bill, therefore, protects the jobs and facilities from cuts that are driven by what accountants want instead of what good scientists and engineers in our Nation need.

The bill stands in defense of aeronautics in a nod to the crucial role that it plays in so many facets of our everyday life. The effort to keep NASA healthy is by no means over, but this bill represents a long stride in the right direction. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

I want to also thank my colleagues from other committees such as the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES), and others who have been very supportive of our overall efforts.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, let me just close by saying that this is an important bill. It is important because our space program yields many benefits to the people of this country and the world.

A lot of times people do not quite understand all that we gain from the space program. It is not just about rockets flying up in the sky. It is about improving aeronautics research. It is about communications, improving our communications systems. It is about protecting our national security. It is about learning more about science and our environment. It is about finding better ways to protect our environment here on Earth. We learn of medical breakthroughs, medical research goes on during these space flights. So it benefits us in multiple ways, and I think it is important for people to appreciate that because oftentimes people will ask, why do we need to spend all this money on the space program? The reason why is there are tangible benefits all around us that have been directly derived from the space program.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, let me again say I am grateful that this is a bipartisan bill, and I am grateful that there is no controversy on the rule. This is a unique moment because we have not had such a bill like this in a long time. I ask Members to support the bill and support the rule.

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close by saying that from the Apollo Moon landing to the first Space Shuttle to the International Space Station, NASA has been pushing the envelope of American science.

NASA is not just about inventing TANG. It is about American achievement, American pride. As we move to consideration of the underlying bill, I would ask my colleagues to remember their first thoughts of space as a child and the wonderment they felt.

As a child I remember looking at the stars and Moon at night and the sheer awe I experienced. NASA has taken that wonderment and awe and turned it into tangible results with legal real-life applications.

My good friend and colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) talked about breakthroughs in the field of medicine where, of course, I practiced as a physician for almost 30 years, and NASA has been a part of numerous breakthroughs that do help doctors treat their patients and save lives.

For instance, NASA has been directly or indirectly involved in digital imaging breast biopsy systems; breast cancer detection; laser angioplasty for blocked arteries; ultrasound skin damage assessment; human tissue stimulator which helps control chronic pain; cool suits that lower a patient's body temperature, producing a dramatic improvement of symptoms of multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, spina bifida and others; programmable pacemakers, eye screening to detect eye problems in very young children; automated urinalysis, medical gas analyzer systems used to monitor operating rooms for analysis of anesthetic gasses and measurement of oxygen, carbon dioxide and nitrogen concentrations to assure proper breathing environment for surgery patients; voice-controlled wheelchairs.

Just to list off a few more: Arteriosclerosis, hardening of the arteries, detection, ultrasound scanners, automatic insulin pump, portable x-ray devices, invisible braces, dental arch wire, palate surgery. I could go on and on.

Mr. Speaker, of course the field of medicine is only one area of course that NASA has helped all of us. In reality that are so many, many more that we do not have time to mention here today. Suffice it to say, we are making tremendous breakthroughs in the field of science because of what NASA has done and how we have funded this program.

I urge my colleagues to support this rule and the underlying bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3070.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 370 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 3070.

□ 0939

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 3070) to reauthorize the human space flight, aeronautics, and science programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes.

The Chair designates the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) as chairman of the Committee of the Whole, and requests the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) to assume the chair temporarily.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT).

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

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

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3070. Let me begin by thanking the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) for the magnificent work he has performed as chairman of our Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics and the lead author of this bill. Without the gentleman's steadfast determination, his insight and openness to compromise, we would not be here today.

I also want to thank my ranking member, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON), and our subcommittee ranking, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) for their leadership and willingness to compromise, and I want to thank all the members of the committee on both sides of the aisle who have contributed to this bill. It is truly a team effort and it shows what Congress can accomplish if we work together in an open-minded and cooperative manner.

Now, I have opened my statement by focusing on compromise but I do not want anyone to think that this bill represents some kind of random hodgepodge of competing views. H.R. 3070 is built on firm central principles that will give clear direction to NASA.

What are those principles? First, Congress endorses the President's Vision for Space Exploration. The United States will work to return to the Moon by 2020 and then will move on to other destinations. We will build a new Crew Exploration Vehicle that, among other tasks, will service the International Space Station. And the bill allows the Space Shuttle to be retired no later