

□ 1155

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.

Stated against:

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record my vote for rollcall vote 13. Had I been present I would have voted "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 12, and "no" on rollcall No. 13.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the first thing I want to say is to my good friend, JOHN BOEHNER, congratulations on his election as majority leader. It is a great honor to be selected by your colleagues in the House, of course, but of your own party to be one of its leaders.

JOHN BOEHNER has, of course, been a leader in his party for many years now, chairman of a major committee, sponsor of one of the hallmark pieces of legislation the Bush administration points to as a great success. He worked in a bipartisan fashion on that bill.

I look forward to working with him. I know our side of the aisle looks forward to working with him. I want to congratulate him on his election.

Mr. Leader, let me ask you about a couple of things, and I will mention the PATRIOT Act. I know you are not sure what that status is. There are a couple of pieces of legislation, three pieces of legislation, that we do anticipate in the relatively near future. I wonder if you might comment on them.

I know we are not meeting next week and will not be back until the 28th of February. The tax reconciliation conference report, I talked to Mr. RANGEL about that this morning. His understanding is the conference is ongoing. Might you have any idea of when the tax reconciliation conference report, assuming it is approved, might come to the floor?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. BOEHNER. I want to thank my colleague for yielding, and I thank you for your kind words of success. It is an honor to have been chosen as the new majority leader. Some of you can recall some words that I said earlier. When I won, I felt like the dog who caught the car. I have my teeth on the bumper. Maybe they are just around the bumper today.

I want to thank my colleague for his kind words. The House will have a dis-

trict work period next week. But when we come back and in the weeks following, up to the Easter recess, I would expect that the House will deal with the concurrent resolution on the budget. I believe that the House and Senate will receive today a supplemental spending request from the White House for the ongoing efforts in Iraq.

We expect the supplemental will include money for the ongoing efforts in Iraq and the war on terror. We also believe that the request will include money for the ongoing efforts in Katrina and Rita, in the cleanup efforts in the gulf area. Sometime over the next month or so, 6 weeks, we expect that we will be taking that up.

We also believe that when we get back, maybe in the first week that we are back, a possible motion to go to conference on the pension bill.

The tax reconciliation conference is under way. It is hard to predict when they will come to an agreement, but I would be surprised if it were the week that we came back.

Mr. HOYER. Thank you for that information. Mr. Leader, in terms of the budget itself, the budget resolution for 2007, when is your expectation that that might be on the floor? We understand that it might be marked up in committee the first week in March. Would it be your expectation that it would be on the floor the second week in March?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. BOEHNER. That is a bit unclear as of yet. It would be nice if we could do it that second week in March, but I think it is a little too early to predict exactly when it will be on the floor.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that. You mentioned the supplemental appropriation. We understand it may be coming down today. Has it come down? It is supposed to arrive today. Do you have any information as to how quickly we would attempt to consider and move the supplemental appropriation bill?

□ 1200

Mr. BOEHNER. Clearly, sometime in the coming weeks, but I think the Appropriations Committee will have their hands full looking at the request, going through all of the items in the request. I think we would like to have it through the House before the Easter recess, but, again, they have got an awful lot of work to do in the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the leader for those comments.

I would say, Mr. Leader, not as a question but as an observation, as you know, there has been a great deal of concern on both sides of the aisle with reference to the PATRIOT Act, the provisions in the PATRIOT Act and to the extension of the PATRIOT Act. Obviously, the majority of the PATRIOT Act is in permanent law, but there are some portions that needed to be reauthorized.

I do not ask you a question because I know that this is still up in the air, but

we are hopeful that as soon as the majority may have a better view of the scheduling of the PATRIOT Act, the sooner you could inform us of that would be better.

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

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

Mr. BOEHNER. As the gentleman knows, the Senate has taken up the reauthorization of the PATRIOT Act. When the Senate completes their work it will come here, and I think those of us in the House never want to predict the speed at which the Senate may or may not move this bill.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time. I will tell the majority leader that I will not ask you the question trying to predict the actions of the other House in the future. I thank him for his comments, and again congratulate the leader on his election.

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE TWO HOUSES

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 345) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 345

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, February 16, 2006, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2006, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Friday, February 17, 2006, through Tuesday, February 21, 2006, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, February 27, 2006, or such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

Sec. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2006

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, February 20,