my presumption is, based upon the schedule that has been submitted, that the probability is we will not have votes on Friday next. Is that a reasonable assumption, do you think, for our Members to make?

Mr. BLUNT. Certainly based on the experience we have had for the last three Fridays, the cooperation of both the ranking member and the leadership of the chairman and the subcommittee chairmen on the appropriations committee, we have been seeing this work go a little faster than we had anticipated. That could happen again next Friday.

The experience again of the last three Fridays would lead one to believe that, but next week we will adopt the same approach. We will get this work done early if we can but would advise Members to plan to be here on Friday because we will want to complete the entire agenda that we have laid out for next week's schedule.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, can the gentleman tell us, with respect to the appropriations bills, which day of the week, Tuesday and thereafter, you might expect each of the individual bills to come up in particular?

Of course, the defense appropriations bill is of great interest to our Members.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I believe we will do those in the order that they appeared starting on Tuesday. So I would expect Tuesday's work to include the Science, Commerce, State, Justice Appropriations Act, and then move on to defense appropriations on Wednesday if we are completed with the previous bill, and then to bring the bill to the floor on United Nations reform after that.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information.

I note, Mr. Whip, that the intelligence authorization bill, which was schedule to be on the floor today, which had been pulled, is not on the schedule for next week.

That obviously is a very important bill. And it is, I would say to my friend, as I understand it, a bill which has the agreement between the chairman of the Intelligence Committee and the ranking Democrat on the Intelligence Committee. So it would seem to be a bipartisan agreement on the substance of the bill. Can the whip tell us when we might see that bill back?

I am sure you agree it is a very important bill, providing for the work of the national intelligence director and providing to make sure that we can keep this country safe from terrorists, and I know that both sides are hopeful that it will come forward pretty quickly.

Can the gentleman tell us when that might be on the floor?

Mr. BLUNT. I would say, in response, that, interestingly, the discussion on that bill, it is an important discussion, is largely between the new Director of National Intelligence and the Armed Services chairman because of some commitments that seemed to have been made and I think were made during the adoption of the 9/11 bill of things that would be included in this bill.

That discussion is going on. We are going to work hard to do everything we can to facilitate a final and complete understanding between the administration and the House on the issues that they are discussing right now. It involves military intelligence and some commitments and discussions that were conducted last year before we moved forward with what was called at that time the 9/11 bill that created the National Intelligence Director's job and did a number of other things to achieve those goals that the whip just mentioned in terms of securing our country in every way that we can.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the whip for the information.

It may be helpful to know that I believe on our side of the aisle, we believe that the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN's) agreement was appropriate in the sense that the flexibility be given to the National Intelligence Director to provide for the best possible personnel assignment

with reference to maintaining our security and intelligence apparatus in the most effective mode would be correct, if that is of any help to the whip as he considers the support that that proposition may have on the floor.

I realize there are those on his side of the aisle who have some concerns about it. I understand that the Secretary of Defense may have some concern about it. But I think, frankly, I would hope that a very substantial majority of the House would agree both with the Republican chairman of the Intelligence Committee and the Democratic ranking member of the Intelligence Committee.

The gentleman does not have to comment on that, but I thought that it might be useful information for him.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, if I could comment, I would say that we are eager to reach a final understanding on this. But, also, we are eager to be sure that whatever commitments were made and were reached between the administration and the chairman of a significant committee in the House are fully understood and fully complied with. You know, there can be misunderstandings in these kind of discussions, certainly, but we want to be sure that any commitments made by the administration to the Congress and the chairman of its significant committees are fulfilled and, if there are misunderstandings, to be sure that those misunderstandings are worked out before we move forward.

I assure the gentleman that we will be encouraging in that discussion and facilitating it in every way that we can so that it moves forward at the quickest possible time.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information.

I will ask one more question on the intelligence issue. Does the gentleman know whether the administration is supportive of the position taken by the chairman of the Intelligence Committee and the ranking Democrat on the Intelligence Committee or not? Has the administration taken a position on that?

□ 1330

Mr. BLUNT. I do not know what their position on that is. Again, I am most concerned that we be sure that we understood our positions when commitments were made when that bill was passed that created the National Intelligence Director's position.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman.

Lastly, we just had a vote on the privileged resolution that was offered by the Democratic leader, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI). That resolution, as you know, sought to try to move the ethics process forward so the Ethics Committee could do its work. Hopefully, all of us believe that it is very important that the Ethics Committee be able to undertake its work.

I would hope that the majority would take steps to perhaps discuss in a bipartisan way the implementation of