United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 2007 No. 115

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 10 a.m.

House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 2007

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Martin B. Lavengood, Wesley Enhanced Living at Evangelical Manor, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, we thank You for giving us the means to govern ourselves as free people. Keep us ever mindful of the rights and liberties which hallow our life. Watch over and protect all those who serve to defend them.

We pray especially for our Representatives who serve in this Chamber. Endow them with Your wisdom to choose the issues we must face; give them the courage and the strength to make the difficult decisions; fill them with Your charity that they may enter into a spirit of compromise; give them the grace to work for the higher good in their deliberations with other bodies. In all their efforts, may they remember both the rich and the poor whom they are called to serve; shield them from the temptations of power which beckon incessantly; and at the end of the day may they enter into Your rest, Lord God of Hosts.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCHWARTZ) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SCHWARTZ led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

WELCOMING THE REVEREND MARTIN B. LAVENGOOD

(Ms. SCHWARTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, it's my pleasure to welcome Reverend Martin Lavengood and to thank him for the prayer he just delivered, and to welcome his family and many residents of the Evangelical Manor who are here today.

Reverend Lavengood has a long and honorable history of service to the community. Prior to being ordained in 1991, Reverend Lavengood taught high school English in New York. Shortly after his ordination, he studied in Jerusalem as the first Roberta Rudin Scholar for Jewish-Christian Studies. After his experience in Israel, the reverend returned to the United States and became active in prison ministry while serving in parishes in New York and Indiana.

In 2003, Reverend Lavengood moved to Philadelphia where he became a chaplain at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital. While working there, he developed an interest in ministering to people of all ages, especially the elderly. This interest led him to his current position as chaplain of the Wesley Enhanced Living at Evangelical Manor in Philadelphia, where he's honored, he says, to serve members of the World War II generation.

I commend Reverend Lavengood for his service to seniors and for taking time to come to Washington and offering this prayer before the House of Representatives.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 10 further 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE COOPERATION ACT OF 2007

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

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute the House of Representatives for passing H.R. 980, the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act of 2007.

Now, more than ever, public safety employees are being stretched to capacity. With the deployment of our National Guard to Iraq, our local communities are being asked to respond to emergencies with often depleted resources and manpower.

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Our local first responders represent the highest in public service. By providing them with collective bargaining rights, we can help these patriotic men and women secure adequate equipment, ensure workplace safety, and promote pay and benefits that will allow us to recruit the best and brightest to these important professions. This legislation represents an effort to put words into action.

Madam Speaker, our Nation's firefighters, police officers, and EMS personnel do right by the American people every day, keeping our families and communities safe. It is high time that we honor their service by enacting this legislation and providing them with the Federal resources they need to do their job.

CONGRATULATING SHAW FARMS ON THEIR 200TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mrs. SCHMIDT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Shaw Farms on their 200th anniversary. Shaw Farms, located along State Route 131 in Miami Township, Claremont County, Ohio, is home to the region's finest summertime produce. It is best known for its sweet corn, tomatoes, melons, beans, squash and cucumbers. Shaw Farms began operating during the tenure of Thomas Jefferson. Think about that, the tenure of Thomas Jefferson, and has continually operated as a family farm since 1807. It is one the oldest family farms in Ohio.

Today the family farm is run by Jerry and Jean Shaw, with the help of their children and grandchildren. Through the hard work of the Shaw family, much of greater Cincinnati relies on them for their produce.

Summertime produce is not the only thing the Shaw family is known for. Each October, thousands of visitors, including many eager school children come to the family's Fall Festival, which is known for its pumpkins, hayrides and farm animals.

This weekend the Shaws are hosting a bicentennial bash to help celebrate their amazing accomplishment. In the spirit of the Shaw family, they have invited everyone in the area to enjoy their success. Of course many of the items for which they are well known will be on their menu.

The Shaw family's fresh produce and family entertainment is truly an asset to all the communities in southern Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing the Shaw Farms a happy 200th anniversary, continued success, and let's wish them at least 200 more years in Ohio.

LET'S NOT OVERSTAY OUR WELCOME IN IRAQ

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, last night the Senate stayed in session and they're probably still in session because they can't get an agreement to discuss the resolution, the bill that this House has already passed, a similar one to end the war in Iraq and redeploy our troops and bring our troops home.

This House, on several occasions, has passed bills with benchmarks to respond to the American people's wishes and end this horrific war. The Senate hasn't been able to do it because they need 60 votes to avoid filibuster. That's what they have going on now.

And that's the problem, Mr. Speaker, is the procedures in the Senate, and that's why we're still in this horrific war, a war where the Prime Minister of Iraq has said he can provide for the security of his country by January 1 and he does not need our troops.

Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that Emily Post's rule should be invoked. When you're a visitor and your host says you're no longer needed and no longer wanted, you pack your bags and you go home. I would advise the President, Mr. Speaker, to listen to Emily Post and be a good visitor and bring our troops home and stop losing lives needlessly.

THE THREAT IS REAL AND WE MUST REMAIN VIGILANT

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday morning the National Intelligence Estimate report was released outlining threats to the United States over the next several years. I am grateful that since September the 11th counterterrorism efforts have stopped terrorists from additional attacks on American soil.

The report confirms that the threat to America is real, and al Qaeda has intensified efforts to attack the United States. I appreciate the brave men and women worldwide in the fight in the global war on terrorism so that we do not face another attack here at home. They are fighting to protect American families, and their presence in Iraq and Afghanistan is vital to this effort which al Qaeda has identified as the central front.

The report reiterates the threat to the United States and the significance of our mission in Iraq. We must remain on the offense everywhere and remember that the threat to our Nation is real. Al Qaeda is like a cancer which must be stopped at all sources or it will spread.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT TO START BRINGING OUR TROOPS HOME

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, by overwhelming majorities, the American people are demanding a change of course in Iraq. After 5 years of a failed Bush administration strategy to bring peace and stability to Iraq, the American people are fed up with the way that is jeopardizing our national security, our military strength and our Nation's fiscal future.

The American people no longer listen to the President when he says the situation in Iraq is improving. And they received more proof last week that the President's new way forward strategy, the so-called surge, is only inflaming Iraq's civil war. Casualties among U.S. forces have surged and the political process in Iraq has halted. The President's policy has produced few results on the ground, and yet he is asking both the American people and the Congress for more time.

Mr. Speaker, President Bush has had 4 years to make his policy work, and the situation is not getting any better. It's time that we get back to fighting the real global war on terror so that al Qaeda does not continue to gain strength in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The Senate has a chance today to follow our lead, listen to the American people and begin bringing our troops home.

NEWS FROM THE BATTLE FOR IRAQ

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, news from the war in Iraq: The Iraq interim assessment report of progress states that sectarian murders in Baghdad are down from what they were in January. Many Iraqis are now coming forward with information to help root out terrorists from their hiding places.

On the local level, citizens are forming neighborhood watch groups and young Iraqis are joining the army and the police forces. Measured progress continues in Iraq. The surge strategy has only recently been completely implemented, and it seems that we are seeing positive signs.

A policy of surrender and failure in securing Iraq would hold catastrophic consequences for the United States and the Iraqi people. We should be focused on victory, not pandering to the ''peace at any price crowd.''

Those who want retreat, defeat and withdrawal while in the midst of this battle for Iraq have yet to understand that there are consequences for appeasement, and they are bad for the United States and the Iraqi people. Retreat will not bring victory and it will never bring peace.

And that's just the way it is.

ALL NIGHT SENATE SESSION

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

Mr. HODES. Mr. Speaker, the Senate was in session all night long because Senate Republicans refuse to allow a fair up or down vote on an amendment that would redeploy our troops by April of next year.

Today, Senate Democrats want a vote on an amendment offered by Senators LEVIN and REED, but Republicans are using the filibuster to prevent a fair majority vote. Do Senate Republicans really want to obstruct the process on the most critical issue of our time?

The American people are demanding change in Iraq, and while a majority of Senate Republicans refuse to listen, nearly a dozen Republicans have said the administration must change its strategy in Iraq. These Republicans need to realize that their words are important, but they will only have meaning if they choose to act and support the Levin-Reed amendment.

We all know that President Bush has no intention of making any changes in his war policy, and so it is up to Congress to force that change, which is why last night's all-night debate in the Senate was so important. Let's hope wayward Senate Republicans are finally listening.

□ 1015

THE DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY AND THE LARGEST TAX INCREASE IN OUR NATION'S HISTORY

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

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, some years ago the story was told about the mean-spirited old Grinch who tried to steal the joy of Christmas. Well, it is not Christmas, but you might as well almost think it was a Christmas present when you take a look at the American economy that has been strengthened by the tax cuts of a number of years ago.

This boom that the Republicans set in place has added 46 months of straight growth in job creation. The unemployment rate is at a very low 4.5 percent. The Dow has just made all kinds of records at crossing the 14,000 mark, and the deficit has been cut in half.

In the face of this good news, the Democrats have passed a $392 billion tax increase, the biggest tax increase in the history of our country. And just like the Grinch, the Democrats seem to be wanting to steal our economic joy.

We must not allow the Democrats to steal the joy of the American families.

EGYPT

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

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about problems that have arisen on the border between Egypt and Gaza.

Since the Hamas military took over all power in Gaza there has been massive smuggling of arms into Gaza along the border with Egypt, often by the use of tunnels that are proliferating along the border.

The Egyptian government has made efforts to curb the smuggling by closing the border between their country and Gaza and by assigning more security personnel to patrol the border. However, the border remains porous in many areas and weapons continue to find their way across the border and into the hands of Hamas fighters.

With fears of refugees pouring into Egypt from Gaza and fears that Hamas will escalate its attack on Israel, this situation has become both a security and a humanitarian concern. Egypt has vowed to partner with Israel, the United States, and the European Union to work toward a solution.

While part of the solution will be immediate increases in security forces at the border, a long-term solution is also needed. Egypt must take responsibility for the actions of its own people, and Israel must support Egypt's good-faith efforts.

I hope we can come to some resolution of this problem.

NATIONAL RIDE YOUR MOTORCYCLE TO WORK DAY

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, today is National Ride Your Motorcycle to Work Day, and just a few minutes ago, I proudly rode a Harley Davidson Roadking to the steps of the Capitol building.

Motorcycle riding has been a passion of mine for many years, since my 20th birthday, and a proud member of the American Motorcyclist Association I am, as well as the Harley Owners Group. I can attest that responsible riding has many unique recreational benefits for millions of Americans.

During this session of Congress, we are looking for ways to break our dependence on foreign oil, develop alternative fuels, and increase domestic conservation. Motorcycles are excellent alternatives to current forms of transportation because they offer both fuel efficiency and greater enjoyment for the commuter.

I encourage all Americans to learn more about the recreational and environmental benefits of responsible motorcycle riding by visiting American Motorcyclist Association's Web site and availing themselves of the motorcycle rider safety training program.

KEEP GROWING THE ECONOMY, NOT THE BUREAUCRACY

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose above 14,000 for the first time ever. What a proud moment for all of us.

For many of us it is not a surprise. This strong economy is a direct result of the pro-growth Republican policies that we are fighting for every day on this floor. It is a sign of continued and growing investor confidence, and it shows that when taxes are low and Americans choose how and where to spend more of their money they will choose to invest in America and make us stronger.

This isn't a victory for Wall Street or for big business; it is a victory for Americans. Over half of all Americans are invested in the stock market. More and more Americans want to participate in this strong and growing economy. So they need a Federal Government that respects those wishes, not one that will raise their taxes to pay for out-of-control spending.

Let's keep this economy on the right track. Let's rein in spending. Let's focus on growing our economy rather than Washington's bureaucracy. That is what Americans want.

A HISTORY LESSON ON THE AUTO INDUSTRY

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the Democratic leadership in both this House and the United States Senate have made a conscious decision to bankrupt the domestic United States auto industry by forcing an antiquated CAFE standard on them.

And I just want to remind my colleagues what this industry has meant to America.

Over 100 years ago, Henry Ford built the Model T, which brought automobiles to the masses, created opportunities that built America's middle class, and fundamentally changed our Nation.

During World War II, Michigan was known as the Arsenal of Democracy because we had the manufacturing capability to build the armaments that literally led the world to peace. For 2 years we didn't even build automobiles because we were building tanks and jeeps and B–24 bombers. And as we surrender our manufacturing capabilities to Japan and China, we had better hope that we never need the ability again to build armaments because we will be at the mercy of these foreign countries.

After 9/11, when everyone was concerned that our economy would go into a tailspin, the American automobile industry, the domestic auto industry,

offered zero interest financing, which, as GM said, has kept America rolling.

I will never apologize for defending the domestic auto industry against the Democratic leadership.

THANK YOU AND WELCOME HOME, RED BULL DIVISION

(Mrs. BACHMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, the Minnesota Red Bulls are not an energy drink, but let me tell you about what an amazing energy force they have been for our freedom in the United States.

They are now returning home from the longest continuous deployment of any U.S. military unit during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Red Bulls hail from the 1st Brigade, 34th Infantry Division of the Minnesota National Guard based in Bloomington, Minnesota.

Mr. Speaker, these men and women are true citizen soldiers. They have put service to their country ahead of their family, of their friends, and their careers since September of 2005.

During their deployment, let me tell you what the Red Bulls have done for our country, Mr. Speaker. They completed 5,200 combat logistical patrols. They secured 2.4 million convoy miles, and they discovered 462 improvised explosive devices prior to detonation. In addition, they completed 137 reconstruction projects and helped start two Iraqi newspapers for the local population that covered stories on these reconstruction projects.

On behalf of a grateful Nation and a free world, we welcome back the Minnesota Red Bulls and we thank you.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, as the House continues its consideration of the Labor-HHS appropriations bill today, I urge all my colleagues to support funding for the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education program.

Even though this amount is lower than the amount suggested by some of us in the 109th Congress, the $307 million in this appropriation bill will go to training and educating graduate medical students who will help our children at our children's hospitals across this Nation.

Especially close to my heart is my godson, Kyle, who at 18 months old was diagnosed with cancer and for the last 12 years has survived and has been helped and aided by these graduate medical students.

So I urge my colleagues, please support this bill. It is so critical to the health of our children.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WELCH of Vermont). Pursuant to House Resolution 547 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 3043.

□ 1025

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 further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with Mrs. TAUSCHER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Tuesday, July 17, 2007, amendment No. 5 printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) had been disposed of and the bill had been read through page 42, line 21.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GRAVES

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. GRAVES:

Page 42, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $125,000,000''.

Page 42, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $125,000,000)''.

Page 84, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $125,000,000)''.

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Chairman, let me begin by thanking the chairman and ranking member of the Appropriations Committee for working together in a true bipartisan fashion to begin providing a long overdue down payment to special education funding. In particular, I want to thank Ranking Member WALSH for his amendment in committee to provide a $335 million increase in special education funding for fiscal year 2008.

When the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was signed into law more than 30 years ago, the Federal Government committed to pay the States 40 percent of the costs of providing services to students covered under this act. However, for three decades the Federal Government has often provided less than half the money promised.

What has this shortfall meant? For one, it has meant higher taxes at the State and local levels and less funding for other education programs as States and local governments struggle to make up the shortfall in Federal resources.

The amendment I introduce today builds on the bipartisan cooperation of the House Appropriations Committee by providing a further $125 million increase in funding for IDEA part B grants to the States. To pay for my amendment, I offset the cost by reducing a portion of the U.S. contribution to the Global Fund. My amendment helps us fulfill our commitment to funding special education while also providing a small increase in funding to the Global Fund as was provided last year. I don't take this money from any domestic program. These funds are dedicated to an overseas program, and they still see a $1 million increase over last year.

My amendment sets the right priorities for our Nation's children with special needs, and I urge support from all of my colleagues. Again, I would thank the chairman and ranking member for their hard work on this.

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, frankly, I am looking for my ranking minority member. But until he gets here let me take a little time and say that I would simply suggest to the gentleman, if he thinks this is a good idea, that he take this idea up with the President of the United States.

What this committee has tried to do both on this subcommittee and on the Foreign Operations Subcommittee is to respect and work with the administration in their effort to provide global leadership to deal with the AIDS epidemic around the world. And the fact is that this item in this bill is a critical piece of the President's program.

Given our disarray around the world because of Iraq, I think it is a wonderful exception when we can be seen to be providing constructive leadership in the world on something. And certainly, although I have many differences with the President, this is one area where I think he has exercised significant leadership.

□ 1030

And I think it would undercut our standing yet again in the world if we were to withdraw this funding.

I just think that we've struck a good balance with respect to this program. I think both subcommittees have tried to see to it that we meet our international responsibilities.

You and I are very lucky human beings. Our souls were, thanks to God, infused in a body that lives in the United States. If they had been infused in a body that was born in Africa or in Asia or in some of the other hot spots in the world in terms of these diseases, I think we would take a look at this issue in a quite different way.

This program provides the only real leadership in the world to attack this program. I think it would be a horrendous mistake if we were to adopt the gentleman's amendment. I would urge defeating the amendment.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Missouri will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF GENERAL MEDICAL SCIENCES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to general medical sciences, $1,966,019,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to child health and human development, $1,273,863,000.

NATIONAL EYE INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to eye diseases and visual disorders, $677,039,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For carrying out sections 301 and 311 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 243, 281 et seq.) with respect to environmental health sciences, $652,303,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to aging, $1,062,833,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ARTHRITIS AND MUSCULOSKELETAL AND SKIN DISEASES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to arthritis and musculoskeletal and skin diseases, $516,044,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to deafness and other communication disorders, $400,305,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NURSING RESEARCH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to nursing research, $139,527,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON ALCOHOL ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to alcohol abuse and alcoholism, $442,870,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to drug abuse, $1,015,559,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to mental health, $1,425,531,000.

NATIONAL HUMAN GENOME RESEARCH INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to human genome research, $493,996,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BIOMEDICAL IMAGING AND BIOENGINEERING

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to biomedical imaging and bioengineering research, $303,318,000.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESEARCH RESOURCES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to research resources and general research support grants, $1,171,095,000.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to complementary and alternative medicine, $123,380,000.

NATIONAL CENTER ON MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to minority health and health disparities research, $202,691,000.

JOHN E. FOGARTY INTERNATIONAL CENTER

For carrying out the activities of the John E. Fogarty International Center (described in subpart 2 of part E of title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 287b)), $67,599,000.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241, 281 et seq.) with respect to health information communications, $325,484,000, of which $4,000,000 shall be available until expended for improvement of information systems: *Provided*, That in fiscal year 2008, the National Library of Medicine may enter into personal services contracts for the provision of services in facilities owned, operated, or constructed under the jurisdiction of the National Institutes of Health: *Provided further*, That in addition to amounts provided herein, $8,200,000 shall be available from amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 238j) to carry out the purposes of the National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology established under section 478A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 286d) and related health services.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

For carrying out the responsibilities of the Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health, $1,114,422,000, of which up to $14,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 214 of this Act, of which $110,900,000 shall be for continuation of the National Children's Study, and of which $495,153,000 shall be available for the Common Fund established under section 402A(c)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282a): *Provided*, That funding shall be available for the purchase of not to exceed 29 passenger motor vehicles for replacement only: *Provided further*, That the National Institutes of Health is authorized to collect third party payments for the cost of clinical services that are incurred in National Institutes of Health research facilities and that such payments shall be credited to the National Institutes of Health Management Fund: *Provided further*, That all funds credited to such Fund shall remain available for one fiscal year after the fiscal year in which they are deposited: *Provided further*, That no more than $500,000 shall be available to carry out section 499 of the Public Health Service Act(42 U.S.C. 290b): *Provided further*, That amounts appropriated to the Common Fund shall be in addition to any amounts allocated to activities related to the Common Fund through the normal research priority-setting process of individual institutes and centers: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided $10,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Director of the National Institutes of Health: *Provided further*, That the Office of AIDS Research within the Office of the Director of the National Institutes of Health may spend up to $4,000,000 to make grants for construction or renovation of facilities as provided for in section 2354(a)(5)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300cc–41(a)(5)(B)).

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For the study of, construction of, renovation of, and acquisition of equipment for, facilities of or used by the National Institutes of Health, including the acquisition of real property, $121,081,000, to remain available until expended.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

For carrying out titles V and XIX of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290aa et seq., 300w et seq.) (''PHS Act'') with respect to substance abuse and mental health services, the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act (42 U.S.C. 10801 et seq.), and section 301 of the PHS Act (42 U.S.C. 241) with respect to program management, $3,272,928,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 520A(f)(2) of the PHS Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–32(f)(2)), no funds appropriated for carrying out section 520A are available for carrying out section 1971 of such Act: *Provided further*, That in addition to amounts provided herein, the following amounts shall be available under section 241 of the PHS Act (42 U.S.C. 238j): (1) $79,200,000 to carry out subpart II of part B of title XIX of the PHS Act (42 U.S.C. 300x–21 et seq.) to fund section 1935(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 300x–35(b)) relating to technical assistance, national data, data collection, and evaluation activities, and further that the total available under this Act for activities under such section 1935(b) shall not exceed 5 percent of the amounts appropriated for subpart II of part B of title XIX of such Act; (2) $21,413,000 to carry out subpart I of part B of title XIX of the PHS Act (42 U.S.C. 300x–1 et seq.) to fund section 1920(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 300x–9(b)) relating to technical assistance, national data, data collection, and evaluation activities, and further that the total available under this Act for activities under such section 1920(b) shall not exceed 5 percent of the amounts appropriated for subpart I of part B of title XIX of such Act; (3) $16,000,000 to carry out national surveys on drug abuse; and (4) $4,300,000 to evaluate substance abuse treatment programs.

AMENDMENT NO. 29 OFFERED BY MR. WHITFIELD

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 29 offered by Mr. WHITFIELD:

Page 49, line 25, before the period insert ''*Provided further*, That, of the funds made available under this heading, $10,000,000 is for carrying out section 399O of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–4)''.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Chairman, in 2005, the U.S. Congress adopted the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act, which was signed into law by the President in 2005. The amendment at the desk simply provides funding of $10 million for this authorized program. The $10 million is taken from the Secretary's Management Account, so the offset is taken care of.

On March 29 of this year, 2007, Chairman DINGELL, Ranking Member BARTON and the chairman and ranking

member of every subcommittee of Energy and Commerce, as well as other Members, sent a letter to Chairman OBEY and Ranking Member LEWIS requesting that they consider funding this program. And we had hoped that it would be included in this HHS appropriation bill because NASPER, as passed by the Congress, is located and placed at HHS.

Now, the Appropriations Committee on another bill has provided funding for an unauthorized drug monitoring program located at the Department of Justice. That program is primarily based and focused on law enforcement. And we do not object to that program in any way, but I might say that last year, for 2007 and 2006, money was made available for both the NASPER program at HHS and the Department of Justice program, which is more based on law enforcement. The NASPER program really addresses the prescription drug addiction problem and helps physicians work with patients and makes physicians aware of prescriptions that those patients have. So last year we were quite pleased that both programs were funded. And we were disappointed that this year's program, the authorized program, was not funded; the unauthorized program was funded.

And so we come today and ask the chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the ranking member, both of whom have worked diligently on a very complicated bill that provides great services to our country, we come this morning and ask them to consider funding this authorized program.

I might add that Secretary Leavitt testified for it. We had 2 years of hearings on this program. Secretary Leavitt endorsed it. Former Secretary Tommy Thompson endorsed it. And as I said, we're not asking that they defund the unauthorized program because we know that it's doing a good job, but we're simply saying the Energy and Commerce Committee had 2 years of hearings, passed this legislation. It passed the Senate overwhelmingly. The President signed it. It was funded last year, and we strongly request that the chairman consider funding it again this year.

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

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I rise in reluctant opposition to my friend's amendment.

The gentleman's amendment really is unnecessary, and it duplicates work that the Justice Department is engaged in under the Prescription Drug Monitoring Grant Program.

I understand that primarily, as a result of the efforts of Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, the Justice Department has been operating for several years, running a grant program to assist States in building and enhancing prescription drug monitoring systems, facilitating the exchange of information among States, and providing technical assistance and training for effective State programs.

The Office of Justice Programs runs this grant program, along with the assistance and technical expertise of the Drug Enforcement Administration and is currently funded at $7.5 million.

From all accounts, the Justice Department effort is well run and effective. For that reason, I ask Members to oppose this amendment, which would set up a competing and duplicative program.

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

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Michigan is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Chairman, I rise today in support of Mr. WHITFIELD's amendment that would amend funding for the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act, or NASPER.

Two years ago, Congress passed NASPER and it was signed into law, making it the only statutory authorized program to assist States in combating prescription drug abuse of controlled substances through prescription drug monitoring programs. Congress realized that more needed to be done to aid States to set up or improve State systems that enable authorities to identify prescription drug abusers, as well as the problem doctors who betray their high ethical standards of their profession by over or incorrectly prescribing prescription drugs.

The new law, NASPER law, authorized $10 million in fiscal year 2008 and $10 million each year through fiscal year 2010. Although NASPER has been signed into law, Congress has yet to appropriate funds to the HHS for this program for the past 3 years. Given the existence of this authorized program, it would seem to be inappropriate not to fund NASPER, while funding unauthorized prescription drug monitoring programs. By doing this, Congress sets a bad precedent in sanctioning the creation and continued operation of Federal programs through the appropriation process.

NASPER was passed with bipartisan support after many years of hard work by many Members on both sides of the aisle and those of us who are on the Energy and Commerce Committee. NASPER is the only solution which will assist physicians, establish minimum standards for State prescription drug monitoring programs, and substantially reduce prescription drug abuse.

I urge all my colleagues to support the Whitfield amendment.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Chairman, I rise in support of the Whitfield amendment to fund NASPER, the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act, which the gentleman from Kentucky and I sponsored in the last Congress.

As was mentioned already, this is the authorized program that would deal with this issue. And I don't want to get into necessarily contrasting this with the other program that the gentleman from New York mentioned, but I do think it's necessary to understand that this program is authorized and it's not funded. I mean, obviously we should be funding programs that are authorized, not those that are not.

But beyond that, the bottom line is that the NASPER program mandates that States participate in the program. We only have about 22 States now that are participating, so I would certainly argue that the status quo with this alternative Justice Department program simply is not working. If we want more States to get involved, we need to fund the authorized program.

During the time since August of 2005 when this became law and has not been funded, during this time since then prescription drug abuse has reached an all-time high, with an estimated 9 million Americans using prescription drugs for nonmedical purposes. Most disturbing is the fact that there is an epidemic of prescription drug abuse among teenagers. So if the argument is that the existing Justice Department program is working and we don't need to fund this authorized program, I think the facts show very much the opposite.

NASPER will ensure that prescription drugs are only being used for medical purposes. With better monitoring and tracking systems, people will not be able to seek multiple prescriptions or cross State lines to get prescriptions filled without their provider knowing. NASPER reaches across State lines, with timetables and benchmarks aimed at eliminating the problem of prescription drug abuse. It's a public health program in the Department of Health and Human Services, where it belongs, not in the Justice Department. And most important, it is the only statutorily authorized program to assist States in combating prescription drug use.

Right now, a lot of the program is with doctors. The Justice Department program doesn't really help doctors prevent this epidemic. Also, the Justice Department program is totally focused on enforcement, not on trying to get people more involved in the States at a preventive level dealing with the doctors. We have enforcement as well, but it's not the only thing.

I would simply say that we've made this pledge a couple of times. My understanding is that this amendment is going to be withdrawn. But I just need to ask the appropriators, please consider the fact that in the future we need to address this. This needs to be

affected. The other program that's in effect now is not doing the job. We simply ask that you collectively take a look at this and figure out how to do it so we can get funding for the NASPER program, which is the one that the Congress authorized and which will address this epidemic effectively. We're not having an effective response right now.

With that, Madam Chairman, I would yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WHITFIELD. I would say to the chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the ranking member that we didn't really want to force this issue this morning. But it is a program, as has been said, we spent 2 years having hearings on this program. It mandates States to adopt these programs. We feel like it is a great program. It was funded last year, and we would respectfully request that at conference maybe the chairman and ranking member would work with us in trying to address the issue.

Mr. OBEY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WHITFIELD. Yes, sir.

Mr. OBEY. Let me simply say that we sort of feel like we're caught in the middle of this one because Mr. LEWIS, the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, gave us a lecture yesterday about how we should avoid duplicative programs.

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Then, today, this amendment would have the effect of creating in one department a program that is virtually identical to a program that already exists in another department. So we can't win, no matter how we deal with the issue. I don't care which agency this is in. I just want it to be wherever it would be run the most efficiently and effectively.

I am certainly willing to discuss with anybody involved in the issue how we resolve this issue. We didn't put it in in the first place. It was put in by, as you know, a person from your party from your own State.

So we are happy to work with all of you, but I don't want to get cross-wised between two people from the same State. I don't want to be standing here accepting an amendment that creates a duplicative program.

So I think the most constructive result would be if the gentleman would withdraw his amendment and we try to work this out down the line, so that if it is not in the right place, we can talk about how to get it in the right place.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Chairman OBEY, I am going to withdraw the amendment, but I would like to make this point: This is an authorized program that we are talking about. We had 2 years of hearings on this project. There is some sentiment in the Congress, I believe today, that the appropriators seem to authorize on their appropriations bill when it is convenient for them.

Madam Chairman, I am going to withdraw the amendment because of the respect that I have for the gentleman from Wisconsin and the ranking member, as well as the Member from Kentucky that was talked about.

I do believe that this is an effective program. We look forward to working with you as we continue through the process to try to resolve it in some way.

Mr. OBEY. If the gentleman will yield further, if I can simply say again, on this side of the aisle I feel like I am being whipsawed. This was in the other bill because we were trying to accommodate a Republican Member of the House who felt strongly that it ought to be in that bill. Now we are being criticized by another Republican from the same State because we accommodated the other Republican. I can't go in both directions at the same time, which is why I don't seek to have this program in any department. I don't care where it is.

I would just as soon that you settle your differences with your colleague from your own State, and when you have, come and see me. I will try to work with whoever is the winner of the rassling match.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman. I am here as an advocate for the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows.

AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

For carrying out titles III and IX of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241 et seq., 299 et seq.), and part A of title XI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.), $329,564,000; and in addition, amounts received from Freedom of Information Act fees, reimbursable and interagency agreements, and the sale of data shall be credited to this appropriation and shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the amount made available pursuant to section 937(c) of the Public Health Service Act shall not exceed $47,064,000.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

GRANTS TO STATES FOR MEDICAID

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, titles XI and XIX of the Social Security Act, $141,630,056,000, to remain available until expended.

For making, after May 31, 2008, payments to States under title XIX of the Social Security Act for the last quarter of fiscal year 2008, for unanticipated costs, incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

For making payments to States or in the case of section 1928 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396s) on behalf of States under title XIX of the Social Security Act for the first quarter of fiscal year 2009, $67,292,669,000, to remain available until expended.

Payment under title XIX may be made for any quarter with respect to a State plan or plan amendment in effect during such quarter, if submitted in or prior to such quarter and approved in that or any subsequent quarter.

PAYMENTS TO HEALTH CARE TRUST FUNDS

For payment to the Federal Hospital Insurance and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds, as provided under sections 1844 and 1860D–16 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w, 1395w–116), sections 103(c) and 111(d) of the Social Security Amendments of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 426a(c), 1395i–1), section 278(d) of the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 426 note), and for administrative expenses incurred pursuant to section 201(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401(g)), $188,828,000,000.

In addition, for making matching payments under section 1844 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w), and benefit payments under 1860D–16 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–116), not anticipated in budget estimates, such sums as may be necessary.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, titles XI, XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act, titles XIII and XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988, not to exceed $3,230,163,000, to be transferred from the Federal Hospital Insurance and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds, as authorized by section 201(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401(g)); together with all funds collected in accordance with section 353 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 263a) and section 1857(e)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–27(e)(2)), funds retained by the Secretary pursuant to section 1893(h)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ddd(h)(1)(C)), and such sums as may be collected from authorized user fees and the sale of data, which shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That all funds derived in accordance with section 9701 of title 31, United States Code, from organizations established under title XIII of the Public Health Service Act shall be credited to and available for carrying out the purposes of this appropriation: *Provided further*, That $49,869,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, is for contract costs for the Healthcare Integrated General Ledger Accounting System: *Provided further*, That $163,800,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, is for Medicare contracting reform activities of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading are available for the Healthy Start, Grow Smart program under which the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services may, directly or through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, produce and distribute informational materials including, but not limited to, pamphlets and brochures on infant and toddler health care to expectant parents enrolled in the Medicaid program and to parents and guardians enrolled in such program with infants and children: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall collect fees in fiscal year 2008 from Medicare Advantage organizations pursuant to section 1857(e)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395s–27(e)(2)) and from eligible organizations with risk-sharing contracts under section 1876 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395mm) pursuant to section

1876(k)(4)(D) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395mm(k)(4)(D)).

HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE CONTROL ACCOUNT

In addition to amounts otherwise available for program integrity and program management, $383,000,000, to be transferred from the Federal Hospital Insurance and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds, as authorized by section 201(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401(g)), of which $288,480,000 is for the Medicare Integrity Program at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to conduct oversight of activities authorized in titles I and II of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–173), with oversight activities including those activities listed in section 1893(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395www(b)); of which $36,690,000 is for the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General; of which $21,140,000 is for the Medicaid program integrity activities; and of which $36,690,000 is for the Department of Justice: *Provided*, That the report required by section 1817(k)(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i(k)(5)) for fiscal year 2008 shall include measures of the operational efficiency and impact on fraud, waste and abuse in the Medicare and Medicaid programs for the funds provided by this appropriation.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

For making payments to States or other non-Federal entities under titles I, IV–D, X, XI, XIV, and XVI of the Social Security Act and the Act of July 5, 1960 (24 U.S.C. ch. 9), $2,949,713,000, to remain available until expended; and for such purposes for the first quarter of fiscal year 2009, $1,000,000,000, to remain available until expended.

For making payments to each State for carrying out the program of Aid to Families with Dependent Children under title IV–A of the Social Security Act as in effect before the effective date of the program of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) with respect to such State, such sums as may be necessary: *Provided*, That the sum of the amounts available to a State with respect to expenditures under such title IV–A in fiscal year 1997 under this appropriation and under such title IV–A as amended by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 shall not exceed the limitations under section 116(b) of such Act.

For making, after May 31 of the current fiscal year, payments to States or other non-Federal entities under titles I, IV–D, X, XI, XIV, and XVI of the Social Security Act and the Act of July 5, 1960 (24 U.S.C. ch. 9), for the last three months of the current fiscal year for unanticipated costs, incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

For making payments under section 2604(a)–(d) of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8623(a)–(d)), $1,980,000,000.

For making payments under section 2604(e) of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8623(e)), $682,000,000, notwithstanding the designation requirement of section 2602(e) of such Act.

REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses for refugee and entrant assistance activities and for costs associated with the care and placement of unaccompanied alien children authorized by title IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1521–1524) and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 (8 U.S.C. 1522 note), for carrying out section 462 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279), and for carrying out the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2152 note) $650,630,000, of which up to $9,814,000 shall be available to carry out the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.): *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading pursuant to section 414(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act and section 462 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 for fiscal year 2008 shall be available for the costs of assistance provided and other activities to remain available through September 30, 2010.

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

For carrying out the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.), $2,137,081,000 shall be used to supplement, not supplant, State general revenue funds for child care assistance for low-income families: *Provided*, That $18,777,370 shall be available for child care resource and referral and school-aged child care activities, of which $982,080 shall be for the Child Care Aware toll-free hotline: *Provided further*, That, in addition to the amounts required to be reserved by the States under section 658G, $267,785,718 shall be reserved by the States for activities authorized under section 658G, of which $98,208,000 shall be for activities that improve the quality of infant and toddler care: *Provided further*, That $9,821,000 shall be for use by the Secretary for child care research, demonstration, and evaluation activities.

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

For making grants to States pursuant to section 2002 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397a), $1,700,000,000.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5711 et seq.), the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15001 et seq.), the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.), the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.), sections 310 and 316 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10409, 10416), the Native American Programs Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 2991a et seq.), title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5111 et seq.) (adoption opportunities), sections 330F and 330G of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c–6, 254c–7), the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note), sections 261 and 291 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 15421, 15461), subpart 1 of part B of title IV and sections 413, 1110, and 1115 of the Social Security Act, for making payments under the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9901 et seq.), sections 439, 473B, and 477 of the Social Security Act, and the Assets for Independence Act (42 U.S.C. 604 note), and for necessary administrative expenses to carry out such Acts and titles I, IV, V, X, XI, XIV, XVI, and XX of the Social Security Act, the Act of July 5, 1960 (24 U.S.C. ch. 9), the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, title IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act, section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, and section 505 of the Family Support Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 9926), $9,125,940,000, of which $9,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, shall be for grants to States for adoption incentive payments, as authorized by section 473A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 673b) and may be made for adoptions completed before September 30, 2008: *Provided*, That $6,963,571,000 shall be for making payments under the Head Start Act, of which $1,388,800,000 shall become available October 1, 2008, and remain available through September 30, 2009: *Provided further*, That $701,125,000 shall be for making payments under the Community Services Block Grant Act: *Provided further*, That not less than $8,000,000 shall be for section 680(3)(B) of the Community Services Block Grant Act: *Provided further*, That in addition to amounts provided herein, $6,000,000 shall be available from amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act to carry out the provisions of section 1110 of the Social Security Act: *Provided further*, That to the extent Community Services Block Grant funds are distributed as grant funds by a State to an eligible entity as provided under the Act, and have not been expended by such entity, they shall remain with such entity for carryover into the next fiscal year for expenditure by such entity consistent with program purposes: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall establish procedures regarding the disposition of intangible property which permits grant funds, or intangible assets acquired with funds authorized under section 680 of the Community Services Block Grant Act, to become the sole property of such grantees after a period of not more than 12 years after the end of the grant for purposes and uses consistent with the original grant: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated for section 680(a)(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act shall be available for financing construction and rehabilitation and loans or investments in private business enterprises owned by community development corporations: *Provided further*, That $64,350,000 is for a compassion capital fund to provide grants to charitable organizations to emulate model social service programs and to encourage research on the best practices of social service organizations: *Provided further*, That $15,720,000 shall be for activities authorized by the Help America Vote Act of 2002, of which $10,890,000 shall be for payments to States to promote access for voters with disabilities, and of which $4,830,000 shall be for payments to States for protection and advocacy systems for voters with disabilities: *Provided further*, That $136,664,000 shall be for making competitive grants to provide abstinence education (as defined by section 510(b)(2) of the Social Security Act) to adolescents, and for Federal costs of administering the grant: *Provided further*, That grants under the immediately preceding proviso shall be made only to public and private entities which agree that, with respect to an adolescent to whom the entities provide abstinence education under such grant, the entities will not provide to that adolescent any other education regarding sexual conduct, except that, in the case of an entity expressly required by law to provide health information or services the adolescent shall not be precluded from seeking health information or services from the entity in a different setting than the setting in which abstinence education was provided: *Provided further*, That within amounts provided herein for abstinence education for adolescents, up to $10,000,000 may be available for a national abstinence education campaign: *Provided further*, That in addition to amounts provided herein for abstinence education for adolescents, $4,500,000 shall be available from amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act to carry out evaluations (including longitudinal evaluations) of adolescent pregnancy prevention approaches: *Provided further*, That up to $2,000,000 shall be for improving the Public Assistance Reporting Information System, including grants to States to support data

collection for a study of the system's effectiveness.

AMENDMENT NO. 34 OFFERED BY MR. HOLT

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 34 offered by Mr. HOLT:

Page 58, line 21, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $21,000,000)''.

Page 60, line 12, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $21,000,000)''.

Page 60, line 13, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $15,00,000)''.

Page 60, line 15, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $6,000,000)''.

Page 63, line 4, insert after the first dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $21,000,000)''.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, as you may know, the funding authorized for the Help America Vote Act of 2002, known as HAVA, for disability access and protection and advocacy payments, was never fully appropriated. Section 261 of HAVA authorized $100 million in disability access funding to make polling places accessible to individuals with disabilities and to provide them with information about the accessibility of polling places.

I am sure the Chair and my colleagues would agree, it is important for equality under the law that all voters have good access to voting.

In addition, section 291 authorized $10 million annually for fiscal years 2003 through 2006 and such sums as necessary thereafter to pay for the protection and advocacy systems of each State to ensure full participation in the electoral process for individuals with disabilities, including the process of registering to vote, casting a vote and gaining access to polling places. To date, only $55 million of that amount has been appropriated under HAVA to fund accessibility, and only $22 million has been appropriated to fund protection and advocacy systems.

Voting is indeed the cornerstone of our democracy, and unless all eligible voters are assured access to the polls, that fundamental right and the integrity of our electoral system generally are severely undermined. Therefore, I seek to amend the bill to provide $15 million in funding for accessibility under section 261 of HAVA, and an additional $6 million in funding for protection and advocacy systems under section 291 of HAVA, for a total increase of $21 million. This would result, as you can quickly calculate, in several hundred thousand dollars per State to assist in voting for voters with disabilities.

I urge my colleagues to support this increase.

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I understand the motivation behind this amendment. The gentleman wants to provide additional funding for a very legitimate purpose. It is something we should have done a long time ago, and I understand that. But having said that, I am simply tired of having to defend administrative accounts from people on both sides of the aisle.

So I am not going to object to the amendment, but I do want to point out to the gentleman, as I will point out to many other Members who offer similar amendments today, that this committee is being whipsawed. We are being told by the White House that there is too much money in this bill, yet virtually every amendment that has been offered, save one, has been motivated principally by a desire to increase rather than decrease funds in this bill. This is another similar amendment. While I recognize that it has an offset, it is a ''let's pretend'' offset, just like a number of the offsets were last night.

Anybody who understands how government works needs to understand that if an agency is a grant-making agency and if you gut its administrative budget, then there ain't going to be nobody in the agency to issue the grants in the first place. Therefore, I want Members who offer these amendments to understand that even if they are accepted, when we go to conference we are going to have to make very large adjustments, and a lot of what is adopted on the House floor, if it is based on some of these ''let's pretend'' offsets, will in fact wind up on the cutting room floor by the time we get back from conference. That is just a practical fact of life.

Madam Chairman, as I say, I will not object to the gentleman's amendment, but I don't want anyone to be under any illusion that we can fund all of these additional wonderful things by simply going to the administrative budgets of the agencies, because occasionally you need somebody in that office to turn on the light.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman for his agreement, and simply ask that he continue, as he always has, to stand up for the American ideal of equality for all at the polling place.

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

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. I will be very brief, Madam Chairman. I absolutely agree with the chairman's statement. It is a responsible statement. We can't continue to do the nice things on the one hand by looking like we are putting more money into a program, and at the same time cutting the fat, muscle and limbs of the departments that are supposed to administer these programs. So I support the chairman's contention. We will deal with this in conference.

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Rhode Island is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, I just want to commend the chairman for the work that this committee has done to achieve the very purpose that this amendment that the gentleman from New Jersey has proposed.

□ 1100

Frankly, we have this year on July 26 the anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act, and we have taken many steps backward as a Nation in guaranteeing the civil rights of all Americans with disabilities. Clearly that means we need to guarantee nothing special for people with disabilities, just the same rights. Guaranteeing equal access regardless of ability is what we need to do in this country.

This amendment seeks to do that; but I might add, so does the underlying bill. I hope that Members listening to this debate do not come away with the understanding that it is because of amendments like this that we are accomplishing it. The underlying bill, if people were to see it and really look at it, does so much to offer independence and hope to people who previous to this bill were denied many opportunities because of previous budgetary priorities that shut people out in this country.

So I want to commend the chairman and the ranking member for producing a good bill that goes along the same lines as this amendment by opening up the doors of opportunity to all Americans.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 41 OFFERED BY MR. HENSARLING

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 41 offered by Mr. HENSARLING:

Page 58, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $8,000,000)''.

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, if my ears did not deceive me, I think I heard the distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee either observe or lament that with one exception, every amendment offered on this bill, its purpose was to increase

spending. If that was a lamentation, I certainly share his angst. Not wanting to disappoint, I am coming to the floor with several amendments that are designed to do just the opposite, spend less of the people's money to try to save hardworking American taxpayers more, let them keep more of what they earned.

Now, Madam Chairman, this is a modest amendment, but it represents a very, very important principle. Today, right now, the Federal Government is spending $23,289 per family. This is the highest level spent in real inflation-adjusted terms since World War II.

Earlier this year, the Democrat budget resolution included the largest single tax increase in American history which when fully put in place would put $3,000, an average of $3,000, additional tax burden on the average American family. And now even if Congress were for some reason to just disband today and add no new government, just the government programs we have on automatic pilot threaten to double taxes on the next generation. So we need to find every opportunity that we can today to save the poor beleaguered taxpayer even more money.

Madam Chairman, I do not myself know exactly how many Federal programs exist. I have seen one estimate, I believe, from the Heritage Foundation that we have over 10,000 Federal programs spread across 600 different agencies. I defy any man, woman or child to tell me what each and every one of them does. Some of them I am sure do good things; but the question is given the fiscal challenges that we face, are they truly a priority.

Madam Chairman, some may have even completed their mission. And some, perhaps like the amendment that I am offering today, are actually duplicative. This is a modest amendment that would save the American taxpayer $8 million. In this particular program, ostensibly, funding is used for training and technical assistance in developing and managing water facilities. But the Office of Management and Budget has recommended that this particular program be eliminated, stating that ''the program is duplicative of other Federal entities such as the Bureau of Reclamation's rural water program which is responsible for water and wastewater treatment facilities.'' That is from the Office of Management and Budget.

So we ought to make sure that we are not simply engaging in legislation by symbolism. I know every single program has a lofty-sounding name to help some constituency that is important to us. But we have to look beyond that and see if it is actually achieving its purpose, are there other programs that are also achieving its purpose as well. And according to the Office of Management and Budget, this program is duplicative of other programs.

So we have to ask ourselves a very important question. In light of the fact that the Federal Government has never ever spent since World War II so much money of the American family, $23,289, given that the Democrat budget resolution includes the single largest tax increase in history, given that although the national deficit has come down, not due to any spending discipline but due to the fact that we are awash in tax revenues, we still have a tax deficit. So it is a simple question: Do we want to fund a program that the administration considers duplicative given that if we don't, either the funds are coming from the Social Security trust fund, and many of my colleagues have pledged not to do that, if it is not coming from that, it is going to add to this $3,000-per-American-family tax burden, or more debt will be passed on to our children.

I believe we ought to use this opportunity to eliminate one duplicative Federal program and return $8 million to the American taxpayer.

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

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I was going to yield a minute of my time to the gentleman from Texas to explain his amendment. I appreciate his speech, and I thought the gentleman's speech was a thoughtful speech. He has come to the floor consistently on every appropriations bill in an effort to save money, but I would like to yield to the gentleman just so he can tell us what his amendment does in this bill. If the gentleman would be kind enough to explain that to us, we would appreciate it over here on the majority.

Mr. HENSARLING. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

If I was not clear, this amendment would save the American taxpayer $8 million. It would remove a duplicative program, according to OMB, the Rural Community Facilities Program. I don't need a minute to explain what the amendment does. That is it. I certainly apologize to my colleague if I was unclear as to the purpose of the amendment or how it operates.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I appreciate the gentleman and his analysis.

At least as I read page 58, line 21, the gentleman seeks to reduce by $8 million section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 and section 505 of the Family Support Act of 1988. That reduction the committee fundamentally opposes in part because of Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 and the Family Support Act of 1988 are reputable programs that have provided an enormous benefit to the American taxpayer. That is precisely why it is in the bill. And it is specifically in the section of the bill ''Children and Families Services Programs'' because of its enormous benefit to the American taxpayer.

I appreciate the gentleman's effort at fiscal accountability and fiscal responsibility, and the gentleman has clearly led a crusade through every single one of these appropriations bills, but I would encourage Members to oppose the Hensarling amendment.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, I tell the gentleman, in my State, I will give you a perfect example of where this would make a difference.

In a rural part of my State we had a contamination of our well water, and it was a contamination because of the MTBE, the chemical that goes into gasoline. I might add under the Republican majority, you all indemnified the oil and gas industry from lawsuits so that my community can't get the justice it deserves so it can clean up its wastewater and make due reparation to my constituents. What they had to do is they had to go down to the local high school to take showers. They had to attach a pump through the fire department to the next-door community.

Now under this section of the bill, this is a public health hazard. You know why, because even at home when they turn on the water, they were getting lesions on their skin because the shower water was giving them lesions. Even when they turned on the steam, the children were breathing in the steam and were getting asthma attacks. Now if you are wondering what the nexus is, this is what the nexus is between your amendment and health and why infrastructure makes an enormous difference in providing clean, safe drinking water to rural communities.

Now I don't come from a very rural State so you might think that it is kind of interesting that I would come up and speak on behalf of this. I would think that your State would probably benefit a lot more from this. Your constituents must be wondering about you offering an amendment against a section that would benefit your State more than it does mine. Frankly, this is an important program.

If anything in this country, we haven't invested enough in infrastructure. Mr. JACKSON, I'm sure, has talked to his mayors and local community leaders, and they have told him that their infrastructure is falling apart. I would just commend all of us to say that if we have to do anything, we have to do more in the way of infrastructure, not less.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Reclaiming my time, I want to make sure, and I appreciate the gentleman from Rhode Island's thoughts on the subject, but I want to make sure that this amendment is going to the heart of Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 and Family Support Act of 1988.

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Madam Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Hensarling amendment. I love a good debate. It is a great privilege for me to be able to come to the floor at a time when Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. JACKSON are here. I find them to be two of the most forceful and effective advocates of their view in the Congress in the majority, and so I welcome this opportunity to join in the debate. And I thank the gentleman from Texas who is consistently the strongest advocate for fiscal discipline and reform in the House of Representatives.

I will leave aside for the moment the whole question of which party forced the requirement of MTBE to be added to gasoline and created the regulatory challenges that the gentleman refers to, and just get to the larger question here.

Madam Chairman, we have an $8 trillion national debt. This is an amendment to cut $8 million. And it is being forcefully opposed. I think for anyone who would be looking on the people's House today, that is a rather dramatic comparison. Let me repeat that again. The Hensarling amendment, facing the stark reality of $8 trillion in national debt, comes to the floor with an idea to ask the Federal Government to do without spending $8 million.

The new majority, and I congratulate them again on securing the majority in the Congress, the American people spoke. But I do remember the new majority pledged no new deficit spending. I remember promises by this new majority in last year's campaign season that we would pay as we go in the Federal budget. If there was to be spending increases, they would be offset by cuts in other areas.

Yet this legislation, the bill is $7 billion over the 2007 request, $10.2 billion over the President's request, and it follows seven other pieces of legislation all of which have increased spending. And some of which, Madam Chairman, I have supported, but not all.

And it does seem to me as I walked here to this floor, I passed one sign after another in front of the offices of some of my most distinguished Democrat colleagues that bear the number $8 trillion writ large. If we are to be concerned about $8 trillion, will we not support an effort to cut $8 million?

□ 1115

That's the choice here today and whether the gentleman from Illinois, who I deeply respect, considers that this $8 million to be an enormous benefit, might there not be States and local governments that could make up for that, with the recognition that we are creating a burden for future generations of Americans that we ought not to create?

So I support the Hensarling amendment. It is the least we can do to take a step backwards.

I want to associate myself with the distinguished chairman of this committee who rose earlier to say, and I'm quoting now, that he was tired of defending administrative accounts with amendments by people who were coming to ask for more spending in other areas.

It is greatly to the credit of the gentleman from Texas that he is coming to this floor simply asking that we not spend this money. There's no other amendment or no other spending request that he's making in this regard, and it's what the American people ask us to do.

In fact, I would close, Madam Chairman, simply by saying I think the American people are tired of the national debt. I think they're tired of the sea of red ink. I think they were tired of it when my party had control of the place, and as the gentlewoman knows, I was one of the strongest opponents of wasteful government spending when my own party was in charge.

And so I hope my colleagues on the other side of the aisle know the gentleman from Texas and myself and other colleagues, we come to this floor with sincerity of purpose and with consistency that we think government ought to live within its means and pay its bills, and we think we ought to balance budgets. And the Hensarling amendment simply asks that we might cut $8 million as a modest response to $8 trillion in national debt.

And I challenge my colleagues, in the spirit of goodwill, let's make this statement, let's start in the direction of fiscal discipline and reform or, for heaven's sake, Madam Chairman, and I say with a smile, let's take the signs down from the hallways. Let's stop pretending that we worry about the national debt if we cannot come together as a Congress and as a nation and accept an $8 million cut to deal with an $8 trillion national debt.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Drone on, drone on, O ship of State. That's what I'm tempted to recite when I hear these repetitious dronings on bill after bill after bill.

Let me simply say, I think it is legitimate for individual Members of this body to offer amendments in order to illustrate their concern about a larger question. I've done that many times myself in this institution.

But I think that after 3 weeks of hearing the same point made again and again, we understand that these gentlemen believe that we are putting too much money into education and health care and science and other areas that we regard as crucial investments, and that's a perfectly legitimate position to have. But please spare me the sanctimony, spare me the nonsense that somehow these amendments will contribute in any meaningful way to significant deficit reduction.

Let me simply point out, if people were interested in significant deficit reduction, they would not be supporting an Iraqi war which has already spent over $400 billion and which we'll spend another 140 billion bucks by the time we pass the President's supplemental. They would not be insisting that we provide $57 billion in tax cuts to people making a million bucks a year. No, they don't argue about those two things.

What do they do? They come to the floor and squawk about an $8 million program to help the poorest rural communities in this country get basic services like sewer and water. I represent many towns in my District with populations of less than a thousand people. At least half the households in many of those towns are headed either by senior citizens or a woman with a low income, and that means that when they get hit with the DNR order to clean up their water or clean up their sewer, they do not have the tax base to proceed, and they don't have technical expertise even to know how to begin going about it.

We've got a $385 billion backlog in this country of sewer and water needs, and yet we're hearing these complaints about this tiny little program and what terrible abuse it is for the taxpayer.

Imagine a congressional committee trying to do something to help poor communities deal with their sewer and water problems. Isn't that awful? Isn't that wasteful? Good God, Almighty, we ought to be putting that $8 million into the pockets of millionaires in additional tax cuts, right? At least that's what their record shows they believe. Nonsense.

I'm getting up once on this amendment, but I don't intend to continually get up in what is a filibuster by amendment. So I wanted to get that off my chest once, and then I'm just going to sit back and let people drone on, drone on, O ship of State, and occasionally I might even listen.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 42 OFFERED BY MR. HENSARLING

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 42 offered by Mr. HENSARLING:

Page 58, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $5,000,000)''

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I listened intently to the distinguished chairman of the committee, as

I do whenever he is on the floor. Apparently he does not like amendments that increase spending in this bill, and apparently he doesn't like amendments that decrease the spending in the bill. So apparently he doesn't like amendments. So that much is clear.

Second of all, Madam Chairman, when I come down to the floor in efforts to try to save taxpayers money, let them keep more money for their education programs, their health care programs, their energy programs, sometimes we're told that, well, this is so draconian, you know, to try to save this much money. And then other times we're told, well, this is just a piddling little amount.

Well, I'm reminded first of a famous quote from the late Senator Everett Dirksen, a billion here, a billion there, pretty soon we're talking about real money. I'm even talking about more modest amounts today.

But there's a fundamental principle involved here, and the fundamental principle is that we have a Federal budget growing way beyond the ability of the family budget to pay for it. Make no mistake about it, Madam Chairman, government will be paid for. It's either going to be paid for in the short term by continuing to raid the Social Security Trust Fund, which is what's going to happen if this particular amendment fails. It will be funded by the single largest tax increase in American history which my friends on the other side of the aisle, the Democrat majority, has done in their budget, or perhaps it may even be funded by sending more debt to our children and grandchildren.

I think we should look for every opportunity. Given the challenges that we face, the Comptroller General of America has said we are on the verge of being the first generation in America's history to leave the next generation with a lower standard of living. Never happened before in the history of America.

So, Madam Chairman, I make no apologies for, to use the distinguished chairman's term, droning on about what fiscal perils lay in wait for future generations if we don't start now. And then, again, it's a little bit like Goldilocks and the three bears. Either the porridge is too hot or the porridge is too cold. When is the porridge just right to try to save the family budget from the onslaught of the Federal budget?

So when we have the Office of Management and Budget single out a number of different programs, and I certainly think that their expertise in this area is great, to single out certain programs that, one, have outlived their usefulness; number two, are not meeting their objective; or number three, are duplicative, I think amendments are in order for the people's House to save the people money.

We have to quit engaging again in the fact of legislation by symbolism. It has a lofty name or it has a lofty purpose, well, let's look at what's actually happening to the money.

So this is a modest amendment, and I admit it's modest. I've tried to save big chunks of money and haven't been terribly successful there, and so we're going to attempt to save little chunks of money and perhaps set a precedent here.

So this amendment is designed to save the American taxpayer $5 million by hopefully zeroing out the account of a program which the Office of Management and Budget has said does not have performance standards. They do not have performance standards to assess their impact or are too narrowly focused to have a major benefit. They duplicate other Federal programs and award grants on a noncompetitive basis.

Now, ostensibly this program is a job opportunities program for low-income individuals, but I happen to know that practically every single one of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle voted against the tax relief that has created 8 million new jobs in our economy, which is an undeniable fact. That's truly the best job opportunity program for low-income individuals.

And I know that this body recently voted against the maximum opportunity to create an artificial wage to deny some people their opportunity to get on the lowest rung of the economic ladder.

There's a lot of ways that we can help low-income people with job opportunities, but one more duplicative program that awards grants on a noncompetitive basis is not it. Let's not raid the Social Security Trust Fund. Let's not be a part of the largest single tax increase in American history. Let's save the American people $5 million.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES

For carrying out section 436 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629f), $345,000,000 and for section 437 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 629g), $89,100,000.

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE

For making payments to States or other non-Federal entities under title IV–E of the Social Security Act, $5,082,000,000.

For making payments to States or other non-Federal entities under title IV–E of the Social Security Act, for the first quarter of fiscal year 2009, $1,776,000,000.

For making, after May 31 of the current fiscal year, payments to States or other non-Federal entities under section 474 of title IV–E of the Social Security Act, for the last three months of the current fiscal year for unanticipated costs, incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

ADMINISTRATION ON AGING

AGING SERVICES PROGRAMS

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3011 et seq.) and section 398 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280c–3), $1,417,189,000.

□ 1130

AMENDMENT NO. 44 OFFERED BY MR. HENSARLING

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 44 offered by Mr. HENSARLING:

Page 62, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $21,400,000)''.

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, again we have another modest amendment aiming at saving the American taxpayer, in this case $21.4 million. Again, we have a program that has a very lofty name, Preventive Health under the Administration of Aging. But I think that, again, the program needs to be put in the larger context.

We are being asked now to provide in this particular appropriations bill $152 billion in discretionary funding, one of the largest bills that will come to the people's House. It has, I believe, a 4.8 percent increase over last year, when I assure you, American families who are being asked to pay for this did not enjoy a 4.8 percent increase.

We, once again, have another portion of the Federal budget growing beyond the ability of the family budget to pay for this. So we all know that this is a part of a plan that will increase an additional $26 billion for domestic programs under the budget resolution of the Democrat majority, on top of the $6 billion that has been added to the current year omnibus, on top of the $17 billion in nonwar emergency spending they have added to the Iraq war supplemental.

Again, I recall the words of the distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee, referring to those of us who may drone on about attempting to save the Federal taxpayer money, but there are also those who seemingly use the same old argument that government knows how to spend money better than the American family.

Somehow, if we take money away from American families, that's an investment. But if they somehow keep it, well, that's waste, or somehow that's going to bring down the government to its knees. I just don't buy that argument. Somehow we are supposed to believe in the roughly 10,000 Federal programs spread across 600 different agencies, growing at roughly twice the rate of inflation, growing beyond the ability of the family budget to pay for it, that somehow, somehow, every single penny of Federal expenditures is sacrosanct.

Yet there is nothing sacrosanct about the money we take away from the American people to pay for that.

Now, the funds in this particular program are awarded to States and territories that supposedly educate older Americans about the importance of healthy lifestyles, a very noble purpose. But I would note with the exception of, I think, two, maybe three States, every single one of them is running a surplus.

We are granting money to 95, 98 percent of the States that are running the surplus, while the Federal Government continues to run a deficit. Although that deficit is coming down because we are awash in tax revenues, it certainly hasn't been from any spending disciplines. The bottom line is we are running a deficit, and we are handing out money to States that are running surpluses.

Again, this is a program that the Office of Management and Budget says should not be funded: ''It is duplicative of services that States can provide to the Administration on Aging's community-based supportive services program.''

I have heard nobody address or take the opposite viewpoint of OMB and say the program is duplicative. So maybe they approve of duplication. If they think that OMB has got it wrong, I would be interested in hearing that particular argument or that particular debate.

Furthermore, OMB says that AOA and visions integrating, prevention is an underlying principle in its core programs and that is better than the current mechanism of providing a small funding stream of unfocused seed money through the Preventive Health Services Program. Again, I feel we have too much legislation by symbolism.

We should never forget, when we are talking about the lofty purposes, that this will provide in vital investments and health care. Let's remember the vital investments in health care that the American people have. I mean, they are going to have to pay for this.

Again, I often hear from my constituents, like Joyce in Tennessee Colony, Texas, says, ''Please do what you can to stop the wasteful spending. I am retired and disabled. I am raising my three grandchildren and now one great grandchild. I sometimes can't afford my own medicine.''

So here we have a choice. We can take money away from Joyce in Tennessee Colony, take money away from her health care program, to engage in this particular program which OMB says is duplicative.

I have heard from David in the city of Garland.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Rhode Island is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, I think this is a perfect, perfect example of a gentleman offering an amendment where he knows the cost of something but the value of nothing.

If he were to visit any congregate meal site in his district or were to visit any of the Meals-on-Wheels programs in this country and was able to see what a difference those programs make in people's lives, he would understand that it was these kinds of programs that saved the taxpayer money.

I guess, by this amendment, he is saying what a waste it is for us to pay for someone's illness. Let's put off paying for their illness until they get really sick. Then they have got to get hospitalized. Then let's pay for it through Medicare.

Frankly, the former Speaker Newt Gingrich, every modern health care magazine, Republican Presidential contender Tommy Thompson, former HHS director, every leader and study in health care knows we ought to be going in the opposite direction. It's all about health. In case anybody has not been looking, our health care system is an acute care system. It's a sick care system. We need to be going preventive care. We need to be going health care. We need to be going chronic care management.

What in the world are we thinking by considering that we are going to actually go back to the dark days where we are going to actually spend more money on the back door to wait until people get sick as opposed to trying to prevent people from coming in and getting sick in the first place. I find this amendment absolutely mind boggling that it would even be offered as an excuse for saving money.

Quite frankly, it will end up costing the taxpayer money. Tragically, more than costing us money, it will cost us lives. It will cost us lives, and it will cost us misery amongst those senior citizens who are going to have to suffer the consequences of the cutbacks that this amendment will propose. I think that's a very unfortunate thing.

I yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Chairman, as I understand Mr. HENSARLING's amendment, he goes at the heart of the Administration on Aging, section 204 of the report, and these programs, including supportive service centers, preventive health, are protection for vulnerable and older Americans that are at the heart of the bill. It's clear to me that according to the Health and Human Services budget in brief that consumer empowerment, healthy lifestyles, community living incentives, are a critical part of taking care of families and their caregivers. And I just don't know where the gentleman arrives at the numbers that he seeks to cut in the bill.

The committee learned through exhaustive testimony from the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services the importance of funding this program. As the gentleman, Mr. HENSARLING knows, the President has sought to fund the program, and the committee has worked in a Republican and Democrat bipartisan way, sought to increase the program, and so we are going to stick with this number.

I want to thank the gentleman from Rhode Island for yielding me the time. I am encouraging members of the committee to oppose the Hensarling amendment.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, reclaiming my time.

I am pleased that in other bills that we are going to be taking up this year, we are going to be offering, the Democrats, medical home legislation that will allow us to invest in preventive medicine. Because we, as Democrats, believe we need to not rearrange the deck chairs on this Titanic of our health care system.

We need to reinvent our health care system and invest in health care, which is broken in this country, and start investing in prevention and not go down this road that has gotten us in so much trouble to begin with, and that is try to take care of the problem after it's already broken. Let's take care of people first and keep them out of the hospital.

Unfortunately, this amendment goes a great deal of distance in the wrong direction, not the right direction.

Madam Chairman, I yield back my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING).

The amendment was rejected.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided, for general departmental management, including hire of six sedans, and for carrying out titles III, XVII, XX, and XXI of the Public Health Service Act, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission Act, and research studies under section 1110 of the Social Security Act, $363,224,000, together with $5,851,000 to be transferred and expended as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, and $46,756,000 from the amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act to carry out national health or human services research and evaluation activities: *Provided*, That of the funds made available under this heading for carrying out title XX of the Public Health Service Act, $13,120,000 shall be for activities specified under section 2003(b)(2), all of which shall be for prevention service demonstration grants under section 510(b)(2) of title V of the Social Security Act without application of the limitation of section 2010(c) of such title XX: *Provided further*, That of this amount, $51,891,000 shall be for minority AIDS prevention and treatment activities; and $5,941,000 shall be to assist Afghanistan in the development of maternal and child health clinics, consistent with section 103(a)(4)(H) of the Afghanistan Freedom Support Act of 2002.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FERGUSON

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. FERGUSON:

Page 63, line 4, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000) (increased by $10,000,000)''.

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Ferguson-Langevin amendment that will set aside $10 million for implementation and to fund the Lifespan Respite Care Act.

I know the gentleman from Rhode Island, Mr. LANGEVIN, will be speaking on this amendment as well. I really want to praise him and thank him for his great leadership on this issue over the years. He and I have worked together as friends and partners on this issue in particular. I have great respect and admiration for the work that he has done on this issue.

Together, we have worked to pass the Lifespan Respite Care Act. It was unanimously approved by this Chamber and the Senate last Congress. It deserves the funding necessary to launch this critically important program. Funding the Lifespan Respite Care Act will, for the first time, establish a national policy to help our Nation's 50 million family caregivers who provide daily care for their loved ones with disabilities or chronic conditions or illnesses.

This program allows families to care in home for their loved ones instead of an institutionalized setting. In-home family caregivers provide minute-by-minute special assistance to their loved ones due to disability or critical illness or chronic condition.

Family caregivers are remarkable people. They make extraordinary sacrifices to help those who they love so dearly.

I saw an example of this firsthand in my own family. Ten years ago my mom was diagnosed with cancer. For 6 years I got to watch my dad as he cared for my mom through this very difficult struggle with cancer. Three years ago yesterday she lost that battle with cancer, but it was a great example to our family and so many others that we know of a great example of a family caregiver who made extraordinary sacrifices. There are some 50 million people just like my dad who provide care for a loved one in their own family.

These are folks who may not be blessed with a support structure that we had in our family. We had my siblings and me and others in our family who were able to give my dad a break when he needed a break from that family caregiving. There are many people in our country who are not fortunate enough to have that support structure around them. They are desperately in need of a break from time to time.

While the benefits that come from in-home care can be enormous, for caregivers and for that loved one who is ill, the cost for the family caregiver, from emotional to financial, can really be overwhelming. Lifespan Respite Care will provide much-needed breaks for caregivers who are providing intense and exhaustive care 24 hours a day. An occasional break can literally be a lifesaver.

I had a conversation with a constituent from my district, Ms. Pinter, who told me that caring for her special-needs child can be a very joyful but also can be a very challenging experience. You know what? She is exactly right.

Two-thirds of caregivers report physical or mental health care problems linked to their own caregiving. Recent studies have found that family caregivers suffer poor health or even higher mortality rates than nonfamily caregivers. Currently our Nation lacks a coordinated approach between different levels of government or advocacy groups to aid those who are in need of respite care.

Respite care is in short supply or doesn't exist at all in some areas of our country. This legislation and these funds would change that.

Funding the Lifespan Respite Care Act would improve coordination and access for respite care to recruit and train respite care providers, would aid family caregivers regardless of age or disability or their family situation, help them to find and pay for respite services. Through competitive grants, States would get funding to make quality respite care available and accessible regardless of age or disability or family situation.

Respite care improves the health and the well-being of caregivers and reduces the risk of abuse or neglect. Importantly, it also delays or even avoids more costly hospitalizations or placements in nursing homes or in foster care.

I want to thank all of the family caregivers in our Nation who provide tireless care for their loved ones, and I also want to extend my thanks to the numerous groups and organizations around this country in their exhaustive effort to establish this Lifespan Respite Care program. Providing relief to our Nation's family caregivers is long overdue.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. Once again, I am pleased and honored to have worked with the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) on this important legislation.

□ 1145

Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Rhode Island is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Chairman, I am pleased to rise in strong support of the Ferguson-Langevin amendment. Last year, I was so pleased to work closely with Mr. FERGUSON to ensure the passage of the Lifespan Respite Care Act, which will offer relief to so many family caregivers across the country.

I had the privilege of traveling with Mr. FERGUSON to Iraq going back a couple of years now, and I know his personal commitment to this issue. He shared the story with me about his mom, and so I know, as in my case as well as with Mr. FERGUSON, this is certainly a very personal issue that we have personal knowledge about and we care passionately about. So I am pleased to join him today and in the effort to direct funding now for this important program. As I mentioned, I know firsthand what a difference a dedicated caregiver can make in the life of a person with a disability or chronic condition.

Family caregiving is an essential yet often overlooked aspect of our Nation's health care system. The ability to live at home and remain a part of one's community can make a tremendous difference in a person achieving independence, recovery, or treatment. And whether they are caring for a child with a behavioral disorder or a parent with ALS or a spouse with multiple sclerosis, we all know someone who is a family caregiver. They live in all of our communities and they are often silent heroes, ensuring family stability and helping those who struggle with disease or disability to avoid more costly out-of-home placements.

We were so excited last year when this Congress really took a bold initiative in enacting the Lifespan Respite Care Act, and it gave hope to so many families across America. Today, this amendment that we are proposing directs $10 million toward the Lifespan Respite Care Act, which would authorize grants to make quality respite care available and accessible to family caregivers regardless of age or disability. So it is exciting if we can actually put now the funding into the Lifespan Respite Care Act that we so desperately need to help America's families who are providing this type of care in the home.

I urge all of my colleagues who are so supportive of the passage of this bill to vote in favor of the Ferguson-Langevin amendment.

I also want to commend my colleague Mr. FERGUSON, the gentleman from New Jersey, for his passion and dedication on this issue. It has truly been a team effort. And, again, I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, again, I feel required to make the same comments that I made on a previous amendment that was offered about one-half hour ago.

This amendment seeks to do a very worthy thing: It seeks to increase support for respite care. God knows, having watched my mother-in-law for 7 years, having watched my father-in-law take care of her every day, God knows that anyone who has ever seen something like that understands that we need a lot more respite care.

But having said that, I want again to use this amendment to illustrate what is happening on this bill, because here is what the amendment says:

Page 63, line 4: After the first dollar amount insert, reduce by $20 million, increase by $20 million.

Now, what the amendment really does is simply to serve as a vehicle by which these two worthy Members can raise the issue that there is not enough money in this bill for respite care. And you know what? There isn't. And there isn't enough money in this bill for CDC; there isn't enough money in this bill for NIH; there isn't enough money in this bill for education; there isn't enough money in this bill for Pell Grants; there is not enough money in this bill to sufficiently reduce the Social Security backlog; there is not enough money in this bill to keep all the Social Security offices open that are closing around the country. And, yet, the administration is sending out a letter telling Members of Congress that they ought to vote against this bill because there is too much money.

Now, I don't fault the two gentlemen at all for using this device in order to raise their concerns; it is about the only thing they can do. But the fact is, as chairman of this committee, I have an obligation to point out to the House and to the occasional other person who might be listening that Members are being forced to go through these kinds of machinations because instead of meeting our obligations to the most needy people, the most vulnerable people in this society, we are instead squirting away billions of dollars on an Iraq war and billions more dollars in tax cuts for persons who make over $1 million a year.

The day that we decide not to do that, the day that we decide that we are not going to spend $150 billion more in Iraq this year, the day that we decide that we are not going to put tax cuts for millionaires ahead of the needs of our disabled and ahead of the needs of our isolated seniors, then that is the day when amendments like this will be real, because then there will be sufficient room in the budget to do what we ought to be doing on these programs.

Again, I will not stand in the way of this amendment because it is a worthy cause. But, understand, this is not a real offset; it doesn't add any new money to this account; and when we go to conference, we are going to have to jettison much of what is adopted on the floor because, like this amendment, in reality, because of budget constraints, it ain't real.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FERGUSON).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OFFICE OF MEDICARE HEARINGS AND APPEALS

For expenses necessary for administrative law judges responsible for hearing cases under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (and related provisions of title XI of such Act), $65,000,000, to be transferred in appropriate part from the Federal Hospital Insurance and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

For expenses necessary for the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, including grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements for the development and advancement of an interoperable national health information technology infrastructure, $13,302,000: *Provided*, That in addition to amounts provided herein, $48,000,000 shall be available from amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act to carry out health information technology network development.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of the Inspector General, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles for investigations, in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $44,687,000: *Provided*, That of such amount, necessary sums are available for providing protective services to the Secretary and investigating non-payment of child support cases for which non-payment is a Federal offense under section 228 of title 18, United States Code.

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For expenses necessary for the Office for Civil Rights, $33,748,000, together with not to exceed $3,314,000 to be transferred and expended as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund.

RETIREMENT PAY AND MEDICAL BENEFITS FOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

For retirement pay and medical benefits of Public Health Service Commissioned Officers as authorized by law, for payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan and Survivor Benefit Plan, for medical care of dependents and retired personnel under the Dependents' Medical Care Act (10 U.S.C. chapter 55), such amounts as may be required during the current fiscal year.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary to support activities related to countering potential biological, disease, nuclear, radiological and chemical threats to civilian populations, and for other public health emergencies, $757,291,000, of which not to exceed $22,363,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, is to pay the costs described in section 319F–2(c)(7)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–6b(c)(7)(B)).

For expenses necessary to prepare for and respond to an influenza pandemic, $948,091,000, of which $870,000,000 shall be available until expended, for activities including the development and purchase of vaccine, antivirals, necessary medical supplies, diagnostics, and other surveillance tools: *Provided*, That products purchased with these funds may, at the discretion of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, be deposited in the Strategic National Stockpile: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 496(b) of the Public Health Service Act, funds may be used for the construction or renovation of privately owned facilities for the production of pandemic vaccine and other biologicals, where the Secretary finds such a contract necessary to secure sufficient supplies of such vaccines or biologicals: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated herein may be transferred to other appropriation accounts of the Department of Health and Human Services, as determined by the Secretary to be appropriate, to be used for the purposes specified in this sentence.

COVERED COUNTERMEASURE PROCESS FUND

For carrying out section 319F–4 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–6e) to compensate individuals for injuries caused by H5N1 vaccine, in accordance with the declaration regarding avian influenza viruses issued by the Secretary of Health and Human Services on January 26, 2007, pursuant to section 319F–3(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–6d(b)), $5,000,000, to remain available until expended.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. Funds appropriated in this title shall be available for not to exceed $50,000 for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

SEC. 202. The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall make available through assignment not more than 60 employees of the Public Health Service to assist in child survival activities and to work in AIDS programs through and with funds provided by the United States Agency for International Development, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, or the World Health Organization.

SEC. 203. None of the funds appropriated in this Act for the National Institutes of Health, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration shall be used to pay the salary of an individual, through a grant or other extramural mechanism, at a rate in excess of Executive Level I.

SEC. 204. None of the funds appropriated in this title for Head Start shall be used to pay the compensation of an individual, either as direct costs or any proration as an indirect cost, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II.

SEC. 205. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be expended pursuant to section 241 of the Public Health Service Act, except for funds specifically provided for in this Act, or for other taps and assessments made by any office located in the Department of Health and Human Services, prior to the preparation and submission of a report by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the planned uses of such funds.

SEC. 206. Notwithstanding section 241(a) of the Public Health Service Act, such portion as the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall determine, but not more than 2.4 percent, of any amounts appropriated for

programs authorized under such Act shall be made available for the evaluation (directly, or by grants or contracts) of the implementation and effectiveness of such programs.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 207. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.)) which are appropriated for the current fiscal year for the Department of Health and Human Services in this Act may be transferred between appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: *Provided*, That an appropriation may be increased by up to an additional 2 percent subject to approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall be available only to meet unanticipated needs and shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 208. The Director of the National Institutes of Health, jointly with the Director of the Office of AIDS Research, may transfer up to 3 percent among institutes and centers from the total amounts identified by these two Directors as funding for research pertaining to the human immunodeficiency virus: *Provided*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are promptly notified of the transfer.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 209. Of the amounts made available in this Act for the National Institutes of Health, the amount for research related to the human immunodeficiency virus, as jointly determined by the Director of the National Institutes of Health and the Director of the Office of AIDS Research, shall be made available to the ''Office of AIDS Research'' account. The Director of the Office of AIDS Research shall transfer from such account amounts necessary to carry out section 2353(d)(3) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300cc–40b(d)(3)).

SEC. 210. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be made available to any entity under title X of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) unless the applicant for the award certifies to the Secretary of Health and Human Services that it encourages family participation in the decision of minors to seek family planning services and that it provides counseling to minors on how to resist attempts to coerce minors into engaging in sexual activities.

SEC. 211. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no provider of services under title X of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) shall be exempt from any State law requiring notification or the reporting of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape, or incest.

SEC. 212. None of the funds appropriated by this Act (including funds appropriated to any trust fund) may be used to carry out the Medicare Advantage program if the Secretary of Health and Human Services denies participation in such program to an otherwise eligible entity (including a Provider Sponsored Organization) because the entity informs the Secretary that it will not provide, pay for, provide coverage of, or provide referrals for abortions: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall make appropriate prospective adjustments to the capitation payment to such an entity (based on an actuarially sound estimate of the expected costs of providing the service to such entity's enrollees): *Provided further*, That nothing in this section shall be construed to change the Medicare program's coverage for such services and a Medicare Advantage organization described in this section shall be responsible for informing enrollees where to obtain information about all Medicare covered services.

SEC. 213. (a) Except as provided by subsection (e) none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to withhold substance abuse funding from a State pursuant to section 1926 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300x–26) if such State certifies to the Secretary of Health and Human Services by May 1, 2008, that the State will commit additional State funds, in accordance with subsection (b), to ensure compliance with State laws prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to individuals under 18 years of age.

(b) The amount of funds to be committed by a State under subsection (a) shall be equal to 1 percent of such State's substance abuse block grant allocation for each percentage point by which the State misses the retailer compliance rate goal established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 1926 of such Act.

(c) The State is to maintain State expenditures in fiscal year 2008 for tobacco prevention programs and for compliance activities at a level that is not less than the level of such expenditures maintained by the State for fiscal year 2007, and adding to that level the additional funds for tobacco compliance activities required under subsection (a). The State is to submit a report to the Secretary on all fiscal year 2007 State expenditures and all fiscal year 2008 obligations for tobacco prevention and compliance activities by program activity by July 31, 2008.

(d) The Secretary shall exercise discretion in enforcing the timing of the State obligation of the additional funds required by the certification described in subsection (a) as late as July 31, 2008.

(e) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to withhold substance abuse funding pursuant to section 1926 of the Public Health Service Act from a territory that receives less than $1,000,000.

SEC. 214. In order for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to carry out international health activities, including HIV/AIDS and other infectious disease, chronic and environmental disease, and other health activities abroad during fiscal year 2008:

(1) The Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this section referred to as the ''Secretary of HHS'') may exercise authority equivalent to that available to the Secretary of State in section 2(c) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2669(c)). The Secretary of HHS shall consult with the Secretary of State and relevant Chief of Mission to ensure that the authority provided in this section is exercised in a manner consistent with section 207 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3927) and other applicable statutes administered by the Department of State.

(2) The Secretary of HHS is authorized to provide such funds by advance or reimbursement to the Secretary of State as may be necessary to pay the costs of acquisition, lease, alteration, renovation, and management of facilities outside of the United States for the use of the Department of Health and Human Services. The Department of State shall cooperate fully with the Secretary of HHS to ensure that the Department of Health and Human Services has secure, safe, functional facilities that comply with applicable regulation governing location, setback, and other facilities requirements and serve the purposes established by this Act. The Secretary of HHS is authorized, in consultation with the Secretary of State, through grant or cooperative agreement, to make available to public or nonprofit private institutions or agencies in participating foreign countries, funds to acquire, lease, alter, or renovate facilities in those countries as necessary to conduct programs of assistance for international health activities, including activities relating to HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, chronic and environmental diseases, and other health activities abroad.

SEC. 215. (a) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Director of the National Institutes of Health (in this section referred to as the ''Director of NIH'') may use funds available under section 402(b)(7) or 402(b)(12) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282(b)(7), 282(b)(12)) to enter into transactions (other than contracts, cooperative agreements, or grants) to carry out research identified pursuant to such section 402(b)(7) (pertaining to the Common Fund) or research and activities described in such section 402(b)(12).

(b) PEER REVIEW.—In entering into transactions under subsection (a), the Director of the NIH may utilize such peer review procedures (including consultation with appropriate scientific experts) as the Director determines to be appropriate to obtain assessments of scientific and technical merit. Such procedures shall apply to such transactions in lieu of the peer review and advisory council review procedures that would otherwise be required under sections 301(a)(3), 405(b)(1)(B), 405(b)(2), 406(a)(3)(A), 492, and 494 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241(a)(3), 284(b)(1)(B), 284(b)(2), 284a(a)(3)(A), 289a, and 289c).

SEC. 216. Funds which are available for Individual Learning Accounts for employees of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (''CDC'') and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (''ATSDR)'' may be transferred to ''Disease Control, Research, and Training'', to be available only for Individual Learning Accounts: *Provided*, That such funds may be used for any individual full-time equivalent employee while such employee is employed either by CDC or ATSDR.

SEC. 217. The Director of the National Institutes of Health shall require that all investigators funded by the NIH submit or have submitted for them to the National Library of Medicine's PubMed Central an electronic version of their final, peer-reviewed manuscripts upon acceptance for publication, to be made publicly available no later than 12 months after the official date of publication: *Provided*, That the NIH shall implement the public access policy in a manner consistent with copyright law.

SEC. 218. Not to exceed $35,000,000 of funds appropriated by this Act to the institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health may be used for alteration, repair, or improvement of facilities, as necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the activities authorized herein, at not to exceed $2,500,000 per project.

SEC. 219. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be used to administer to any child under 3 years of age an influenza vaccine during the 2008–2009 influenza season for which thimerosal is listed on the labeling as an ingredient.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Health and Human Services Appropriations Act, 2008''.

TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

For carrying out title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (''ESEA'') (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) and section

418A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070d–2), $16,016,318,000, of which $7,698,807,000 shall become available on July 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, and of which $8,136,218,000 shall become available on October 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009 for academic year 2008–2009: *Provided*, That $6,808,971,000 shall be for basic grants under section 1124 of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 6333): *Provided further*, That up to $4,000,000 of these funds shall be available to the Secretary of Education on October 1, 2007, to obtain annually updated local educational-agency-level census poverty data from the Bureau of the Census: *Provided further*, That $1,365,031,000 shall be for concentration grants under section 1124A of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 6334): *Provided further*, That $3,094,562,000 shall be for targeted grants under section 1125 of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 6335): *Provided further*, That $3,094,260,000 shall be for education finance incentive grants under section 1125A of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 6337): *Provided further*, That $9,330,000 shall be to carry out sections 1501 and 1503 of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 6491, 6493): *Provided further*, That $1,634,000 shall be available for a comprehensive school reform clearinghouse.

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the request for a recorded vote on the Ferguson amendment be withdrawn.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The amendment is adopted.

AMENDMENT NO. 36 OFFERED BY MS. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON OF TEXAS

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 36 offered by Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas:

Page 77, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $46,500,000)''.

Page 77, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $46,500,000)''.

Page 83, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $46,500,000)''.

Page 83, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $46,500,000)''.

Page 83, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $46,500,000)''.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Chairman, I rise today with an amendment to restore funding for the State grants portion of the Safe Drug and Preschool and Communities program to the fiscal year 2007 level.

These grants are an essential part of drug prevention and funds essential in effective services, including peer resistance and social skills training, parent education, student assistance, and education about emerging drug needs. This program serves 97 percent of our Nation's schools, and it is the only program that provides funding for universal prevention of all of our Nation's school-aged youth.

The success of this program has been documented by numerous States and local agencies. It is extremely effective and has contributed to a 23 percent decline in drug use among youth over the past 5 years. It is important to keep drug prevention as a priority. Historically, when funding for drug prevention is cut, drug use amongst youth surges. This program also provides coordinated school and community-based efforts to target emerging drug trends among community members.

As a result, this program has made significant contributions to reducing methamphetamine and black tar heroin use among school-aged youth in many States throughout the country. Over the past 2 years, in Dallas, Texas, we have had 23 teens die from overdoses of a black tar heroin mixture that is called cheese with Tylenol PM, and we work with DEA and local merchants and all around trying to get some handle on it. But through the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities program, local antidrug coalitions have partnered with schools throughout to hold prevention conferences in order to combat this growing epidemic.

□ 1200

They have targeted both students and parents to raise awareness surrounding this issue and have also held town hall meetings for teenagers. I have held one myself.

Without the infrastructure provided by this program, the antidrug coalitions would have little if any access to these students and parents, and the heroin problem would have undoubtedly increased.

This issue of emerging drug trends is not isolated. And while drug use among school-age children has declined, emerging drug trends continue to rise. We've recently seen new drugs aimed at our children, such as the candy-flavored meth and cocaine in many States, including Texas, California, Arkansas, Nevada, and Alabama. Without strong and effective prevention programs, these growing epidemics will have a devastating impact on the educational performance of students nationwide.

As you're aware, drug prevention is critical to ensuring the overall academic success of our youth. Studies have found that lower reading and math scores are linked to peer substance abuse. Our Nation cannot afford to see alcohol and drug use or violence rise above their current levels.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this amendment to restore the funding for the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Program to the 2007 level. $46.5 million was reduced, and, Madam Chairman, I do have an offset. The offset for the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Program will come from the Reading First program.

The Reading First program has been mired by allegations of financial conflicts of interest and cronyism and is currently under investigation by the Department of Justice. The Office of Inspector General and the U.S. Department of Education have found numerous legal and ethical violations in how Reading First has steered funds toward favored programs. There has been also conflicts of interest in hiring and the promotion of commercial reading materials. This mismanagement has already resulted in the program being cut by more than 60 percent of fiscal year 2008.

Just a few examples of this mismanagement include the Office of Inspector General found that the program administrator had improperly promoted commercial reading programs potentially in violation of Federal law. The Office of Inspector General analyzed hundreds of e-mails and concluded that the Department's program officials failed to maintain a controlled environment that exemplified management integrity and accountability.

They found that the Madison School District in Wisconsin had substantial data.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman's time has expired.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I move the adoption of this amendment, Madam Chairman.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment. I certainly can't support further cuts to the Reading First program. It's been cut by $629 million. Further cutting this bill adds insult to injury.

There have been problems with the program. There have been abuses. And if laws have been broken, the Inspector General will bring charges against those violators. But we shouldn't punish small children and their teachers for those abuses.

We have a need in this country to teach children how to read. I don't think anyone could deny that.

So Madam Chairman, for that reason, I will not support any further cuts to a program that teaches those kids to read. And, in fact, I suspect by the time we get to conference, when some of these issues are clarified, we'll be adding money back to this program.

For that reason, I oppose the amendment.

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, let me simply say again, as I have several times today, I am sympathetic to the goal of the gentlewoman's amendment, and I appreciate the fact that she did not craft her amendment in a way which would go after general departmental administrative costs. I appreciate that concession on the part of the gentlewoman.

Having said that, again, I will not personally object to the amendment because I understand what she is trying to do. But I definitely want to make clear what the gentleman from New York said, that there's only so far that you can cut any of these programs.

I happen to have insisted on a very deep cut in Reading First because of the abuse that occurred of the taxpayer funds in that account. But having said that, it's our hope that, frankly, and the House needs to know this, it's our hope that by the time we get to conference, we will have worked out enough of an understanding with the administration about the corrections that are needed so that we don't have to take the deep cuts that are in the bill now. But we are not yet at that point, so I think people who are bringing these amendments to the floor need to understand that many of them will not survive, simply for the same reason that I said earlier, that this bill is still short of the funds necessary to fund deserving programs such as that pointed out by the gentlewoman from Texas.

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

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I yield to the gentlelady from Texas.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Let me say to the gentleman who objected, I truly understand his objection on the reading program. However, statistics have shown that if these young people are under the influence of drugs, that's where they fall. And if we could prevent this drug usage, it probably will let some of the ability come through.

I know that it's difficult, but this is a very serious problem, and these cuts will hurt very severely in areas, primarily in school districts where we've had even young people having the ability to sell drugs to another young person. Obviously, it's coming from somewhere else.

But in Dallas, we have not found a single child that has experimented with this ''cheese'' that has survived. And we do have parents involved. We'll have to discontinue this program if we don't have these funds. And I would just plead with you to help find these funds somewhere, if you have a severe objection to it coming from this area.

But I felt that if the area's funding was not being handled correctly, it could be placed in a program that's going very well, that has influenced the decrease of 23 percent drug usage among our youth in the last 5 years. And I have grave concern about allowing this to go on without the assistance that's needed.

As I said earlier, I have worked with the FBI. They're working with merchants to try to get some of the Tylenol PM and the other off the market in these areas. It is a serious undertaking in the area. And all of our law enforcement people are involved.

But our schools cannot continue this without the funding. And that's the reason why I plead for understanding for this funding.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Rhode Island is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, I just want to commend the lady from Texas for her amendment, and say that I know how many years she spent before coming to Congress dedicated to this issue.

We had a hearing in her district around this issue of mental health and addiction and alcoholism, and we heard from the law enforcement community themselves in her district testify to the fact that over 70 percent of the children in the juvenile justice system were there because of drugs and alcohol. And, frankly, this is a scourge on our schools, and we can't just wish it away by saying, just say no. Just say no won't work. We need to employ resources, and that's what this bill, this amendment, seeks to do.

And, frankly, when you have 20 million people in this country addicted, and you have nearly 10 percent of those people, children, you have a serious problem in this country. We better get about trying to address it, and this amendment seeks to try to do that. And I commend the gentlelady for her amendment and support it.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. WALSH OF NEW YORK

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. WALSH of New York:

On page 78, line 3, before the period insert the following:

''*Provided further*, That for the purpose of determining adequate yearly progress for a specific school or school district, the Secretary shall include English language proficiency scores for students deemed to be English language learners only after such students complete their third year of instruction in English as a second language''

Mr. WALSH of New York (during the reading). Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. A point of order is reserved.

The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, my amendment, which I intend to withdraw, is very simple. It would prohibit the Department of Education from counting test scores for English language learners against school districts until after the student completes 3 years of English language instruction.

In our subcommittee's hearing, with Secretary Spellings, I raised some concerns regarding English Language Arts Test that student learning to speak English as a second language were given this year.

In my home State, there are over 192,000 immigrant students learning English, the majority of whom are in kindergarten through third grade. In the city of Syracuse, my hometown, we have an elementary school in which 43 percent of the kids are English language learners learning English as a second language.

I recognize that there are benefits to monitoring ELL student achievement on an annual basis. But school systems should not be penalized for student scores after only 1 year of instruction.

I'd like to state emphatically that we need to make sure that all of our kids speak and read English proficiently. It is essential to their ability to compete in a very competitive society and a very competitive world. And it is essential to the long-term viability of the American culture that we can all speak to each other in the same tongue.

But I've learned other languages myself, some better than others, and it took me more than 1 year to be considered proficient.

Let's not punish our schools, declaring them failing, before they've spent enough time to teach English thoroughly to our kids. So although I intend to withdraw this amendment, it would be my hope that Chairman MILLER and Ranking Member MCKEON are aware of this problem and will take steps to address it when we reauthorize No Child Left Behind.

Mr. OBEY. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. WALSH of New York. I would be happy to yield to the chairman.

Mr. OBEY. I want to underscore that I agree with my friend from New York and to emphasize that in parts of my own State, school districts face similar problems. In fact, I would bet this problem exists all over the country.

Furthermore, I understand that school districts face a similar issue with respect to the test scores of students receiving special education services. So I'd like to suggest to the gentleman from New York that we sign a joint letter to the authorizing committee requesting that they address this serious issue in the No Child Left Behind reauthorization that they're expected to soon consider.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Reclaiming my time, I would be pleased to join with my chairman in signing that letter, and thank him for his support, knowing that as chairman of the full committee and of the subcommittee, his voice will be heard on the authorization committee.

Mr. SHADEGG. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WALSH of New York. I'd be happy to yield.

Mr. SHADEGG. I understand the gentleman intends to withdraw the amendment. However, I want to rise in strong support of the amendment. As the gentleman knows, we live on opposite sides of the country, you in New York and I in Arizona. But the essence of your amendment says we should not be judging these schools until they've had a chance to, in fact, educate these children in a second language. And judging them after only 12 months, as the gentleman clearly pointed out, is unrealistic and punishing the school, which means to punish all the students at that school and all the parents of those students and all of the teachers and administration officials at that school by evaluating those children and holding them accountable after only 12 months is unrealistic.

I would be happy to join in your letter, and I commend the gentleman for offering the amendment.

Mr. WALSH of New York. I thank the gentleman very much for his vote of confidence in the amendment. I would be happy to work with him on that communication with the authorization committee.

Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

IMPACT AID

For carrying out programs of financial assistance to federally affected schools authorized by title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.), $1,278,453,000, of which $1,140,517,000 shall be for basic support payments under section 8003(b) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 7703(b)), $49,466,000 shall be for payments for children with disabilities under section 8003(d) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 7703(d)), $17,820,000 shall be for construction under section 8007(a) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 7707(a)), $65,700,000 shall be for Federal property payments under section 8002 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 7702), and $4,950,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for facilities maintenance under section 8008 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 7708): *Provided*, That for purposes of computing the amount of a payment for an eligible local educational agency under section 8003(a) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 7703(a)) for school year 2007–2008, children enrolled in a school of such agency that would otherwise be eligible for payment under section 8003(a)(1)(B) of such Act, but due to the deployment of both parents or legal guardians, or a parent or legal guardian having sole custody of such children, or due to the death of a military parent or legal guardian while on active duty (so long as such children reside on Federal property as described in section 8003(a)(1)(B) of such Act), are no longer eligible under such section, shall be considered as eligible students under such section, provided such students remain in average daily attendance at a school in the same local educational agency they attended prior to their change in eligibility status.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

For carrying out school improvement activities authorized by title II (20 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.), part B of title IV (20 U.S.C. 7171 et seq.), part A of title V (20 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) and subparts 6 and 9 of part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7253 et seq., 20 U.S.C. 7259 et seq.), part A of title VI (20 U.S.C. 7301 et seq.) and part B of title VI (20 U.S.C. 7341 et seq.), and part B of title VII (20 U.S.C. 7511 et seq.) and part C of title VII (20 U.S.C. 7541 et seq.) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (''ESEA''); the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11301 et seq.); section 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9602); the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.); and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000a et seq.), $5,678,002,000, of which $4,059,441,000 shall become available on July 1, 2008, and remain available through September 30, 2009, and of which $1,435,000,000 shall become available on October 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, for academic year 2008–2009: *Provided*, That $411,630,000 shall be for State assessments and related activities authorized under sections 6111 and 6112 of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7301, 7301a): *Provided further*, That up to 100 percent of the funds available to a State educational agency under part D of title II of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 6751 et seq.) may be used for subgrants described in section 2412(a)(2)(B) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 6762(a)(2)(B)): *Provided further*, That $56,257,000 shall be available to carry out section 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002: *Provided further*, That $34,376,000 shall be available to carry out part D of title V of ESEA: *Provided further*, That no funds appropriated under this heading may be used to carry out section 5494 under ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7259c): *Provided further*, That $18,001,000 shall be available to carry out the Supplemental Education Grants program for the Federated States of Micronesia and for the Republic of the Marshall Islands: *Provided further*, That up to 5 percent of these amounts may be reserved by the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands to administer the Supplemental Education Grants programs and to obtain technical assistance, oversight, and consultancy services in the administration of these grants and to reimburse the United States Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education for such services: *Provided further*, That $3,000,000 of the funds available for the Foreign Language Assistance Program shall be available for 5-year grants to local educational agencies that would work in partnership with one or more institutions of higher education to establish or expand articulated programs of study in languages critical to United States national security that will enable successful students to advance from elementary school through college to achieve a superior level of proficiency in those languages.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. PRICE of Georgia:

Page 80, line 2, after the first dollar amount and after the second dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $21,000,000)''.

Page 82, line 6, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $21,000,000)''.

Page 82, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $21,000,000)''.

Page 82, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $21,000,000)''.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Chairman, this amendment is offered in an effort to try to reprioritize monies between two separate funds related to gaining high-quality teachers in our Nation, the Teacher Incentive Fund and the Teacher Quality State Grants.

□ 1215

The Teacher Incentive Fund, my amendment would increase the funding for that by $21 million. When the 2007 fiscal year budget was adopted or the appropriations bill adopted, receipt was $2 million. The request from the President for this year was $199 million, and the bill before us includes a provision for $99 million, $100 million less than the President's request.

As opposed to the Teacher Quality State Grants, which received last year $2.8 billion, the President's request was for $2.7 billion and the bill before us includes a provision for $3.1 billion, $400 million more than the request by the Department.

Teacher quality, Madam Chairman, is certainly the most important school-related factor influencing student achievement. The No Child Left Behind Act reflects this and one of the central tenets is putting a highly qualified teacher in every classroom. Congress now has a greater opportunity to take teacher quality initiatives a step further by increasing funding for the Teacher Incentive Fund, a program that rewards highly effective teachers and rewards results.

The Teacher Incentive Fund allows States and school districts to apply for Federal grants in order to develop and implement performance-based compensation systems for both teachers and principals. With the Teacher Incentive Fund, educators who improve student achievement in the classroom are provided with financial rewards such as bonuses and increasing salaries. In 2006, the Teacher Incentive Fund and Congress provided $100 million for the new program; however, in 2007 it received only $2 million, and this is for a program that has shown very successful and rewarding results.

There is certainly a need for the fund and to date 34 grantees have received money. But the Department of Education has received nearly 150 applications. More resources would mean more districts would be able to establish performance-based compensation systems.

Looking at the workforce, it is estimated that more than 2 million teachers will need to be hired over the next decade. Research has shown that performance pay can be effective at recruiting and retaining highly qualified teachers. So the Teacher Incentive Fund will encourage a talented pool of individuals to go into the field of teaching.

Again, this is a reprioritization, a movement of $21 million from the

Teacher Quality State Grants, which is slated to receive $3.1 billion to the Teacher Incentive Fund, which would then receive $120 million. By doing so, this money can be directly given to local districts to create compensation systems and therefore recruit and reward outstanding teachers. Nothing wrong with rewarding the best and brightest when it comes to educating our children.

I urge adoption of the amendment.

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

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Chairman, I rise to support the gentleman from Georgia in his amendment. And the overall focus of his amendment is to do two things, first of which is what Congress should be asked to do by all of our constituents in all our districts from all across this country, and that is to take their hard-earned dollars that they send to us in the form of tax revenue and to prioritize them into the most efficient manner and into the most efficient programs and into the most efficient methodologies in order to get those programs effectuated for the good of the citizens. And that is what this amendment does.

In accord with the opinion of the administration, there are a number of programs now in existence essentially attempting to do the same thing. Here with regard to education, essentially trying to lift up the quality of education in this country, a laudable goal obviously; secondly, to lift up the quality of teachers in the classroom, again a laudable goal obviously. But we are asked to prioritize this to make sure that those dollars actually get to those programs and effectively down to the teachers, where it can do the most good. The gentleman from Georgia's amendment would do just that.

One of the fundamental flaws in the No Child Left Behind program is to take away the issue of authority and local control from the frontlines, and that is the classroom and that is the teacher, and shift it someplace else. The fundamental flaw with No Child Left Behind is to say that the parents should not be involved in making the decisions or the teachers should not be the ones making the ultimate decisions on how we educate our children, but it should be the bureaucrats down in Washington and unelected at that.

We need believe that the focus should be shifted back to the parents, back to the teachers, for those who are the people on the frontlines, those are the people who are having the day-to-day interaction with our children.

When you think about it, if you have kids in school or if you have neighbors with kids in school and they have a problem in the classroom, where is the first place that they go to to try to resolve that problem? They go into the schoolhouse and into the classroom and talk to the teacher. They want to get to the bottom of it right then and there. And ultimately it is a matter of making sure that that teacher is the best qualified teacher that you can actually have in that classroom.

Parents do not go to Washington, DC, and speak with the U.S. Department of Education to try to resolve some difficulty they have in their classroom. Parents do not come down here to speak with the Secretary of Education to deal with difficulties they have in their classroom. They go to the teacher. And they sit down and work things out to try to get to the heart of it and the root of the cause of the problem.

And the gentleman from Georgia realizes this. And he realizes that in order to make a better classroom where more learning can occur, where we can have better schoolhouses and classrooms, where we can raise up the quality of education, it is to raise up the quality of our teachers. The gentleman from Georgia's amendment does just that by ending programs that are ineffective, ineffectual, and don't get the job done, and transfers them over to those programs that do get the job done. In this matter we should all be commending the gentleman and support his amendment.

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I must confess a certain degree of confusion about this amendment. I always had the impression that good Republicans like block grants, and I also had the impression that thoughtful Republicans favor as much local control as possible. And yet this amendment would have us running in the opposite direction.

What this amendment would do is it would take the dollars in question out of a program which provides aid to all States in the Union and instead reserve that money for use in just the few States who have bought into the approach that is supported by these two gentlemen.

One of my favorite quotations is from Eric Sevareid, who used to be on CBS News a few years ago, and he said, ''It is important to maintain the courage of one's doubts in an age of dangerous certainties.''

And I have to say that I have a lot of doubts about what is the most effective way to teach children. I don't think I have all the answers. I don't think this House has all the answers. So I don't think we ought to be dictating to States what answers they seek in their teacher quality programs.

The virtue of the committee approach, as opposed to the approach suggested by the amendment, is that States can use the money in the block grant as it is provided in the committee bill and they can use it for any variety of techniques, including the one that is being promoted by the two gentlemen pushing this amendment. It seems to me that at a time when we are already questioning the rigidity of No Child Left Behind, and I must confess I voted for No Child Left Behind but with serious reservations and I will not vote to renew it unless those reservations are corrected, but it just seems to me that at a time when we are recognizing that No Child Left Behind is needlessly rigid, we should not be piling on to that rigidity with additional pieces of our own.

So with that I would simply urge Members to allow States to continue to have the flexibility that they have under the committee approach, and I would urge a ''no'' vote on the amendment.

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

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HENSARLING. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia, the sponsor of the amendment.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I appreciate the Chair's comments and I agree with him that we don't have all the answers. I would suggest, however, that what this amendment does is more appropriately prioritize moneys based upon the concerns and recommendation of the Department of Education. The fundamental difference between the two programs, the Teacher Quality State Grants, which is a program that in many areas gets excellent results, the differences are two that this amendment addresses:

One is that the overwhelming portion of the money that is available has been put into the Teacher Quality State Grants, moving from $2.8 billion last year to $3.1 billion this year, as opposed to the Teacher Incentive Fund, which would move from a high of $100 million in the last 2 years to $99 million this year, in essence a flat appropriations.

The other main difference is that the Teacher Incentive Fund rewards results. It rewards performance. It rewards teachers and schools who are actually gaining those high quality results that we desire for all students across our Nation.

So I would respectfully disagree with the Chair, that this is not prescriptive in its formula and the only rigidity that it has in it is that it requires results. So, hopefully, the House will see that the sense in looking at performance, looking at quality teachers, looking at what they are doing in the classroom and the results that they are getting, and rewarding that kind of performance makes sense. I would suggest that that is what most of us have said at home when we talk to our constituents and that this amendment aligns

the actions of this House with what we have told our constituents we would be supporting here in the House of Representatives.

So I appreciate the time, and I encourage, again, my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman for his leadership. I compliment him on the amendment. I urge its adoption.

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

Mr. REGULA. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. REGULA. First of all, Madam Chairman, I want to express my appreciation to the chairman of the committee for including funding for the teacher incentive fund. It is so vitally important to the inner cities to be able to attract the best teachers and this fund can be used by school districts to do just that.

Too often in the school systems, the best teachers tend to flee to the suburbs and they also flee to the good schools. Where we really need the top notch teachers are in the inner cities because our cities are really facing a crisis in the sense that their percentage of those who do not finish high school is growing and is a terrible waste of human capital. We can't afford that.

And one of the important things is to get these students in the early years, first grade, kindergarten, second grade, third grade, to like school and to like to learn, and that takes a quality teacher. And this program, and thanks to the chairman we have the 99 million dollars and this proposal for some additional, allows schools to give some financial incentives to the really top notch teachers to take on that responsibility.

I have an instance in my district where a handicapped teacher has inspired a class in a low-income neighborhood and it has made a world of difference in the lives of these young people.

So I just want to express, again, my appreciation to the chairman and for the interest of the gentleman from Georgia in the Teacher Incentive program because I think it is one of the vital challenges in addressing the dropout rate in the big cities to ensure that these students get a taste for education and they enjoy the experience and they stay with it. I am hopeful that the States will use these funds in that way, to give incentives to the very best teachers to go into the toughest areas and inspire young people.

I will add that the Teach for America program does a great job in that respect because they send their Teach for America candidates into very difficult situations.

I hope that we can address the dropout rate prospectively when we have a nation where 31 percent statistically do not finish high school and we know it is much larger in the cities. So there is the challenge, and this program, which the chairman was gracious enough to include in the original bill, is one of the keys to addressing that problem. So I, again, commend the chairman and also the gentleman from Georgia for their concern to inspire and make it attractive for the quality teachers to teach in difficult situations.

The teacher is where it is. If you ask any group, as I do when I give a speech, how many of you had a teacher, maybe two that made a difference in your life? And every hand will go up, and that says so eloquently that we want to have teachers in the toughest situations where their students will at some time in the future say, yes, I had a teacher that made a difference in my life.

□ 1230

That's why I'm here. That's why I finished high school. That's why I press on.

I went into a charter school where there was a Teach for America Teachers and it was in one of the toughest parts of the city. And the teacher there said, as we walked through the door, these were fifth graders, ''What do we do in 2010 or 2011?'' Without missing a beat, every student said, ''We go to college.'' Now, if I had done that 5 years ago or 3, they would have said, ''What? What do we do? I don't know. Drop out, probably.''

So I want to again commend the chairman for many parts of this bill that are important to giving teachers inspiration and making schools better so that whomever is here 25 years from now will not be saying that 31 percent of the students in the United States drop out. We can ill afford that in the competitive world in which we live.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GARRETT OF NEW JERSEY

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey:

Page 80, line 2, after each dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $33,907,000)''.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment that mirrors the President's budget request to eliminate funding in the bill for the Alaskan Native Education Equity Program. By so doing this, it will save our Nation's taxpayers $33.9 million.

Now, as with many of the programs that you will be hearing us discussing both yesterday and today and in the future, this program does, in fact, support a worthwhile goal, and that is providing additional educational services to Alaskan Natives. The services provided to Alaskan Natives that are students through this program, however, are redundant of many of the other types of programs that are provided through various other agencies, most notably through the Department's other education programs.

See, our funding priorities must be exactly that. When we come together as a conference and then as a body to support appropriation bills, we are called upon by the American taxpayers to set those things, priorities, just as the American family budget is created each day, each week, each month in American families across their country and they sit down at their kitchen table to decide what are their priorities when it comes to spending their hard-earned dollars.

They have educational interests in mind as well. They may have children that they have to decide whether they're going to be sending them to college this year or next, to a high-priced college or a moderate-priced college, et cetera. They have to set priorities when it comes to how much money will they be able to set aside in their savings account for educational purposes. Or if their kids are in a K–12 system, whether it's public school or private school, likewise, the American public has to set their own priorities, decide how much money they can set aside if they choose to send their kids to a private school. Or if their kids are going to a public school, how much money will they set aside so that they can spend on their children when it comes to educational purposes for extracurricular activities or supplements to the school program.

American families are called upon to do this every single day, every single week of the year with their budget. And all we are asking right now is that the U.S. Congress and the Senate do the exact same thing with their hard-earned tax dollars that they've entrusted to us. In this matter, what we are doing is saying we have several programs, the same laudable goals. We are eliminating one and shifting the dollars to the another so that the program gets done.

I would now like to bring my colleagues' attention to a recent report by the Nonpartisan Tax Foundation. This report details how much money each State taxpayer contributes in Federal dollars and how much money each State taxpayer receives back. This is very interesting, especially if you come from the State of New Jersey, as I do.

According to this report, Alaska, which is the subject of this amendment, ranks second in the Nation, getting $1.80 back for every $1 that the

taxpayers up there pay in Federal taxes. In contrast, my good State of New Jersey ranks dead last. We receive back a paltry 63 cents back for every dollar that a New Jersey taxpayer sends to Washington. What does that mean? That means that New Jersey taxpayers, working just as hard as the taxpayers up in the great State of Alaska are, are sending one dollar in with their paycheck each week, or multiple dollars as it is. But at the end of the day, when they see how Congress appropriates those dollars, New Jerseyans find out that they're only getting back 63 cents on the dollar.

Conversely, we look up to Alaska, the subject of this amendment. How much does every taxpayer get back from the dollar that they contribute to the good of the country and the State? They get back $1.80. It's a fairness issue, quite honestly, Madam Chairman. Where are our dollars going?

And with the new Democratic majority passing the largest tax increase in American history recently in its budget, the burden on New Jersey taxpayers will only continue to rise. Yet at the same time, we are providing nearly $40 million for redundant services in a State that is already nearly on a 2–1 ratio on every dollar that it sends to Washington.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Let me just finish this thought.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I have a parliamentary inquiry, Madam Chairman. There is a problem with the amendment that is at the desk.

The CHAIRMAN. Will the gentleman from New Jersey yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I am not yielding. I am finishing my thought.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Chairman, and I will be brief, we must remember that every dollar that we send to Washington comes out of that proverbial ''family budget'' that I referenced before. So when duplicate programs like this come before us, we should put ourselves in the shoes of the family in the same situation.

So, do you think that families would go out, families from the other side of the aisle would go out and spend their hard-earned tax dollars on a month's worth of groceries and then go out and eat every single night of the week? I don't think so. That would be duplicative. They would be spending money on the exact same thing. American families don't do that; neither should Congress. That doesn't make much sense to me, Madam Chairman, and quite frankly, neither does the funding of multiple Federal programs do the same.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, I have a parliamentary inquiry before the gentleman begins.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, at the desk, the amendment that the gentleman was speaking to concerned Native Hawaiians, but the gentleman spoke about Alaskans. And I asked the Clerk if he had the amendment that the gentleman was speaking about on Native Alaskans and he said he did not have that amendment. So I'm trying to figure out, are we responding to the Native Hawaiian language for $33,907,000, which is what is at the desk, or the gentleman's argument about Alaskans, which is not at the desk? And that is my inquiry.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will re-report the amendment.

The Clerk read the amendment.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, that's about Hawaiians.

The CHAIRMAN. Did the Clerk report the intended amendment?

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Chairman, there are two amendments at the desk. The amendment that I was speaking on is my amendment, which goes to the issue of Native Alaskans. The gentleman may be referring to another subsequent amendment that will later on refer to Native Hawaiians. It's the same page, same line, same dollar amount, so I can understand the confusion.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I thank the Chair.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time I have remaining?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin has 5 minutes remaining.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, let me simply say that I have only been to Alaska once in my life. I have certainly never been in an Alaskan school. But my grandfather taught me a long time ago, and I'm sure you have heard this many times in your own lives, but he used to say that nothing is more expensive in the long run than a badly educated child. And I don't care if that child comes from New Jersey or Wisconsin or Hawaii or Alaska, a badly educated child is a menace to society. Why, just imagine a badly educated child could grow up to be elected as a Member of Congress from New Jersey or Wisconsin. They could come into this Chamber filled full of all sorts of half-baked ideas, and the Congress would be plagued with having to spend hours and hours dealing with those ideas. I'm sure I've presented a few of the bad ideas myself to this House in that time.

The point is that Alaska may seem remote and far away, but the fact is that there are special children who do have special needs. Does anyone really believe that we are spending enough on Indian education programs around the whole country, for instance? And yet, we're told by the administration that we ought to eliminate the program for Alaska Native students because they benefit from the Indian education programs. Well, I've got tribes in my own State, and I know how inadequate some of those schools are, though they're trying the best they can.

I would simply say that if the authorizing committee wants to deauthorize this program, then fine, but I see no purpose right now in singling out one special group of children for exclusion from this bill and this account. I can think of a lot of things that go on in Alaska that I would just assume see stopped before I would see them stop educating children with special needs. I wish that they would take a different approach, for instance, on their highway aids. I think that their lack of judgment on that score has embarrassed the entire Congress. But I don't think that the Indian children or the Native Alaskan children who are educated under this should wind up being the principal victims of that action by the State of Alaska.

I sense in this House that people are touchy about voting for anything for Alaska since that happened. Well, I don't want these kids to be unlucky enough to run into accidents that started out to happen to somebody else. So it seems to me that the wise course is to reject the gentleman's amendment and allow the authorizing committee to determine whether or not this program ought to continue or not.

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I would like to recognize my good friend from New Jersey.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman from Georgia.

And let me just begin to reference the chairman's comment as far as whether we should be excluding one set of children from this. Well, that's exactly the point; I believe that we should not be excluding any children. And the language in the bill that is before us right now excludes the children of 49 other States.

□ 1245

As the Representative of the Fifth District of New Jersey, I am concerned. I come to the floor because this underlying bill excludes the children from the State of New Jersey with this special extra funding. Let me assure the gentleman there are children with special needs in the State of New Jersey, and there are children with special needs in the State of Wisconsin as well.

They are excluded from the Alaska Native Education Program. I am trying to bring fairness to the overall program, which is also what the administration is trying to do.

Let me make that point by sharing with you this comment. The Alaska Native Education Program is authorized by the ESEA of 1965 and they are subject to the reauthorization. But the administration was not recommending reauthorization and, accordingly, funded it at zero. The administration, as do I, recognizes the importance of ensuring that the Alaska Native students receive appropriate educational services. This request is consistent with the administration policy of increasing resources for high-priority programs by eliminating small categorical programs that have a limited effect, such as this.

In addition, the services provided to Alaska Native students through this program are redundant with many of the programs through the Department's Indian Education Program already being funded.

School districts that wish to implement programs and services tailored to the educational and cultural needs of the Alaska Native students are able to use funds already provided under other Federal programs in the 2008 budget. That includes $1 billion in direct support for the education of Indians and Alaska Natives in addition to the significant funds that are provided to those students who receive services through broader Federal programs; grant programs such as title I grants to local educational agencies and special grants.

Further, let me point this out as well: Alaska Native students will also benefit in addition to $1 billion that I also already referenced. They will also benefit from the Department of Indian Education Programs, which provide more than $118 million, $118 million, in formula grants to school districts and competitive grants for demonstration and professional development programs as well.

You see, these programs already serve as the Department's principal vehicle for addressing those unique educational and culture-related needs which the gentleman from Wisconsin is referring to.

The bottom line is there are already programs established that address those concerns that the gentleman from Wisconsin raises. The administration recognized this and already requested appropriations of $1 billion overall, plus the $118 million in special formula grants.

So it is our position, in line with the administration, that we do need to address those specific needs of those children who are in unique circumstances such as we find with Native American Indians in Alaska. But we do not need to do it in a redundant manner.

Finally, I would just conclude by saying the gentleman from Wisconsin is correct. We do not want to have children not being educated, regardless of what State they come from, whether it is from New Jersey, the good State of Georgia, the good State of Wisconsin or Alaska. But we are not doing the children any favor whatsoever if we do not appropriate the dollars in a manner that effectively gets that job done. This amendment works to effectuate and ensure those kids get properly educated.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I want to thank my friend from New Jersey for offering this amendment. I hope this House will see fit to pass it.

But let me say this: I think as we talk about children and education, that from my background, and I have a high school education, I attended college for a short period of time prior to being married, but let me say this: What I have found is that education is best from the local level, and I don't know that the Federal Government can really take some of these programs and put them down into a local school district and say here is this money, use it for this purpose or you don't get the money.

To me, it would be much better if some of this money were set down in a block grant to the State and let the State identify the problems and especially the funding problems that they have and be able to administer the money.

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

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Hawaii is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Chairman, I am standing here today speaking for young people in Alaska. I am sure that when Mr. YOUNG gets the opportunity, he will be down here to speak for them, too.

I wasn't aware of the fact that the young children in Alaska needed the tender mercies of the gentleman from New Jersey to speak for them. I would think that the children in New Jersey have all they can do, considering the level of the rhetoric I have heard for the last few minutes, to get the best education possible there. The Congress is certainly not being well informed about it today.

I most certainly agree with the other gentleman who said that education is best left to the local level. How about letting the gentleman from Alaska, or any other place where they understand what the educational needs of their children are, handle it at their level? That would be the way to take care of it.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. No, I will not yield. You had more than enough time to make your case.

Madam Chairman, I am going to make a case for those children and the children in Hawaii and the children in every other State and area in this country who deserve the support of this Congress. I have heard talk already down here today about taxes being paid. You don't think taxes are being paid in Alaska or in Hawaii or elsewhere?

When you talk about local programs, I have the local programs that we have in Hawaii. I am sure Mr. YOUNG has the local programs that we have in Alaska. I haven't examined them in New Jersey, but, as I say, I have heard the rhetoric for the last few minutes. Maybe I had better go up there and give them a hand.

Now, I respect every Member of this floor, and I expect to receive the same in return. When the State of Hawaii came into the Union, one of the protocols of the Admissions Act is the requirement that we recognize and take care of our Hawaiian children. We have programs that are geared towards that. We have Historically Black Colleges in this country. We have established over the past few decades studies in various backgrounds, ethnically, culturally, racially. We have caucuses in this Congress that recognize the various backgrounds from which our people come.

Hawaii, I can tell you, just as Alaska is, because I have visited Alaska and have had an opportunity to speak with the teachers and schoolchildren in Alaska, we are a multi-cultural, multi-racial, multi-ethnic country. We are a multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-background, rainbow state in Hawaii, and we recognize those backgrounds and we try to take care of it in our educational processes.

All we are asking for is the opportunity here to help fund local programs that have local assistance as well. That is done in program after program after program.

Now, if the gentleman does not care to have the Federal Government fund anything for education in the United States, that is his prerogative. I recognize that and respect that. I don't approve of it, and I hope the Congress won't approve of it. But to have any Member come into another State without any notice to anybody that they are going to do it, by the way, a courtesy that I would extend to anybody in here, I have to find out about it by osmosis that this is being done, it is shameful and it needs to be stopped and it needs to have an end put to it.

Now, if the gentleman has specific objections to anything being done in Alaska, he should have taken it up with the gentleman from Alaska. That is minimum courtesy in this body. But to come on the floor and make the kind of accusations that are made today is an insult to the gentleman from Alaska and an insult to the Appropriations Committee and an insult to the House of Representatives.

If there are objections to anything in the next one that comes up, I hope that whoever offers that amendment with Hawaii would have had the courtesy to sit down with me and with Representative HIRONO and specifically state what

their objections were, so that we might be able to accommodate them, had they legitimacy and foundation. That is the minimum we can expect from one another.

This is a shameful process. I hadn't realized until right now that we could solve the educational problems in this country if we could just keep those Alaskan kids from getting a dime for any program that has been put together by Representative YOUNG and the local educators in Alaska.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Chairman, I thank the Chair, and I appreciate the gentleman's passion. I would suggest, however, that each of us are elected to this House to determine best how we should use our vote, to either concur or disagree with the manner in which this body spends hard-working American taxpayer money. So I wouldn't criticize anybody for coming to the floor and providing their assessment of priorities as to where they believe hard-earned American taxpayer money ought to be spent.

I am pleased to yield to my good friend from New Jersey for a comment.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman from Georgia, and I would just make reference to the gentleman from Hawaii. I believe he misstates the intent of the legislation here when he says that the intent is to make sure that Alaska or Hawaii, and this bill is only on Alaska, does not get a dime. As my testimony indicated, Alaska will continue to get more than a dime, as the President's budget request included $1 billion in direct support for the education of Indian and Alaskan Natives. That is more than one dime.

Native Alaskans will also get $118 million in formula grants to school districts, competitive grants for demonstration and professional development programs. That is more than one dime.

Finally, to the gentleman from Hawaii's first point, which he agreed with the previous comment that education is best done locally and that the folks of Alaska know best about how to educate their children and the folks from Hawaii know best how to educate their children, I would presume he would agree the people from New Jersey also know how best to educate their children.

I would ask the gentleman from Hawaii, if he truly believes that, would he support our initiatives and my initiative in the LEARN Act to allow States to opt out of the cumbersome regulations of education from the Federal level and keep their dollars in Hawaii and keep their dollars in Alaska so they would be in the best position to educate their children.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I thank my friend for offering the amendment, and I thank him for his explanation. There is no desire to remove all funding in this area. That would be a different debate and a different discussion. That is not the debate we are having right now.

Madam Chairman, I do want to point out the larger picture, the bigger picture we are talking about here, and that is the issue of fiscal responsibility and the issue of responsibly spending taxpayer money, hard-earned American taxpayer money.

I was pleased to hear the chairman of the Appropriations Committee say to the gentleman from New Jersey that if the committee determined that those funds ought not be authorized, that they would be pleased to remove those funds, or something like that.

I would point out to the gentleman and to my colleagues that on page 302, 303, 304, and 305 of the report of the Committee on Appropriations, there is a paragraph that is headed ''Appropriations Not Authorized By Law.'' I would suggest that we revisit these items and require that they be authorized.

''Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1)(B) of rule XIII of the Rules the House, the following table lists the appropriations in the accompanying bill,'' this bill we are talking about right now, ''which are not authorized by law for the period concerned.''

It may be helpful, Madam Chairman, for individuals to hear which ones are not authorized, not talking about the quality of those programs or the need for them, but the fact that this is a process that has come about where we are appropriating money for many programs which are in fact not authorized.

Department of Labor, for example, Training and Employment Services, not authorized since 2003. Appropriations in this bill, $3.5 billion.

Not authorized in this bill, the Veterans Workforce Improvement Program, not authorized since 2003. Appropriated in this bill, $1.649 billion.

□ 1300

National Health Service Corps, not authorized since 2002, again not talking about the appropriateness of the appropriation itself, but whether or not the process is such that it ought not be authorized prior to carrying out the appropriation. In this bill, $131 million.

Not authorized in this bill, Healthy Start, not authorized since 2005. In this bill, $120 million.

Not authorized in this bill, Rural Health Outreach Grants, not authorized since 2006. Funding in this bill to a level of $52.9 million.

Not authorized in this bill, cancer registries, not authorized since 2003. In this bill, funded at the rate of $47.9 million.

Not authorized in this bill, oral health promotion, not authorized since 2005. Funding in this bill, $13.1 million.

Not authorized in this bill, substance abuse and mental health services programs, not authorized since 2003. Funding in this bill, $3.26 billion.

Madam Chairman, the list goes on and on, and I draw my colleagues' attention to it, because I would agree with the chairman of the Appropriations Committee that we ought to be concerned about what is authorized by the authorizing committees and whether or not appropriations ought to be spent for items that are not authorized.

But the challenge for us is to spend responsibly, spend hard-earned taxpayer money responsibly.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. I just want to thank the gentleman for bringing to the attention of the House again the fact that the authorizing committees have failed to do so much work in past years.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. My friends, this is a sad day in this body. Apparently the students of New Jersey are trying to take money from Alaskan students, pitting State against State instead of talking about education.

I am a little bit chagrined with the gentleman from New Jersey. This is supposed to be a House of honor. You didn't tell me you were going to offer this amendment. You didn't talk to the gentleman from Hawaii on the amendment. You are attacking two States that are not contiguous to the United States. This is a harmful thing to do. We are a new State. I have poverty that you don't even think of, and yet you say you want my money, my money for my students that need to be educated to go to New Jersey.

That is a sad day for this House.

I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee for putting this in the bill. And if we continue this, we will be called biting one another, very much like the mink in my State that kill their own. There is always another day when those who bite will be killed, too, and I am very good at that.

I just think it is a disgrace to have one State, the education of one State, being pitted against another State. This is education. These are needy students, a minority that has been neglected, has not been helped to the degree they should have been over the centuries. I can truthfully say and pridefully say we have been good in the last years, over the last 35 years. I have provided education and supported education. My people have risen and become leaders because this Congress saw the wisdom of us providing us money.

And now we have an individual from a State that doesn't have the greatest reputation in the world trying to take money from one State to give to another State. If that is the case, then let's just all have a big donnybrook right here. I'm ready. I'm really ready because what we are doing is dead wrong.

I told the gentleman here about 2 years ago, shame on you. Shame on you. Shame on each one of you. And the guys that are trying to not spend money and the guys that are trying to balance the budget, to take and attack education in States, Hawaii and Alaska, that have the least representation as far as numbers go. And if there is guilt here, it is because I have been able to represent my State better than New Jersey. I would suggest New Jersey ought to elect some new Congressmen, I suggest respectfully, that can do the job. I believe that is really true. If they can't do the job, elect somebody new. I have done it. I am going to continue to do it. I am going to fight for my State, and I am going to fight for my State every time.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, is it appropriate for the speaker to say that the people from New Jersey should be electing——

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. CAPUANO). Does the gentleman from Alaska yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I have not yielded. I will not yield.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I make a point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Is it a violation of parliamentary decorum by suggesting that a Member not be reelected in the State of New Jersey?

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I don't know what the gentleman is talking about. I just said they were not well represented. Respectfully, if I can say that. I don't name anybody's name. I don't mention anybody. I don't specifically mention any names. And that is not why.

For the rest of you that continue this constant harping on this floor about cutting monies from other areas under the guise of balancing the budget, I say shame on you, too. I say shame on you because we are not doing the legislative process any good.

Regardless of who is in power in this House, Democrat or Republican, we should be leading this Nation and we are at a standstill now. That is one reason our ratings are very low, totally, and that is a shame. Because we do have the work of this Nation that we should be doing and we should be addressing and we should take care of it.

I don't agree with everything that side does. We should not always agree on everything, but we should have the ability to get together and solve problems and to legislate, and we have not done that. So I am a little frustrated. And like I say, those that bite me will be bitten back.

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

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman may state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Is it appropriate political decorum for a Member to say that he represents his State in a better manner than the entire delegation of another State represents their State?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair is unable to rule on such remarks after other debate has ensued.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Further parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman may state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Is there a manner in which I can rephrase the question so that the Chair will be able to answer the question or comment on the previous speaker's statements?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair can only rule on such words if a timely point of order is made.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I'm sorry, I didn't hear the last part.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair is unable to rule on words between Members previously spoken in debate, absent a timely point of order or demand that such words be taken down.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Chairman, I have noticed that the last several speakers on the House floor were rather strident in their comments, engaged in ad hominem attacks and perhaps at least one of them could have had their words taken down.

Having served in this body for several years, I have yet to discover any direct correlation between the stridency with which one delivers their message and the righteousness behind their cause.

Many have come here to say that somehow House decorum demands that one speak to another Member before offering an amendment that somehow may be injurious to their district's interests. In all of the years I have served in this body, I have yet to have somebody come to me and explain to me ahead of time how their amendment, how it impacts the people in the Fifth Congressional District of Texas.

Yet every day we see something like the largest tax increase in history, which certainly has a terrible impact on the hardworking people of the Fifth Congressional District of Texas. Nobody sought out my permission before they brought that particular piece of legislation to the floor.

We have pieces of trade legislation, or it should be called anti-trade legislation, coming to the floor, harming my cow-calf operators in the Fifth District of Texas. Nobody seeks my permission or acquiescence before that legislation is brought to the floor.

We have legislation imposing death taxes on people who have worked their whole life to build small businesses in the Fifth Congressional District of Texas. Nobody seeks my acquiescence or permission before bringing that legislation to the floor.

I also noticed that an earlier speaker referred to the funds in this amendment as ''my money.'' Well, isn't that a fascinating concept, ''my money.'' I thought it was the taxpayers' money, many of whom reside in the State of New Jersey. Many of whom reside in the State of Texas.

I am interested why we seem to have on top of all the other education funds we have, and it is not exactly like this is an area of Federal funding that has gone lacking, since 1995, the elementary and secondary education budget function has increased 147 percent. That is about the highest increase of any budget function in that period of time.

I wonder, Mr. Chairman, maybe we ought to go out and create a special education fund for New Jersey and for Texas and for Arkansas and Maine and New Hampshire. Why don't we create one for all 50 States. Then what we can do is we can go ahead with the Democrats' plan for the largest tax increase in history, and we can take all of this money away from American families. Then Washington can keep, say, a third of it in administration cost and waste and inefficiency, and then we can design these programs with our State names on them, take credit for it, and then hand it back to the taxpayers, whose money it is in the first place.

So I want to salute the gentleman from New Jersey for his courage, for his steadfast leadership on this issue, his dedication to education, his dedication to fiscal responsibility, and for coming and suffering these ad hominem attacks. That, Mr. Chairman, is what is truly shameful about this particular moment.

I would be happy to yield to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding for just a moment.

As the Representative from the Fifth District of the State of New Jersey, I remind the gentleman from Alaska that the State of New Jersey has 13 congressional Representatives from both sides of the aisle. And so when the gentleman from Alaska makes reference to our Representatives from the State of New Jersey not doing their job and not appropriately representing the people of the State, I remind him that it is an accusation not against simply this one gentleman who is standing at the microphone right now proposing this one amendment, but it is an entire body of 13 gentlemen from both sides of the aisle who I say, and I commend both Representatives from the Democrat and the Republican side of the aisle, for appropriately and admirably representing the good citizens from the State of New Jersey.

My colleagues from the other 12 districts do not need to be defended against these rash accusations by the gentleman from Alaska. But I do come to the floor now to appropriately defend them, nonetheless.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I thank the gentlelady for yielding.

I also take up the comment that the gentleman from Texas was just making reference to which the gentleman from Alaska stated in his statement what was ''my money'' or it is Alaska's money. Well, maybe that is the problem we have had in this Congress for too long, even when Republicans were in the majority and now that the Democrats are the majority, too. Too many Members of Congress see the dollars that we appropriate here not as the taxpayers' dollar, but see it as their very own personal checking account. Maybe that is the fundamental problem that we have with why we spend more and more each year.

I remember when the Democrats were running for office this past election. They were railing against the Republican Party, that we were the party out of control, spending more and more and more. If they were elected to office, they would come here and rein things in when it came to spending. And I served on the Budget Committee when the Democrats were in the minority, and how they railed against us from the other side of the aisle. And at times I even agreed with them on some of the charges that they made, that we were spending too much money.

And now when the Democrats take control, what do they do? Give us the largest tax increase in U.S. history, and we see spending continue to go through the roof. Where do those dollars come from? They come from American taxpayers, from the family budgets, from men and women in Alaska and New Jersey and across this country, working hard just to get by, and yet they are being forced by the Democrats' tax increases to send more dollars here to Washington.

When the gentleman from Alaska comes forth and says it is ''my money,'' maybe that is why in some respects when there are projects that are appropriated such as bridges to nowhere and the like, the American public says that is our dollars going to Washington, and it shouldn't be looked at for just such frivolous things as this.

□ 1315

The amendment that's before us right now is an appropriate amendment to say that the hard-earned tax dollars should go to programs that are necessary but be spent in an effective manner.

Members from all 50 States see the need to educate our children. Members from all 50 States, including the State of New Jersey, see the need to deal with the issue of Alaska native students, and that is why this administration has already requested appropriations of $1 billion for that, $118 million in other categorical aids such as that. So all we are doing is saying make sure that those dollars that come from New Jersey and elsewhere are spent effectively.

Finally, to close on this point of ''my money,'' maybe the gentleman from Alaska was not listening at the opening of my comments when I said that New Jersey taxpayers send a dollar to Washington and only get 63 cents back on the dollar, whereas his constituents, yes, they do much better. They send a dollar to Washington and then they get $1.80 back.

I would ask the gentleman from Alaska and other Members from the Democrat side of the aisle, where do they think that other 80 cents on the dollar is coming from? I will tell you it's coming from the good, hardworking taxpayers from the State of New Jersey and Connecticut and New York that are donor States to States like Alaska, that we are subsidizing their programs.

I would ask the gentleman from Alaska to refrain from, therefore, referring to it as his money. It is the taxpayers in the Fifth Congressional District and the rest of New Jersey, whether you're in a Democrat district or Republican district, who are helping fund these programs.

Ms. FOXX. I want to just say I am very concerned when there is an attitude here in the Congress that it is our money to spend. I want to make sure that nobody ever forgets that we are the stewards of money that we legally steal from the people of this country. We take it from them under duress, and we have a tremendous responsibility to make sure that that money is being spent well.

There's no such thing as Federal dollars. It's all money that belongs to the American taxpayers, and we're up here confiscating a great deal of their money and deciding how to spend it. And it's up to us to make sure that we spend it very, very carefully and very, very fairly.

The Constitution provides for no role for the Federal Government in education. We're already overstepping our bounds, and if we're going to overstep our bounds, we better be extraordinarily careful in that respect.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back my time.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to make a point here because I think what just happened on this House floor 5 minutes ago was extraordinary.

For a member of the Republican Party to get up and defend what has happened here and the investments that we're making I think exposes what's been going on here for the last several months, is that we have a fringe group, Mr. Chairman, of Members of this Congress who consistently get up and try to pin Members against each other, try to find specific programs and somehow expose somebody as somehow being irresponsible. And I think it's extraordinary what happened here, that we have an extreme group in this Congress that consistently tries to divide us when we're trying to get the people's work done.

This is the United States of America, and the gentleman from New Jersey benefits from the Federal court system that helps Wall Street thrive. It's the rule of law in this country that is funded by the taxpayer, courts, judges, buildings, the rule of law, and that allows Wall Street to benefit. That allows citizens in New Jersey to earn a good living and to pay taxes.

And we have Members from Texas, Mr. Chairman, the great investment that this country has made into that great State, NASA, the universities, Texas has benefited from those investments.

Members from the West, where the West wouldn't even exist, we have congressional districts that wouldn't exist if it wasn't for the investment of the Federal Government to build dams. The Colorado River Basin Project—there wouldn't be congressional districts in the West if it wasn't for the Federal investment.

We're the United States of America, for God's sake, and let's stop trying to divide each other. Let's recognize that this bill has been supported unanimously from the Appropriations Committee, Democrats and Republicans, and I want to thank the distinguished Member from New York who put so much thought and concern into this bill, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. REGULA) and gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON), who have consistently tried to make investments and recognize that people in Alaska, kids in Alaska need help, and I'm okay with that. I've never been to Alaska but we have needs.

Let's stop trying to divide each other and stop the lectures of fiscal responsibility. The mess we're in is here because of $3 trillion in debt that our friends have borrowed from China and Japan and OPEC countries over the past 6 years; borrowed more money, Mr. Chairman, from foreign interests than every President and Congress before them combined.

So enough of the lectures on fiscal responsibility. We're here now. Let's make these investments. Let's compete in a global economy by making these investments. We're competing against 1.3 billion people in China, 1.2 billion people in India. We need to make these investments. We only have 300 million people in this country. They need to be educated. They need to be healthy, and they need to live in a clean environment. That's what this bill does.

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

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Arizona is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out that this is supposed to be a healthy debate, and quite frankly, I don't think Members on either side should criticize Members for coming to the floor and debating issues.

The gentleman from New Jersey raised, I believe, a legitimate issue, and that is the issue of the equity of people from one State paying in much more money to the Federal Government than they get back versus people from another State getting much more money back from the Federal Government than they pay in and questioning a particular program. That's the kind of debate that is supposed to occur here. It's the kind of debate that should occur here.

Indeed, I think everyone on this floor acknowledges we have a problem with having spent too much money. We have a problem with too much debt, and I think the people on this side of the aisle have tried to make the point that at some point we need to stop that spending or slow that spending, and I believe the people who have carried forward this discussion, at least from this side of the aisle, have readily acknowledged that a great deal of that overspending occurred on our watch. We're not trying to point blame, but we do have a duty to come here and debate our financial priorities and debate our jobs.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SHADEGG. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I thank my friend from New Jersey for offering this amendment because I did not know that this would open up the types of discussions that it has, but I think it's great for this body.

My friend from Ohio, Mr. RYAN, who, Mr. Chairman, I stood up on that podium and listened to many nights with the 30-something group, that talked about the spending of the Republicans, I hope he will come back now and talk about the largest tax increase in the history of this country. He talked about dividing Members, and I stood there, Mr. Chairman, right where you're at, and I listened to the rhetoric that was designed to divide Members.

And talking about a spending and what's a good investment, I don't know when we were in the majority party why the things we weren't doing wasn't a good investment. Now, all of the sudden spending $11 billion more than the President's recommendation is a good investment. So spending more money is a good investment, and he's talking about that we borrowed money from foreign countries. I don't agree with that, but you know what, they probably won't borrow money from a foreign country. You know what they're going to do, Mr. Chairman? They're going to go up on your taxes. They have passed and are passing appropriations bills, other pieces of legislation that's going to cause this country to have the largest tax increase in history.

So I want to thank him for bringing this up, and I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for bringing this up because this is a perfect example that we have to prioritize, and we all have different ideas about prioritizing. We all have different ideas about who's writing a budget, if it's a good investment or if it's wasteful spending.

So, I support the gentleman's amendment because I don't think that those children in Alaska, regardless if a Member of my party says it or not, or the children of Hawaii need special exception and more money than my kids, my special need kids in the Third District of Georgia.

So I thank the gentleman from Arizona for yielding, and I yield back.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Chairman, I'm happy to conclude this by simply noting that no Member who brings an amendment to an appropriations bill is criticizing the ranking member or the chairman of that committee. Indeed, I think it's a long-standing tradition and an honorable one in this body that appropriations bills come to the floor under an open rule so that we can have these discussions, and the votes reflect the will of the Nation as they should.

So I want to make it clear that I don't believe that by the gentleman from New Jersey or myself or any other Member of this body, any Member on the majority side, offering an amendment, and there have been amendments offered, in doing so that they are in any way criticizing the good hard work. Indeed, I think we're honoring the tradition of the Appropriations Committee in that these are, in fact, brought to floor under an open rule, and we have full and open debate which I think is what the American people want.

And I compliment the Chairman of the committee and I compliment the ranking member of the committee for their hard work in doing their jobs.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey will be postponed.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word for the purpose of engaging in a colloquy with the gentleman from Wisconsin.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Iowa is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Chairman, for decades during the Cold War, hundred of thousands of Department of Energy employees, including thousands of workers at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant in my district, worked diligently at our Nation's nuclear weapons facilities. These men and women worked with radioactive and other hazardous materials, and some ultimately sacrificed their health for the security of our Nation.

In response, Congress enacted the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act to provide compensation and medical benefits to these former nuclear employees. The intent of this act was to honor and care for Cold War veterans who became ill while working at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant and other DOE facilities.

However, due to mismanagement and delays, the compensation program has only paid 11,829, or 23 percent, of the 51,188 claims that have been filed nationwide. My constituents, and thousands of former DOE employees like them, have been subjected to bureaucratic red tape and unfair burdens of proof, delaying their compensation and even, in some cases, preventing them from filing claims.

Congress made clear in enacting the compensation program that our Nation's Cold War heroes should be justly compensated for the illnesses they contracted while serving our country. Sadly, the Department of Labor has failed to ensure that the claims are properly processed and approved.

Mr. Chairman, I respectfully request your assistance in asking the Department of Labor to report to Congress on the administration of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program, and specifically, I believe it is vital that the Secretary provide Congress with information concerning, first, the length of time it takes to process and evaluate a claim; second, the reasons behind the current backlog in processing these claims; third, the staffing of the relevant offices assigned to administer the program; fourth, the quality of communication with claimants; fifth, the process through which claims are approved or denied, as well as the oversight currently in place to assure that claims are handled properly; and sixth, the possibility of providing greater assistance through the Department of Labor to those wishing to file claims, many of whom are elderly and in poor health.

Our Nation's former nuclear workers are truly among the unheralded heroes of the Cold War. We owe them and their families better than bureaucratic red tape, and I would greatly appreciate your assistance in assuring that the Department of Labor remains committed to providing these workers with the recognition, treatment and compensation they deserve.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LOEBSACK. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for raising this important issue. The purpose of the Energy Employee Occupational Illness Compensation Program is to fairly compensate our Nation's former nuclear workers for illnesses they contracted while serving our country.

Former Department of Energy employees who are now elderly and ill have been subjected to bureaucratic run-arounds by the agencies responsible for adjudicating their claims. The Department of Labor is responsible for administering compensation for these former nuclear workers, and I concur with the gentleman from Iowa that a report from the Secretary detailing the administration of the compensation program would provide Congress with highly valuable insight into the agency's implementation of the program.

Streamlining and expediting the method through which claims are processed and compensation provided is in the best interests of the families and claimants to whom our country owes its deepest gratitude and respect.

I'd be happy to work with the gentleman to request this information from the Department and to ensure that the true intent of the program is being carried out with due diligence by the administration.

□ 1330

Mr. LOEBSACK. Reclaiming my time, I thank the chairman for his willingness to address this important issue and look forward to working with him.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I rise to associate myself with the comments of Chairman OBEY and Mr. LOEBSACK of Iowa.

The American workers who fell ill during service to our country must be justly compensated in a reasonable period of time. As you have said, these men and women are American heroes. They really made a difference for our country.

I have been an outspoken critic, both in the Appropriations Subcommittee and in my district, of EEOICPA's lack of removing the bureaucratic hurdles faced by claimants. I thank my two colleagues and join them in requesting the Department of Labor to provide this information.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman and look forward to working with him on this issue.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

INDIAN EDUCATION

For expenses necessary to carry out, to the extent not otherwise provided, part A of title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.), $124,000,000.

INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

For carrying out activities authorized by section 1504 (20 U.S.C. 6494), part G of title I (20 U.S.C. 6531 et seq.), subpart 5 of part A of title II (20 U.S.C. 6651) and part C and part D of title II (20 U.S.C. 6671 et seq., 20 U.S.C. 6751 et seq.), and part B (including subpart 2), part C, and part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7221 et seq., 20 U.S.C. 7231 et seq., and 20 U.S.C. 7241) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (''ESEA''), $992,354,000: *Provided*, That $10,695,000 shall be provided to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to carry out section 2151(c) of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 6651(c)): *Provided further*, That from funds for subpart 4 of part C of title II (20 U.S.C. 6721 et seq.), up to 3 percent shall be available to the Secretary for technical assistance and dissemination of information: *Provided further*, That $258,988,000 shall be available to carry out part D of title V of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7241 et seq.), of which $99,000,000 of the funds for subpart 1 shall be for competitive grants to local educational agencies, including charter schools that are local educational agencies, or States, or partnerships of (1) a local educational agency, a State, or both and (2) at least one nonprofit organization to develop and implement performance-based teacher and principal compensation systems in high-need schools: *Provided further*, That such performance-based compensation systems must consider gains in student academic achievement as well as classroom evaluations conducted multiple times during each school year among other factors and provide educators with incentives to take on additional responsibilities and leadership roles: *Provided further*, That up to 5 percent of such funds for competitive grants shall be available for technical assistance, training, peer review of applications, program outreach, and evaluation activities.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. FOXX

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. FOXX:

Page 82, line 6, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

Page 82, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

Page 84, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

Page 84, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A point of order is reserved.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would reduce funding for the Fund for the Improvement of Education by $10 million, while increasing IDEA State grants by $10 million.

Transferring these funds will ensure that Congress does not create a new unauthorized $10 million grant program for ''full-service community schools'' with the Fund for the Improvement of Education, a program which was specifically mentioned in the committee report. We should not be using appropriations bills to authorize programs.

It appears that language in the committee report for this program has been taken from legislation introduced by the House majority leader, as well as in the Senate by Senator NELSON. Their bill would create a $200 million full-service community school grant program.

What exactly is a full-service community school? According to the underlying funding bill, it's a ''public elementary or secondary school that coordinates with community-based organizations and public-private partnerships to provide students, their families and the community access to comprehensive services.''

The language specifies that the grants must be used to provide not fewer than three services selected from a variety of selective services, including community service, service learning opportunities, nutrition services, job training and career counseling, primary health and dental care, mental health counseling services adult language, including instruction in English as a Second Language.

I am concerned we are moving schools away from focusing on the basics, academics. Our schools still have room for much improvement in ensuring all students are proficient in the basics of math, reading, writing, science and history. So why is the Federal Government sending money to turn schools into social, medical, educational job training hubs?

I am also concerned about the unsettling prospect of having adult, nonfamily members of the community regularly visiting school grounds for job training and medical and mental health services when young children and teenagers are present. Combining schools with health care and other social services for community residents poses a danger to students that would need to be addressed in any future legislation.

Since 1965, Congress has increased the role of the Federal Government in public primary and secondary education, as well as in higher education. If history has taught us anything about education, it's that the proliferation of Federal programs and regulations has not improved education. In a time where the Federal Government continues to spend more and more and expand its reach with very limited results, I question the need for us to meddle in affairs such as this.

With this in mind, my amendment would transfer $10 million from the Fund for the Improvement of Education to IDEA grants. These grants help States and localities pay for the rising cost of special education for 6.9 million children with disabilities.

While my amendment adds only a small amount to these State grants, any amounts are helpful in fully funding Congress' commitment to fund 40 percent of the average per-pupil excess cost of educating students with disabilities.

IDEA part B grants to States is funded at only $11.29 billion, which is $7 billion or 41 percent below the 2007 authorized level of $19.2 billion. I urge my colleagues to vote for this amendment to ensure that any full-service community school legislation goes forward through the proper authorizing process, not through the appropriations

process, and we put money where it's desperately needed, as we all know from hearing from the schools in our districts.

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

Mr. OBEY. In reserving my point of order, I would like to ask a question of the gentlewoman. Does she have a score from the CBO?

Ms. FOXX. I do. We would actually save $1 million with this amendment.

Mr. OBEY. So the CBO indicates that the amendment is outlay neutral?

Ms. FOXX. Yes.

Mr. OBEY. If that is the case, then I withdraw my reservation.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The reservation of a point of order is withdrawn.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. There are two problems I have with this amendment. First of all, it seeks to cut $10 million from an item in the bill which is meant to establish full-service community schools. These are supposed to be schools which test the concept of making schools neighborhood centers which include early childhood education, remedial education, academic enrichment activities, programs that promote parental involvement and family literacy, mentoring and other youth development programs. It's meant to be a much more holistic educational experience than is usually found in an individual school. We believe that that deserves an opportunity to be tested.

Secondly, I would simply say that, lest this amendment be portrayed as an amendment that does anything significant for special education, I want to point out that this is an especially marginal amendment. The damage it does to the neighborhood school concept that we are trying to explore in the bill is far larger than the negligible impact that it has on the special education program.

What I mean by that is this: Special education is an $11 billion program. This amendment adds $10 million to it. It is another one of those symbolic amendments which I think ought to be placed in context.

The committee has already increased this account by $500 million. It is $800 million above the President, and it seems to me that, by comparison, the amendment is demonstrably but a blip on the radar screen in comparison to the funds that we have already put in this bill.

Now, I know that many of these amendments can be offered, and they can be converted into nice, sweetly packaged 30-second TV spots which tend to leave the impression that a Member has done something significant. Unfortunately, this amendment doesn't fit into that category of being significant, and it may make a very good television spot, but I doubt it's going to be very meaningful in the scheme of things.

I would ask for a ''no'' vote.

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

Mr. WALSH of New York. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak in support of this amendment. I hadn't intended to, but I think it's a good amendment, partially because it provides additional funds to IDEA.

In committee, we amended the bill to add $335,000,000 more to IDEA. This is a small one, but it's helpful. More importantly, this concept of community schools is a wonderful concept. But that's what we have committees for, committees of jurisdiction, to vet these ideas.

In my hometown of Syracuse, there's lots of talk about community schools. Remembering that primary and secondary education is a responsibility of the municipality, the county and the State and not of the Federal Government is an important thing to consider. A community school in Syracuse is very different than a community school in Maryland or California or Arizona.

But more importantly than all of that is that our schools, especially our inner-city schools, are having a very difficult job graduating the kids now. In fact, many of our urban schools aren't even graduating 50 percent of the kids who start in ninth grade. That's a fact. No one is comfortable with that fact, but it is a fact.

So why would you provide or require or suggest to a school that is already only attaining 50 percent of its responsibility with its primary task, why would you give them additional work? Why would you give them additional responsibilities? Maybe there's good reason for that, but there is certainly a committee structure. The education committee has plenty of experts and staff to try to determine the best way to approach this.

I admire the author of the concept's ingenuity, but this really needs to go through committee to have proper authorization. Absent that, I think this is a good idea. Ten million dollars will go into a program that everyone knows needs more money, that we are putting additional burdens on those local school districts by not providing this money. It would provide some relief to them to meet their primary task of educating our kids. So I think this is a very good amendment. I strongly support it.

Mr. Chairman, I yield at this time to the author of this amendment such time as she may consume.

Ms. FOXX. I appreciate the ranking member for yielding time to me.

I want to say that I am very troubled by the fact that the terms that are being used here that we want to test, creating holistic educational experiences, that's one of the problems, again, with the Federal Government being involved in the education process. It is not up to us to be doing that. The testing needs to be done at the local level.

There are programs. North Carolina has a tremendous number of programs where it's working through community centers, sometimes at schools, most of the time not, where they are trying to do these kinds of things. We don't need to be funding this at the Federal level. If the States want to do it, they ought to be doing it.

I think that calling this a symbolic amendment is a denigration it doesn't deserve. This is a serious amendment. We are violating our processes. We are violating what we say we are going to do here. Appropriations bills should not be authorizing bills. We separate that process.

I have not been here very long, and I know I don't know all the rules and the way things are done, but I noticed that the chairman reserved a point of order, but they were able to the waive points of orders in order to authorize. So when the majority wants to break the rules, it easily breaks the rules to try to accomplish what it wants to accomplish when it can't accomplish it the other way. So I am very concerned about it. I think this is a very valid amendment done very seriously.

I haven't sat over here for a couple of hours and haven't worked on this for many hours to think that it is frivolous or simply symbolic. It's an important thing. And I don't appreciate the amendment being denigrated in the way it has been denigrated by the chairman of the committee.

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Maryland is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chairman, this concept of community schools Mr. WALSH correctly refers to is a concept that is present in many States, many communities.

□ 1345

My wife Judy was the supervisor of early childhood education in Prince Georges County, Maryland, just down the road. She started a concept in our county of full service schools, community schools. There are now 24 Judy Centers in the State of Maryland. Maryland has paid for them, started them.

The problem with a full service community school, as Judy found out and as all of us know, is the turf battles. The turf battles are ferocious. Some people have made fun of the fact that it takes a village to raise a child. Now, obviously, hopefully every child has a good parent. But we have many services available to make sure that our young people, when they get to the ninth grade, are ready to succeed in the ninth and 10th and 11th and 12th

grades. But those services in many communities are discordant and not coordinated. So the concept of a full service or a community school is to bring together services, not in a forced way, but in a cooperative way.

Now, the gentlelady refers to the authorization on the appropriation bill. I know that the ranking member is shocked by that ever happening. I remember, perhaps before the gentlelady got here, when Bill Frist added 40 pages in the dead of night of authorizing language to an appropriation bill just a few years ago to preclude insurance company liability.

The fact of the matter is this $10 million in NIE is to encourage, facilitate cooperation, not to mandate spending more money; but to encourage educators, social services, child care providers, other services, as they have in the State of New York. I have visited some of them in the city.

So I would hope that we would not take this $10 million and add it to an $11 billion program. A critically important program, the gentlelady is absolutely correct, but it is a program that is funded $800 million more than President Bush asked for by this bill. And in order to add that $10 million to an $11 billion program, you will undermine the effort to see if we can create cooperation, in effect magnifying the role of each as they cooperate with one another. That is the concept, and it is a concept that works.

Superintendent Grasmick in my State has talked about this concept all over this country. I have talked about it to Secretary Spelling; I have talked about it to their predecessors. In fact, we did pass a bill through the House that didn't make it through conference which LYNN WOOLSEY had sponsored which had this concept. It is a concept that the Education and Labor Committee is now considering. They may go much broader than this.

But this is what NIE is all about. It is trying to facilitate better ways to deliver education to our children. And I remind the gentleman from New York, who is my friend and I am pleased to see him as the ranking member, but we do participate significantly in the education of children in this country, particularly children at risk. That is what this attempts to do as well, to magnify the services available, coordinate them, bring them together so they are accessible by people who can't get in their car at $3.15, and drive from this place to the other place to the other place to get services for their children.

So I would hope, ladies and gentlemen of this House, that we would reject this amendment. I thank the chairman for including this provision in the bill, and I would hope that the amendment would be rejected.

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FERGUSON. I yield to the gentlelady from North Carolina.

Ms. FOXX. I thank my colleague for yielding to me. And I want to say again that I am sorry that my colleague from Maryland is not aware of this really excellent program that exists in North Carolina called Smart Start, which did this back in 1995, where we pulled together these different agencies to work together on this very good concept. But it is being done in States without Federal dollars, and I would urge the people in Maryland to look at that concept and deal with it.

I want to say that I am very concerned again, not by your comments but by the comments of the chairman, about the denigration of the allocation of $10 million as negligible. That is the attitude of people from Washington that adding $10 million is negligible. That is hard for people who are paying their taxes every day to understand that. I am sure that the teachers and parents of special needs students who are getting just a small percentage of money already authorized by this Federal Government to do what we are demanding that they do, they are not getting all their money.

Now, I commend the majority party for increasing the spending in this area, but it is the biggest complaint that I get when I talk to people about what is happening in education and the Federal role. So I think we need to put every dime we can possibly find into authorized programs already that are not spending what they should be spending. And I would say, I find it hard to look in the eyes of the parent of a special needs child or the teacher of a special needs child and say: We had an opportunity to give you 10 million more dollars and it was turned down; because they are there, and they need it.

Mr. FERGUSON. Reclaiming my time, I would be happy to yield to the majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. I would simply say to the gentlelady, it so happens I have known two of your Governors pretty well, once as a young person, Terry Sanford, and as a contemporary of Jim Hunt, who was a good friend of mine for the last 45 years.

You mentioned the programs that you have in North Carolina. BOBBY ETHERIDGE, of course one of the former superintendents of your State's system, your State has been an innovative, progressive leader in education and Jim Hunt has been one of the educational leaders in our country. I have no doubt, because I have worked with him over the last 20 years that I have been in Congress on various programs while he was Governor and since then, that, yes, you have moved ahead in North Carolina, but you have also done it in partnership with many Federal programs. I know that because I have worked with your Governor on that. I simply wanted to make that point. Again, this is a partnership. And I thank my friend for yielding.

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

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I would like to engage the distinguished chairman, Mr. OBEY, in a colloquy regarding strengthening of the Children's Graduate Medical Education Program, as well as enhancing Federal support for health information technology.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. WALSH of New York. Mr. Chairman, I would like to state a parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentlewoman yield for that purpose?

Ms. ESHOO. I do.

Mr. WALSH of New York. The question is, have we disposed of the pending amendment before the Committee?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. We have not.

Mr. WALSH. Is this statement by the gentlelady from California in regards to this amendment?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Apparently not.

Mr. WALSH of New York. I would respectfully request that we return to the amendment before we continue the conversation.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman has begun.

Ms. ESHOO. I am sorry, I didn't hear.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct. However, the gentlewoman has begun her statement. At the conclusion of her remarks, the Chair will put the question on the amendment.

Ms. ESHOO. I will be as brief as possible so that we can get back to what was being debated.

I want to thank Mr. OBEY for including $307 million for the Children's Graduate Medical Education Program. While this amount is less than the $330 million authorized by Congress last year, it is obviously a good improvement over the levels proposed by the President, which is $110 million, and the Senate Appropriations Committee, which is $200 million.

The reason I wanted to have the colloquy is to go on record, urge the chairman to do everything he can to not only maintain the House's funding level when the bill goes to conference, and perhaps even be able to do more.

I think that we all have a healthy understanding of what the Children's Hospitals GME represents. It has been an outstanding success. It is important to note that Children's Hospitals receive 80 percent of what other teaching hospitals receive on average from Medicare's Graduate Medical Education Program.

In recent years, Children's Hospitals have been able to sustain and improve their training programs so that the shortages of pediatric specialists in our country can be addressed. The program has also indirectly strengthened Children's Hospitals as premier pediatric

centers of excellence. They are the safety net for low-income children in their communities and they are the centers of pediatric research as well.

So I want to thank the chairman for everything he has done to fully fund the program this year, and I would be happy to yield to him.

Mr. OBEY. Let me simply say I agree with the gentlelady from California. The Children's GME is integral to ensuring a stable future for our children's hospitals and is a sound investment in children's health. I certainly will do everything I can to ensure that sufficient funding levels for Children's Hospitals GME are retained in conference.

Ms. ESHOO. I thank the chairman. I also want to raise the issue about my strong support for increased funding for Health Information Technology, often referred to as Health IT.

The adoption, I believe, of electronic health record systems I think will have a profound effect on the health care delivery in our country. I believe it will enhance patient safety, reduce medical errors, and improve the quality of care.

For several years, the administration and the Congress have not committed enough funds to make this promise a reality in our country. I recognize the continued commitment to HIT that is in this year's Labor-HHS bill, $61 million, and I think we need to make a greater investment to make this a reality because it not only needs to be launched effectively, because we have to have interoperability, and without it we really won't have a Health IT system.

So I want to thank the committee, most especially the chairman, for weeding through what is really a difficult bill to put together because we are constrained moneywise. But if there is any opportunity at conference, I want to urge optimizing that possibility.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I simply want to thank my colleague from California for bringing this important matter to the attention of the House. The gentlelady is a strong advocate for the establishment of a robust and interoperable health information technology network, and I want to work with her. I will be pleased to consider this funding need should additional funds become available in conference.

Ms. ESHOO. I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

□ 1400

AMENDMENT NO. 49 OFFERED BY MR. SHADEGG

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Chairman, I have a point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. SHADEGG. I was standing and I have an amendment that goes to page 82.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman have the amendment at the desk?

Mr. SHADEGG. Yes, I do.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman was on his feet when the Clerk was reading.

The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 49 offered by Mr. SHADEGG: Page 82, line 6 after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,695,000)''.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman reserves a point of order.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be read, not designated.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Chairman, I hope that this is a simple and straightforward amendment. It is premised on the notion, not that the program doesn't work, but rather, that when the task is finished, the funding should stop.

This program, the Advanced Credentialing Program, was established by the Congress to develop teacher standards and to have those standards developed by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or other nationally certification or credentialing organizations. That task has, in fact, been accomplished.

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, a private body, has received more than $180 million from the Department of Education since 1991. These Federal funds supported the development and implementation of the certification standards and assessments in 24 different academic fields. That task has now been completed.

In addition, since the legislation called for such standards to be established by other nationally recognized certification or credentialing organizations, the Department awarded $32.8 million in a 5-year grant to the American Board for the Certification of Teacher Excellence. That board will receive the final year of its funding in Fiscal Year 2007.

By Fiscal Year 2008, the American Board for the Certification of Teacher Excellence will have successfully completed the development and implementation of its teacher credential system. As a result, State and local teaching organizations, educational agencies, will have not one but two different sets of standards to pick from, one developed by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and one developed by the American Board for the Certification of Teacher Excellence. I believe when the task has been completed, it is important that we stop the funding.

I want to make clear that the purpose of this amendment is not to eliminate funding for States to encourage teachers to receive advanced degrees or to assist them in that endeavor.

My wife is a teacher. She has a master's degree. She received her advanced credentialing in order to improve her education and her ability to serve as a teacher, but the task has now been accomplished.

The Department, as well, supports giving States and districts more tools to help them identify and retain effective teachers. Indeed, the 2008 budget requests $2.8 billion for the improving teacher quality State grants program and an additional $199 million for the teacher incentive program. These programs combined provide flexible sources for State and local education agencies to use to improve their teacher recruitment and retention systems according to their own needs.

The goal of this amendment is to simply acknowledge that the creation of the standards has been accomplished and accomplished by two different entities, the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) and the American Board for the Certification of Teacher Excellence.

In addition, I would note for anyone concerned about this that the effects of the NBPTS credential system on student achievement have been somewhat mixed. There are studies that show it has been somewhat helpful. However, the studies have found the positive effects are very small and that they are neither large enough nor consistent enough to justify further Federal funding beyond that which is provided in the existing $2.8 billion for improving teacher quality State grants, and the $199 million that I already referred to in teacher incentive fund training.

I do wish, at this point, that I had reallocated the $10.7 million that would be saved by this amendment to Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Having listened to the discussion of the last bill, I note that IDEA is underfunded. It has all been underfunded, and I wish that I had cast this amendment in that fashion. I did not do so but I, nonetheless, would encourage its adoption and would encourage, perhaps, those at conference to take that $10.7 million and to add it to IDEA funding.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman continue to reserve his point of order?

Mr. OBEY. I withdraw my point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I can't believe my ears. I just thought I heard the gentleman say that IDEA was underfunded. I'm shocked. I've never heard the gentleman say that anything was underfunded before.

Mr. SHADEGG. Will the gentleman yield?

I certainly believe IDEA is underfunded. I know in my school districts in my schools there is a crying need.

Mr. OBEY. Let me take back my time because I only have 5 minutes. But I agree with the gentleman. Many programs are underfunded in this bill.

Let me simply say, Mr. Chairman, that I would certainly support the gentleman's amendment if I thought that we had all of the excellent teachers in the country that we need, but the fact is we don't.

This is not a program that should be cut back or eliminated. This is a program that works. This is a program which helps teach trainers to go through rigorous certification processes. They are star teachers. They go back to their school districts, they become lead teachers in their schools, and I hardly think that that is damaging the national interest.

And I must also confess a certain amount of confusion, because just about an hour ago we were told by a series of Members that we should support the teacher incentive program because we needed to incentivize teachers to increase their skills. And now we have a program that does just that and identifies teachers based on merit, and we're told we ought to cut back the program.

Let me simply say that if you take a look at the way this program has been evaluated, the National Boards for Professional Teaching Standards tells us that this program raises student achievement. It inspires deeper learning. It improves teacher practice. It creates transformative professional development, and it helps these schools to retain teachers.

Let me say that there is a tiny increase in this program. That increase is aimed at helping teachers from low-income schools get master teacher certification.

We've been told for years that the toughest thing to do in education is to get your best teachers to go into your poorest schools or the schools in your poorest neighborhoods. This is a program that's effective in doing that. We ought not to throw the baby out with the bath water.

I would urge opposition to the amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 50 OFFERED BY MR. WESTMORELAND

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 50 offered by Mr. WESTMORELAND:

Page 82, line 6 after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $23,533,000)''.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order, and I would ask unanimous consent that the Clerk read the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A point of order is reserved.

Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I withdraw my point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The point of order is withdrawn.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Chairman, this is a simple amendment. We've listened to the other side talk about, I guess, some of us maybe being disingenuous or doing different things with this amendment. And the gentleman from Ohio talked about a fringe group over here, and I'm happy to be part of that fringe group. The Republican Study Committee I guess is who he was talking about in that we're trying to look after the taxpayers' money.

For the past 12 years, I would have to admit, although I've only been here three of those years, that we spent too much money. We expanded government too much, and we didn't do what we should have been doing. But it's good, because I think a lot of people woke up after the last election and realized that we had lost our brand of being fiscal conservatives, being responsible with the taxpayers' money, because it's not our money, it's their money, they work hard for it every day, and that we need to be more responsible with it.

And I think that the President got that message. And in this budget, he cut the funding for the writing instruction. It's $23.5 million, or a very, very small percentage of the $152 billion budget that the majority party is offering for this appropriations bill, which is $11 billion more than the President offered. And, you know, it doesn't hurt to zero a program out if it's not working or not doing its job, or if the money can better be spent somewhere else in a different program, something that has more advantages for more people.

Under titles II, III and IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Federal Government provides extensive support to States and operates numerous programs designed to enhance teacher recruiting and training.

While many of these programs provide important services, States would be well served to receive this funding in the form of a block grant with increased flexibility to use these funds on the programs most needed in that State.

Mr. Chairman, I know from talking to my local school board superintendents and school board members that they certainly agree with that. No Child Left Behind, while working in a lot of situations, has cost them more money, really, to implement those programs than they receive in Federal dollars because a lot of that money is, has to be spent in a certain area.

This would be an opportunity that we could take this very, very small amount out. The President recommended a zero. It was funded at $21.7 million last year, so there's been a 10 percent increase this year, and just zero the program out.

And so it's a pretty simple amendment. It puts back the writing instruction program back to zero, where the President put it, and I hope that my colleagues will finally decide, let's vote for one thing that actually cuts something.

I know one appropriations bill, Mr. Chairman, we were talking about, and I believe the chairman of the committee said they had cut 250 programs. And I asked for a list of those programs. Haven't received it yet. So, hopefully this will encourage him to support this amendment, because it is zeroing out a program, and also get me the list of the other 250 programs that this Congress has cut so far this year.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, let me assure the gentleman that his party did not lose the last election because they did too much for education. Rather, they lost the last election, in my view, because the public so clearly understood that their party preferred to put spending $57 billion in tax cuts for people who make over $1 million to providing decent funding for education.

□ 1415

And the public understood that the other party preferred to spend $600 billion in Iraq rather than spending a small portion of that at home for science and health care and the like to meet some of the needs of our own people. That is why the gentleman's party lost the last election, not because they did too much for education but because they were out of touch.

Having said that, let me simply say that this amendment eliminates funding for the National Writing Project. I would simply point out that this program supports teacher training programs so that teachers can help students write effectively and school districts match those funds dollar for dollar.

I must say all of us have large turnover of our staff here on Capitol Hill. The number one problem that I have in my office and the number one problem I have heard so many other Members comment on is that when young people come in and interview for jobs, they don't know how to write.

When both of my sons went away to college, at least my oldest son asked me, ''Dad, what do you think is the most important thing to learn?''

And I said, I think the most important thing to learn is how to write because if you can write clearly, it means you are thinking clearly, and if you are thinking clearly, it means you can communicate. And I would say that I don't think that this country is over blessed with a number of great writers. I also must say if you listen to some of the congressional speeches written by our staffs, you would certainly agree that we need more help in writing in this country.

So let me simply say that I understand that we are engaged in a little filibuster by amendment. But nonetheless, I wanted to take this time to simply urge Members to vote against this amendment. If you believe in raising the quality of discourse in this country, you have to start with writing, and that is what this program tries to do.

I would urge a ''no'' vote on the amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

For carrying out activities authorized by subpart 3 of part C of title II (20 U.S.C. 6711 et seq.), part A of title IV (20 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), subpart 2 of part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7245), subpart 3 of part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7247), and subpart 10 of part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7261 et seq.) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (''ESEA''), $714,075,000, of which $300,000,000 shall become available on July 1, 2008, and remain available through September 30, 2009: *Provided*, That $300,000,000 shall be available for subpart 1 of part A of title IV of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7111 et seq.) and $222,335,000 shall be available for subpart 2 of part A of title IV of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7131 et seq.), of which $5,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the Project School Emergency Response to Violence program to provide education-related services to local educational agencies, and institutions of higher education, in which the learning environment has been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis: *Provided further*, That $158,422,000 shall be available to carry out part D of title V of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7241 et seq.): *Provided further*, That of the funds available to carry out subpart 3 of part C of title II of ESEA (20 U.S.C. 6711 et seq.), up to $12,072,000 may be used to carry out section 2345 (20 U.S.C. 6715) and $3,025,000 shall be used by the Center for Civic Education to implement a comprehensive program to improve public knowledge, understanding, and support of the Congress and the State legislatures.

AMENDMENT NO. 52 OFFERED BY MR. BRADY OF TEXAS

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 52 offered by Mr. BRADY of Texas:

Page 83, lines 14 and 15, after each dollar amount, insert ''(reduced $72,674,000)''.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Chairman, the Carol White Physical Education Program was named after a longstanding and dedicated public servant here on Capitol Hill. Carol White, a long-time Chief of Staff for Senator TED STEVENS, who aptly named this program because they have dedicated their lives to trying to make this country better inside our schools and out. This program provides the funding basically to help schools initiate and expand their physical education programs, which is just a great goal, and many of the grants have been used for playground equipment on schools.

Physical education is important. I think we all know that. Our young people are becoming more and more static between video games and television shows and sometimes lack of outdoor recreation. We are seeing more obesity. It is important that PE be part of an integral curriculum of our schools. In fact, our States and local districts have targeted PE as an area that they want to reintroduce back to the curriculum for our children.

The only reason I raise this program up is to have some type of thoughtful debate about who should fund PE programs and, more importantly, what should our Federal priorities be.

I ask that because I know that today we are running a deficit. We have a major national debt. I know that every dollar that we spend above the deficit, and we will run a deficit again with the budget we are discussing today, but I know that every dollar that goes to our public debt is picked up by these same children we are trying to help where it will result in a tax increase for families. So it seems right and proper that we scrutinize every program regardless of how much we might admire the person it is named after.

This program has been rated by the program assessment rating tool as the results not demonstrated at this point. I imagine that is why the President did not request funding for it. Like the chairman, who has identified apparently 200 or more programs for dismissal, we have to make tough choices.

What we are seeking here is a simple question. In our rural schools and our smaller schools, they have the money to buy playground equipment or to build a swingset for kids. What they don't have is money to hire a special needs teacher. What they don't have is money to help kids read and write at grade level. What they don't have is money to help try to prevent the dropouts that are hitting our schools and a case where nearly half of our minorities in eighth grade or ninth and graduating to 12th grade. It just seems to me that from the Federal funding level, our local schools can afford a playground set. What we need to help them with is what they can't afford, which are teachers to help our special needs kids; equipment to help our kids with disabilities; teachers in science, in math, and technology subjects; food for kids who come to school hungry. Despite the merits and the goal which are so laudable for this program, it seems to me that we ought to set our highest priorities to help schools with what they cannot do today, which really is to help our kids read and write, to help our special needs students reach their potential, to try to stop this horrendous dropout rate in America.

So I would propose that we, as the President suggested, not fund this program, reserve those resources. And, again, these are tough choices you always have to make through the process. It is not much fun either way. I am sure the chairman did not delight in cutting any of the programs that he had proposed. It is just a way that we try to get closer to a balanced budget and try to prioritize where we fund our schools and our kids and, again, try to make the greatest use of every tax dollar we have.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, the gentleman's amendment is not a healthy amendment.

As you pointed out, our children are more complacent than ever. Sometimes it is because of video games. In some parts of the country, it is because the streets aren't safe. In other parts of the country, it is because children are latchkey and moms and dads want to know where they are while they are working. So obesity is becoming a huge problem in this country. And in order for children to really be ready and prepared to learn, they have to be physically fit. They go together. I taught school. They go hand in hand.

The CDC has made childhood obesity and the obesity that is already occurring with adults a challenge for our country to get ahold of if we are going to be competitive, if we are going to have a healthy workforce, and if we are going to control our health care costs. What has happened with the No Child Left Behind Act, it was under funded by this Congress. It didn't come up

with the dollars that the President promised. So school district after school district after school district, in order to balance their ledger with this unfunded mandate, have been cutting arts and they have been cutting physical education.

Now, I am pleased to hear that in your district you are able to maintain a phys ed teacher and you are able to maintain the things that you need to keep your children fit. But district after district has been cutting phys ed in order to pay for the unfunded tests in No Child Left Behind. And childhood obesity is a problem.

This might be the first generation that does not live as long as their parents. Now, my children and the children in my neighborhood, I would like to see them not only outlive me but outlive me in a very, very healthy lifestyle. And physical education is part of learning, mind and body, in order to be productive and healthy. This is going to keep America healthy, but it is also going to keep our health care costs down, which we know we have to get under control.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I would just like to bring to the House the following facts: We have been at this bill now for the better part of yesterday. We have been on this bill since 10:30 this morning, and we have been trying to negotiate a unanimous consent agreement so that Members might be able to leave here tomorrow night. I know there is a CODEL of Members going to Iraq but I want to put them on notice now. I doubt very much that you are going to make it unless you want to miss a lot of votes because as things are developing, I am told that right now, because of the insistence that a number of amendments, which we have heard time and time again, will still be subjected to 40 minutes' debate time even though there are five similar amendments, each of which will take about 40 minutes. When you calculate it all, it comes out to about 800 minutes of debate time. That means roughly 13 hours. By the time you account for slippage, the time it takes for Members to be recognized, the time it takes for them to find their amendments, you have to add about another 5 hours plus your voting time.

What that means is that if we continue until 1 o'clock this morning, it will still probably be required for Members to be here until about 8 o'clock or later tomorrow night, which means that we will finish just in time for you to all miss your planes.

I just wanted you to know that so that if you think that you would like to see another result, you talk to individuals who right now seem to think that 40 minutes' time on a repetitive amendment is more important than ending a filibuster by amendment.

Two years ago when this bill was on the floor, it took about 12 hours. At this rate it will take about three times that amount of time. So I want Members who are coming up to me asking me about whether they are going to be able to make their planes or their CODELs, I want them to understand that if they miss them, I want them to know who to blame because it is not going to be me.

□ 1430

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I will not use the whole 5 minutes. I just want to make one point.

The gentlelady from Minnesota, I believe, who was just speaking, I want to concur with a portion of her remarks with, A, the remarks with regard to the physical problem with childhood obesity in the country, and that is of a concern nationally. And, B, the problem that she set out with regard to NCLB not funding to the level necessary so that school districts across the country are put in what you might call a catch-22 situation.

And a catch-22 is, okay, do we, A, comply with NCLB? In which case we spend a lot of our own money on tests, fourth and 8th grade reading and math tests; or, B, if you don't comply with it, then of course you get written up in the local newspaper because your school failed, or your school didn't do very well on the test and you've become an underperforming school. And, instead, provide the funds where you would like to put them, which may well be in physical education programs.

So I concur with her comments on that and suggest that the solution to the problem may be multifaceted. Part of it is the gentleman's amendment right here can be one aspect to address it. And I support the gentleman's amendment to make sure that the dollars that are coming from the Federal Government go to those programs that are effectively getting the job done, including the issue of physical education and childhood obesity and what have you. And just like all the other amendments, I'm sure the gentleman will concur that you want to make sure that the money goes to those programs that really accomplish something, and are not duplicative.

The other aspect of the problem, however, is with NCLB and the burden that they put on the schools as saying, do I do this or do I do that; do I comply with NCLB, or do I do what I really want to do locally? And I think the answer to that is to say this: NCLB is just too top town, ordering the schools, basically you've got to do this or you've got to do that when, with all due respect to all the educated, I'll say bureaucrats, who are in the U.S. Department of Education and in all due respect to the Secretary of Education, a very nice lady and well-intentioned, the people who really can decide where the dollars can be spent best is the teacher in the classroom, the local school board in conjunction with the parents. They know whether their school has more of a problem in the area of childhood obesity than other schools. I find that, from the studies that I've seen, that it is in certain areas of States and certain demographic regions as opposed to other ones. Those are the people who really know how to decide these things.

And so I would concur with the gentlelady from Minnesota and suggest that the solution is, A, put the money where the dollar should go to effectively; and, B, get out from under the rubric of NCLB and just let the schools, the teachers, the parents, the local school boards first and foremost make those decisions, because they know best.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY).

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Chairman, I rise to enter into a colloquy with the chairman of the committee, Mr. OBEY.

Mr. OBEY. I'm happy to engage the gentleman.

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Chairman, Oconaluftee Job Corps Center in Cherokee, North Carolina, has served a vital role in providing opportunity and direction to the young people of western North Carolina. This center has operated under the control of the National Parks Service along with the Harpers Ferry Job Corps Center and the Great Onyx Jobs Corps Center in Mammoth Cave, Kentucky.

Mr. Chairman, all three of these centers face uncertain future. Earlier this year, the Department of Labor closed the Oconaluftee center without warning, citing safety concerns. The U.S. Forest Service has expressed interest in fixing these safety concerns and reopening the Oconaluftee center. The U.S. Forest Service has also proposed to assume management of the other two centers. The National Park Service has stated it is willing to transition these three centers to the Forest Service.

The U.S. Forest Service has a longstanding tradition of quality and service in the Appalachian region.

Mr. Chairman, the Senate Interior Appropriations bill contains language directing the Park Service to transfer control of these three Job Corps centers to the U.S. Forest Service. The community surrounding the Oconaluftee Job Corps Center is in favor of this transition.

Mr. Chairman, would you be willing to work with me to ensure that this language is included in the final conference version of this bill?

Mr. OBEY. If the gentleman would yield, I would like to thank the gentleman for bringing to our attention the important work that the U.S. Forest Service has done in running its 19 Job Corps centers.

I have reviewed the provision in the Senate Interior Appropriations bill. I support retaining the language in conference that directs the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to execute an agreement to transfer the three Job Corps centers currently administered by the National Park Service to the U.S. Forest Service.

I hope the Department of Labor will recognize the merits of this approach which I understand was successful in another case involving the Mingo Job Corps Center in Missouri several years ago.

I also understand that the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture support this approach and expect to work cooperatively with the Secretary of Labor on this matter.

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Chairman, thank you for your continued cooperation and help.

Mr. OBEY. I thank the gentleman.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

For carrying out part A of title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6811 et seq.), $774,614,000, which shall become available on July 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, except that 6.5 percent of such amount shall be available on October 1, 2007, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, to carry out activities under section 3111(c)(1)(C) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 6821(c)(1)(C)).

SPECIAL EDUCATION

For carrying out the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.), $12,310,831,000, of which $5,467,594,000 shall become available on July 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, and of which $6,641,982,000 shall become available on October 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, for academic year 2008–2009: *Provided*, That $11,880,000 shall be for the activities authorized by section 674(c)(1)(D) of such Act: *Provided further*, That the amount for section 611(b)(2) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1411(b)(2)) shall be equal to the lesser of the amount available for that activity during fiscal year 2007, increased by the amount of inflation as specified in section 619(d)(2)(B) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1419(d)(2)(B)) or the percentage increase in the funds appropriated under section 611(i) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1411(i)).

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FERGUSON

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order, and I would ask that the Clerk read the amendment. We don't have a copy.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman reserves a point of order.

The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. FERGUSON:

Page 84, line 24, after the aggregate dollar amount insert ''(increased by $50,000,000)''.

Page 92, line 17, after the first dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $50,000,000)''.

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer this amendment to this important bill that would add an additional $50 million to help American students who require special education.

First, I want to commend the chairman of the committee and the ranking member for their outstanding efforts to recognize that insufficient funds for special education that are so desperately needed in this country, I know that in committee they added an additional $335 million to IDEA, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. But having talked to and listened to the stories from teachers and educators and parents from my district and elsewhere who work in special education in my home State of New Jersey, I believe we must try to do even more, and we can certainly do more to recognize the important needs of these particular students and these particular programs.

Mr. Chairman, Congress, in 1975, enacted the landmark IDEA, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which mandated that every student, including those students who have special needs or disabilities will receive a quality and appropriate public education. The law also committed the Federal Government to contribute 40 percent of special education costs, which are often several times higher than the cost of educating other students.

Washington, of course, has never met this long-standing, but unfulfilled, commitment to aid States in paying for special education. And as a former teacher, I know firsthand the value of education for every student and the importance of ensuring that every child, including those who have disabilities, experience the thrill of learning.

School administrators and teachers and parents all across my district tell me that more special education funding is needed to meet the growing demands in our schools. As teachers seek to improve academic standards and accountability, increased Federal special education funding is critically important to help schools to meet these important obligations to special education students and their families.

Washington, as we know, has never met that 40 percent funding threshold. And while Federal education funding has increased by more than 258 percent between 1995 and 2006, this year it still only represents 17.2 percent of the cost of serving students with disabilities.

My home State of New Jersey is a national leader in special education. Parents with kids who have special needs and disabilities literally move into our State. They come to New Jersey, particularly parents who have children with autism, they literally move to New Jersey so their kids can enroll in our State's special education programs.

This year alone, New Jersey education officials estimate that they're going to spend more than $4 billion in combined Federal, State and local funds to administer special ed programs to almost 250,000 students. Of course there's more than 7 million students nationwide who qualify for these programs.

Mr. Chairman, I have been in this House for 6½ years. And I know that certain years funding levels for special education have been increased and other years they have not been increased. It can be fairly characterized as kind of going in fits and starts. Some years we've made big and new investments, and other years, frankly, we haven't.

Six years ago, when I first came to this House and to this Chamber, the first bill I ever introduced in this body was a bill that would fully fund our special education classrooms. I did it with the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY). He and I have worked together, and I know many others have worked together, to work to fully fund our special education classrooms. Indeed, today I remain and I am the lead Republican sponsor of legislation right now that would fully fund our special education classrooms. But despite many of our best efforts, we have not reached that goal yet. And I know that the chairman, the gentleman from Wisconsin, and the ranking member, Mr. WALSH from New York, they have made extraordinary efforts toward this goal as well.

The spirit of this amendment, my amendment, is to make for this year one additional effort to move us in the right direction. Like many of you, I've been in these classrooms. I've observed some of our special needs kids in action. I've seen the heroic efforts of their parents and their teachers and the administrators who work so hard to give them the chance at success in life that they really need and deserve.

We've done some to help them. And this bill today, frankly, does even more. But thanks to the efforts of Chairman OBEY and Mr. WALSH, and others, I really know we are working hard toward this goal. But I respectfully ask that we try to do just a little bit more this year, and by approving this amendment we will be able to do that.

I ask my colleagues respectfully to support this important amendment so that we can say we did everything we probably could to help these students who need that extra chance in life.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman continue to reserve?

Mr. OBEY. I withdraw my reservation of the point of order and move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The reservation of the point of order is withdrawn.

The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, let me simply ask the House one question: Do we really know everything that we need to know about how children learn? Do we really know enough about how children learn to guarantee that every child will perform to their maximum ability and potential? I think the answer to that is obvious: we obviously don't.

There is no great political constituency for educational research. But you know it's a funny thing, in any field of endeavor, research is what separates bull gravy from intelligent approaches to issues. That's what research does: it helps lead one to a right understanding of a problem.

What this amendment is, frankly, it's another television ad. What this amendment does is to pretend that it does no damage to education by eliminating $50 million out of the educational research budget. It then puts it into special education.

We have a lot of posing for holy pictures on this floor by Members who are trying to escape the fact that the White House is asking them to vote against this bill because the White House claims there is too much money in the bill when, in fact, every single one of these amendments demonstrates that our own Republican Members know that there is not enough money in this bill to fund programs like special education unless you make damaging cuts to other portions of the bill. And I would suggest that we not do that.

The President cut special education in his budget by $291 million. We have added $800 million in the committee bill to that, and we're $509 million over last year.

I would also point out that this is a 10 percent cut, if this amendment passes, in the research account. And I would point out that this amendment would cut the National Center for Education Statistics, which is the premier educational statistical operation in the country. This amendment would even cut Federal research funds for special education. Do we really know so much about the needs of special education kids that we're going to cut that research? I don't think so.

I think the responsible vote is ''no,'' and I urge a ''no'' vote on the amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FERGUSON).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.), the Assistive Technology Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), and the Helen Keller National Center Act (29 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.), $3,279,743,000: *Provided*, That $30,452,000 shall be used for carrying out the Assistive Technology Act of 1998.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GARRETT OF NEW JERSEY

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, again I reserve a point of order, and I would ask that the Clerk read the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's point of order is reserved.

The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey:

Page 85, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $2,279,000)''.

□ 1445

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I rise right now to offer what really is a modest amendment with the hopes of returning some degree of discipline to the annual appropriation process. When the President submitted his budget request, he proposed the elimination of a number of programs that were duplicative and unable to demonstrate effectiveness or otherwise not worthy of the priority of spending American taxpayers' money.

Generally speaking, with the savings achieved from eliminating ineffective programs, we can use it to do things such as pay off the debt or support programs that have a proven track record of success. I guess that last line I should reiterate: To support programs that already have a track record of success.

As I also often do, I will refer this back and make the analogy back to the American families' budget. This is really no different from what American families do every month at the proverbial dinner table. Think, for example, when it comes to TV. If a family is paying for both cable TV and DirecTV, or what I have in my house, Dish TV, chances are that they would probably decide which service suits them best as a family, and then cut one or both of the other services out. You only need one service coming into the house; cable, Direct, Dish or what have you. That is what a family would do; prioritize them.

Mr. Chairman, given the content of our spending bills, if the Federal Government were a homeowner and how the Federal Government operates now, well, it would pay for both the cable TV, the Dish and DirecTV, and the cable at the same time, satellite, all three or four coming into the house.

If the Federal Government were a family and they continued to operate as they do right now, they would probably decide that they were going to have gas heat in their house and oil heat in their house and electric heat in their house and wood heat as well. It would probably pay to dig for its own water and have a well in the backyard, all the while continuing to pay for city water coming into the house from the front.

That, unfortunately, is how the Federal Government operates itself. I think it is time to change. We do a disservice to the American people by not eliminating duplicative and ineffective programs. It proves that the Federal Government is unaccountable. By increasing the size of the U.S. budget, it takes that money, again, out of the family budget by sending it to Washington as tax dollars.

So the amendment that I am offering now would only reduce this by $2.3 million, out of a $607 billion appropriation. I used the paper before while I was sitting here trying to figure out how much of a percentage of that is. That is a .0002 percentage point reduction. I think what it does do, more importantly, is to make a statement that there are truly areas within the Federal budget where money can be saved.

What my amendment does is restore funding to the level requested in the President's budget. The administration zeroed this account out because it duplicates other Federal programs. The Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers, the MSFW, Program provides discretionary grants to make comprehensive vocational rehabilitation services available to migrant and seasonal farm workers with vocational disabilities. Now, if I ended right there you would think, well, what is wrong with that?

Well, according to the OMB, here is the problem: This program serves the exact same population and provides the exact same services as another separate Federal program already is doing, and that is the Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants Program. The acronym is VR. The authorizing legislation for the VR State Grants Program contains provisions in it to ensure that State VR agencies must reach out and serve all individuals with disabilities within the State. That includes minorities and unserved and underserved populations.

So what this means is that under the MSFW program, which is what we are talking about here, the Federal Government is in essence micromanaging, if you will, what essentially is a State and local government issue that is provided Federal funds through the VR program. The VR State Grants Program in the bill already is expanded by $36 million on top of the increases that were there before in the fiscal year 2007 levels.

So there is little need to be spending an additional $2.3 million on, yet again, a separate program that does essentially the same thing. The government, you see, does not need to buy both cable TV and satellite TV at the same time. The government does not need to

be providing funding for programs that do the exact same thing.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman reserve his point of order?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I withdraw my point of order and would move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman withdraws his point of order.

The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I wonder if anybody remembers these words: ''Whatsoever you do for the least of your brethren, you do for Me.'' I wonder if anybody remembers those words?

This amendment is truly amazing to me. This amendment is offered by a Member of the House, who, like me, any time he has an ache or a pain or a toothache or is having a bad day, can trot down to the Attending Physician and have the doctors and the nurses check us over to make sure that we are in peachy keen shape. But what does this amendment say? This amendment says to some of the poorest people in the country, our migrant and our farm workers, sorry, you can't have vocational rehabilitation services if you've got a physical problem.

I would like to ask every Member of this House, have you ever picked cucumbers during the summer? Have you ever picked beans? Well, I have. I can tell you it is darn hard work. I used to represent a county by the name of Waushara County—wall to wall irrigation and crops like cucumbers and beans. I used to watch those migrant workers come in and work their tails off to get a few bucks.

Are we really so stingy? Are we really so utilitarian that we are willing to say to workers like that, sorry, Members of Congress are important, so they can get taken care of whenever they have got a physical problem. But oh no, don't you dare waste the taxpayers' money when it comes to some poor devil in the migrant stream or when it comes to their family or kids.

You want to vote for this amendment? You go right ahead. Count me out.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I rise to support this amendment, because fundamentally what we are charged with doing here is being responsible with hard-earned taxpayer money. As the gentleman from New Jersey said, it is not responsible to pay for two programs that do the same thing, which is why the administration in its review looked at this program, which is wonderfully named, perfectly appropriate, has a wonderful mission, but the provisions of this program are being accomplished elsewhere in the Federal Government.

Now, it may be hard for the Chair of the Appropriations Committee to believe that there is some duplication in the Federal Government, but it is not hard for the citizens of the Sixth District of Georgia to believe that there is duplication. The name of the program that accomplishes this same end is the Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants Program.

The goal of the gentleman from New Jersey, I don't believe, is to eliminate the ability to have appropriate programs for migrant and seasonal farm workers. That is not the goal at all. The goal is to responsibly spend hard-earned taxpayer money in accomplishing the appropriate priorities of the Federal Government. So to have anybody come to the floor and say that anybody who would support this amendment desires to end the programs for migrant and seasonal farm workers is simply not true and not the case, and it doesn't appropriately represent the amendment of the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. Chairman, I commend him for his desire to make certain that we do not provide duplicative services which are wasteful, wasteful of hard-earned taxpayer money.

I am pleased to yield to my friend from New Jersey.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman from Georgia for yielding.

To answer the question of the gentleman, yes, I have picked vegetables and I have worked on a farm and I have thrown bales of hay and I have worked in the sweltering heat of greenhouses picking vegetables as well. So, yes, I do have that experience. So, yes, I do know of what I speak, to some extent, but never to the extent, I am sure, of the chairman or some of what the people go through in these situations.

The chairman also makes reference to words about being stingy. You know, it is awfully easy, it is awfully easy, to be a generous individual if you are using somebody else's money, and basically that is what Congress does every single day of the year. We come to the floor with the appropriation bills railing about how much more we are spending than last year and saying how generous we are, when in fact these are not our dollars. Despite the statement of the gentleman from Alaska at the last debate, these are the taxpayers' dollars coming in.

So it is easy to be generous with other people's money. What we here as Members of Congress should therefore do is consider ourselves in a position to be wards of that money, protect it and make sure that it goes to the most effective places.

I refer you now to a statement from the administration with reference to this program to point out the necessity of cutting the funding here and making sure there are funds in similar programs. The administration states this: ''This program was established as a demonstration project,'' a demonstration project, ''in the mid-1970s, and it is no longer needed to demonstrate the benefits of these strategies to serve underserved populations such as migrant and seasonal farm workers. Many of the same States have received continued funding over the last 30 years and should be able to effectively serve this population under the VR State Grant Program,'' that program that has continued to be funded in this underlying legislation, that VR program that sees a $36 million or $37 million increase in the funding.

The gentleman from Georgia, when he speaks to what his constituents feel, I wonder what his constituents would feel when they are told that we have a demonstration project established back in 1970 and we are still following that demonstration project to see whether or not it is necessary to run the program.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman for his comments. The point about the demonstration project precisely gets to the point of so many of these programs. We do a poor job as a Federal Government in looking at programs that we put in place as pilots or demonstration projects to determine whether or not their effectiveness has been met.

I will have an amendment in a little bit that addresses a program whose mission and goal has been achieved and yet it continues to have money coming from the Federal Government.

I urge my colleagues to support the amendment of the gentleman from New Jersey.

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

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Chairman, I would just like to address myself to the two gentlemen from New Jersey and from Georgia with a question: Have you ever administered and run a school, a title I school, that has an ESEA program? No.

Mr. Chairman, it is really easy to criticize and throw darts at projects or even employment, if you will, when you have no idea of what you are talking about. I was a principal of two elementary schools. Both were title I schools. Both had ESEA funding. The Federal law at that time, it is probably still in existence, said that Federal funding cannot supplant local funding.

So if you are saying that this is duplicative, it isn't. It is supplementary. It is to enhance the programs that are already existing. And the Federal Government has the responsibility to help programs and help youngsters in this country.

It is common knowledge that the State has the primary responsibility of education in their States, but the Federal Government has responsibility also. And in their good judgment in the past when they established the ESEA programs, they saw the need to help States fulfill their responsibilities.

Mr. Chairman, it is probably easy to poke holes into something you don't know anything about. It is probably even easier to criticize something when you have no experience and no one is going to challenge that.

□ 1500

Mr. Chairman, I am here to challenge their premise, and would ask my colleagues not to support this amendment.

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

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentleman yielding. I didn't want to interrupt your comments, so I waited to be yielded time here just to respond to your statements through the Chair.

No, I have not ever administered or run a school. For that matter, I imagine that out of the 435 Members of Congress, there are probably one or two or three who have ever run or administered a school. And I would hate that to be the barometer or the test that we would have to take before we could ever propose an amendment, vote on an amendment, or even consider legislation that comes before the House. If that were the case, programs like the VR program would never be established in the first place. If the test is whether a Member of Congress has experience in it to propose a new program or expand a program, there is not enough educators here or people who have run title I schools to get the backing of legislation in the first place. So I would question the gentleman's premise.

Now the gentleman on the other hand questions our basic premise for supporting this amendment. Our basic premise is that you don't have to actually run the school to know that perhaps the best way to serve a particular segment of our country is to make sure that the dollars go to programs that are up and running and do serve that program.

The administration has looked at this and has seen that the program in place that we are talking about now has been in place since 1970 as a demonstration project. ''Demonstration,'' the word itself connotes the fact that this is temporary in nature.

Since that time, we have the VR program, which I pointed out earlier, maybe the gentleman did not hear my testimony, the VR program handles these same services. In fact, it says: ''The activities needed to successfully serve the migrant and seasonal farmwork population do not differ from those that benefit a much wider group of VR consumers.'' For example, the outreach activities in churches and community centers may be effective for identifying farmworkers with disabilities, what this amendment deals with, but they also assist in identifying other persons with disabilities who visit these places. The hiring of bilingual counselors will assist all consumers who are monolingual in a non-English language, whether they are farmworkers or not. And the provisions of the transportation services for rural areas will benefit all rural residents, whether farmworkers or not.

The bottom line is, our basic premise is, if you are going to serve a segment of the population, in this case individuals with disabilities and migrant farmworkers, let's do so, but let's do so with programs that are already up and running and have a track record. That is what this underlying bill does. It even does it with spending $36 million more. I think we can make sure that program runs and eliminate the duplicative program.

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Mr. Chairman, I will just add one thing as I have been listening to the general debate here.

It seems that quite often on this floor, particularly on the other side of the aisle, that we measure how much we care about something by how much money we spend on it. If that was the measure of everything, Paris Hilton would be the most well-adjusted kid on the planet.

It is not just how much we spend, but it is whether it is effective. It is whether it is duplicative, as we are alleging in the case of this program. It is whether it is getting the job done.

It doesn't do any good for anybody to spend money that is duplicative or that isn't effective or that wastes a lot of money along the way. That is not good for anybody. So whether it is this program, frankly, or any others, we should, in this House and on this floor, realize that we are stewards of the taxpayers' money, not just spenders of the taxpayers' money, and we should ensure that it is being well spent, not just totally spent.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND

For carrying out the Act of March 3, 1879 (20 U.S.C. 101 et seq.), $17,573,000.

NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

For the National Technical Institute for the Deaf under titles I and II of the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986 (20 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.), $60,757,000, of which $1,705,000 shall be for construction and shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That from the total amount available, the Institute may at its discretion use funds for the endowment program as authorized under section 207 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 4357).

GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

For the Kendall Demonstration Elementary School, the Model Secondary School for the Deaf, and the partial support of Gallaudet University under titles I and II of the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986 (20 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.), $109,952,000: *Provided*, That from the total amount available, the University may at its discretion use funds for the endowment program as authorized under section 207 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 4357).

CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9201 et seq.), and subpart 4 of part D of title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (''ESEA'') (20 U.S.C. 7249), $2,046,220,000, of which $1,247,220,000 shall become available on July 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, and of which $791,000,000 shall become available on October 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, $8,000,000 is for the postsecondary career and technical institutions under section 117 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 2327): *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided for Adult Education State Grants, $71,622,000 shall be made available for integrated English literacy and civics education services to immigrants and other limited English proficient populations: *Provided further*, That of the amount reserved for integrated English literacy and civics education, notwithstanding section 211 of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9211), 65 percent shall be allocated to States based on a State's absolute need as determined by calculating each State's share of a 10-year average of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services data for immigrants admitted for legal permanent residence for the 10 most recent years, and 35 percent allocated to States that experienced growth as measured by the average of the 3 most recent years for which United States Citizenship and Immigration Services data for immigrants admitted for legal permanent residence are available, except that no State shall be allocated an amount less than $60,000: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available for the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, $7,000,000 shall be for national leadership activities under section 243 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 9253) and $6,638,000 shall be for the National Institute for Literacy under section 242 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 9252): *Provided further*, That $93,531,000 shall be available to support the activities authorized under subpart 4 of part D of title V of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7249), of which up to 5 percent shall become available October 1, 2007, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, for evaluation, technical assistance, school networks, peer review of applications, and program outreach activities, and of which not less than 95 percent shall become available on July 1, 2008, and remain available through September 30, 2009, for grants to local educational agencies: *Provided further*, That funds made available to local educational agencies under this subpart shall be used only for activities related to establishing smaller learning communities within large high schools or small

high schools that provide alternatives for students enrolled in large high schools.

AMENDMENT NO. 64 OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

Mr. PRICE of GEORGIA. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 64 offered by Mr. PRICE of Georgia:

Page 87, line 1, strike the comma and insert ''and''.

Page 87, line 3, strike ''and'' and all that follows through the first comma on line 5.

Page 87, line 5, after each dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $93,531,000)''.

Page 88, line 13, strike the colon and all that follows through page 89, line 3, and insert a period.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the Clerk read the amendment because unless she does, we have no idea what the amendment is.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman may state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. The amendment that the Clerk is currently reading is not one that I am offering.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, amendment No. 64 is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

For carrying out subparts 1, 3, and 4 of part A, part C, and part E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $17,464,883,000, which shall remain available through September 30, 2009: *Provided*, That, in addition, any amount made available for Academic Competitiveness Grants and National SMART Grants under section 401A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–1) for fiscal year 2007 (in an appropriation for such fiscal year or a preceding fiscal year) that is unobligated at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall be available for Pell Grants for the 2008–2009 award year.

AMENDMENT NO. 65 OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 65 offered by Mr. PRICE of Georgia:

Page 89, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $64,987,000)''.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I apologize for the confusion. I apologize for rising early.

This amendment is a simple amendment. It addresses the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership program and would end the funding for this program, saving $65 million of hard-earned taxpayer money. The rationale is, as the administration has described and as has been recommended by the Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education, virtually every State operates programs to a much larger degree than the Federal Government that address this very same issue.

As I mentioned just a moment ago when I rose to another amendment, we here in Washington enact all sorts of pilot programs and all sorts of trial programs, and so very often, in fact probably more often than not, we don't go back and look as a Federal Government to see whether or not the goal or the mission of those programs has been accomplished.

Rarely, in fact, I would suggest, do we see if the goal has been accomplished. This is one in which there has been great success. The mission and the goal of the program has indeed been accomplished. It has accomplished its original objective of stimulating all States to establish need-based post-secondary student grant programs. However, beyond the establishment of these programs, the LEAP program, the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership program itself, does little to encourage States to increase their investment in grant aid for their neediest of students or effectively targets this aid to students who could most benefit from it.

When we do look, when the Department of Education and when the Office of Management and Budget performs its assessment and reviews this program, what it says is, at this point, because the mission has been accomplished, the results of any further funding for this program are clearly not demonstrated. So in an effort to achieve again some fiscal responsibility and in an effort to decrease some of the significant waste that does occur at the Federal level, I encourage my colleagues to accept and vote for the amendment.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I have been trying to figure out what we ought to be calling these amendments that have been offered for 2 days. I have concluded that we ought to call them the congressional rubber-stamp amendments, because what is happening is we are seeing amendment after amendment offered that would simply return these funding levels to the exact level recommended by the President.

Now I see story after story indicating that a good many of my friends on the other side of the aisle are anxious to separate themselves from the President these days, but we have evidently a few members of their caucus who are eager to embrace virtually every action and every thought that comes from the White House. I find that very interesting.

The President felt we ought to eliminate this program. What does this program do? This program provides $60 million in grants to States to offer needs-based student scholarships. There are 165,000 students who will benefit from this program, getting scholarships of $1,000. I would simply ask, does anybody really believe that we are providing enough help for working families to send their kids to college?

The Pell Grant program is the major program upon which we rely in order to help students from lower and middle-income families find enough money to go on to college. When that program was in its heyday in the seventies, it provided over 70 percent of the cost of attending a 4-year public university. It provided help in the form of a Pell Grant to meet that percentage of the cost. Today, it is down to a little over 30 percent of the cost. So we have shifted a huge percentage of the cost to working families.

The President's answer in his budget this year was to move Pell Grants from one side of the budget to the other making it, instead of a discretionary program, a mandatory program and in the process decided he was going to pay for the increase in the Pell Grants by eliminating virtually every other student aid program on the books except Pell and Work Study.

I would suggest if you think that is a good idea, go ahead, follow the President over the cliff and vote to deny these 165,000 students the additional help they need. The money that we invest in student aid is returned to this country many times over. We are in a competitive world. Over 50 percent of the jobs that will be offered in this country in the next 7 years are jobs that will require a higher education, and it seems to me instead of running away from that obligation, we ought to be embracing it. This is a very bad idea. I urge defeat of the amendment.

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

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for obtaining time, and I appreciate the chairman's comments.

Again, the purpose of this amendment is to address wasteful spending. It is a significant responsibility that we have here in the House to make certain that the money we spend, which is hard-earned taxpayer money, is spent wisely. I know there is huge animosity on the other side of the aisle against the President. I think sometimes that animosity actually blinds individuals to some quality work that is coming

from the administration. There are high-quality people who work in the administration, this administration, just like every other administration. In fact, there are high-quality people in the Department of Education and there are high-quality people in the Office of Management and Budget who looked at this problem and said that the goals and the mission of this program have, indeed, been accomplished. It was a wonderful program, served a grand purpose, but the goals and the missions have been accomplished. Consequently, it is appropriate, if we are going to be responsible with hard-earned taxpayer money, to end a program that has accomplished its mission, accomplished its goals, and not continue wasteful Federal spending.

□ 1515

So I would urge my colleagues, I know that they can be blinded by animosity for the President and for the administration, but I would urge my colleagues to listen to those hard-working individuals in the Federal Government who are looking at these programs and attempting to find cost savings for the American public so that we can prioritize on other programs.

That's what this amendment does. It seeks to be responsible with hard-earned taxpayer money. I encourage my colleagues to support the amendment, and I yield back to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman.

There is none so blind who shall not see. I appreciate the gentleman from Georgia for coming to the microphones and asking all of us to open our eyes so that we shall see the values of these things, despite the personalities otherwise, and I support the gentleman's amendment from Georgia.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Chairman, the gentleman from Georgia said we can eliminate the LEAP program because missions have been accomplished. The LEAP program is available for the poorest of the poor in this country. It's for people whose family incomes are less than $20,000. Poverty, unfortunately, still goes on in this country.

People who make less than $20,000 need help in order to obtain an education to allow them to be competitive and allow our country to be competitive against other countries which are investing dollar after dollar after dollar into educational opportunities for their individuals.

So the mission hasn't been accomplished until we eradicate poverty. So I would really urge Members to look closely at the language in the LEAP program. It also is matched by State dollars, and I would urge my colleagues to oppose the amendment.

I yield back my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ARCURI) having assumed the chair, Mr. CAPUANO, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3043, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that, during further consideration of H.R. 3043 in the Committee of the Whole pursuant to House Resolution 547, notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no further amendment to the bill may be offered except:

Pro forma amendments offered at any point in the reading by the chairman or ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees for the purpose of debate;

An amendment by Mr. PASCRELL regarding funding for Traumatic Brain Injury programs;

An amendment by Mr. NADLER regarding eligibility for 9/11 health programs;

An amendment by Mr. NADLER regarding funding for 9/11 health programs;

An amendment by Mr. BARTON of Texas regarding funding for the National Institutes of Health;

An amendment by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey regarding funding for certain autism programs;

An amendment by Mr. HOLT regarding funding for math and science partnerships;

An amendment by Mr. COOPER regarding funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Historically Black Graduate Institutions;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE reducing funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service;

An amendment by Mr. CONAWAY limiting funds for the LIHEAP program until certain conditions are met;

An amendment by Mr. CONAWAY regarding use of reductions made through amendment for deficit reduction;

An amendment by Mr. DINGELL regarding the Deputy Commissioner of the Social Security Administration;

An amendment by Mr. GINGREY limiting funds for Social Security totalization agreements with Mexico;

An amendment by Mr. HARE regarding Critical Access Hospitals;

An amendment by Mr. JORDAN of Ohio reducing funds in the bill by 4.6 percent, which shall be debatable for 30 minutes;

An amendment by Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma or Ms. SHEA-PORTER regarding the Upward Bound program;

An amendment by Mrs. MUSGRAVE reducing funds in the bill by 0.5 percent, which shall be debatable for 30 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. PRICE of Georgia reducing funds in the bill by 1 percent, which shall be debatable for 30 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. CAMPBELL of California reducing funds in the bill by 0.25 percent, which shall be debatable for 30 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. OBEY regarding earmarks;

An amendment by Mr. SCOTT of Virginia regarding funding for student drug testing;

An amendment by Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, or Mr. WELLER of Illinois regarding certain Medicare regulations;

An amendment by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas regarding the Office of Civil Rights at the Department of Education;

An amendment by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas regarding Education for the Disadvantaged;

An amendment by Mr. UPTON or Ms. HARMAN regarding use of Energy Star certified light bulbs;

An amendment by Mr. PENCE limiting funds for Planned Parenthood;

An amendment by Mr. EHLERS regarding funding for math and science partnership programs;

An amendment by Mr. GINGREY or Mr. JORDAN of Ohio limiting funds regarding requirements for HPV vaccinations for school admittance;

An amendment by Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin limiting funds for certain Centers for Disease Control Activities;

An amendment by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey limiting funds for certain international conferences;

An amendment by Mr. KING of Iowa limiting the use of funds to employ workers described in section 274A of the Immigration and Nationality Act;

An amendment by Mr. KING of Iowa limiting the use of funds to sponsor certain events at the Sundance Film Festival;

An amendment by Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky limiting performance bonuses

for certain employees of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Social Security Administration;

An amendment by Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky limiting performance bonuses for certain employees of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Social Security Administration unless certain requirements related to Medicare part D are met;

An amendment by Mrs. SCHMIDT limiting funds for title X grantees;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE limiting funds for the American Jazz Museum in Kansas City, Missouri;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE limiting funds for the American Ballet Theatre in New York;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE limiting funds for the Portugese and Lusophone studies at Rhode Island College;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE limiting funds for the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE limiting funds for the Kansas Regional Prisons Museum;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE limiting funds for the Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest in Virginia;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE limiting funds for the South Carolina Aquarium;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE limiting funds for the Burpee Museum in Rockford, Illinois;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE limiting funds for a college preparatory pilot program at Missouri State University;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE limiting funds for the Exploratorium in San Francisco, California;

An amendment by Mrs. MUSGRAVE limiting funds for attachment therapy;

An amendment by Mr. SOUDER limiting CMS funds for certain Medicare payment activities related to hospital transplant programs;

An amendment by Mr. SOUDER limiting funds of the National Labor Relations Board to recognize a union as the exclusive bargaining representative of employees that has not been elected by a secret-ballot election;

An amendment by Mr. HENSARLING reducing funding for the Centers for Disease Control;

An amendment by Mr. WESTMORELAND limiting funds for the publication of certain student loan applications;

An amendment by Mr. CAMPBELL of California limiting funds for the Charter School Development Foundation;

An amendment by Mr. CAMPBELL of California limiting funds for the City College of New York;

An amendment by Mr. CAMPBELL of California limiting funds for all projects requested by Members of Congress and disclosed pursuant to the rules of the House, which shall be debatable for 20 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. CAMP of Michigan regarding the Medicare Advantage program;

An amendment by Mr. CROWLEY limiting funds for the North Carolina Technology Association Education Foundation;

An amendment by Mr. CROWLEY limiting funds for Alleghany Memorial Hospital;

An amendment by Mr. CROWLEY limiting funds for Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute;

An amendment by Mr. CROWLEY limiting funds for the North Carolina Center for Emerging Technologies;

An amendment by Mr. CROWLEY limiting funds for the Southeastern Center for Emerging Biologic Threats;

An amendment by Mr. HENSARLING regarding education for Native Hawaiians;

An amendment by Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina regarding Byrd Honors Scholarship program;

An amendment by Mr. LAMBORN regarding the Corporation of Public Broadcasting;

An amendment by Mr. HENSARLING regarding Twin Cities Public Television for the Minnesota Digital Public Media Archive;

An amendment by Mr. HENSARLING regarding West Los Angeles College, Culver City, California;

An amendment by Mr. HENSARLING regarding Families in Schools, Los Angeles, California; and

An amendment or amendments by Mr. OBEY regarding funding.

Each such amendment may be offered only by the Member named in this request or a designee, shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to amendment (except that the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations and its Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies in each such capacity each may offer one pro forma amendment for the purpose of debate); and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

Except as otherwise specified, each amendment shall be debatable for 10 minutes, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. An amendment shall be considered to fit the description stated in this request if it addresses in whole or in part the object described.

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

There was no objection.

REPORT ON H.R. 3074, DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. OBEY, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–238) on the bill (H.R. 3074) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 547 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 3043.

□ 1528

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 further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with Mr. CAPUANO (Acting Chairman) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, a request for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) had been postponed, and the bill had been read through page 89, line 15.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, no further amendments to the bill may be offered except those specified in the previous order of the House of today, which is at the desk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

An amendment by Mr. STEARNS of Florida.

An amendment by Mr. JINDAL of Louisiana.

An amendment by Mr. BARTON of Texas.

An amendment by Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.

Amendment No. 41 by Mr. HENSARLING of Texas.

Amendment No. 42 by Mr. HENSARLING of Texas.

An amendment by Mr. PRICE of Georgia.

An amendment by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey.

An amendment by Ms. FOXX of North Carolina.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. STEARNS

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered

by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. STEARNS:

Page 33, line 25, after the aggregate dollar figure insert ''(increased by $12,500,000)''.

Page 90, line 7, after the first dollar amount insert ''(increased by $12,500,000)''.

Page 97, line 16, after the aggregate dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $25,000,000)''.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 182, noes 242, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 647]

AYES—182

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boyda (KS)
Brady (TX)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Emerson
English (PA)
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Lamborn
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Melancon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Space
Stearns
Sullivan
Tanner
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Whitfield
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOES—242

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Frank (MA)
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Pickering
Platts
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wicker
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—12

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Cramer
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Hinchey
Kucinich
Reynolds
Slaughter
Souder
Tancredo
Westmoreland

□ 1552

Messrs. SCOTT of Georgia, LYNCH, KILDEE, GENE GREEN of Texas, DAVIS of Illinois, PICKERING, and HILL changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Messrs. BACHUS, GERLACH, and GOHMERT changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. JINDAL

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JINDAL) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. JINDAL:

Page 33, line 25, after the aggregate dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $37,200,000) (increased by $37,200,000)''.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 207, noes 217, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 648]

AYES—207

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marshall
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mitchell
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Taylor
Terry
Thornberry

Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOES—217

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Frank (MA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Hill
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Klein (FL)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rohrabacher
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Skelton
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Stark
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—12

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Cramer
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Hinchey
Jones (OH)
Kucinich
McMorris Rodgers
Slaughter
Souder
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that they have 1 minute remaining to vote.

□ 1558

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall Nos. 647 and 648, I was absent meeting with the military on Niagara Air Base. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BARTON OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. BARTON of Texas:

Page 36, beginning at line 5, strike "*Provided further*, That within" and all that follows through the end of the proviso.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 196, noes 230, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 649]

AYES—196

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Gene
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Skelton
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Space
Stearns
Sullivan
Taylor
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOES—230

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fortuño
Fossella
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Giffords
Gillibrand
Green, Al
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—10

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Buyer
Conyers
Cramer
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Kucinich
Souder
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that there is 1 minute remaining in this vote.

□ 1603

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GRAVES

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 203, noes 224, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 650]

AYES—203

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Boozman
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Hill
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marshall
McCarthy (CA)
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Space
Stearns
Sullivan
Tanner
Taylor
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOES—224

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bono
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Frank (MA)
Gilchrest
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Klein (FL)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—9

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Cramer
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Holt
Kucinich
Souder
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that there is 1 minute remaining in this vote.

□ 1607

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 41 OFFERED BY MR. HENSARLING

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 58, noes 370, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 651]

AYES—58

Akin
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Biggert
Bilbray
Blackburn
Boehner
Burton (IN)
Campbell (CA)
Cantor
Chabot
Culberson
Deal (GA)
Duncan
Feeney
Flake
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Hensarling
Hoekstra
Inglis (SC)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
Lamborn
Mack
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
McHenry
McKeon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Musgrave
Myrick
Paul
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe
Price (GA)
Radanovich
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Sullivan
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)

NOES—370

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Cannon
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette

Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—8

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Cramer
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Kucinich
Souder
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that there is 1 minute remaining in this vote.

□ 1611

Mr. GINGREY changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Mr. BURTON of Indiana changed his vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 42 OFFERED BY MR. HENSARLING

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 80, noes 347, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 652]

AYES—80

Akin
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Blackburn
Boehner
Brady (TX)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burton (IN)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Hensarling
Hoekstra
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McHenry
McKeon
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Paul
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe
Price (GA)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Smith (NE)
Sullivan
Thornberry
Walberg
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)

NOES—347

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Burgess
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Gordon
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker

Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—9

Bilbray
Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Cramer
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Kucinich
Souder
Tancredo

□ 1617

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

(By unanimous consent, Ms. PELOSI was allowed to speak out of order.)

EXTENDING SYMPATHY TO BRAZIL IN WAKE OF PLANE CRASH TRAGEDY

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, last evening the airport at São Paolo, Brazil was a scene of a terrible tragedy that took the lives of as many as 200 people. Among those lost was a member of the Chamber of Deputies, Representative Julio Redecker, the Brazilian House minority leader.

As fate would have it, many of us here today were scheduled to have a meeting with him and the President of the Chamber of Deputies here in the Capitol. Of course, the tragedy in Brazil and the loss of Representative Redecker changed those plans, very sadly.

Moments ago I spoke with the Brazilian President of the Chamber of Deputies, Arlindo Chinaglia; and Brazil's Ambassador to the United States, Antonio Patriota. I conveyed to them the deepest sympathy of the Members of the House of Representatives to the people of Brazil, to the family of Representative Redecker. They were, I think, very comforted by the fact that I told them that later today, now, we would have a moment of silence and extend our sympathy to the people of Brazil for the terrible loss of 200 people and, of course, the special sympathy to our friend in the Chamber of Deputies and to the family of Representative Redecker for the loss of the minority leader of that important chamber.

I now ask that the House observe a moment of silence in remembrance of Julio Redecker and all of those who lost their lives in Brazil yesterday evening.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Members will rise and the House will observe a moment of silence.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, if I may convey our condolences to his widow, Salete Redecker.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, 2-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 149, noes 274, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 653]

AYES—149

Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Boyda (KS)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (IL)
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emanuel
Emerson
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gilchrest
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Lamborn
Latham
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCrery
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Poe
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Regula
Reichert
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Walberg
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Wicker
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOES—274

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Butterfield
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Edwards
Ellsworth
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Goode
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Rehberg
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—13

Baird
Bishop (GA)
Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Cramer
Davis, Jo Ann
Ellison
Faleomavaega
Gordon
Hall (TX)
Kucinich
Souder
Tancredo

□ 1624

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GARRETT OF NEW JERSEY

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 74, noes 352, answered ''present'' 1, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 654]

AYES—74

Akin
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Blackburn
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carney
Chabot
Conaway
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Gohmert
Hall (TX)
Heller
Hensarling
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Mack
Miller (FL)
Mitchell
Murphy, Patrick
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Paul
Pence
Pitts
Poe
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Space
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Walberg
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)

NOES—352

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carson
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—1

Bartlett (MD)

NOT VOTING—9

Bishop (UT)
Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Cramer
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Kucinich
Souder
Tancredo

□ 1629

Mr. CANTOR changed his vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. FOXX

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 186, noes 241, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 655]

AYES—186

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Boyda (KS)
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (FL)

NOES—241

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Butterfield
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Frank (MA)
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono

Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kirk
Klein (FL)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—9

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Cramer
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Kucinich
Musgrave
Souder
Tancredo

□ 1634

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chairman, I regret that due to a sudden illness I missed rollcall vote No. 630 through vote no. 655. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 630, 631, 632, 633, and 634. I would have voted "no" on rollcall votes 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, and 655.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. The unanimous-consent agreement under which we are now operating means that there will be at least 13 hours of debate on amendments that are contemplated being offered. In addition to the 13 hours that that will take, you almost have to allow for 4 or 5 hours of slippage because of the time it takes for recognition and things like that. So that means that we will have approximately 18 hours, not counting votes, as I calculate it, to dispose of all of the items contained in the unanimous consent request.

Members further need to understand that we will not be on this bill tomorrow morning because the Appropriations Committee has to mark up the Agriculture appropriation bill. That means that if we stay here until 1 o'clock tonight, we might, if we get lucky and if some people decide to drop some amendments, be finished by 8 or 9 o'clock tomorrow night. I wish that we could do it sooner, but I'm not the fellow offering the amendments. So I simply want Members to be aware of what it means.

What we will try to do, and I don't think this is definitely tied down, but Members should be notified shortly when it is, we will try to go until about 8 o'clock and then have another series of votes. And then those of us who are stuck on the committee or stuck offering amendments, we will have to be here after that. That's the only way that we can see about how to proceed, unless people want to be here Friday or Saturday.

So, I just wanted Members to have that happy news before they go to their happy hour.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

The maximum Pell Grant for which a student shall be eligible during award year 2008–2009 shall be $4,700.

STUDENT AID ADMINISTRATION

For Federal administrative expenses to carry out part D of title I, and subparts 1, 3, and 4 of part A, and parts B, C, D, and E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $708,216,000, to remain available until expended.

HIGHER EDUCATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, titles II, III, IV, V, VI, and VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (''HEA''), section 1543 of the Higher Education Amendments of 1992, and the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, $2,051,533,000: *Provided*, That $9,699,000, to remain available through September 30, 2009, shall be available to fund fellowships for academic year 2009–2010 under subpart 1 of part A of title VII of the HEA, under the terms and conditions of such subpart 1: *Provided further*, That $620,000 is for data collection and evaluation activities for programs under the HEA, including such activities needed to comply with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this Act to carry out title VI of the HEA and section 102(b)(6) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 may be used to support visits and study in foreign countries by individuals who are participating in advanced foreign language training and international studies in areas that are vital to United States national security and who plan to apply their language skills and knowledge of these countries in the fields of government, the professions, or international development: *Provided further*, That of the funds referred to in the preceding proviso, up to 1 percent may be used for program evaluation, national outreach, and information dissemination activities: *Provided further*, That the funds provided for title II of the HEA shall be allocated notwithstanding section 210 of such Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 54 OFFERED BY MR. BARRETT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 54 offered by Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina:

Page 90, line 7, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $40,590,000)''.

Mr. OBEY. Would the Clerk read the amendment so we can understand what it is?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BARRETT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Chairman, this would basically eliminate funding for the Byrd Honors Scholarship program by saving about $40.6 million.

And I guess what I'm here to talk about today, Mr. Chairman, is that this program, which is certainly a merit-based scholarship program, was rated as ''results not demonstrated.'' When we talk about funding, when we talk about scholarships, when we talk about trying to make government more effective and more efficient, I think this is a perfect example, Mr. Chairman, of duplicative services.

I understand the need of helping our high school seniors, and I applaud the effort. But in a time when money is scarce and we're trying to be good stewards of the taxpayers' dollar, doesn't it make sense, Mr. Chairman, to take programs like this, and all other associated programs, take a look at them from the bottom up and look at what is effective?

Why was this particular program rated ''results not demonstrated''? Was it because of a lack of funding, Mr. Chairman? Was it because of a lack of information that high school students didn't know what was going on? Was it because of a lack of organization on how the scholarship is administered? I don't know. I don't know these answers.

So all I'm saying is, if we're going to continue to help seniors, and I hope we do, let's try to do it in a more responsible manner. Let's just not create another government program. Let's not create a duplicative service. Let's take a look at what we're doing, how we're doing it, bring things together. It may be that this program needs to be increased, I don't know. It may be that it needs to go away and this money go to a program that is far more effective. All I'm saying is that I think this is the wrong way to go about it.

I think if we took a real hard look at all these programs, we could pull our

resources together, we could help our high school seniors much more effectively and maybe, at the same time, save $40.6 million of hard-earned taxpayers' money.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, if you think that there is too much education in this country, then vote for this amendment. If you think that we could use more help to people trying to get an education, then you vote against it.

I think that the only thing wrong with this program in the eyes of the White House is the name of the man that's attached to the program, the distinguished Senator ROBERT BYRD from West Virginia. He sponsored this program, which provides needs-based scholarships all over the country, some 15,000 of them. I happen to think that's a good thing. I think the recipients certainly think it's a good thing. I think the working families of the recipients think it's a good thing.

The gentleman says that the White House Budget Office has ranked this program as ''not determined'' in terms of effectiveness. I would remind you, this is the same White House that is claiming that the surge in Iraq has shown great progress. I hardly think that their judgment ought to serve as the standing judgment of the House.

I also note, by the way, that the White House also ranks as ''effectiveness not being determined'' IDEA preschool grants, and IDEA Grants for Infants and Families. We've had several efforts on the part of people on that side of the aisle today to increase funding for IDEA. I didn't see them stopping then because the White House didn't think that was such a hot idea. I also see the White House ranks the Federal Work Study program as being ''not determined'' in terms of adequacy.

With all due respect, I think this country needs all the education it can get. I think it needs all the student aid it can get. And I would therefore urge rejection of the amendment.

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I would like to correct the chairman. This is a merit-based program, not a need-based program.

And I understand that we need all the education we can get. All I'm saying, Mr. Chairman is, is this the best way to spend this money? Can it not be rolled into another program or taken a look at to make sure that we're getting our best bang for the dollar, that we're spending the taxpayers' money wisely, and we're being the most effective helping our high school seniors with a higher education degree?

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BARRETT).

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

□ 1645

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. MCNULTY. Thank you, Chairman OBEY.

Mr. Chairman, I rise to enter into a colloquy with the distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the Labor, Health and Human Services Subcommittee, Mr. OBEY.

Mr. Chairman, today my goal is to draw attention to the backlog of applications for disability benefits at the Social Security Administration. Today, more than 1.3 million Americans are awaiting a decision on their disability cases. SSA is staffed with dedicated, hard-working employees, but due to staffing shortages at the agency, some applicants for disability benefits must wait as long as 3 or 4 years before receiving a decision on their case. Many of these individuals are severely ill or injured, cannot work or have little or no income or access to health care.

American workers pay into the Social Security system with the promise that if they become severely disabled, Social Security will be there for them. Today we are falling far short on that promise. This situation is a direct result of the understaffing of the Social Security Administration in recent years. Other important programs under the Labor, Health and Human Services bill have also been underfunded.

Given these competing needs, I greatly appreciate the chairman's efforts and the committee's effort to include additional funding for SSA in this year's bill. Nonetheless, I believe we should strive to do better in conference.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I share the gentleman's concern about the Social Security disability claim backlog and the hardship it has caused. Under the President's request for SSA, the disability backlog has gotten worse. The funding increase we've included in this bill will keep that from happening and will protect SSA from staffing declines that the agency has seen in recent years.

I would make the point that despite the fact that we were left in a considerable mess with all of last year's domestic appropriation bills not passed when we took over, we still made SSA a priority and included $148 million over the 2006 funding level. In the bill we are debating today, we have included over $401 million above the 2007 level and $100 million more than the presidential request.

Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to work with the gentleman and others, such as Mr. ARCURI, toward increasing the amount for SSA in the conference and in future years.

Mr. MCNULTY. Mr. Chairman, I just want to say to Chairman OBEY that, DAVE, I approached you on this earlier in the year. Your response was immediate and positive. You have provided the additional funding. We hope to get more in conference. But what you have done is going to accrue to the benefit of thousands and thousands of Americans who have been waiting a long, long time for these decisions. On their behalf, I thank you.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman. Mr. WALSH and I both are concerned about the problem, and we will be happy to work with you.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. COOPER

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. COOPER:

Page 90, line 7, increase the first dollar amount by $100,000,000.

Page 90, line 7, further increase the first dollar amount by $25,000,000.

Page 92, line 17, reduce the first dollar amount by $125,000,000.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COOPER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Chairman, there is no Member of this House that I respect more than the chairman of the full committee, Mr. OBEY. He has the toughest job in this body: To chair the full Appropriations Committee, to carry one of the largest bills and to do such a superb job at reconciling the interests of 435 Members of this body from all corners of the Nation. So it is with great regret, Mr. Chairman, that I rise to offer any amendment to this bill. But the need is great.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities all across America need help, and they need help now. And the chairman, to his credit, provides help. He upped the amount by $11 million to $249 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. He also has some $57 million for Historically Black Graduate Schools. But, Mr. Chairman, I suggest that is not enough.

That is why my amendment would add $125 million to these marvelous institutions. It is about a 40 percent increase instead of a 4 percent increase in their funding. I would take this money from the Department of Education, their administrative fund. I will admit this is not my favorite place to get the money. But under the rules, I have to get the money at a place in the bill after page 90.

So my intent is this: To give HBCUs, Historically Black Institutions, higher priority and much higher funding. I trust the discretion of the Appropriations Committee to get that money from an appropriate place in the bill.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to my colleague from Memphis, Tennessee (Mr. COHEN).

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the distinguished gentleman from Davidson County for yielding and for bringing this amendment. There is still a critical need in this country for Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

In my communities, the finest public school students traditionally are desirous of going to Historically Black Colleges and Universities. We try to keep them in Tennessee with HOPE scholarships. We offer from $4,000 to $5,500 a year to stay in Tennessee. There are fine Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Lemoyne-Owen in my district, Fisk in Nashville, and Knoxville College up in East Tennessee. But most of them want to go out of State and go to Atlanta and come to this area to Historically Black Colleges and Universities. It is still the first choice for most African American students.

We need to fund these schools at a higher level. They have not received increased funding over the last 5 or 6 years to speak of. The need has become greater and greater. These are students who need educational opportunities to move out and into the American dream.

I commend the gentleman from Davidson County for bringing this amendment, I am pleased to support it, and ask the chairman of the Appropriations Committee to see this great need which will help people who have not had an opportunity to share in the American dream as much as they should.

Mr. COOPER. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Chairman, these are marvelous Historically Black Institutions and today they serve a wide spectrum, people of all races and backgrounds. But, most importantly, so many of these students are first-generation college students. They deserve a chance to live the American dream; to become the doctors, the lawyers, the artists, the poets, the engineers and the scientists of the future.

These institutions serve a vital role in our society. As the gentleman from Memphis pointed out, their funding has essentially been frozen for the last 4 or 5 years. To offer them only a 4½ percent increase this year is good, but it is not enough. That is why I think we need to reach deep, to increase the funding substantially, so that they know that the year 2007 was the year in which they saw a dramatic increase as opposed to the prior year of funding freeze.

I have the greatest respect for the chairman of the full committee, Mr. OBEY. My wish is not to add to the difficulty of his task. But so many of these institutions are teetering on the edge. They need help, they need help now, and they need large amounts of help. That is why we have offered this amendment to increase funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities by $125 million. Please support this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, there is no Member of this Congress I admire more than Chairman OBEY. He has the toughest job in Congress, to lead the entire Appropriations Committee, to carry the single largest appropriations bill of $153 billion, and to reconcile the needs and desires of 435 Members of Congress from all corners of the Nation. Another reason the job is so tough is that Chairman OBEY also has to listen to more blather than anyone else in Congress. So it is with great regret that I rise to offer any amendment to his handiwork.

My amendment would increase the funding for historically Black colleges and universities, and for historically Black graduate schools by $125 million. The chairman's mark already includes $249.5 million for these schools and $57 million for HBGLs, so my amendment offers a 40-percent increase in HBCU funding. My amendment would take that funding from the Department of Education Departmental Management Program Administration Account. I would agree that this is perhaps not the ideal source of funding, but due to procedural rules that limited me to finding offsets after page 90 in the bill, that is the best I was allowed to do.

My intent is to give higher priority—and much higher funding—to historically Black colleges, universities, and graduate schools, and that their increase in funding be offset in ways that the Appropriations Committee deems most appropriate in conference.

The key point is to boost these marvelous historically Black institutions. Most of these schools were born soon after the Civil War and have served America well by training the doctors, lawyers, scientists, poets, business people, professors, engineers, etc. that America needs. Today they serve Blacks, Whites, and a wide range of other races and ethnic backgrounds. Many of these students are first-generation college students trying to live the American dream by getting a good education and a good job. I have the honor of representing three of these institutions in Nashville: Fisk University, Meharry Medical College, Tennessee State University, as well as American Baptist College. But there are dozens of historically black colleges scattered over dozens of States. Many of today's Members of Congress attended these fine schools, and probably would not be in Congress without the education they received from these institutions. All of these historically Black colleges and universities are a vital part of America's history, and our future.

The chairman's mark already gives these historically Black institutions a 4.5 percent increase. I appreciate that, but I cannot help but notice that, after 4 years of no increase in Federal funding, that 4.5 percent is not enough to do the job, in fact, it's not enough to even offset the effects of inflation. These historically Black colleges, universities, and graduate schools need more of an increase than that—much more—to continue their extraordinary mission of reaching the poor, minorities, and the disenfranchised of all races, and to help them get the education they need.

Please support the Cooper amendment to increase Federal aid to historically Black colleges and universities. This is your chance to make sure that everyone has a better chance to live the American dream.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, this amendment, like so many others offered today, demonstrates that the White House is incredibly off base when they tell us that this bill is over-funded. This bill is about 2.5 percent in real terms above last year. The fact that it is so tight and still falls so short of meeting many needs is evidenced by the fact that we have this kind of amendment before us. The only difference between this amendment and several others is that the others have been coming from the minority side of the aisle and this one happens to come from the majority side of the aisle.

But let me simply say that I fully appreciate where the gentleman wants to put the money. It is a good place to put it. There are many other good places to put it. The problem is that it is simply not real to believe that you can decimate the administrative budget of the Department of Education as much as this amendment does.

I am not going to ask people to vote one way or another on this, because no matter which way you vote, you will be wrong, because this amendment, because of the squeeze that we are in, because of the tremendous demand for education help in this country, no matter what you do, someone will be shortchanged. It is either the department that is supposed to administer the programs or the programs themselves.

So I sympathize with what the gentleman is trying to do. I cannot honestly say I endorse the amendment, because of the problems, but I think the gentleman's amendment lays out clearly how inadequate this bill still is in terms of meeting the country's responsibilities, especially to those folks in our population who are not, shall we say, the top dogs.

I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, let me thank you, first of all, for your support of Historically Black Colleges and Universities over the years. In subcommittee I know we did increase this a significant amount.

The gentleman's amendment which he has presented today is worthy of consideration. I just want to say why, as a person from California, Historically Black Colleges and Universities are important.

Several years ago, the Governor of the State of California ended affirmative action. Very few African American and Latino students now are able to attend the University of California, and that is a tragedy. What we have found is that the majority of African American students now are going from California to Historically Black Colleges and Universities. They have saved the day for our young people in California. So I am very clear on what may or may not happen. I look forward to working with you and the chairman as we go to conference on this.

But I just want to say on behalf of those African American students in California, that they need as many opportunities as they can get because of what happened in terms of the decimation of equal opportunity programs and initiatives that would allow them into the University of California.

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

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COOPER).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Chairman, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today with the gentleman from Tennessee, my good friend, Mr. WAMP, for the purpose of engaging the chairman in this colloquy about the National Youth Sports Program. While my purpose for rising today is to discuss the merits of NYSP, I would also like to commend the chairman on the work that the committee has done in crafting such a respectable bill before us. The subcommittee was able to restore several programs that otherwise would have been eliminated, while also increasing important investments in much-needed areas such as No Child Left Behind, IDEA, and the Community Services Block Grant.

I am disappointed, however, that this year, due to funding constraints, the National Youth Sports Program was not funded in this appropriations bill. The National Youth Sports Program program is an educational partnership that has worked successfully for over 37 years. It provides low-income children ages 10 to 16 a 5-week summer program offering sports and academic programs at colleges and universities nationwide.

While touring the NYSP program on the UW-Eau Claire and UW-LaCrosse campuses in my district on several occasions, I have witnessed firsthand how this program reaches beyond academics and sports to provide opportunities for learning about good nutrition, developing leadership skills and developing good character.

In previous years, the program served approximately 76,000 children at 201 colleges and universities across the country. The loss in Federal funding, however, has had a dramatic effect on the program's operation. It is expected there will only be 50 programs and 10,000 students participating this summer nationwide.

In our home State of Wisconsin, close to 1,600 young people once participated in this program, yet this year, unfortunately, that figure has dramatically declined to approximately 400 children.

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me and I commend him for his work on this important bill.

As you know, our Nation is facing a major health care crisis because of childhood obesity. Due to a significant decline in physical activity by our Nation's youth, a growing number of children are experiencing illnesses and the other health problems, such as Type II diabetes, hypertension and respiratory problems. The rise in obesity-related health conditions also has high economic costs and has greatly increased health care spending, both mandatory and discretionary.

□ 1700

As the social and economic costs of childhood obesity increase, the number of children engaging in physical activity is drastically decreasing and many schools are even cutting back on physical education programs because of budgetary concerns. It is critical that we focus our efforts on funding for physical activity at this time to fight this epidemic of childhood obesity and improve the health of our children.

Mr. Chairman, the National Youth Sports Program is a vital program that promotes physical activity and provides children with the leadership and academic skills to improve their well-being. Due to the elimination of funding for NYSP next fiscal year, many children in Tennessee and throughout the country will lose the opportunity to participate in this important program. I simply ask that you work with us to ensure that proper funds are allocated to NYSP and the promotion of physical activity as we go to conference.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I am familiar with the NYSP program given the fact of that the University of Wisconsin-Superior in my district hosted a program in 2005. I acknowledge the good work that the program has accomplished, and I am looking forward to working with both the gentlemen.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. KIND. As the chairman is aware, earlier this year we sent a bipartisan letter to the committee requesting an $18 million appropriation for NYSP, and given the importance of this program to many children throughout the country and the fact that NYSP has successfully leveraged Federal funding to secure substantial matching community investments, we would hope that if funding is found on the Senate side, that both the House and the chairman would be supportive of the funding level coming out of the Senate in conference.

It is also our hope that in the future NYSP will receive an outreach of support to continue its agenda for organizations that specialize in assisting at-risk youth. This program is too vital for the health and well-being of our young people for it to be left unfunded for another year.

Mr. OBEY. Let me say, I hope anything is funded on the Senate side. I would like to thank both gentlemen for their passion and attention to this program, and I will be happy to join both of you in encouraging reauthorization of this program.

Mr. KIND. I thank the chairman.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. ARCURI. I rise to enter into a colloquy with the distinguished chairman.

My intention today is to raise awareness of the Members of the House of Representatives surrounding the issue of administrative budget of the Social Security Administration and the impact it has on real people across America. Because previous Congresses have failed to meet the basic funding requirements of the Social Security Administration, the agency is in the process of closing field offices to try to rein in costs. One of those field offices is in my district, the 24th Congressional District of New York in the city of Auburn. Auburn serves as a population base for rural Cayuga County; and of the approximately 81,000 residents in that county, nearly 20,000, or 25 percent, are on Social Security, that is, they receive benefits.

Closing the field office in Auburn, New York, means that those 20,000 beneficiaries, most of whom are elderly, will need to drive to the next nearest offices in Syracuse or Geneva, New York. Public transportation in this area is inadequate, and this potential closing will mean that many residents will simply not have access to a Social Security Administration office for face-to-face interviews. Staff of the Social Security Administration has explained that the services can be provided by phone or through the Social Security Administration online system, but for these financially vulnerable beneficiaries, these were not real options.

I don't believe that the Social Security Administration should close or consolidate field offices until the agency reports back to Congress regarding the number of recipients who would be negatively impacted and allow the Congress to thoroughly review the economic analysis of potential field office realignment, consolidation, or closing proposals.

Mr. OBEY. I share the gentleman's concern about the Social Security Administration budget. Since January, the committee has provided $550 million in additional resources. It has come in large part because of requests of people like yourself who have constantly reminded us of the problem.

In the bill we are debating today, the committee has included over $400 million above the 2007 level and $100 million more than the administration's request. Years of underfunding SSA and the other programs in this bill, such as No Child Left Behind, IDEA, and NIH, cannot be remedied in any one year, but we are certainly doing the best we can to accelerate.

Mr. ARCURI. I understand you are making every effort to reverse the trend of underfunding the Social Security Administration to ensure that the agency can keep up with the increasing work loads due to the retirement of the first crop of the baby boomers and on the increasing backlog and disability claims.

I hope we will be able to work together as this bill moves forward to make certain that the SSA has adequate funding to keep the field offices open, especially in expansive rural districts like mine, the 27th in New York, and provide Social Security benefits that keep the elderly and those with disabilities out of poverty.

Mr. OBEY. I will be happy to continue to work with the gentleman in conference in the future to obtain the highest level possible for SSA. I know it is a very important problem.

Mr. ARCURI. I thank the chairman and his fine staff for all the help you have been on this issue in your efforts to keep the Social Security field offices open, for your willingness to work on increasing Social Security funding in conference. These efforts will make a real difference in the lives of thousands of Americans not only in my district but around the country.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Let me also thank the chairman for his foresight in providing additional resources. There is a $400 million increase to the Social Security Administration to provide this invaluable service to our constituents.

I thank the gentleman from New York for his leadership. I represented the city of Auburn for 10 years. Due to the vagaries of reapportionment, Mr. ARCURI is now their Representative, but I still have constituents who go there and rely upon that office. It is a good office, well served, well staffed. It is a professional staff, and it is needed.

So I thank him for standing up for the people of Auburn. I do, too, and the rest of the people of Cayuga County and that region who rely so heavily on that office. I thank the chairman for providing the additional resources.

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. ARCURI. I would just like to thank the ranking member for all of his help, my colleague and friend from New York. You have done a great job in upstate New York and in serving the Auburn area, and I thank you for your support.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

For partial support of Howard University (20 U.S.C. 121 et seq.), $237,392,000, of which not less than $3,526,000 shall be for a matching endowment grant pursuant to the Howard University Endowment Act (20 U.S.C. 130aa et seq.) and shall remain available until expended.

COLLEGE HOUSING AND ACADEMIC FACILITIES LOANS PROGRAM

For Federal administrative expenses to carry out activities related to existing facility loans pursuant to section 121 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $481,000.

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAPITAL FINANCING PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For administrative expenses to carry out the Historically Black College and University Capital Financing Program entered into pursuant to part D of title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $188,000.

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

For carrying out activities authorized by the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9501 et seq.) the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. 9621 et seq.), section 208 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9607), and section 664 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1464), $535,103,000, of which $293,144,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2009.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Department of Education Organization Act (20 U.S.C. 3401 et seq.), including rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and hire of three passenger motor vehicles, $394,487,000, of which $3,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for building alterations and related expenses for the move of Department staff to the Mary E. Switzer building in Washington, D.C.

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For expenses necessary for the Office for Civil Rights, as authorized by section 203 of the Department of Education Organization Act (20 U.S.C. 3413), $93,771,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of the Inspector General, as authorized by section 212 of the Department of Education Organization Act (20 U.S.C. 3422), $53,239,000.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 301. No funds appropriated in this Act may be used for the transportation of students or teachers (or for the purchase of equipment for such transportation) in order to overcome racial imbalance in any school or school system, or for the transportation of students or teachers (or for the purchase of equipment for such transportation) in order to carry out a plan of racial desegregation of any school or school system.

SEC. 302. None of the funds contained in this Act shall be used to require, directly or indirectly, the transportation of any student to a school other than the school which is nearest the student's home, except for a student requiring special education, to the school offering such special education, in order to comply with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.). For the purpose of this section an indirect requirement of transportation of students includes the transportation of students to carry out a plan involving the reorganization of the grade structure of schools; the pairing of schools; or the clustering of schools; or any combination of grade restructuring, pairing, or clustering. The prohibition described in this section does not include the establishment of magnet schools.

SEC. 303. No funds appropriated in this Act may be used to prevent the implementation of programs of voluntary prayer and meditation in the public schools.

SEC. 304. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.)) which are appropriated for the current fiscal year for the Department of Education in this Act may be transferred between appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: *Provided*, That an appropriation may be increased by up to an additional 2 percent subject to approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall be available only to meet unanticipated needs and shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

SEC. 305. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to promulgate, implement, or enforce any revision to the regulations in effect under section 496 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 on June 1, 2007, until legislation specifically requiring such revision is enacted.

SEC. 306. (a) MAINTENANCE OF INTEGRITY AND ETHICAL VALUES WITHIN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.—Within 30 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Education shall implement procedures—

(1) to assess whether a covered individual or entity has a potential financial interest in, or bias towards, a product or service purchased with, or guaranteed or insured by, funds administered by the Department of Education or a contracted entity of the Department; and

(2) to disclose the existence of any such potential financial interest or bias.

(b) REVIEW BY INSPECTOR GENERAL.—

(1) Within 30 days after the implementation of the procedures described in subsection (a), the Inspector General of the Department of Education shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the adequacy of such procedures.

(2) Within 1 year, the Inspector General shall conduct at least 1 audit to ensure that such procedures are properly implemented and are adequate to uncover and disclose the existence of potential financial interests or bias described in subsection (a).

(3) The Inspector General shall report to such Committees any recommendations for modifications to such procedures that the Inspector General determines are necessary to uncover and disclose the existence of such potential financial interests or bias.

(c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term ''covered individual or entity'' means—

(1) an officer or professional employee of the Department of Education;

(2) a contractor or subcontractor of the Department, or an individual hired by the contracted entity;

(3) a member of a peer review panel of the Department; or

(4) a consultant or advisor to the Department.

AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MR. HOLT

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 33 offered by Mr. HOLT:

Page 96, after line 22, insert the following:

SEC. 307. The amounts otherwise provided by this title are revised by reducing the amount made available for ''Departmental Management—Program Administration'', and increasing the amount made available for ''School Improvement Programs'' (for carrying out activities authorized by part B of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965), by $25,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, this amendment is intended to make it possible for more teachers throughout America to have the professional development that we have promised them in science, math and technology education.

You may know that under No Child Left Behind, the Elementary and Secondary Act reauthorization, that was the Eisenhower Program that provided teacher training and professional development, was changed to Math and Science Partnership. Subsequently, the funding was cut to about a quarter of what had previously been provided, and it has never recovered.

I recognize that the committee under Chairman OBEY's leadership has tried to get back that lost ground that was lost under previous leadership. Nevertheless, the teachers and hence the students are not getting what they need. Whether you look at the ''Rising Above the Gathering Storm'' report of the National Academy of Sciences or the Congress's own Innovation Agenda or the President's Competitive Initiative, we are all saying, in fact leaders of this country are yelling and screaming that we must do better in science and math education for our competitiveness, for our quality of life. If we are to do that, we must help the teachers with their professional development.

Funding prior to No Child Left Behind for math and science teacher development was $485 million. Currently under this appropriations bill in front of us, the funding for the successor programs for math and science teacher professional development is $182 million. Again, I recognize what the committee has been trying to do. It is not enough. We owe it to the students. We owe it to the teachers. But even more, we owe it to our society.

If our economy is to grow, if our productivity is going to grow, we must do better in math and science education. This is one of the important steps as recommended by the Glen Commission on Elementary and Secondary Education, as recommended by the National Academy of Sciences, as recommended by so many, including so many in this room. So I urge the adoption of my amendment which would put $25 million additional dollars into the Math and Science Partnership.

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Earlier today, the gentleman had a previous amendment which tried to put money in a worthy program, and I expressed then my concern about the offset. I must do the same thing on this occasion.

The point I'm making is while I certainly understand why the gentleman wants to add the funds that he wants to add, I simply cannot continue to buy into the idea that we can take all of these items out of administrative budgets. It simply is not responsible. Of course, I don't think it is responsible for the White House to claim that this bill is underfunded either. These programs are very good programs.

But Members are going through this elaborate dog and pony show, or some would call it cock and bull story, because they are prevented from doing what they know should really happen, which is we should be expanding some of these programs without gouging others.

I simply cannot support this amendment and I would not at all urge Members to vote for it not because the funding that the gentleman seeks isn't worthy, but because the solution that the gentleman lays out isn't real, unless you think that we can have agencies run programs with no desks and no lights and no phones and no personnel, nobody to cut the checks and no policy direction.

□ 1715

So, with that, I yield back the balance of my time and regretfully indicate my opposition to the amendment.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I yield time to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS), who has shown such great interest and leadership in this issue regarding math and science education.

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I have rushed down to the floor to support this amendment, and a little history is helpful at this point.

When No Child Left Behind was written, it removed Eisenhower funding from the program. We had been putting in over $400 million per year for Eisenhower funding, most of which went to math and science education. I had written a formula into the bill as it left the House which put Math-Science Education in great shape and maintained roughly the same funding that the Eisenhower program had. However, the Senate removed that provision, and ever since then we have been funding math and science education at considerably lower figures than we did before No Child Left Behind was written.

In this particular bill, the Department of Education has received a substantial boost, No Child Left Behind has received a substantial boost, but the funding for math and science education has remained level, and that just doesn't make sense.

We know from the statistics and the measurements, and the international tests that have been made, that our students are not able to compete with students from other countries at the 12th grade high school level. We are far behind, and we have made a valiant effort in this body to improve that situation.

I have started the STEM, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, Education Caucus. Well over 100 Members of Congress have joined us because they support the need for improving math and science education. If we are serious about competing with other countries in innovation and development, and getting our manufacturing up to snuff, we have to improve our K–12 education, and that is what this amendment is all about.

I very strongly support the amendment, and I urge the body to adopt this amendment. With that, I yield back.

Mr. WALSH of New York. I thank the gentleman.

Briefly, Madam Chairman, this is a real dilemma. We just cut the administrative budget by $125 million for historically black colleges. This is another $25 million.

The need is clearly there. I think the subcommittee's done a good job providing funds, but it is a dilemma and I think Members are going to have a tough decision to make on this amendment.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

The amendment was rejected.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2008''.

TITLE IV—RELATED AGENCIES

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled established by Public Law 92–28, $4,994,000.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

OPERATING EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for the Corporation for National and Community Service to carry out the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (''1973 Act'') (42 U.S.C. 4950 et

seq.) and the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (''1990 Act'') (42 U.S.C. 12501 et seq.), $768,905,000, of which $313,054,000 is to carry out the 1973 Act and $455,851,000 is to carry out the 1990 Act: *Provided*, That up to 1 percent of program grant funds may be used to defray the costs of conducting grant application reviews, including the use of outside peer reviewers and electronic management of the grants cycle: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading for activities authorized by section 122 and part E (42 U.S.C. 5028 et seq.) of title II of the 1973 Act shall be used to provide stipends or other monetary incentives to volunteers or volunteer leaders whose incomes exceed 125 percent of the national poverty level: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding subtitle H of title I of the 1990 Act (42 U.S.C. 12653 et seq.), none of the funds provided for quality and innovation activities shall be used to support salaries and related expenses (including travel) attributable to Corporation for National and Community Service employees: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided under this heading: (1) $122,521,000, to remain available until expended, to be transferred to the National Service Trust for educational awards authorized under subtitle D of title I of the 1990 Act: *Provided further*, That in addition to these funds, the Corporation may transfer funds from the amount provided for AmeriCorps grants under the National Service Trust Program, to the National Service Trust authorized under subtitle D of title I of the 1990 Act (42 U.S.C. 12601 et seq.), upon determination that such transfer is necessary to support the activities of national service participants and after notice is transmitted to the Congress; (2) not more than $55,000,000 of funding provided for grants under the National Service Trust program authorized under subtitle C of title I of the 1990 Act may be used to administer, reimburse, or support any national service program authorized under section 121(d)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12571(d)(2)); (3) $37,125,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, shall be for service-learning programs authorized under subtitle B of title I of the 1990 Act (42 U.S.C. 12521 et seq.); and (4) $12,000,000 shall be to provide assistance to State commissions on national and community service, under 126(a) of the 1990 Act (42 U.S.C. 12576(a)) and notwithstanding 501(a)(4) of the 1990 Act (42 U.S.C. 12681(a)(4)).

AMENDMENT NO. 55 OFFERED BY MR. SHADEGG

Mr. SHADEGG. Madam Chairman, as the designee of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING), I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the Clerk read all amendments so that we know which ones are at the desk. I think both the minority and the majority would like to know that.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 55 offered by Mr. SHADEGG:

Page 97, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $255,625,000)''.

Page 97, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $255,625,000)''.

Page 98, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $55,000,000)''.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. SHADEGG. Madam Chairwoman, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Madam Chairwoman, this is an issue with which we're all very familiar. We've just heard some interesting debate on the floor here. My colleague, Mr. COOPER, offered I think an excellent amendment to increase the funding for Historically Black Colleges and made a very strong case for that. He noted that he was not able to designate a source for that and that it would require $125 million in funds.

We just discussed the importance of science education and the need for funding for that amendment, and the Chairman of the full committee has made the point that there simply aren't enough funds to accomplish these purposes.

I would suggest that this amendment is something that we could look to find those funds. It strikes funds for the AmeriCorps program, saving some $255.6 million. That is double the amount of money needed to fund or to plus up the funding for Historically Black Colleges requested by Mr. COOPER and, therefore, would leave room for the science funding that was just advanced.

I would suggest that, while well-intentioned, the AmeriCorps program simply does not achieve its goal. It has been plagued throughout its history with paying volunteers for programs that are inappropriate, and I will recite some of those, but more importantly, it denigrates the notion of volunteerism.

This Nation has been known since its inception for its grand tradition of volunteerism, going back to Alexis de Toqueville, who wrote about America and the volunteers of this Nation. It simply is important for Americans to volunteer, and the notion of this program to pay young people to volunteer simply makes no sense.

Let me talk about some of the abuses. AmeriCorps volunteers have been paid to lobby against the voter-approved California initiative to put violent criminals in prison for life after their third violent crime.

AmeriCorps volunteers, if you can call them that since they're paid, have been paid to disrupt Republican political events while working for the liberal advocacy group Acorn. Don't just trust me; it's a fact.

AmeriCorps volunteers have been paid to press for rent control in cities across our Nation.

AmeriCorps workers, not really volunteers, have also been paid to seek expanded Federal housing subsidies and to enroll more people in welfare programs.

Indeed, Citizens Against Government Waste, the watchdog group here in Washington, has vigilantly tracked many examples where AmeriCorps funds have been abused, and Citizens Against Government Waste issued a report saying that AmeriCorps has become a showcase for the waste and abuse inherent in many federalized civic sub-enterprises.

Both private and public investigators have determined that AmeriCorps' financial books are unauditable. AmeriCorps' own Inspector General years ago documented cases in which recruits received funds for working at a McDonald's while being paid for not working at all and for working while they were in prison.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, this is a very simple amendment that I will only take 2 minutes to discuss.

It eliminates all funds for AmeriCorps. It denies opportunities to 73,000 individuals to earn college assistance awards through serving their community.

It may not suit the gentleman's fancy that these folks volunteer and are paid, but I would suggest that it's a whole lot better than having people who don't volunteer at all.

Secondly, the gentleman cites what he considers to be abuses of the program. You know, when I looked at the Congress, I've seen abuse by Mr. Cunningham, I've seen abuse by Mr. Ney. In the old days, I saw abuse by Mr. Hayes, and a few other Members, but you know what, I didn't see anybody move to shut down the entire Congress because of the abuses of a few idiots. And I would suggest that we ought to apply the same standards to AmeriCorps that we apply to the Congress.

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut.

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Chairman, I'd like to speak on this amendment. I couldn't get to the floor fast enough. I have immense respect for my colleague from Arizona, but I think that he has confused the issues in a way that's very powerful until you look at it.

This is a service program, and we're asking young people to serve their country. They're given a minimum wage. The last I knew people need food and money in order to stay somewhere. To ask an 18- or 19-year-old young person to serve without having the ability to buy food and to live somewhere strikes me as pretty remarkable. I view this as service just as I view serving in the military as service.

This is something they do because they want to be part of a higher cause and we designed this program so it wasn't a one-size-fits-all. It's not this big government program.

What we designed this program to do is to allow each of the States to create programs through nonprofit organizations and others, and we allow the

States to choose which programs they want to fund. And that means you're going to have a lot of good programs and you are going to have some bad programs. You're going to have programs that really do a terrific job and some programs that don't do a good job.

I congratulate the former administration for its willingness to design a Republican kind of program, a program that has a competitive model. You compete for these dollars on the State level, a program that allows you to have excellence at the risk of having something that may not work well.

And what my colleague described about the failures of this institution doesn't mean we get rid of Congress because of some of the jerks that have served here and some of the outrageous things they have done. You find out where there are mistakes and you change them. So when there is a program that isn't auditable, we made sure that we audit these programs.

I am a Peace Corps volunteer, but I confess that when I served overseas, they provided me housing and I confess that when I served overseas they provided me money to buy food.

I was called a Peace Corps volunteer, and the reason why I felt that I was a volunteer was I was giving 2 years of my life in service to others. I deferred my career to some extent while my wife and I served in the Peace Corps and I think Mr. WALSH could say the same thing.

Americorps is a program that takes 18, 19, 20-year-old kids who may never have had work before, gives them an opportunity to have work under a mentored program by various nonprofit organizations. You should see these kids, the thrill and the excitement that they have in being part of this program.

Mr. SHADEGG. Madam Chairman, parliamentary inquiry.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from Wisconsin yield for an inquiry? The gentleman from Wisconsin's time has expired.

Does the gentleman from Arizona have an inquiry?

Mr. SHAYS. I have an inquiry. Had his time expired before I was interrupted?

The CHAIRMAN. It had just expired at that time.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut so he can wrap up. I see Mr. HONDA, another Member on his feet, who also wants to comment.

□ 1730

Mr. SHAYS. The bottom line to my point is, you take these young kids who in many cases have never had the opportunity to work, who work at a minimum wage, are providing a service in the community and are setting aside money for their college tuition. There is a stipend given to them for schooling. We have programs where we give a Pell Grant to a student who doesn't do a darn thing. These young kids have to earn it.

I would just like my colleague from Arizona to rethink what he has said and what he is asking for. I would hope that the gentleman would reconsider.

I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. HONDA. I appreciate the three speakers here. I think we are all ex-Peace Corps volunteers.

I think the other aspect of AmeriCorps is very much like Peace Corps in that we have invested in folks like ourselves, and the return on the investment has paid many, many times over a service to our country, a service to our community, and I think that the kind of investment that we are looking at in AmeriCorps is the same. And the kinds of monies that have been spent for us as Peace Corps volunteers was what we call subsistence allowance to allow us to be able to do the kind of work we do. Coming home, we have been able to share our experiences and fulfill the third mandate, and that was to return back home and give back to our communities. I suspect that this is the same thing that the young people in the AmeriCorps are experiencing.

It's a great investment of tax dollars.

Mr. WALSH of New York. I thank the gentleman for his comments.

I think it's interesting to note that there are three returned Peace Corps volunteers here today, one Democrat, two Republicans. In the Congress, there are three of each, three Republicans, three Democrats.

But, more importantly, our appetite for public service was not whetted just by Peace Corps. It certainly broadened our lives. I joke with people. I never crossed Main Street in Syracuse from the east side to the west side until I was 16 years old. I went to college, went into the Peace Corps. The world got a lot bigger.

I have come back, and I have met people in every walk of life who were Peace Corps volunteers. I suspect the same will happen with AmeriCorps volunteers. In fact, 90 percent, almost 90 percent of former AmeriCorps volunteers come back and volunteer on their own. They continue to provide, to work in public service. They continue to support organizations in their own community. This is a citizen-building organization. So few of our young people today focus on what they can do for their country. This is a great way to get them to focus on it.

It's $250 million, a lot of money, but it's an investment. You hear that a lot, but you can see the investment. Whether you agree with our politics or not, you can see the investment paid off, in that individuals like ourselves from very different backgrounds wound up here at the highest level of public service.

My hope is that this program will continue to produce young Americans who are idealistic, but realistic enough to know that they have to work hard to serve their community and give back something to their society. So I have great respect for my colleague and my friend from Arizona. I just strongly disagree. Volunteerism is alive and well because of programs like this. We need to maintain it and retain it.

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

Mr. SHADEGG. Madam Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I honor each of the gentlemen here who were Peace Corps volunteers. I recognize that they, indeed, may have been inspired to become pure volunteers, unpaid volunteers, as a result of their service in the Peace Corps. But I think what is sad about this debate is we haven't really discussed the issue I raised.

My colleague from Connecticut says he is for a program where they are paid a stipend to live and how they couldn't volunteer unless they were paid some living expense or unless they were paid for some food expense. Unfortunately, that's not the structure of the AmeriCorps program. The AmeriCorps program we are debating today, and the one that I am challenging the funding for and suggesting how funding could be better used, provides wages to the AmeriCorps so-called volunteers.

If we want to create a separate program, I am in favor of that. If we want to encourage volunteers by paying them a stipend instead of wages, by providing them housing instead of wages, then we might not distort the meaning of volunteerism, but we don't do that.

That's not what this program does. This program pays them wages, and as in the example I cited, it pays them wages in some cases to do work for which they are being paid, to work at a McDonald's. It seems to me that if you want to inspire volunteerism, which I encourage and encouraged in my opening remarks, then let's inspire volunteerism.

If you want to provide a stipend for housing, let's provide a stipend for housing. If you want to provide a stipend for meals, let's provide a stipend for meals. But don't call wages a stipend for housing or meals. These are wages to which these people are paid. I suggest people that do volunteer in this country, and there are millions, to set up a government program to say the only people that volunteer are people who are encouraged to volunteer by being paid to do so diminishes all of us and all of the volunteers in this country.

I wholeheartedly agree that if we want to revise AmeriCorps and make it a program which encourages volunteers

and pays them to volunteer and pays them a stipend for a living, including housing and/or food, absolutely. But to pay them wages is wrong. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. SHADEGG. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of administration as provided under section 501(a)(4) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12681 (a)(4)) and under section 504(a) of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5084(a)), including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, the employment of experts and consultants authorized under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and not to exceed $2,500 for official reception and representation expenses, $68,964,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), $5,512,000, to remain available until September 30, 2008.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the term ''qualified student loan'' with respect to national service education awards shall mean any loan determined by an institution of higher education to be necessary to cover a student's cost of attendance at such institution and made, insured, or guaranteed directly to a student by a State agency, in addition to other meanings under section 148(b)(7) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12604 (b)(7)).

SEC. 402. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available under section 129(d)(5)(B) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12581(d)(5)(B)) to assist entities in placing applicants who are individuals with disabilities may be provided to any entity that receives a grant under section 121 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12571).

SEC. 403. The Inspector General of the Corporation for National and Community Service shall conduct random audits of the grantees that administer activities under the AmeriCorps programs and shall levy sanctions in accordance with standard Inspector General audit resolution procedures which include, but are not limited to, debarment of any grantee (or successor in interest or any entity with substantially the same person or persons in control) that has been determined to have committed any substantial violation of the requirements of the AmeriCorps programs, including any grantee that has been determined to have violated the prohibition of using Federal funds to lobby the Congress: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall obtain reimbursements in the amount of any misused funds from any grantee that has been determined to have committed any substantial violation of the requirements of the AmeriCorps programs.

SEC. 404. The Corporation for National and Community Service shall make any significant changes to program requirements or policy only through public notice and comment rulemaking. For fiscal year 2008, during any grant selection process, an officer or employee of the Corporation shall not knowingly disclose any covered grant selection information regarding such selection, directly or indirectly, to any person other than an officer or employee of the Corporation that is authorized by the Corporation to receive such information.

SEC. 405. Professional Corps programs described in section 122(a)(8) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12572(a)(8)) may apply to the Corporation for a waiver of application of section 140(c)(2) (42 U.S.C. 12594(c)(2)).

SEC. 406. Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the Corporation may solicit and accept the services of organizations and individuals (other than participants) to assist the Corporation in carrying out the duties of the Corporation under the national service laws: *Provided*, That an individual who provides services under this section shall be subject to the same protections and limitations as volunteers under section 196(a) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12651g(a)).

SEC. 407. Organizations operating projects under the AmeriCorps Education Awards Program shall do so without regard to the requirements of sections 121(d) and (e) (42 U.S.C. 12571(d) and (e)), 131(e) (42 U.S.C. 12583(e)), 132 (42 U.S.C. 12584), and 140(a), (d), and (e)(42 U.S.C. 12594(a), (d), and (e)) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990.

SEC. 408. AmeriCorps programs receiving grants under the National Service Trust program shall meet an overall minimum share requirement of 24 percent for the first three years that they receive AmeriCorps funding, and thereafter shall meet the overall minimum share requirement as provided in section 2521.60 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, without regard to the operating costs match requirement in section 121(e) (42 U.S.C. 12571(e)) or the member support Federal share limitations in section 140 (42 U.S.C. 12594) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, and subject to partial waiver consistent with section 2521.70 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations.

CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

For payment to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, as authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, an amount which shall be available within limitations specified by that Act, for the fiscal year 2010, $420,000,000: *Provided*, That no funds made available to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting by this Act shall be used to pay for receptions, parties, or similar forms of entertainment for Government officials or employees: *Provided further*, That none of the funds contained in this paragraph shall be available or used to aid or support any program or activity from which any person is excluded, or is denied benefits, or is discriminated against, on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex: *Provided further*, That no funds made available to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting by this Act shall be used to apply any political test or qualification in selecting, appointing, promoting, or taking any other personnel action with respect to officers, agents, and employees of the Corporation: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2008, in addition to the amounts provided above, $29,700,000 shall be for costs related to digital program production, development, and distribution, associated with the transition of public broadcasting to digital broadcasting, to be awarded as determined by the Corporation in consultation with public radio and television licensees or permittees, or their designated representatives: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2008, in addition to the amounts provided above, $26,750,000 is available pursuant to section 396(k)(10) of the Communications Act of 1934 for replacement and upgrade of the public radio interconnection system: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting by this Act, the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2007 (Public Law 110–5), or the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–149), shall be used to support the Television Future Fund or any similar purpose.

AMENDMENT NO. 56 OFFERED BY MR. LAMBORN

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Chairman, as the designee of Mr. HENSARLING, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 56 offered by Mr. LAMBORN:

Page 103, strike line 7 and all that follows through the comma on page 104, line 12.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Chairman, today I rise to offer an amendment that recognizes the difficult fiscal situation facing our government. The Labor-HHS appropriations bill comes in at $7 billion over last year's level and $10.8 billion over the President's request.

As I have and others have said during this process, taxpayers are being asked to pay more in taxes because Congress is not willing to make hard choices and balance our spending with our income.

In fact, my Democratic colleagues feel it is necessary to burden the American taxpayer with the largest tax increase in history in order to fund these out-of-control and runaway spending bills. This amendment, in particular, would make the tough choice of maintaining fiscal prudence by eliminating funding in the bill for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, saving $420 million for the taxpayer.

The President, in his budget request, asked for zero. The most recent appropriation a year ago was for $400 million.

Now, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting gets 85 percent of its budget from sources other than this Federal budget, so only 15 percent of its budget is reliant on what is appropriated here.

Also, the appropriation is made 2 years in advance. That's a curious situation. I don't know if it applies to very many other sectors in our budget, but with a 2-year advance notice, the corporation would have plenty of time to make the adjustments necessary to adjust to the zeroing out of this budget amount.

Now, where could this money be made up from if the corporation needs that extra funding? There are many sources that it has available. It is very successful in its type of programming, for the most part. I believe that through further corporate sponsorship and commercial sponsorship, through using the popular programming like Sesame Street to generate some income like we do in the free market of our economy, that 15 percent could easily be made up.

Lastly, let me make the constitutional argument, I see in the Constitution that there are enumerated powers that our Federal Government is supposed to be doing. The Federal Government is supposed to provide for the common defense. The Federal Government is supposed to regulate interstate commerce, coin money, do the U.S. mail, and there are things like that, but I don't see providing entertainment as part of our constitutional powers and responsibilities that the Federal Government is supposed to do.

Hollywood is plenty good at doing that and other sectors of the private part of our economy. I just don't think that that's the Federal role for government, especially when the American taxpayer is being asked in this budget process that we're going through right now to come up with deficit spending.

Already, the appropriations bills that have come before this House are $20 billion over what the President has asked, and we are looking at a large deficit in the next year as a result.

I ask that this amendment be adopted.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, what this amendment does is eliminate all of the funds for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. I think that would be a very ill-advised thing to do. This Congress has spoken on funding for that organization many times. It has had strong support, often bipartisan support.

The gentleman complains about the fact that it is advance funded. It is advance funded for two reasons: number one, so that you can assure some kind of political independence from political pressure, and, secondly, because programmers need advance time in order to plan their programming.

The advance funding concept was begun 31 years ago by that notorious big spender Jerry Ford when he was President, my good friend, my good buddy.

If this amendment passes, 1,150 public radio and TV stations will be hurt. That will fall especially hard on rural stations. I don't think that's a good idea. I don't think we ought to do anything that would lead us 1 inch more toward a world in which the only kind of news we got was from the commercial stations feeding us the lately breathless news about Britney Spears, Donald Trump and Rosie O'Donnell. I would like to see a little bit better than that, and I think we get it from public broadcasting.

As far as the gentleman talking about taxes, we have seen Republican after Republican march down here like good little young Republicans in their college days repeating their mantra about taxes when this bill has nothing to do with taxes. They are all dutifully parroting their words like the Chinese used to do from Mao's Little Red Book. It's no more impressive now than it was then.

Let me just simply say that for someone to support spending $600 billion on the war in Iraq and spend $57 billion in tax cuts for millionaires and then somehow to suggest that the 2 percent difference in this bill between the President and us somehow has something to do with fiscal irresponsibility is a joke. The American people know it, and so do the Members of this House.

I yield to the gentleman from Oregon.

□ 1745

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I appreciate the gentleman's eloquence and his courtesy in allowing me to speak on this. And he is absolutely right; there has been a longstanding process of advanced funding to give our public broadcasting stations the ability to move forward.

He talks about it only being 15 percent of the budget. That 15 percent of the budget is critical, particularly for small and rural areas. There will always be public broadcasting in Denver or San Francisco or New York, but this money, these grants speak to the very heart of the ability to deal with sparsely populated areas from coast to coast. These are the people that would be punished if this ill-advised amendment were passed.

And, last but not least, he advances the notion that somehow this is just providing entertainment. I would strongly suggest that the gentleman offering this amendment go visit his public broadcasting system, because you will find that it is not just entertainment. Public broadcasting is culture, it is education, it is public safety. Indeed, this is the backbone in many parts of the country of emergency communications network. The notion that somehow this is only Big Bird and entertainment, and all we have got to do is commercialize public broadcasting more, misses the essence of why we have broad bipartisan support for public broadcasting.

I strongly urge rejection of this ill-advised amendment on behalf of 110 bipartisan members of the Public Broadcasting Caucus, over 100 of whom signed the letter to the appropriators supporting this budget. It is the 15 percent that is most critical for rural America. It is the advanced funding that provides the stability for things like the Ken Burns commentary. And it is not about just providing entertainment, it is education, it is culture, it is public safety. Public broadcasting is providing a voice for America, a noncommercial independent voice that is too often sadly lacking. It isn't available anyplace else in the gazillion channels on our cable networks.

And I appreciate the gentleman's courtesy.

Mr. OBEY. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Chairman, how much time is left?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman has 90 seconds.

Mr. LAMBORN. I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Texas, Representative GOHMERT.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Chairman, I would like to address one thing very quickly that the chairman used. I could probably ask that his words be taken down. But to accuse us of parroting as Mao's little underlings did is offensive, and it reminds me of one of my mother's favorite expressions: I believe we have got the pot calling the kettle black.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Chairman, I also wanted to say that I serve on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, and we struggle over there with budget needs for our veterans, both those who are in conflict now and will soon become veterans, those going back as far as World War II, and this $420 million would go a long way toward helping our veterans.

I am not saying that the Corporation for Public Broadcasting should suffer. They can turn around and find corporate sponsorship, commercial opportunities. They could easily make up for that in the free market; and they are successful, and they would easily do that.

So I just say that this funding should not be the responsibility of the American taxpayer.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. I rise in opposition to the amendment.

Madam Chairman, we have been down this road before. I believe public television has an important role to play both culturally and, more importantly, educationally. And as my colleague from Oregon mentioned, this is an essential and growing aspect of our public safety system and our ability to communicate.

In Rochester, New York, WXXI is using its digital signal to provide a network for local public service organizations, public safety organizations, first responders, not only for communication but for training, and also to help in coordinating large-scale emergency activities so that everyone is communicating within the same network and on the same bandwidth. So it is a very flexible system.

I have had my issues with the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. I had a very serious disagreement with them over the publication of what I thought was a very important movie regarding the lack of response by moderate Muslims to the radical Islamic fundamentalist zealots who are around the world today. The story I thought was a very well-told story, and it wasn't resolved certainly in my favor and in my view. But that aside, this would be a mistake to support this amendment, and for other reasons I oppose the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to carry out the functions vested in it by the Labor Management Relations Act of 1947 (29 U.S.C. et seq.), including hire of passenger motor vehicles; for expenses necessary for the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978 (29 U.S.C. 175a); and for expenses necessary for the Service to carry out the functions vested in it by the Civil Service Reform Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 71), $44,450,000, including $650,000 to remain available through September 30, 2009, for activities authorized by the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978 (29 U.S.C. 175a): *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code, fees charged, up to full-cost recovery, for special training activities and other conflict resolution services and technical assistance, including those provided to foreign governments and international organizations, and for arbitration services shall be credited to and merged with this account, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That fees for arbitration services shall be available only for education, training, and professional development of the agency workforce: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Service is authorized to accept and use on behalf of the United States gifts of services and real, personal, or other property in the aid of any projects or functions within the Director's jurisdiction.

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission (30 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), $8,096,000.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

OFFICE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES: GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out the Museum and Library Services Act (20 U.S.C. 9101 et seq.), and the National Museum of African American History and Culture Act (20 U.S.C. 80 et seq.), $264,812,000, to remain available until September 30, 2008.

MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out section 1805 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395b–6), $10,748,000, to be transferred to this appropriation from the Federal Hospital Insurance and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the National Council on Disability as authorized by title IV of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, $3,113,000.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the National Labor Relations Board to carry out the functions vested in it by the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947 (29 U.S.C. 141–167 et seq.), Equal Access to Justice Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, Government in the Sunshine Act, Postal Service Reorganization Act, Freedom of Information Act, and the Privacy Act, $256,988,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds available under this Act available to organize or assist in organizing agricultural laborers or used in connection with investigations, hearings, directives, or orders concerning bargaining units composed of agricultural laborers as referred to in section 2(3) of the Act of July 5, 1935 (29 U.S.C. 152 (3)), and as amended by the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947, and as defined in section 3(f) of the Act of June 25, 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203(f)), and including in such definition employees engaged in the maintenance and operation of ditches, canals, reservoirs, and waterways when maintained or operated on a mutual, nonprofit basis and at least 95 percent of the water stored or supplied thereby is used for farming purposes.

NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.), including emergency boards appointed by the President, $12,992,000, of which $750,000 shall be for arbitrator salaries and expenses pursuant to section 153(1).

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (29 U.S.C. 661), $10,696,000.

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For payment to the Dual Benefits Payments Account, authorized under section 15(d) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 (45 U.S.C. 231n (d)), $79,000,000, which shall include amounts becoming available in fiscal year 2008 pursuant to section 224(c)(1)(B) of Public Law 98–76 (45 U.S.C. 231n note); and in addition, an amount, not to exceed 2 percent of the amount provided herein, shall be available proportional to the amount by which the product of recipients and the average benefit received exceeds the amount available for payment of vested dual benefits: *Provided*, That the total amount provided herein shall be credited in 12 approximately equal amounts on the first day of each month in the fiscal year.

FEDERAL PAYMENTS TO THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

For payment to the accounts established in the Treasury for the payment of benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act for interest earned on unnegotiated checks, $150,000, to remain available through September 30, 2009, which shall be the maximum amount available for payment pursuant to section 417 of Public Law 98–76 (45 U.S.C. 231n note).

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for the Railroad Retirement Board for administration of the Railroad Retirement Act (45 U.S.C. 231 et seq.) and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (45 U.S.C. 351 et seq.), $103,694,000, to be derived in such amounts as determined by the Board from the railroad retirement accounts and from moneys credited to the railroad unemployment insurance administration fund.

LIMITATION ON THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General for audit, investigatory and review activities, as authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. appendix), not more than $7,606,000, to be derived from the railroad retirement accounts and railroad unemployment insurance account.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

PAYMENTS TO SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUNDS

For payment to the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, as provided under sections 201(m), 217(g), 228(g), and 1131(b)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401(m), 417(g), 428(g), and 1320b–1(b)(2)), $28,140,000.

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME PROGRAM

For carrying out titles XI and XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1301 et seq., 1381 et seq.), section 401 of Public Law 92–603, section 212 of Public Law 93–66, as amended, and section 405 of Public Law 95–216, including payment to the Social Security trust funds for administrative expenses incurred pursuant to section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401(g)(1)), $26,948,525,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any portion of the funds provided to a State in the current fiscal year and not obligated by the State during that year shall be returned to the Treasury.

For making, after June 15 of the current fiscal year, benefit payments to individuals under title XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.), for unanticipated costs incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

For making benefit payments under title XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.) for the first quarter of fiscal year 2009, $14,800,000,000, to remain available until expended.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, including the hire of two passenger motor vehicles, and not to exceed $15,000 for official reception and representation expenses, not more than $9,347,953,000 may be expended, as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401(g)(1)), from any one or all of the trust funds referred to therein: *Provided*, That not less than $2,000,000 shall be for the Social Security Advisory Board: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances of funds provided under this paragraph at the end of fiscal year 2008 not needed for fiscal year 2008 shall remain available until expended to invest in the Social Security Administration information technology and telecommunications hardware and software infrastructure, including related equipment and non-payroll administrative expenses associated solely with this information technology and telecommunications infrastructure: *Provided further*, That reimbursement to the trust funds under this heading for expenditures for official time for employees of the Social Security Administration pursuant to section 7131 of title 5, United States Code,

and for facilities or support services for labor organizations pursuant to policies, regulations, or procedures referred to in section 7135(b) of such title shall be made by the Secretary of the Treasury, with interest, from amounts in the general fund not otherwise appropriated, as soon as possible after such expenditures are made.

From funds provided under the first paragraph, not less than $263,970,000 shall be available for conducting continuing disability reviews under title II and XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq., 1381 et seq.) and for conducting redeterminations of eligibility under title XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.).

In addition to amounts made available above, and subject to the same terms and conditions, $213,000,000, for additional continuing disability reviews and redeterminations of eligibility.

In addition, $135,000,000 to be derived from administration fees in excess of $5.00 per supplementary payment collected pursuant to section 1616(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1382e(d)) or section 212(b)(3) of Public Law 93–66, which shall remain available until expended. To the extent that the amounts collected pursuant to such sections in fiscal year 2008 exceed $135,000,000, the amounts shall be available in fiscal year 2009 only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

In addition, up to $1,000,000 to be derived from fees collected pursuant to section 303(c) of the Social Security Protection Act (Public Law 108–203), which shall remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), $27,000,000, together with not to exceed $68,047,000, to be transferred and expended as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401(g)(1)) from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund.

In addition, an amount not to exceed 3 percent of the total provided in this appropriation may be transferred from the ''Limitation on Administrative Expenses'', Social Security Administration, to be merged with this account, to be available for the time and purposes for which this account is available: *Provided*, That notice of such transfers shall be transmitted promptly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 501. The Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education are authorized to transfer unexpended balances of prior appropriations to accounts corresponding to current appropriations provided in this Act. Such transferred balances shall be used for the same purpose, and for the same periods of time, for which they were originally appropriated.

SEC. 502. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 503. (a) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, for the preparation, distribution, or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television, or video presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before the Congress or any State legislature, except in presentation to the Congress or any State legislature itself.

(b) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used to pay the salary or expenses of any grant or contract recipient, or agent acting for such recipient, related to any activity designed to influence legislation or appropriations pending before the Congress or any State legislature.

SEC. 504. The Secretaries of Labor and Education are authorized to make available not to exceed $28,000 and $20,000, respectively, from funds available for salaries and expenses under titles I and III, respectively, for official reception and representation expenses; the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $5,000 from the funds available for ''Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, Salaries and expenses''; and the Chairman of the National Mediation Board is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $5,000 from funds available for ''National Mediation Board, Salaries and expenses''.

SEC. 505. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no funds appropriated in this Act shall be used to carry out any program of distributing sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug.

SEC. 506. When issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal money, all grantees receiving Federal funds included in this Act, including but not limited to State and local governments and recipients of Federal research grants, shall clearly state—

(1) the percentage of the total costs of the program or project which will be financed with Federal money;

(2) the dollar amount of Federal funds for the project or program; and

(3) percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be financed by non-governmental sources.

SEC. 507. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act, and none of the funds in any trust fund to which funds are appropriated in this Act, shall be expended for any abortion.

(b) None of the funds appropriated in this Act, and none of the funds in any trust fund to which funds are appropriated in this Act, shall be expended for health benefits coverage that includes coverage of abortion.

(c) The term ''health benefits coverage'' means the package of services covered by a managed care provider or organization pursuant to a contract or other arrangement.

SEC. 508. (a) The limitations established in the preceding section shall not apply to an abortion—

(1) if the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest; or

(2) in the case where a woman suffers from a physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness, including a life-endangering physical condition caused by or arising from the pregnancy itself, that would, as certified by a physician, place the woman in danger of death unless an abortion is performed.

(b) Nothing in the preceding section shall be construed as prohibiting the expenditure by a State, locality, entity, or private person of State, local, or private funds (other than a State's or locality's contribution of Medicaid matching funds).

(c) Nothing in the preceding section shall be construed as restricting the ability of any managed care provider from offering abortion coverage or the ability of a State or locality to contract separately with such a provider for such coverage with State funds (other than a State's or locality's contribution of Medicaid matching funds).

(d)(1) None of the funds made available in this Act may be made available to a Federal agency or program, or to a State or local government, if such agency, program, or government subjects any institutional or individual health care entity to discrimination on the basis that the health care entity does not provide, pay for, provide coverage of, or refer for abortions.

(2) In this subsection, the term ''health care entity'' includes an individual physician or other health care professional, a hospital, a provider-sponsored organization, a health maintenance organization, a health insurance plan, or any other kind of health care facility, organization, or plan.

SEC. 509. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for—

(1) the creation of a human embryo or embryos for research purposes; or

(2) research in which a human embryo or embryos are destroyed, discarded, or knowingly subjected to risk of injury or death greater than that allowed for research on fetuses in utero under section 46.204(b) of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, and section 498(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 289g(b)).

(b) For purposes of this section, the term ''human embryo or embryos'' includes any organism, not protected as a human subject under part 46 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, that is derived by fertilization, parthenogenesis, cloning, or any other means from one or more human gametes or human diploid cells.

SEC. 510. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any activity that promotes the legalization of any drug or other substance included in schedule I of the schedules of controlled substances established under section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) except for normal and recognized executive-congressional communications.

(b) The limitation in subsection (a) shall not apply when there is significant medical evidence of a therapeutic advantage to the use of such drug or other substance or that federally sponsored clinical trials are being conducted to determine therapeutic advantage.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to promulgate or adopt any final standard under section 1173(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320d–2(b)) providing for, or providing for the assignment of, a unique health identifier for an individual (except in an individual's capacity as an employer or a health care provider), until legislation is enacted specifically approving the standard.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated or expended to enter into or renew a contract with an entity if—

(1) such entity is otherwise a contractor with the United States and is subject to the requirement in section 4212(d) of title 38, United States Code, regarding submission of an annual report to the Secretary of Labor concerning employment of certain veterans; and

(2) such entity has not submitted a report as required by that section for the most recent year for which such requirement was applicable to such entity.

SEC. 513. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

SEC. 514. None of the funds made available by this Act to carry out the Library Services and Technology Act may be made available

to any library covered by paragraph (1) of section 224(f) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 9134(f)), as amended by the Children's Internet Protection Act, unless such library has made the certifications required by paragraph (4) of such section.

SEC. 515. None of the funds made available by this Act to carry out part D of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2401 et seq.) may be made available to any elementary or secondary school covered by paragraph (1) of section 2441(a) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 6777(a)), as amended by the Children's Internet Protection Act and the No Child Left Behind Act, unless the local educational agency with responsibility for such covered school has made the certifications required by paragraph (2) of such section.

SEC. 516. (a) None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2008, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates new programs;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;

(4) relocates an office or employees;

(5) reorganizes or renames offices;

(6) reorganizes programs or activities; or

(7) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;

unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming or of an announcement of intent relating to such reprogramming, whichever occurs earlier.

(b) None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2008, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds in excess of $500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

(1) augments existing programs, projects (including construction projects), or activities;

(2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress;

unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming or of an announcement of intent relating to such reprogramming, whichever occurs earlier.

SEC. 517. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to request that a candidate for appointment to a Federal scientific advisory committee disclose the political affiliation or voting history of the candidate or the position that the candidate holds with respect to political issues not directly related to and necessary for the work of the committee involved.

(b) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to disseminate scientific information that is deliberately false or misleading.

SEC. 518. Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, each department and related agency funded through this Act shall submit an operating plan that details at the program, project, and activity level any funding allocations for fiscal year 2008 that are different than those specified in this Act, the accompanying detailed table in the committee report, or the fiscal year 2008 budget request.

SEC. 519. The Department of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services shall provide congressional budget justifications for their fiscal year 2009 budget requests in the format and level of detail used by the Department of Education in its fiscal year 2008 congressional budget justifications.

SEC. 520. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by the Commissioner of Social Security or the Social Security Administration to develop guidelines, policies, or procedures, or to pay the compensation of employees of the Social Security Administration, to administer Social Security benefit payments, under any agreement between the United States and any foreign country establishing totalization arrangements between the social security system established by title II of the Social Security Act and the social security system of such foreign country, which would be inconsistent with existing statutory law.

SEC. 521. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to enter into a contract with an entity that does not participate in the basic pilot program described in section 403(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1324a note).

Mr. OBEY (during the reading). Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the remainder of the bill through page 125, line 2 be considered as read, printed in the RECORD, and open to amendment at any point.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. OBEY

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. OBEY:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds in this Act may be used for the following:

Children Uniting Nations, Los Angeles, CA;

Crisis Nursery of the Ozarks, Springfield, MO;

Jefferson County, Golden, CO;

New York Center for Children, New York, NY:

Shelter for Abused Women, Winchester, VA;

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia, MN:

Augusta Levy Learning Center, Wheeling, WV;

Beth El House, Alexandria, VA;

Children's Home Society of South Dakota, Sioux Falls, SD;

Christian Outreach of Lutherans, Waukegan, IL;

City of Detroit, MI;

City of Fort Worth, TX;

City of San Jose, CA;

Cliff Hagan Boys and Girls Club—Mike Horn Unit, Owensboro, KY;

Communities In Schools, Bell-Coryell Counties, Inc., Killeen, TX;

Covenant House Florida, Ft. Lauderdale, FL;

Eisner Pediatric and Family Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA;

Every Citizen Has Opportunities, Inc., Leesburg, VA;

Family Center of Washington County, Montpelier, VT;

First 5 Alameda County, San Leandro, CA;

Friendship Circle of the South Bay, Redondo Beach, CA;

Greater New Britain Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Inc., New Britain, CT;

Hamilton-Madison House, New York, NY;

Healthy Learners Dillon, Columbia, SC;

Helping Children Worldwide, Herndon, VA;

Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department, Minneapolis, MN;

Hillside Family of Agencies, Rochester, NY;

Hope Village for Children, Meridian, MS;

Horizons for Homeless Children, Boston, MA;

Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn, NY;

L.I.F.T. Women's Resource Center, Detroit, MI;

Lawrence County Social Services, New Castle, PA;

Lutheran Social Services, Duluth, MN;

Marcus Institute, Atlanta, GA;

Mary's Family, Orlean, VA;

Mecklenburg County, Charlotte, NC;

Missouri Bootheel Regional Consortium, Portageville, MO;

Monterey County Probation Department, Salinas, CA;

Nashua Adult Learning Center, Nashua, NH;

National Energy Assistance Directors' Association, Washington, DC;

Network for Instructional TV, Inc., Reston, VA;

Nurses for Newborns Foundation, St. Louis, MO;

Organization of the NorthEast, Chicago, IL;

Pediatric Interim Care Center, Kent, WA;

Public Health Department, Solano County, Fairfield, CA;

Sephardic Bikur Holim of Monmouth County, Deal, NJ;

Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network, San Jose, CA

Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL;

Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX;

Susan Wesley Family Learning Center, East Prairie, MO;

TLC for Children and Families, Inc., Olathe, KS;

United Way Southeastern Michigan, Detroit, MI;

University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO;

Visitation Home, Inc., Yardville, NJ;

Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado, Denver, CO;

Amalgamated Warbasse Houses, Inc., Brooklyn, NY;

California Senior Legal Hotline, Sacramento, CA;

Durham-Chapel Hill Jewish Federation, Durham, NC;

Howard Brown Health Center, Chicago, IL;

Jewish Community Services of South Florida, North Miami, FL;

Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis, Minnetonka, MI;

Jewish Family Service of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM;

Jewish Family Service, Los Angeles, CA;

Jewish Family Services of Delaware, Inc., Wilmington, DE;

Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey, Scotch Plains, NJ;

Jewish Federation of Greater Monmouth County, NJ;

Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, Woodbridge, CT;
Jewish Federation of Middlesex County, South River, NJ;
Jewish Social Service Agency, Fairfax, VA;
Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging, Front Royal, VA;
United Jewish Communities of MetroWest, NJ, Parsippany, NJ;
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL;
Adler Aphasia Center, Maywood, NJ;
Advocate Good Shepard Hospital, Barrington, IL;
Alameda County Public Health Department, Office of AIDS Administration, Oakland, CA;
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX;
Bayside Community Center, San Diego, CA;
Berean Community & Family Life Center, Brooklyn, NY;
Bienestar Human Services, Inc., Los Angeles, CA;
Boys and Girls Club of Delaware County, Jay, OK;
California State University-Fullerton, Fullerton, CA;
Charles R. Drew Wellness Center, Columbia, SC;
Charter County of Wayne, Michigan, Detroit, MI;
Chez Panisse Foundation, Berkeley, CA;
Children's Hunger Alliance, Columbus, OH;
Columbus Children's Research Institute, Columbus, OH;
County of Marin, San Rafael, CA
CREATE Foundation, Tupelo, MS;
DuPage County, Wheaton, IL;
East Carolina University, Brody School of Medicine, Greenville, NC;
EI Puente, Brooklyn, NY;
Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation, Lake Success, NY;
Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation, Lake Success, NY;
Georgia Chapter of the American Lung Association, Smyrna, GA
Haitian American Association Against Cancer, Inc., Miami, FL;
Healthy Eating Lifestyle Principles, Monterey, CA;
Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters—Florida, Coral Gables, FL;
Ingalls Development Foundation, Harvey, IL;
International Rett Syndrome Association, Clinton, MD;
Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club, Bronx, NY;
Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY;
Louisville Department of Public Health and Wellness, Louisville, KY;
Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN;
Myositis Association, Washington, DC;
Natividad Medical Center, Salinas, CA;
Nevada Cancer Institute, Las Vegas, NV;
North Shore Health Project, Gloucester, MA;
Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH;
Providence Cancer Center, Portland, OR;
Pulmonary Hypertension Association, Silver Spring, MD;
San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, San Antonio, TX;
SHAREing and CAREing, Astoria, NY;
Silent Spring Institute, Newton, MA;
Southeastern Center for Emerging Biologic Threats, Atlanta, GA;
St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, Wabasha, MN;
St. Francis Medical Center Foundation, Lynwood, CA;
St. John's Regional Medical Center, Oxnard, CA;
St. John's Well Child and Family Center, Los Angeles, CA
University of Arizona College of Medicine, Tucson, AZ;
University of Findlay Center for Public Health Preparedness, Findlay, OH;
University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, TX;
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL;
University of Texas Pan American, Edinburg, TX;
University of Texas, Brownsville, TX;
Virgin Islands Perinatal Inc., Christiansted, VI;
Voorhees College, Denmark, SC;
Wayne County Department of Public Health, Detroit, MI;
WestCare Foundation, Las Vegas, NV;
Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT;
YBH Project, Inc., Albany, GA;
Access Health, Inc., Muskegon, MI;
Bedford Ride, Bedford, VA;
Bi-State Primary Care Association, Concord, NH;
City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health, San Francisco, CA;
City of Detroit, MI;
City of Waterbury, CT;
Gadsden County, FL, Quincy, FL;
Jefferson Area Board for Aging, Charlottesville, VA;
Orange County's Primary Care Access Network, Orlando, FL;
Piedmont Hospital, Atlanta, GA;
Thurston-Mason County Medical Society, Olympia, WA;
Valley Hospice, Inc., Steubenville, OH;
ABC Unified School District, Cerritos, CA;
Academy for Urban School Leadership, Chicago, IL;
Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Inc., Bridgeport, CT;
African-American Male Achievers Network, Inc., Inglewood, CA;
Akron Public Schools, OH;
Alamance-Burlington School District, Burlington, NC;
All Kinds of Minds, Chapel Hill, NC;
American Ballet Theatre, New York, NY;
Amistad America, New Haven, CT;
An Achievable Dream, Inc., Newport News, VA;
Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX;
Apache County Schools, St. Johns, AZ;
Arab City Schools, Arab, AL;
AVANCE, Inc, El Paso, TX;
AVANCE, Inc., Del Rio, TX;
AVANCE, Inc., Waco, TX;
Barat Education Foundation, Lake Forest, IL;
Bay Haven Charter Academy Middle School, Lynn Haven, FL;
Baylor University, Waco, TX;
Best Buddies International, Miami, FL;
Best Buddies Maryland, Baltimore, MD;
Best Buddies Rhode Island, Providence, RI;
Big Top Chautauqua, WI;
Boise State University, Boise, ID;
Bowie State University, Bowie, MD;
Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI;
Boys & Girls Town of Missouri, Columbia, MO;
Boys and Girls Club of San Bernardino, CA;
Bradford Area School District, Bradford, PA;
Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ;
Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts, Hartford, CT;
California State University Northridge, CA;
California State University, San Bernardino, CA;
Canton Symphony Orchestra Association, Canton, OH;
Carnegie Hall, New York, NY;
Central County Occupational Center, San Jose, CA;
Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology, State College, PA;
Centro de Salud Familiar Le Fe, El Paso, TX;
Charlotte County School District, Port Charlotte, FL;
Charter School Development Foundation, Las Vegas, NV;
City of Fairfield, CA;
City of Gadsden, AL;
City of Hayward, Hayward, CA;
City of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN;
City of Newark, Newark, CA;
City of Pawtucket School Department, Pawtucket, RI;
City of Pembroke Pines, FL;
City of San Jose, CA;
City of San Jose, CA;
City of Springfield, MO;
City of Whittier, Whittier, CA;
City School District of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY;
Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV;
Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV;
Clovis Unified School District, Clovis, CA;
College Summit, Inc., Washington, DC;
Communities in Schools—Northeast Texas, Mount Pleasant, TX;
Communities in Schools of Cochran and Bleckley County, Cochran, GA;
Communities in Schools of Coweta, Inc., Newnan, GA;
Communities in Schools of Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County, Fitzgerald, GA;
Communities in Schools of Tacoma, Tacoma, WA;
Communities in Schools, Austin, TX;
Communities in Schools, San Fernando Valley, Inc., North Hills, CA;
Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles, Monterey Park, CA;
Community Service Society, New York, NY;
Connecticut Technical High School System, Middletown, CT;
Contra Costa College, San Pablo, CA;
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 11;
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 12, Ashland, WI;
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 5, Portage, WI;
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 9, Tomahawk, WI;
County of San Diego, San Pasqual Academy, Escondido, CA;
Cuyahoga County Board of County Commissioners, Cleveland, OH;
Delaware Department of Education, Dover, DE;
Detroit Youth Foundation, Detroit, MI;
DNA EpiCenter, Inc., New London, CT;
Duval County Public Schools, Jacksonville, FL;
Edgar School District, Edgar, WI;
Edison and Ford Winter Estates Education Foundation;
Education Partnership, Providence, RI:
Education Service Center, Region 12, Hillsboro, TX;
Ennis Independent School District, Ennis, TX ;
Envision Schools, San Francisco, CA;
Erskine College, Due West, SC;
Exploratorium, San Francisco, CA;
Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax, VA;
Fairfax County Public Schools, Falls Church, VA;
Fairhope Center for the Arts, Bay Minette, AL;
Families In Schools, Los Angeles, CA;
Fayetteville Technical Community College, Fayettevile, NC;
Forward in the Fifth, Somerset, KY;
Friends of the Children National, Portland, OR;
George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy, Inc., Bethesda, MD;

Girl Scouts of the USA, New York, NY;
Graham County Schools, Safford, AZ;
Guam Public School System, Hagatna, GU;
Hamilton Wings, Elgin, IL;
Harris County Department of Education, Houston, TX;
Harvey Public School District 152, Harvey, IL;
Hawaii Department of Education, Honolulu, HI;
Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, Kempton, PA;
Helen Keller International, New York, NY;
High Plains Regional Education Cooperative, Raton, NM;
Hillside Family of Agencies, Rochester, NY;
Hoke County Schools, Raeford, NC;
Houston Independent School District, Houston, TX;
I KNOW I CAN, Columbus, OH;
In Tune Foundation Group, Washington, DC;
Independent School District 181, Brainerd, MN;
Institute for Student Achievement, Lake Success, NY;
Institute for Student Achievement, Lake Success, NY;
Iowa City Community School District, Iowa City, IA;
Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana—Southeast, Madison, IN;
Jacob Burns Film Center, Pleasantville, NY;
Jazz at Lincoln Center, New York, NY;
Jefferson County Public Schools, Golden, CO;
Jersey Shore Area School District, Jersey Shore, PA;
JFYNetWorks, Boston, MA;
JFYNetWorks, Boston, MA;
Joplin School District, Joplin, MO;
Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc., Boston, MA;
Jumpstart for Young Children, San Francisco, CA;
Kelberman Center, Utica, NY;
KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA;
KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA;
KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA;
La Crosse School District, La Crosse, WI;
Learning Point Associates/North Central Regional Education Laboratory, Naperville, IL;
Lee Pesky Learning Center, Boise, ID;
Lemay Child & Family Center, St. Louis, MO;
Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Los Angeles, CA;
Louisiana Arts and Sciences Museum, Baton Rouge, LA;
Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA;
Lower East Side Conservancy, New York, NY;
Madison County Schools, Richmond, KY;
Mesa Unified School District, Mesa, AZ;
Military Heritage Center Foundation, Carlisle, PA;
Miller County Development Authority, Colquit, GA;
Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation, Washington, DC;
Milwaukee Public Schools, Milwaukee, WI;
Minnesota Humanities Commission, St. Paul, MN;
Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS;
Missouri State University, Springfield, MO;
Monroe County School District, Key West, FL;
Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD;
Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota, FL;
Mount Hood Community College, Gresham, OR;
National Center for Electronically Mediated Learning, Inc., Milford, CT;
National Council on Crime and Delinquency, Oakland, CA;
National Cued Speech Association, Bethesda, MD;
National Flight Academy, Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL;
National Resource Center for Deafblindness, East Greenville, PA;
National Teacher's Hall of Fame, Emporia, KS;
Neighborhood Youth Association, Venice, CA;
New Mexico Public Education Department, Santa Fe, NM;
Newton Public Schools, Newton, KS;
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University, Greensboro, NC;
North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC;
North Carolina Symphony, Raleigh, NC;
North Carolina Technology Association Education Foundation, Raleigh, NC;
North Philadelphia Youth Association, Philadelphia, PA;
Northeast Louisiana Family Literacy Interagency Consortium;
Northern Tier Industry & Education Consortium, Dimock, PA;
Norwich Public School System, Norwich, CT;
Oakland Unified School District, Oakland, CA;
O'Neill Sea Odyssey, Santa Cruz, CA ;
OneWorld Now!, Seattle, WA;
Ossining Union Free School District, Ossining, NY;
Parent Institute for Quality Education, San Diego, CA;
PE4life, Kansas City, MO;
PE4life, Kansas City, MO;
People for People, Philadelphia, PA;
Peru State College, Peru, NE;
Philadelphia Academies, Inc., Philadelphia, PA;
Pinal County Education Service Agency, Florence, AZ;
Polk County Public Schools, Bartow, FL;
Port Chester—Rye Union Free School District, Port Chester, NY;
Project GRAD USA, Philadelphia, PA;
Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN;
Queens Theatre in the Park, Flushing, NY;
Renwick Public Schools, Andale, KS;
Rio Rancho Public Schools, Rio Ranch, NM;
Riverside Community College, Riverside, CA;
Riverside County Office of Education, Riverside, CA;
Rockdale County Public Schools, Conyers, GA;
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, IN;
Salesian Boys and Girls Club of Los Angeles, CA;
San Bernardino City Unified School District, San Bernardino, CA;
San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, San Bernardino, CA;
San Joaquin County, Stockton, CA;
San Mateo County, Redwood City, CA;
School Board of Broward County, Fort Lauderdale, FL;
Schultz Center for Teaching and Leadership, Jacksonville, FL;
Selden/Centereach Youth Association, Selden, NY;
Silver Crescent Foundation, Charleston, SC;
Sociedad Latina, Roxbury, MA;
Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX;
Springboard for Improving Schools, San Francisco, CA;
Springfield Public School District No. 19, Springfield, OR;
St. Mary's County Public Schools, Leonardtown, MD;
State of Nevada Department of Education;
Summit Educational Resources, Getzville, NY;
Susannah Wesley Community Center, Honolulu, HI;
Tampa Metropolitan YMCA, Tampa, FL;
Texas Southern University, Houston, TX;
Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, Los Angeles, CA;
Town of Cumberland, Cumberland, RI;
Towson University, Towson, MD;
Tracy Joint Unified School District, Tracy, CA;
Tri-County Educational Service, Wooster, OH;
Trumbull County Educational Service Center, Niles, OH;
Tulsa Public Schools, Tulsa, OK;
Union County Public Schools, Monroe, NC;
Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns, Sleepy Hollow, NY;
University of Akron, Akron, OH;
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL;
USD 259, Wichita Public Schools, Wichita, KS;
Valle Lindo School District, South El Monte, CA;
Venango Technology Center, Oil City, PA;
Vision Therapy Project, Casper, WY;
Visually Impaired Preschool Services, Louisville, KY;
Washington College, Chestertown, MD;
Washington State University, Tacoma, WA;
WE CARE San Jacinto Valley, Inc., San Jacinto, CA;
West Contra Costa Unified School District, Richmond, CA;
White-Williams Scholars, Philadelphia, PA;
Widener University, Chester, PA;
Wildlife Information Center, Inc., Slatington, PA;
Williamsburg County First Steps, Kingstree, SC;
Yonkers Public Schools, Yonkers, NY;
Youngstown City School District, OH;
Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH;
YWCA of Gary, Gary, IN;
Adelante Development Center, Albuquerque, NM;
Agudath Israel of America Community Services, Inc., Brooklyn, NY;
Arc of Blackstone Valley, Pawtucket, RI;
Bellingham Technical College, Bellingham, WA;
Bismarck State College, Bismarck, ND;
Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ;
Capital IDEA, Austin, TX;
Center for Employment Training, San Jose, CA;
Central Carolina Tech College, Sumter, SC;
Central Maine Community College, Auburn, ME;
Chinese-American Planning Council, New York, NY;
City College of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA;
City of Alexandria, VA;
City of Baltimore, MD;
City of Milwaukee, WI;
City of Palmdale, Palmdale, CA;
City of Suffolk, VA;
City of West Palm Beach, FL;
Clarian Health Partners, Indianapolis, IN;
College of Southern Maryland, La Plata, MD;
Community Learning Center, Fort Worth, TX;
Des Moines Area Community College, Arkeny, IA;
Dillard University, New Orleans, LA;
East Los Angeles Community Union, Los Angeles, CA;
Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana, Inc., Fort Wayne, IN;

Edgar Campbell Foundation, Philadelphia, PA;
Employment & Economic Development Department of San Joaquin County, Stockton, CA;
Essex County Community Organization, Lynn, MA;
Foundation of the Delaware County Chamber, Media, PA;
Goodwill of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, NV;
Greater Akron Chamber, Akron, OH;
Groden Center, Providence, RI;
Guam Community College, Mangilao, Guam;
Hamilton County Government, Chattanooga, TN;
Home of Life Community Development Corp., Chicago, IL;
Homecare Workers Training Center, Los Angeles, CA;
International Fellowship of Chaplains, Inc., Saginaw, MI;
Iowa Valley Community College, Marshalltown, IA;
Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana—Columbus Region, Indianapolis, IN;
Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana Lafayette, Indianapolis, IN;
Kansas City Kansas Community College, Kansas City, KS;
Kent State University/Trumbull County, Warren, OH;
Louisiana Delta Community College, Monroe, LA;
Louisiana National Guard, Carville, LA;
Manufacturing Association of Central New York, Syracuse, NY;
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Manchester, NH;
McHenry County Community College, Woodstock, IL;
Minot State University, Minot, ND;
Mission Language and Vocational School, San Francisco, CA;
Neighborhood First Program, Inc., Bristol, PA;
NewLife Academy of Information Technology, East Liverpool, OH;
North West Pasadena Development Corp., Pasedena, CA;
Northcott Neighborhood House, Milwaukee, WI;
Oakland Community College, Bloomfield Hills, MI;
Opportunity, Inc., Highland Park, IL;
Our Piece of the Pie, Hartford, CT;
Parish of Rapides Career Solutions Center, Alexandria, LA;
Philadelphia Shipyard Development Corporation, Philadelphia, PA;
Piedmont Virginia Community College, Charlottesville, VA;
Poder Learning Center, Chicago, IL;
Precision Manufacturing Institute, Meadville, PA;
Project One Inc., Louisville, KY;
Project QUEST, Inc., San Antonio, TX;
PRONTO of Long Island, Inc., Bayshore, NY;
Schoenbaum Family Enrichment Center, Charleston, WV;
Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29, Marlin, PA;
South Bay Workforce Investment Board, Hawthorne, CA;
Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO;
Southern University at Shreveport, Shreveport, LA;
Southside Virginia Community College, Alberta, VA;
Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford, OK;
St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment, St. Louis, MO;
Towson University, Towson, MD;
United Mine Workers of America, Washington, PA;
University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL;
Veteran Community Initiatives, Inc., Johnstown, PA
Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN;
Wayne County, NY Planning Department, Lyons, NY;
West Los Angeles College, Culver City, CA;
Women Work and Community, Augusta, ME;
A.O. Fox Memorial Hospital, Oneonta, NY;
Access Community Health Network, Chicago, IL;
Adirondack Medical Center, Saranac Lake, NY;
Adrian College, Adrian, MI;
Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, Glendale Heights, IL;
Adventist Health, Roseville, CA;
Alamo Community College System, San Antonio, TX;
Alaska Addictions Rehabilitation Services, Inc., Wasilla, AK;
Alderson-Broaddus College, Philippi, WV;
Alice Hyde Medical Center, Malone, NY;
Alleghany Memorial Hospital, Sparta, NC;
Alle-Kiski Medical Center, Natrona Heights, PA;
Alliance for NanoHealth, Houston, TX;
AltaMed Health Services Corp., Los Angeles, CA;
American Oncologic Hospital, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA;
LBJ Medical Center, American Samoa;
Amite County Medical Services, Liberty, MS;
Arnold Palmer Hospital, Orlando, FL;
Ashland County Oral Health Services, Ashland, OH;
Asian Americans for Community Involvement, San Jose, CA;
Association for Utah Community Health, Salt Lake City, UT;
Atlantic Health Systems, Florham Park, NJ;
Avis Goodwin Community Health Center, Dover, NH;
Avista Adventist Hospital, Louisville, CO;
Bad River Tribe of Lake Superior Chippewa, Odanah, WI;
Ball Memorial Hospital, Muncie, IN;
Baltimore City Health Department, Baltimore, MD;
Baltimore Medical System, Baltimore, MD;
Baptist Health Medical Center—Heber Springs, Heber Springs, AR;
Barnert Hospital, Paterson, NJ;
Barnes-Kasson County Hospital, Susquehanna, PA;
Barre Family Health Center, Barre, MA;
Bay Area Medical Clinic, Marinette, WI;
BayCare Health System, Clearwater, FL;
Baylor Research Institute, Dallas, TX;
Bayonne Medical Center, Bayonne, NJ;
Baystate Health Systems, Springfield, MA;
Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, MI;
Belmont University, Nashville, TN;
Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN;
Benedictine Hospital, Kingston, NY;
Benefis Healthcare, Great Falls, MT;
Berea Health Ministry Rural Health Clinic, Inc., Berea, KY;
Bloomington Hospital Foundation, Bloomington, IN;
Bloomsburg Hospital, Bloomsburg, PA;
Blount Memorial Hospital, Maryville, TN;
Boone Hospital Center, Columbia, MO;
Boriken Neighborhood Health Center, New York, NY;
Boscobel Area Health Care, Boscobel, WI;
Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA;
Boston University Medical School, Boston, MA;
Bridge Community Health Clinic, Wausau, WI;
Bridgeport Hospital, Bridgeport, CT;
Brockton Neighborhood Health Center, Brockton, MA;
Brookside Community Health Center, San Pablo, CA;
Brunswick County, Bolivia, NC;
Bryan W. Whitfield Hospital, Demopolis, AL;
Bureau County Health Clinic, Princeton, IL;
Cactus Health Services, Inc., Sanderson, TX;
California Hospital Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA;
California State University, Bakersfield, CA;
Camillus House, Inc., Miami, FL;
Canonsburg General Hospital, Canonsburg, PA;
Cape Cod Free Clinic and Community Health Center, Mashpee, MA;
Capital Park Family Health Center, Columbus, OH;
Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, WI;
Carolinas HealthCare System, Charlotte, NC;
Carroll County Regional Medical Center, Carrollton, KY;
Carroll County Youth Service Bureau, Westminster, MD;
Center for Health Equity, Louisville, KY;
Central Wyoming College, Riverton, WY;
CentroMed, San Antonio, TX;
Champlain Valley Physician's Hospital, Plattsburgh, NY;
Charles A. Dean Memorial Hospital, Greenville, ME;
Chatham County Safety Net Collaborative, Savannah, GA;
Cherry Street Health Services, Grand Rapids, MI;
Children's Friend and Family Services, Salem, MA;
Children's Home of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA;
Children's Hospital and Clinics of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN;
Children's Hospital and Health System, Milwaukee, WI;
Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY;
Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron, Akron, OH;
Children's Hospital of Orange County, Mission Viejo, CA;
Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters, Norfolk, VA;
Children's Hospital, Denver, CO;
Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN;
Children's Medical Center, Dayton, OH;
Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL;
Children's National Medical Center, Washington, DC;
Children's Specialized Hospital, Mountainside, NJ;
Chippewa Valley Hospital, Durand, WI;
Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc., Elfrida, AZ;
Christian Health Care Center of New Jersey, Wyckoff, NJ;
Christian Sarkine Autism Treatment Center, Indianapolis, IN;
Christus Santa Rosa's Children's Hospital, San Antonio, TX;
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH;
Citrus County Board of County Commissioners, Inverness, FL;
Travis County Hospital District, City of Austin, TX;
City of Chesapeake, VA;
City of Hueytown, AL;
City of Oakland, CA;
City of Stockton, CA;
City of Stonewall, OK;
Clarion Health Center, Clarion, PA;
Cleveland Clinic Huron Hospital, East Cleveland, OH;
Cobb County Government, Marietta, GA;

Coffeyville Regional Medical Center, Coffeyville, KS;
Coles County Council on Aging, Mattoon, IL;
College Misericordia, Dallas, PA;
Collier County, Naples, FL;
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO;
Columbia Memorial Hospital, Hudson, NY;
Columbus Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH;
Columbus Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH;
Communi Care, Inc., Columbia, SC;
Community College of Aurora, Aurora, CO;
Community Dental Services, Albuquerque, NM;
Community Health Care, Tacoma, WA;
Community Health Center of Franklin County, Turners Falls, MA;
Community Health Works, Forsyth, GA;
Community Hospital of Bremen, Bremen, IN;
Community Hospital TeleHealth Consortium, Lake Charles, LA;
Community Medical Centers, Stockton, CA;
Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP), Cranston, RI;
Connecticut Hospice, Inc., Branford, CT;
Cook Children's Medical Center, Fort Worth, TX;
Cooperative Education Service Agency 11 Rural Health Dental Clinic, Turtle Lake, WI;
County of Modoc Medical Center, Alturas, CA;
County of Peoria, Peoria, IL;
County of San Diego, CA;
Crousee Hospital, Syracuse, NY;
Crowder College-Nevada Campus, Nevada, MO;
Crozer-Chester Medical Center, Upland, PA;
Cumberland Medical Center, Crossville, TN;
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH;
Delaware Technical and Community College, Dover, DE;
Denver Health and Hospital Authority, Denver, CO;
Des Moines University and Broadlawns Medical Center, Des Moines, IA;
Detroit Primary Care Access, Detroit, MI;
Dixie County, Cross City, FL;
Dodge County Hospital, Eastman, GA;
Drew County Memorial Hospital, Monticello, AR;
DuBois Regional Medical Center, DuBois, PA;
East Carolina University, Greenville, NC;
East Tennessee Children's Hospital, Knoxville, TN;
East Tennessee State University College of Pharmacy, Johnson City, TN;
Easter Seals of Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana Counties, Youngstown, OH;
Eddy County, NM;
Edgemoor Hospital, Santee, CA;
Eisenhower Medical Center, Rancho Mirage, CA;
El Proyecto del Barrio, Arleta, CA;
El Proyecto del Barrio, Winnetka, CA;
Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City, NC;
Emerson Hospital, Concord, MA;
Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, Englewood, NJ;
Excela Health, Mt. Pleasant, PA;
Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster, OH;
Fairview Southdale Hospital, Edina, MN;
Family and Children's Aid, Danbury, CT;
Family Behavioral Resources, Greensburg, PA;
Family Center of the Northern Neck, Inc., White Stone, VA;
Family Health Center of Southern Oklahoma, Tishomingo, OK;
Family HealthCare Network, Visalia, CA;
Family Medicine Spokane, Spokane, WA;
Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL;
Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL;
Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL;
Floyd Valley Hospital, Le Mars, IA;
Freeman Health System, Joplin, MO;
Fulton County Medical Center, McConnellsburg, PA;
Gardner Family Health Network, Inc., San Jose, CA;
Gaston College, Health Education Institute, Dallas, NC;
Gateway to Care, Houston, TX;
Gertrude A. Barber Center, Erie, PA;
Glen Rose Medical Center, Glen Rose, TX;
Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Glendale, CA;
Glens Falls Hospital, Glens Falls, NY;
Grady Health Systems, Atlanta, GA;
Grandview Hospital, Dayton, OH;
Greater Hudson Valley Family Health Center, Inc., Newburgh, NY;
Greater New Bedford Community Health Center, New Bedford, MA;
Griffin Hospital, Derby, CT;
Gritman Medical Center, Moscow, ID;
Gundersen Lutheran Health System, West Union, IA;
Gunderson Lutheran, Decorah, IA;
Halifax Regional Health System, South Boston, VA;
Hamilton Community Health Network, Flint, MI;
Hampton University, Hampton, VA;
Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX;
Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX;
Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX;
Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX;
Harris Methodist Erath County Hospital, Stephenville, TX;
Hatzoloh EMS, Inc., Monsey, NY;
Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo, IA;
Healing Tree Addiction Treatment Solutions, Inc., Sterling, CO;
HEALS Dental Clinic, Huntsville, AL;
HealthCare Connection, Cincinnati, OH;
HealthEast Care System, St. Paul, MN;
Heartland Community Health Clinic, Peoria, IL;
Hektoen Institute for Medical Research Beloved Community Wellness Program, Chicago, IL;
Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, Grand Rapids, MI;
Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital, Valencia, CA;
Highland Community Hospital, Picayune, MS;
Highlands County, Sebring, FL;
Holy Name Hospital, Teaneck, NJ;
Home Nursing Agency, Altoona, PA;
Hormel Foundation, Austin, MN;
Hospice of Northwest Ohio Toledo Center, Toledo, OH;
Hospice of the Western Reserve, Cleveland, OH;
Houston County Hospital District, Crockett, TX;
Howard Community College, Columbia, MD;
Hudson Alpha Institute for Biotechnology, Huntsville, AL;
Hudson Headwaters Health Network, Inc., Glens Falls, NY;
Humility of Mary Health Partners, Youngstown, OH;
Humphreys County Memorial Hospital, Belzoni, MS;
Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, NJ;
Hunter's Hope Foundation, Orchard Park, NY;
Huntsville Hospital, Huntsville, AL;
Hurley Medical Center, Flint, MI;
Idaho Caring Foundation, Inc., Boise, ID;
Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID;
Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago, IL;
Illinois Primary Health Care Association, Springfield, IL;
India Community Center, Milpitas, CA;
Indiana University Bloomington, IN;
Indiana University School of Medicine, Gary, IN;
Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN;
Indiana University Southeast, New Albany, IN;
Inland Behavioral Health Services, Inc., San Bernardino, CA;
Institute for Family Health, New Paltz, NY;
Institute for Research and Rehabilitation, Houston, TX;
INTEGRIS Health, Oklahoma City, OK;
Intermountain Healthcare, Salt Lake City, UT;
Jameson Hospital, New Castle, PA;
Jasper Memorial Hospital, Monticello, GA;
Jefferson Regional Medical Center Nursing School, Pine Bluff, AR;
Jenkins County GA Hospital, Millen, GA;
John Wesley Community Health Institute, Bell Gardens, CA;
Johnson Memorial Hospital, Stafford Springs, CT;
Johnston Memorial Hospital, Smithfield, NC;
Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Kalamazoo, MI;
Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, MD;
Kent State University Stark Campus, North Canton, OH;
Kent State University, Ashtabula, OH;
Kilmichael Hospital, Kilmichael, MS;
Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, IA;
Knox Community Hospital, Mount Vernon, OH;
La Clinica de la Raza, Oakland, CA;
La Rabida Children's Hospital, Chicago, IL;
Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Erie, PA;
Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH;
Lamar University, Beaumont, TX for the Community and University Partnership Service;
Lanai Women's Center, Lanai City, HI;
Laurens County Health Care System, Clinton, SC;
Lawrence Hospital Center, Bronxville, NY;
League Against Cancer, Miami, FL;
Liberty County, FL, Bristol, FL;
Liberty Regional Medical Center, Hinesville, GA;
Limestone Community Care, Inc. Medical Clinic, Elkmont, AL;
Lincoln Community Health Center, Durham, NC;
Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center, Bronx, NY;
Lodi Memorial Hospital, Lodi, CA;
Loretto, Syracuse, NY;
Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital, Los Angeles, CA;
Louisville Metro Department of Public Works, Louisville, KY;
Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County, Willingboro, NJ;
Loyola University Health System, Maywood, IL;
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Palo Alto, CA;
Madison Center, South Bend, IN;
Madison County Memorial Hospital, Rexburg, ID;
Madison County, Virginia City, MT;
Madison St. Joseph Health Center, Madisonville, TX;

Maine Center for Marine Biotechnology, Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Portland, ME;
Maine Primary Care Association, Augusta, ME;
Manchester Memorial Hospital, Manchester, CT;
Marana Health Center, Marana, AZ;
Marias Medical Center, Shelby, MT;
Marquette General Hospital, Marquette, MI;
Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center, Marshalltown, IA;
Mary Scott Nursing Center, Dayton, OH;
Maryland State Dental Association, Columbia, MD;
Maryville University, St. Louis, MO;
Mason County Board of Health, Maysville, KY;
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Worcester, MA;
Maury Regional Hospital, Columbia, TN;
Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN;
Memorial Hermann Baptist Beaumont Hospital, Beaumont, TX;
Memorial Hermann Healthcare System, Houston, TX;
Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital, Houston, TX;
Mendocino Coast District Hospital, Fort Bragg, CA;
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Keshena, WI;
Mercy College of Northwest Ohio, Toledo, OH;
Mercy Health Foundation, Durango, CO;
Mercy Hospital Grayling, Grayling, MI;
Mercy Hospital, Buffalo, NY;
Mercy Medical Center, Redding, CA;
Mercy Medical Center-House of Mercy, Des Moines, IA;
Mercy Memorial Hospital, Monroe, MI;
Mercy Ministries Health Center, Laredo, TX;
Mercy Suburban Hospital, Norristown, PA;
Methodist Hospital of Southern California, Arcadia, CA;
Methodist Hospital, Houston, TX;
Metropolitan Hospital, New York, NY;
MetroWest Medical Center Framingham Union Hospital, Framingham, MA;
Miami Beach Community Health Center, Miami Beach, FL;
Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN;
Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA;
Middletown Regional Hospital, Middletown, OH;
Mid-Ohio FoodBank, Columbus, OH;
Miles Community College, Miles City, MT;
Mission Hospitals, Asheville, NC;
Missouri Delta Medical Center, Sikeston, MO;
Monroe Clinic, Monroe, WI;
Monroe County Hospital, Forsyth, GA;
Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY;
Montgomery Area Nontraditional Equestrians, Pike Road, AL;
Morehead State University, Morehead, KY;
Morris Heights Health Center, Inc., Bronx, NY;
Morton Hospital and Medical Center, Taunton, MA;
Mount Nittany Medical Center, State College, PA;
Mount Vernon Hospital, Mount Vernon, NY;
Mount Wachusett Community College, Gardner, MA;
Muhlenberg Community Hospital, Greenville, KY;
Naugatuck Valley Community College, Waterbury, CT;
Nebraska Hospital Association Research and Education Foundation, Lincoln, NE;
New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Old Westbury, NY;
New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY;
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Newark, NJ;
Newark-Wayne Community Hospital, Newark, NY;
Newport Hospital, Newport, RI;
Newton Memorial Hospital, Newton, NJ;
Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, Niagara Falls, NY;
Norman Regional Health System, Norman, OK;
NorthEast Ohio Neighborhood Health Services, Inc., Cleveland, OH;
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Green Bay, WI;
Northern Dutchess Hospital, Rhinebeck, NY;
Northern Westchester Hospital, Mount Kisco, NY;
Northland Medical Center, Princeton, MN;
Northwest Community Health Care, Pascoag, RI;
Northwest Hospital Intermediate Care Unit, Randallstown, MD;
Northwest Kidney Centers, Seattle, WA;
Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, ID;
Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL ;
Oakland University School of Nursing, Rochester, MI;
Oaklawn Adult Group Home, Goshen, IN;
Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation, Dearborn, MI;
Ocean Beach Hospital, Ilwaco, WA;
Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, Columbus, OH;
Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, OH;
Oklahoma University College of Medicine-Tulsa, Tulsa, OK;
Olympic Community Action Program, Port Angeles, WA;
Oregon Coast Community College, Newport, OR;
Osceola County Health Department, Poinciana, FL;
Osceola Medical Center, Osceola, WI;
Our Lady of Lourdes Memorial Hospital, Binghamton, NY;
Palisades Medical Center, North Bergen, NJ;
Palmetto Health Foundation, Columbia, SC;
Parkland Health Center, Farmington, MO;
Passavant Area Hospital, Jacksonville, IL;
Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center, Richmond, KY;
Pee Dee Healthy Start, Florence, SC;
Peninsula Hospital Center, New York, NY;
People, Inc., Williamsville, NY;
Peralta Community College, Oakland, CA;
Person Memorial Hospital, Roxboro, NC;
Phoenix Children's Hospital, Phoenix, AZ;
Children's Health Center/Emergency Shelter, Placer County, Auburn, CA;
Pointe Coupee Better Access Community Health, New Roads, LA;
Ponce Center of Autism, Municipality of Ponce, PR;
Powell County Medical Center, Deer Lodge, MT;
Powell Valley Health Care, Powell, WY;
Prairie Star Health Center, Hutchinson, KS;
Preston Memorial Hospital, Kingwood, WV;
Project Access Spokane, Spokane, WA;
ProMedica Continuing Care Service Corporation, Adrian, MI;
Provena Saint Joseph Hospital, Elgin, IL;
Providence Health System, Anchorage, AK;
Putnam Hospital Center, Carmel, NY;
Quebrada Health Center, Municipality of Camuy, PR;
Quincy Valley Medical Center, Quincy, WA;
Rancho Santiago Community College District, Santa Ana, CA;
Reading Hospital School of Nursing, West Reading, PA;
Reformed Presbyterian Woman's Association, Pittsburgh, PA;
Regional Children's Hospital, Johnson City, TN;
Rhode Island Quality Institute, Providence, RI;
Rio Arriba County, Espanola, NM;
Riverside County Regional Medical Center, Moreno Valley, CA;
Riverside County Regional Medical Center, Moreno Valley, CA;
Riverside Health System, Newport News, VA;
Roosevelt Hospital, New York, NY;
Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Rosebud, SD;
Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, NY;
Rural Health Technology Consortium Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL;
Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, MI; Saint Mary's Health Care, Grand Rapids, MI;
Sam Rogers Health Clinic, Kansas City, MO;
San Antonio Hospital Foundation, Upland, CA;
San Francisco Medical Center Outpatient Improvement Programs, Inc., San Francisco, CA;
San Mateo Medical Center Emergency Department, San Mateo County, Redwood City, CA;
San Ysidro Health Center, San Ysidro, CA;
Sandoval County, Bernalillo, NM;
Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, Orange, CA;
Schneck Medical Center, Seymour, IN;
Scotland Memorial Hospital, Laurinburg, NC;
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Seattle, WA;
Sharp Rehabilitation Services, San Diego, CA;
Shasta Community Health Center, Redding, CA;
Shawano County Rural Health Initiative, Shawano, WI;
Sidney Health Center, Sidney, MT;
Sierra Nevada Memorial Foundation, Grass Valley, CA;
Sistersvile General Hospital, Sisterville, WV;
Skagit Valley Hospital Cancer Care Center, Mount Vernon, WA;
Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital, Wellsboro, PA;
Somerset Medical Center, Somerville, NJ;
South Broward Hospital District, Hollywood, FL;
South Carolina HIV/AIDS Council, Columbia, SC;
South Nassau Communities Hospital, Oceanside, NY;
South Shore Hospital, South Weymouth, MA;
Southampton Hospital, Southampton, NY;
Southeast Alabama Medical Center, Dothan, AL;
Southeast Community College, Cumberland, KY;
Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO;
Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX;
Southern Vermont Recreation Center Foundation, Springfield, VT;
Southwest Tennessee Community College, Memphis, TN;
St James Hospital and Health Centers, Chicago Heights, IL;
St. Agnes Hospital, Fresno, CA;
St. Ambrose University, Davenport, IA;
St. Anthony Community Hospital, Warwick, NY;
St. Anthony Hospital, Chicago, IL;

St. Anthony Memorial Health Centers, Hammond, IN;
St. Bernard Health Center, Inc., Chalmette, LA;
St. Bernardine Medical Center, San Bernardino, CA;
St. Camillus Health and Rehabilitation Center, Syracuse, NY;
St. Catharine College, St. Catharine, KY;
St. Charles Parish, LaPlace, LA;
St. Clair Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA;
St. Claire Regional Medical Center, Morehead, KY;
St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Utica, NY;
St. Francis Hospital, Escanaba, MI;
St. Francis Medical Center, Trenton, NJ;
St. James Parish Hospital, Lutcher, LA;
St. John's North Shore Hospital, Harrison Township, MI;
St. Joseph of the Pines, Southern Pines, NC;
St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, South Bend, IN;
St. Joseph's Hospital Mercy Care Services, Atlanta, GA;
St. Joseph's Hospital, Buckhannon, WV;
St. Joseph's Hospital, Savannah GA;
St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Paterson, NJ;
St. Joseph's/Candler Health System, Savannah, GA;
St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital, Quakertown, PA;
St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Ltd. Boise, ID;
St. Mary Medical Center Foundation, Langhorne, PA;
St. Mary Medical Center, Apple Valley, CA;
St. Mary's Hospital Foundation, Grand Junction, CO;
St. Mary's Hospital, Madison, WI;
St. Mary's Medical Center, Huntington, WV;
St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, Reno, NV;
St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center, Missoula, MT;
St. Peter's Hospital Foundation, Albany, NY;
St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, FL;
St. Vincent Hospital, Billings, MT;
St. Vincent's Charity Hospital, Cleveland, OH;
St. Vincent's Medical Center, Bridgeport, CT;
St. Xavier University, Chicago, IL;
Stamford Hospital, Stamford, CT;
Stark Prescription Assistance Network, Canton, OH;
State Fair Community College, Sedalia, MO;
Stewart-Marchman Center, Inc., Daytona Beach, FL;
Stony Point Ambulance Corps, Stony Point, NY;
Summers County Commission, Hinton, WV;
Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago, IL;
Sylvan Grove Hospital, Jackson, MS;
Tangipahoa Parish, Loranger, LA;
Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX;
Tarrant County Infant Mortality Task Force, Ft. Worth, TX;
Taylor Regional Hospital, Hawkinsville, GA;
Temple Health and Bioscience Economic Development District, Temple, TX;
Teton Valley Hospital and Surgicenter, Driggs, ID;
Texas A&M University—Kingsville, Kingsville, TX;
Texas Institute for Genomic Medicine, College Station, TX;
West Texas Center for Influenza Research, Education and Treatment, Texas Tech University;
Health Sciences Center, El Paso and Lubbock, TX;
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Lubbock, TX;
Thomas Jefferson University Breast Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA;
Thomason General Hospital, El Paso, TX;
Thundermist Health Center, Woonsocket, RI;
Tohono O'odham Nation, Sells, AZ;
Toledo Children's Hospital, Toledo, OH;
Tomorrow's Child/Michigan SIDS, Lansing, MI;
Town of Argo, AL;
Translational Genomics Research Institute, Phoenix, AZ;
Transylvania Community Hospital, Inc., Brevard, NC;
Tulare District Hospital, Tulare, CA;
Tuomey Healthcare System, Sumter, SC;
Twin City Hospital, Dennison, OH;
Union Hospital, Terre Haute, IN;
Uniontown Hospital, Uniontown, PA;
Unity Health Care, Washington, DC;
University Community Hospital/Pepin Heart Hospital, Tampa, FL;
University Health System, San Antonio, TX;
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL;
University of Arizona Medical Center, Tucson, AZ;
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR;
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR;
University of Arkansas Medical School Cancer Research Center, Little Rock, AR;
University of California, Davis Health System, Sacramento, CA;
University of Chicago Hospitals, Chicago, IL;
University of Illinois College of Medicine, Peoria, IL;
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA;
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA;
University of Kansas Research Center, Lawrence, KS;
University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, MA;
University of Memphis, Memphis, TN;
University of Miami, Miami, FL;
University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI;
University of North Alabama, Florence, AL;
University of North Texas, Denton, TX;
University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO;
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL;
University of Tennessee of Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN;
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX;
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX;
University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, VA;
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI;
Utah Navajo Health System, Inc., Montezuma Creek, UT;
Valley Cooperative Health Care, Hudson, WI;
Vanguard University Nursing Center, Costa Mesa, CA;
Village Network Boys' Village Campus, Wooster, OH;
Virtua Memorial Hospital Burlington County, Mount Holly, NJ;
Visiting Nurse Association Healthcare Partners of Ohio, Cleveland, OH;
Wadsworth Rittman Hospital Foundation, Wadsworth, OH;
Wake County, Raleigh, NC;
Washington County, GA, Regional Medical Center, Sandersville, GA;
Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC;
Washington Parish, Bogalusa, LA;
Wayne Memorial Hospital, Jesup, GA;
West Jefferson Medical Center, Marrero, LA;
West Shore Medical Center, Manistee, MI;
West Side Community Health Services, St. Paul, MN;
West Virginia University Hospital, Morgantown, WV;
Western North Carolina Health System, Asheville, NC;
Whidden Memorial Hospital, Everett, MA;
White County Memorial Hospital, Monticello, IN;
White Memorial Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA;
White Plains Hospital Center, White Plains, NY;
Whiteside County Department of Health, Rock Falls, IL;
Whittemore Peterson Institute for Neuro-Immune Disease, Sparks, NV;
Wind River Community Health Center, Riverton, WY;
Wing Memorial Hospital, Palmer, MA;
Winneshiek Medical Center, Decorah, IA;
Wolfson Children's Hospital, Jacksonville, FL;
Woodhull Medical and Mental Health Center, Brooklyn, NY;
Woodruff County Nursing Home, McCrory, AR;
Wyoming County Community Hospital, Warsaw, NY;
YMCA of Central Stark County, Canton, OH;
York Memorial Hospital, York, PA;
Youth Crisis Center, Jacksonville, FL;
Zucker Hillside Hospital, Glen Oaks, NY;
Alma Family Services, Monterey Park, CA;
Bronx-Lebanon Hospital, New York, NY;
Community Health Partnership, Santa Clara, CA;
Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, NJ;
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, LA;
Marymount University, Arlington, VA;
Nassau University Medical Centers, East Meadow, NY;
National Hispanic Medical Association, Washington, DC;
Prince George's County, Upper Marlboro, MD;
St. Luke's Community Free Clinic, Front Royal, VA;
Thurston-Mason County Medical Society, Olympia, WA;
Alabama Institute of the Deaf and Blind, Talladega, AL;
Albany State University, Albany, GA;
American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation, Rockville, MD;
Anne Arundel Community College, Arnold, MD;
Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA;
Asnuntuck Community College, Enfield, CT;
Azusa Pacific University, San Bernardino, CA for nursing programs;
Bellevue Community College, Bellevue, WA;
Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN;
Bennett College for Women, Greensboro, NC;
Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield, MA;
Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Winchester, KY;
Broward Community College, Broward County, FL;
Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA;
Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, IA;
Butler Community College, Andover, KS;
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, Hudson, NC;
California Baptist University, Riverside, CA;

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA;
California State University—Channel Islands, Camarillo, CA;
California State University—Fullerton, Fullerton, CA;
Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC;
Central Arizona College, Coolidge, AZ;
Central Florida Community College, Ocala, FL;
Central Methodist University, Fayette, MO;
Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte, NC;
Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA;
Chemeketa Community College, Salem, OR;
City College of New York, NY, Charles B. Rangel Center for Public Service;
Clark State Community College, Springfield, OH;
Clayton College and State University, Morrow, GA;
Clover Park Technical College, Lakewood, WA;
College of Lake County, Grayslake, IL;
College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, ID;
College of Southern Maryland, LaPlata, MD;
College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA;
College Success Foundation, Issaquah, WA;
Community College of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA;
Community College of Beaver County, Monaca, PA;
Consensus Organizing Center, San Diego, CA;
Coppin State University, Baltimore, MD;
Darton College, Albany, GA;
Delaware County Community College, Media, PA;
Des Moines Area Community College, Des Moines, IA;
DeSales University, Center Valley, PA;
Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL;
Eastern Shore Community College Industrial Maintenance Program, Melfa, VA;
Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL;
Edison College, Charlotte County Campus, Punta Gorda, FL;
El Camino College, Torrance, CA;
Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA;
Harcum College, Bryn Mawr, PA;
Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg, PA;
Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, Harrisburg, PA;
Herkimer County Community College, Herkimer, NY;
Hiwassee College, Madisonville, TN;
Holy Family University, Philadelphia, PA;
I21Huntington Junior College, WV;
Huston-Tillotson University, Austin, TX;
Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Danville, VA;
Ivy Tech Community College, Evansville, IN;
Jackson State University, Jackson, MS;
Elmira College, Elmira, NY;
Florida Campus Compact, Tallahassee, FL;
Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers, FL;
Focus: HOPE, Detroit, MI;
Franklin Pierce College, Rindge, NH;
Frontier Community College, Fairfield, IL;
Ft. Valley State University, Ft. Valley, GA;
Gadsden State Community College, Gadsden, AL;
Gateway Community and Technical College, Ft. Mitchell, KY;
Gateway Community College, New Haven, CT;
Gila County Community College, Globe, AZ;
Grace College, Winona Lake, IN;
Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA;
Harcum College, Bryn Mawr, PA;
Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg, PA;
Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, Harrisburg, PA;
Herkimer County Community College, Herkimer, NY;
Hiwassee College, Madisonville, TN;
Holy Family University, Philadelphia, PA;
Huntington Junior College, WV;
Huston-Tillotson University, Austin, TX;
Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Danville, VA;
Ivy Tech Community College, Evansville, IN;
Jackson State University, Jackson, MS;
James Rumsey Technical Institute, Martinsburg, WV;
Kent State University, New Philadelphia, OH;
King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA;
La Sierra University, Riverside, CA;
Lackawanna College, Scranton, PA;
Lake City Community College, Lake City, FL;
Latino Institute, Inc., Newark, NJ for its Latino Scholars Program;
Lewis and Clark Community College, Godfrey, IL, for its National Great Rivers Research and Education Center;
Lincoln College, Lincoln, IL for training, material acquisition and purchase of equipment;
Lincoln Memorial University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Harrogate, TN for curriculum development;
Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, OR for science and health equipment and technology;
Lorain County Community College, Elyria, OH for its library and community resource center, which may include equipment and technology;
Los Angeles Valley College, Valley Glen, CA for its Solving the Math Achievement Gap program;
Advocating Change Together, Inc., St. Paul, MN;
City of North Miami Beach, FL, North Miami Beach, FL;
Jewish Vocational and Career Counseling Service, San Francisco, CA;
Vocational Guidance Services, Cleveland, OH;
Access Community Health Center, Bloomingdale, IL;
Advocate Health Care, Oak Brook, IL;
Alfred University, Alfred, NY;
American Red Cross, Lower Bucks County Chapter, Levittown, PA;
City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health, San Francisco, CA;
City of Los Angeles, CA;
Community Rehabilitation Center, Inc., Jacksonville, FL;
Family Services of Greater Waterbury, Waterbury, CT;
Family Support Systems Unlimited, Inc., Bronx, NY;
Fulton County Department of Mental Health, Atlanta, GA;
Heartland Health Outreach, Inc., Chicago, IL;
Helen Wheeler Center for Community Mental Health, Kankakee, IL;
Holy Spirit Hospital, Camp Hill, PA;
Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN;
Jewish Association for Residential Care, Farmington Hills, MI;
Kids Hope United, Waukegan, IL;
New Image Homeless Shelter, Los Angeles, CA;
Pacific Clinics, Arcadia, CA;
Prime Time House, Inc., Torrington, CT;
Ruth Rales Jewish Family Service, Boca Raton, FL ;
Ventura County Probation Office, Ventura, CA;
Ventura County Sheriff's Department, Thousand Oaks, CA;
Youthville, Wichita, KS;
Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, New Haven, CT;
Fighting Back Partnership, Vallejo, CA;
Institute for the Advanced Study of Black Families, Oakland, CA;
Operation SafeHouse, Riverside, CA;
Partnership for a Drug-Free America, New York, NY;
Shiloh Economic Development Center, Bryan, TX;
South Boston Community Health Center, South Boston, MA;
YMCA of the East Bay, Richmond, CA;
City of Las Vegas, NV;
City of Oxford, Oxford, MS;
Fulton County, Atlanta, GA;
Gavin Foundation, South Boston, MA;
Glide Foundation, San Francisco, CA;
Metro Homeless Youth Services of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA;
Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Minneapolis, MN;
Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow, NY;
Sandhills Teen Challenge, Carthage, NC;
Sheriffs Youth Program of Minnesota, Inver Grove Heights, MN;
Talbert House, Cincinnati, OH;
Trumbull County Lifelines, Warren, OH;
Union Station Foundation, Pasadena, CA;
United Way of Treasure Valley, Boise, ID;
Wayne County Academy, Alpha, KY;
WestCare Kentucky, Ashcamp, KY;
Thurgood Marshall Legal Education Opportunity Program;
B.J. Stupak Olympic Scholarship Program;
Advanced Credentialing Program (National Board for Professional Teaching Standards);
Civic Education Program (Center for Civic Education and National Council on Economic Education);
Arts in Education Program (VSA Arts and John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts);
National Technical Institute for the Deaf;
Dislocated Workers National Reserve (National Center on Education and the Economy);
Susan Harwood Training Grant Program (Institutional Competency Grants).

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, this is I guess what I would call a put up or shut up amendment for the House.

It is difficult for the press to cover budget stories because they are complicated. It is difficult for the press to cover stories about policy because they are complicated. But it is a whole lot easier for the press and for individual Members of this House to complain about some other Member, or in the case of the press any Member, trying to do something in his district, or in the case of a House Member complaining about somebody trying to do something in a different district.

We have a constitutional right to direct spending. In fact, that is the primary power of the Congress, to direct the executive branch in the spending of the taxpayers' money. The executive branch in fact directs far more spending than does the Congress, and yet I

recognize a Member's individual right to object to any direct spending that is engaged in by the Congress or the executive branch.

I would like to put that discussion in perspective. The last year that I was chairman of the Appropriations Committee this bill had no earmarks when it left the House. During the 12 years that the Republicans controlled this House, earmarks exploded to over 3,000.

In this bill, we have cut earmarks back to 1,300. We have cut the dollar amount in this bill for earmarks back to a very small amount, less than half of the amount that was in the bill 2 years ago. In fact, as the percentage of the total bill, earmarks make up two-tenths of 1 percent. Two-tenths of 1 percent. And yet, the debate on that two-tenths of 1 percent has dominated in the press and dominated the congressional debate. That is ridiculous.

But I am tired of having the committee serve as a punching bag for members of the press or Members of this body. I will be happy to play this issue flat, or I will be happy to play it round.

□ 1800

I'll be happy to bring a bill to the House floor with these earmarks, or without them. Those who know me well in this House know that I deeply resent the time that we have to take dealing with earmarks, and they know that the reason that I urged that we cut earmarks to 50 percent of the previous level 2 years ago is not because I thought they were impure, but because I thought they were beginning to be so numerous that they were unmanageable.

So today I'm going to give the House a choice. We've got lots of amendments pending before us on individual earmarks. I'm going to give the House a choice. I want the House to choose whether it wants to proceed with earmarks or not. If it does, then it will reject the amendment that I sent to the desk. If it doesn't want to proceed with these earmarks, then you can save a whole lot of time by knocking them all out with one vote. I invite you to put up or shut up, and make up your mind.

I will be a neutral player in this. I will offer the amendment, and I will vote present so that I'm not pushing people to vote either for or against eliminating these earmarks.

But I want, before we move to individual earmark debate, I want to know whether the House itself takes responsibility for the decision to move ahead with earmarks, or whether it doesn't. And if they want to decide no, be my guest. It will make my life a whole lot easier.

It will do one thing that will bother me at night.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. OBEY. It will give total authority to the executive branch, and that is not a healthy thing.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment, and I do so knowing full well that this earmark issue is a very, very controversial issue these days.

What prompts me to oppose the amendment is that I believe, having served here for now my 19th year, that the Constitution was very clear. The power of the purse resides in the Congress, in the House of Representatives. The Appropriations Committee is responsible for allocating those funds. Members of Congress know their districts and the needs of those districts better than anyone else does.

Now, historically the administration has, through its budget director and its department heads, directed spending through the budget resolution in conjunction with Members of Congress and the budget committee. And I respect that.

But they need to respect our priorities also. And I think all Members should respect the priorities of those individual Members who know their districts best.

I think, as the chairman mentioned, this is a very small percentage of the overall Federal budget, remembering that the discretionary portion of the budget is only one-third of the entire Federal budget. And earmarks are a small percentage, less than 1 percent, I believe, of that discretionary portion of that one-third of the Federal budget.

But these dollars make a difference in communities. They help with economic development; they provide housing where the Federal programs just don't fit.

I came here as a city councilman. I saw all kinds of Federal programs that did not work for my community. And I said to myself, if I ever get to Washington and I have the ability to affect Federal policy, to make it more flexible, to make it work for my community, I will do that.

Now, my dad served as mayor of Syracuse and then came here and served for three terms. He was here when revenue sharing began. Revenue sharing was all about helping local communities direct spending so that it better suited their needs. That was under the Nixon administration. It was a breakthrough. It was Federalism taken to its lowest common denominator so that the cities and the counties had the ability to make a difference and get some of those taxpayer dollars back and put them to work in their communities.

So I think that the chairman is making a point here. I hope Members will oppose this amendment.

And let me just say this: for the 40 years that the Democratic Party controlled the Congress, they may not have had earmarks in these bills, but they were not pure as the driven snow, Madam Chairman. The way they did it in the old days was the old bulls, who were primarily from the southern part of the country, who served as Chairs of the full committees and subcommittees on appropriations, and were here for 25, 30, 40 years, they would just put the money in the bill. They knew where the money was. The chairman of that Department knew where the money was; and after the bill was signed, the chairman called up that Department Secretary and said, here's where you're going to spend the money.

Now, what we did, I suppose, is we made a mistake by democratizing this process. We opened it up. We Republicans opened it up so that all Members would have the same opportunity, maybe not as much money, but the same opportunity to help their local communities.

And, yes, there has been abuse. But the Members who've abused this, by and large, go to jail, and that's as it should be. If they break the rules, if they benefit themselves, if they stoke their own greed with taxpayers' dollars, they belong in jail.

But let's not bring this whole appropriations process into question, because there is a rotten apple in every barrel, and we've got to find them out, and we do. And the system works in that respect.

So let's oppose this amendment. We'll take votes on the individual earmarks. There's going to be lots of amendments to talk about. Those Members will come and they will defend them and, hopefully, make good arguments for them.

But let's defeat this amendment and get back to work.

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

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Arizona is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FLAKE. I'll claim time in opposition, but I have a feeling that I'm being talked into this rather quickly. By the end of this, I'll be very much in support. In fact, this is one of the best amendments already I think I've ever heard.

The distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee mentioned that when he left the committee over a decade ago there were no earmarks in this bill. That's commendable. That's wonderful. We should go back to that.

A Member just a few minutes ago talked about how critical this program was that somebody sought to cut funding for. Critical. Has to be there. I think we need a reminder that there were no House earmarks in this bill last year. No Labor-HHS earmarks. The world didn't come crashing to a halt. The year before that there were no earmarks in Labor-HHS because of political problems with it. The planets, as far as I know, stayed in orbit.

We don't need these earmarks. I mean, when you look at the list that they'll soon be offering here for an

exploratorium in San Francisco, corporation for Jefferson's poplar forest, for expansion of exhibits and research, money for the Burpee Museum in Rockford, Illinois, or the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, or for the American Jazz Museum or American Ballet Theater, are these things that the Federal Government has to be funding, or are they things that could be funded at the local level or by private entities?

Are we simply supplanting the free market or private funding with more Federal funding here?

The gentleman, distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee, makes a great point that it is our prerogative. We have the power of the purse. And we do. The problem with earmarking, in its contemporary form, is that we are circumventing the process here. We are telling the Federal agencies, we don't like what you're doing and so we'll one-up you. We'll make appropriations equally suspect to what you're doing, instead of saying, you know, that was a bad way to spend money, we're going to cut your funding. We're going to call you into hearings and ask you to explain why you're spending money irresponsibly. That is perfectly proper. We should be doing that.

But, instead, what we're doing is saying, you think you can spend money willy-nilly; we'll show you. We're going to put 15,000 earmarks in this year, as we did a couple of years ago.

I make no excuses for the Republican Party here. Earmarks have grown and became out of control on our watch. As the gentleman pointed out, there were some 1,400 earmarks in all appropriation bills in 1994. In 2005 or 2006, I believe there were over 15,000. That's inexcusable. That's part of the reason we Republicans are here squarely in the minority today. That doesn't excuse us for saying, all right, we're still going to put 1,300 earmarks in this bill.

The distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee wisely said weeks ago, we simply cannot police this process. We don't have enough staff on the Appropriations Committee. And he offered an alternative suggestion that we wait and find out what the earmarks were. None of us liked that alternative suggestion, but the premise was correct. We can't police these things.

Just yesterday I came with an amendment to the Energy and Water bill, and we found out that the center for which the earmark was intended doesn't even exist. We've gone from the bridge to nowhere to the center that's nowhere. And still we funded it. We got only 98 votes opposed because of logrolling that takes place here.

So I certainly sympathize with what's going on here, and I appreciate the gentleman for what he's doing. We have a time-honored practice here in Congress of authorization, appropriation and oversight. Earmarking, in its contemporary form, circumvents that process, where we kick out authorization, we kick out oversight and we just appropriate. We do far too little of the authorizing and oversight, and we just appropriate. Whenever you do 1,300 earmarks in a bill, that's what you're doing. And I would submit that these haven't been scrubbed.

Another earmark that I was to propose yesterday, the authors of the earmark came just before and withdrew, actually offered their own amendment to strip the earmark I was going to seek to limit funds for because it hadn't been adequately scrubbed, and they probably knew that it couldn't withstand the scrutiny that came on the House floor.

But here we are, there's no way we can offer amendments for 1,300 earmarks. We'd test the patience of the Members and this whole body. We can't do that. But neither can we, or should we go forward and simply approve these as if every Member who has an earmark has a right to it.

So I would urge adoption of the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I want to make one thing perfectly clear. I indicated, when I offered this amendment, that I would vote ''present.'' And the reason I want to do that is because I want every Member of this House to vote for or against this bill on final passage on the basis of what they think of it on the merits.

And I want, both by my ''present'' vote and by my comments here, to make it perfectly clear to Members on both sides of the aisle that no matter how they vote on the issue of earmarks and no matter how they vote on the issue of substance, I don't intend to let one affect the other.

I don't care whether Members vote to include earmarks or exclude them. And I will not do what was done to us 3 years ago when, after we voted against the Labor-H bill because we thought it provided inadequate funding for many national responsibilities, that virtually every single one of the earmarks for Democrats were stripped from the bill because of that vote.

So as far as I'm concerned, as long as I'm in charge of this subcommittee, there will be no log-rolling with respect to this issue. As far as I'm concerned, this is an individual vote of conscience and of practical judgment on the part of each Member of the House.

With respect to the record of Congress, Congress has earmarked funds since the beginning of the Republic. At least four of the appropriation bills are, by their nature, project oriented, so they must contain congressional earmarks.

And I want to point out, if we're going to start making comparisons, the HHS Department, just 2 years ago, had $1.9 billion in funds that they shoveled out without being shoveled out on a competitive basis. That is the same, that is the executive branch functional equivalent earmarking. It is directed spending, whether it occurs in the Congress or in the executive branch. And the action of that Department alone represented direct spending in the amount seven times as large as the amount contained in this bill tonight on behalf of the Congress.

So I want Members to vote however you want. But as I said, as far as I'm concerned, this is a put-up-or-shut-up amendment. If you want earmarks, vote for them. If you don't, vote against them. Either way I'll be a happy man.

Madam Chairman, I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin will be postponed.

□ 1815

AMENDMENT NO. 40 OFFERED BY MR. CAMPBELL OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 40 offered by Mr. CAMPBELL of California:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

None of the funds in this Act may be used for the following:

Children Uniting Nations, Los Angeles, CA;

Crisis Nursery of the Ozarks, Springfield, MO;

Jefferson County, Golden, CO for child abuse prevention and treatment programs;

New York Center for Children, New York, NY;

Shelter for Abused Women, Winchester, VA;

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia, MN;

Beth EI House, Alexandria, VA;

Children's Home Society of South Dakota, Sioux Falls, SD;

Christian Outreach of Lutherans, Waukegan, IL;

Individual Development Account, City of Detroit, MI;

Early childhood resource centers, City of Fort Worth, TX;

Services for New Americans program, City of San Jose, CA;

Cliff Hagan Boys and Girls Club—Mike Horn Unit, Owensboro, KY;

Communities In Schools, Bell-Coryell Counties, Inc., Killeen, TX;

Covenant House Florida, Ft. Lauderdale, FL;

Eisner Pediatric and Family Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA;

Every Citizen Has Opportunities, Inc., Leesburg, VA;

Family Center of Washington County, Montpelier, VT;
First 5, Alameda County, San Leandro, CA;
Friendship Circle of the South Bay, Redondo Beach, CA;
Greater New Britain Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Inc., New-Britain, CT;
Hamilton-Madison House, New York, NY;
Healthy Learners Dillon, Columbia, SC;
Helping Children Worldwide, Herndon, VA;
Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department, Minneapolis, MN;
Hillside Family of Agencies, Rochester, NY;
Hope Village for Children, Meridian, MS;
Horizons for Homeless Children, Boston, MA;
New American's Center, Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn, NY;
L.I.F.T. Women's Resource Center, Detroit, MI;
Lawrence County Social Services, New Castle, PA;
Lutheran Social Services, Duluth, MN;
Marcus Institute, Atlanta, GA;
Mary's Family, Orlean, VA;
Mecklenburg County, Charlotte, NC;
Missouri Bootheel Regional Consortium, Portageville, MO;
Monterey County Probation Department, Salinas, CA;
Nashua Adult learning Center, Nashua, NH;
National Energy Assistance Directors' Association, Washington, DC;
Network for Instructional TV, Inc., Reston, VA;
Nurses for Newborns Foundation, St. Louis, MO;
Organization of the NorthEast, Chicago, IL;
Pediatric Interim Care Center, Kent, WA;
Public Health Department, Solano County, Fairfield, CA;
Sephardic Bikur Holim of Monmouth County, Deal, NJ;
Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL;
Susan Wesley Family Learning Center, East Prairie, MO;
TLC for Children and Families, Inc., Olathe, KS;
United Way Southeastern Michigan, Detroit, MN;
Midwest Clinic for Autism Spectrum Disorders, University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO;
Visitation Home, Inc., Yardville, NJ;
Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado, Denver, CO;
Amalgamated Warbasse Houses, Inc., Brooklyn, NY;
California Senior Legal Hotline, Sacramento, CA;
Durham-Chapel Hill Jewish Federation, Durham, NC;
Howard Brown Health Center, Chicago, IL;
Jewish Community Services of South Florida, North Miami, FL;
Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis, Minnetonka, MN;
Jewish Family Service of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM;
Jewish Family Service, Los Angeles, CA;
Jewish Family Services of Delaware, Inc., Wilmington, DE;
Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey, Scotch Plains, NJ;
Jewish Federation of Greater Monmouth County, NJ;
Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, Woodbridge, CT;
Jewish Federation of Middlesex County, South River, NJ;
Jewish Social Service Agency, Fairfax, VA;
Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging, Front Royal, VA;
United Jewish Communities of Metro West, NJ, Parsippany, NJ;
National Center on Smart Technology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL;
Adler Aphasia Center, Maywood, NJ;
Advocate Good Shepard Hospital, Barrington, IL;
Alameda County Public Health Department, Office of AIDS Administration, Oakland, CA;
Vannie E. Cook Jr. Cancer Foundation, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX;
Bayside Community Center, San Diego, CA;
Berean Community & Family Life Center, Brooklyn, NY;
Bienestar Human Services, Inc., Los Angeles, CA;
Boys and Girls Club of Delaware County, Jay, OK;
Center for Prevention of Childhood Obesity, California State University-Fullerton, Fullerton, CA;
Charles R. Drew Wellness Center, Columbia, SC;
Charter County of Wayne, Michigan, Detroit, MI;
Chez Panisse Foundation, Berkeley, CA;
Children's Hunger Alliance, Columbus, OH;
Center for Injury Research and Policy, Columbus Children's Research Institute, Columbus, OH;
Marin Breast County Research, County of Marin, San Rafael, CA;
CREATE Foundation, Tupelo, MS;
County-wide Physical Fitness Assessment Pilot Project, DuPage County, Wheaton, IL;
East Carolina University, Brody School of Medicine, Greenville, NC;
EI Puente, Brooklyn, NY;
Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation, Lake Success, NY;
Haitian American Association Against Cancer, Inc., Miami, FL;
Healthy Eating Lifestyle Principles, Monterey, CA;
Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters—Florida, Coral Gables, FL;
Ingalls Development Foundation, Harvey, IL;
International Rett Syndrome Association, Clinton, MD;
Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club, Bronx, NY;
Asthma Education Center, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY;
Louisville Department of Public Health and Wellness, Louisville, KY;
Center for Physical Activity, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN;
Myositis Association, Washington, DC;
Natividad Medical Center, Salinas, CA;
Nevada Cancer Institute, Las Vegas, NV;
North Shore Health Project, Gloucester, MA;
Partners Enabling Active Rural Living Institute, Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH;
Providence Cancer Center, Portland, OR;
Pulmonary Hypertension Association, Silver Spring, MD;
San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, San Antonio, TX;
SHAREing and CAREing, Astoria, NY;
Silent Spring Institute, Newton, MA;
Southeastern Center for Emerging Biologic Threats, Atlanta, GA;
St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, Wabasha, MN;
St. Francis Medical Center Foundation, Lynwood, CA;
St. John's Regional Medical Center, Oxnard, CA;
St. John's Well Child and Family Center, Los Angeles, CA;
Interdisciplinary Diabetes Prevention and Management Consortium, University of Arizona College of Medicine, Tucson, AZ;
University of Findlay Center for Public Health Preparedness, Findlay, OH;
Center for Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach, University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, TX;
Initiative to Combat Obesity in Early Childhood, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL;
South Texas Border Health Disparities Center, University of Texas Pan American, Edinburg, TX;
Texas Health Science Center-Houston, School of Public Health, University of Texas, Brownsville, TX;
Virgin Islands Perinatal Inc., Christiansted, VI;
Diabetes Research Initiative, Voorhees College, Denmark, SC;
Wayne County Department of Public Health, Detroit, MI;
WestCare Foundation, Las Vegas, NV;
Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT;
YBH Project, Inc., Albany, GA;
Access Health, Inc., Muskegon, MI;
Bedford Ride, Bedford, VA;
Bi-State Primary Care Association, Concord, NH;
City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health, San Francisco, CA;
Detroit Primary Care Access Project, Coleman A. Young Muncipal Center, City of Detroit, MI;
Waterbury Hospital, City of Waterbury, CT;
Gadsden County, FL Quincy, FL;
Jefferson Area Board for Aging, Charlottesville, VA;
Orange County's Primary Care Access Network, Orlando, FL;
Piedmont Hospital, Atlanta, GA;
Thurston-Mason County Medical Society, Olympia, WA;
Valley Hospice, Inc., Steubenville, OH;
ABC Unified School District, Cerritos, CA;
Chicago Academy and Chicago Academy High School, Academy for Urban School leadership, Chicago, IL;
Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Inc., Bridgeport, CT;
African-American Male Achievers Network, Inc., Inglewood, CA;
Akron Public Schools, OH for a Math, Science, and Technology Community;
Alamance-Burlington School District, Burlington, NC;
All Kinds of Minds, Chapel Hill, NC;
American Ballet Theatre, New York, NY;
Amistad America, New Haven, CT;
An Achievable Dream, Inc., Newport News, VA;
Center for Mathematics Education and Innovation, Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX;
Apache County Schools, St. Johns, AZ;
Arab City Schools, Arab, AL;
AVANCE, Inc, EI Paso, TX;
AVANCE, Inc., Del Rio, TX;
AVANCE, Inc., Waco, TX;
Barat Education Foundation, Lake Forest, IL;
Bay Haven Charter Academy Middle School, Lynn Haven, FL;
Language and Literacy Center, Baylor University, Waco, TX;
Best Buddies International, Miami, FL;
Best Buddies Maryland, Baltimore, MD;
Big Top Chautauqua, WI;
Idaho SySTEMic Solution, Boise State University, Boise, ID;
Principal's Institute, Bowie State University, Bowie, MD;
Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI;
Boys & Girls Town of Missouri, Columbia, MO;
Boys and Girls Club of San Bernardino, CA;
Automotive Technology Program, Bradford Area School District, Bradford, PA;
Student Success Center, Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ;

Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts, Hartford, CT;
Cal State Northridge Assessment and Accountability, California State University Northridge, CA;
At-Risk Youth Development Program, California State University, San Bernardino, CA;
Canton Symphony Orchestra Association, Canton, OH;
National Music Education Program, Carnegie Hall, New York, NY;
Central County Occupational Center, San Jose, CA;
Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology, State College, PA;
Centro de Salud Familiar Le Fe, EI Paso, TX;
District Wide Instruction Using Technology, Charlotte County School District, Port Charlotte, FL;
Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy, Charter School Development Foundation, Las Vegas, NY;
Place to Be After Three Middle School Program, City of Fairfield, CA;
City Schools, City of Gadsden, AL;
Burbank Elementary School, City of Hayward, Hayward, CA;
Indianapolis Center for Education Entrepreneurship, City of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN;
Newark Elementary School, City of Newark, Newark, CA for after-school programs;
Jacqueline Walsh School of the Performing and Visual Arts, City of Pawtucket School Department, Pawtucket, RI;
Pembroke Pines—Florida State University Charter School, City of Pembroke Pines, FL;
Early Start/Great Start School Readiness Initiative, City of San Jose, CA;
City of Springfield, MO for the Ready to Learn Program;
City of Whittier, Whittier, CA for after-school programs, which may include equipment;
City School District of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY for after-school learning centers;
Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NY for the Education Executive Leadership Program;
Newcomer Academy, Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV;
Clovis Unified School District, Center for Advanced Research Technology, Clovis, CA;
College Summit, Inc., Washington, DC;
Communities in Schools—Northeast Texas, Mount Pleasant, TX;
Communities in Schools of Cochran and Bleckley County, Cochran, GA;
Communities in Schools of Coweta, Inc., Newnan, GA;
Communities in Schools of Fitzgerald—Ben Hill County, Fitzgerald, GA;
Communities in Schools of Tacoma, Tacoma, WA;
Communities in Schools, Austin, TX;
Communities in Schools, San Fernando Valley, Inc., North Hills, CA;
Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles, Monterey Park, CA;
Community Service Society, New York, NY;
Connecticut Technical High School System, Middletown, CT;
Contra Costa College, Bridges to the Future Program, San Pablo, CA;
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 11;
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 12, Ashland, WI;
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 5, Portage, WI;
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 9, Tomahawk, WI;
County of San Diego, San Pasqual Academy, Escondido, CA;
Cuyahoga County Board of County Commissioners, Cleveland, OH;
Starting Stronger Early Learning Initiative, Delaware Department of Education, Dover, DE;
Detroit Youth Foundation, Detroit, MI;
DNA EpiCenter, Inc., New London, CT;
Duval County Public Schools, Instructional Technology Program, Jacksonville, FL;
Edgar School District, Computer Technology center, Edgar, WI;
Edison and Ford Winter Estates Education Foundation;
Education Partnership, Providence, RI;
Education Service Center, Region 12, Hillsboro, TX;
Ennis Independent School District, Advanced Via Individual Determination (AVID) Program, Ennis, TX;
Metropolitan Arts and Technology High School, Envision Schools, San Francisco, CA;
Erskine College, Fine Arts Network for Assisting Rural Education, Due West, SC;
Exploratorium, San Francisco, CA;
Franklin Sherman Elementary School, Chesterbrook Elementary School Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax, VA;
Fairfax County Public Schools, Falls Church, emergency medical services (EMS) Academy, Fairfax, VA;
Fairhope Center for the Arts, Bay Minette, AL;
Families In Schools, Los Angeles, CA;
Fayetteville Technical Community College, Congressional Scholars Program, Fayetteville, NC;
Forward in the Fifth, Somerset, KY;
Friends of the Children National, Portland, OR;
George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy, Inc., Bethesda, MD;
Girl Scouts of the USA, Fair Play Initiative, New York, NY;
Graham County Schools, Safford, AZ.;
Guam Public School System, Chamorro language instruction program, Hagatna, GU;
Hamilton Wings, Elgin, IL;
Harris County Department of Education, Cooperative for After-School Enrichment, Houston, TX;
Harvey Public School District 152, Harvey, IL;
Hawaii Department of Education, Honolulu, Assistance to Low-Performing Schools, HI;
Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, Kempton, PA;
Helen Keller International, New York, NY;
High Plains Regional Education Cooperative, Raton, NM;
Work-Scholarship Connection Youth Employment Training Academy, Hillside Family of Agencies, Rochester, NY;
Hoke County Schools, technology equipment, Raeford, NC;
Houston Independent School District, Houston, TX;
I KNOW I CAN, Columbus, OH;
In Tune Foundation Group, Washington, DC;
Independent School District 181, Brainerd Teacher Support System, Brainerd, MN;
Wyandanch High School, Institute for Student Achievement, Lake Success, NY;
Institute for Student Achievement, Lake Success, NY;
Iowa City Community School District, ICCDS Technology Based Early Literacy Program, Iowa City, IA;
Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana—Southeast, Madison, IN;
Jacob Burns Film Center, Pleasantville, NY;
Jazz at Lincoln Center, New York, NY;
Jefferson County Public Schools, Technology Instruction, Golden, CO;
Jersey Shore Area School District, Jersey Shore, PA;
JFYNetWorks, Boston, MA;
Malden, Revere, and Framingham, MA;
Joplin School District, Joplin, MO;
Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc., Boston, MA;
Jumpstart for Young Children, San Francisco, CA;
Kelberman Center, Utica, NY;
KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA;
KIPP Delta College Preparatory School, Helena, AR;
21st Century Community Learning Center, Logan Middle School, La Crosse School District, La Crosse, WI;
Learning Point Associates/North Central Regional Education laboratory, Naperville, IL;
Lee Pesky Learning Center, Boise, ID;
Lemay Child & Family Center, St. Louis, MO;
Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Los Angeles, CA;
Louisiana Arts and Sciences Museum, Baton Rouge, LA;
Louisiana Tech University, IDEA Place and SciTEC Classroom, Ruston, LA;
Lower East Side Conservancy, New York, NY;
Madison County Schools, Computer Lab, Richmond, KY;
Mesa Unified School District, Making Every Student Accountable (MESA), Mesa, AZ;
Military Heritage Center Foundation, Carlisle, PA;
Miller County Development Authority, Colquit, GA;
Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation, Washington, DC;
Milwaukee Public Schools, Community Learning Centers, Milwaukee, WI;
Minnesota Humanities Commission, St. Paul, MN;
Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS;
Missouri State University, Springfield, MO;
Monroe County School District, Technology Plan, Key West, FL;
Montgomery County Public Schools, Transition of Scientists from the Laboratory to the Classroom Project, Rockville, MD;
Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota, FL;
Mount Hood Community College, Child Development Center, Gresham, OR;
National Center for Electronically Mediated Learning, Inc., Milford, CT;
National Council on Crime and Delinquency, Oakland, CA;
National Cued Speech Association, Bethesda, MD;
National Flight Academy, Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL;
National Resource Center for Deafblindness, East Greenville, PA;
National Teacher's Hall of Fame, Emporia, KS;
Neighborhood Youth Association, Venice, CA;
New Mexico Public Education Department, Summer Reading and Math Institutes, Santa Fe, NM;
Newton Public Schools, Improvement of Education Program, Newton, KS;
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University, Suspension Intervention Program, Greensboro, NC;
North Carolina Central University, Academic Enrichment Saturday Academy, Durham, NC;
North Carolina Symphony, Raleigh, NC;
North Carolina Technology Association Education Foundation, Raleigh, NC;
North Philadelphia Youth Association, Philadelphia, PA;
Northeast Louisiana Family Literacy Interagency Consortium;

Northern Tier Industry & Education Consortium, Dimock, PA;
Norwich Public School System, limited English proficiency, Norwich, CT;
Oakland Unified School District, Technology Integration Project, Oakland, CA;
O'Neill Sea Odyssey, Santa Cruz, CA;
OneWorld Now!, Seattle, WA;
Ossining Union Free School District, Ossining, NY;
Parent Institute for Quality Education, San Diego, CA;
PE4life, Kansas City, MO for physical education programs in Titusville;
People for People, Philadelphia, PA;
Peru State College, Peru, Adopt-a-High School Program, NE;
Philadelphia Academies, Inc., Philadelphia, PA;
Pinal County Education Service Agency, Florence, AZ;
Polk County Public Schools, Augmentative and Assistive Technology Support Project, Bartow, FL;
Port Chester—Rye Union Free School District, Port Chester, NY;
Project GRAD USA, Philadelphia, PA;
Purdue University Calumet, Urban Academy, Hammond, IN;
Queens Theatre in the Park, Flushing, NY;
Renwick Public Schools, Technology Program, Andale, KS;
Rio Rancho Public Schools, Cyber Academy, Rio Ranch, NM;
Riverside Community College, School of Nursing/Middle College, Riverside, CA;
Riverside County Office of Education, Riverside, CA;
Rockdale County Public Schools, Conyers, GA;
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, IN;
Salesian Boys and Girls Club of Los Angeles, CA;
San Bernardino City Unified School District, English and Academic Skills for English Learners program, San Bernardino, CA;
San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, San Bernardino, CA;
San Joaquin County, Stockton, CA for its San Joaquin A Plus tutoring program;
San Mateo County, Redwood City, CA;
School Board of Broward County, Fort Lauderdale, FL;
Schultz Center for Teaching and Leadership, Jacksonville, FL;
Selden/Centereach Youth Association, Selden, NY;
Silver Crescent Foundation, Charleston, SC;
Sociedad Latina, Roxbury, MA;
Southwestern University, Center for Hispanic Studies, Georgetown, TX;
Springboard for Improving Schools, San Francisco, CA;
Academy of Arts and Academics, Springfield Public School District No. 19, Springfield, OR;
St. Mary's County Public Schools, Science and Technology Academies, Leonardtown, MD;
Elko, Nye, Douglas, Lyon and Churchill school districts, State of Nevada Department of Education;
Summit Educational Resources, Getzville, NY;
Susannah Wesley Community Center, Honolulu, HI;
Tampa Metropolitan YMCA, Tampa, FL;
TSU Lab School, Texas Southern University, Houston, TX;
Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, Los Angeles, CA;
Mayor's Office of Children and Learning, Town of Cumberland, Cumberland, RI;
Towson University, Towson, MD for an education partnership with the City of Baltimore, Baltimore City Public School System and the Cherry Hill community;
Tracy Joint Unified School District, Tracy, CA;
Tri-County Educational Service, Wooster, OH;
Trumbull County Educational Service Center, Niles, OH;
Tulsa Public Schools, Academic Center, Tulsa, OK;
Union County Public Schools, classrooms and labs, Monroe, NC;
Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns, after-school and professional development programs, Sleepy Hollow, NY;
University of Akron, Akron, STEM2 Education and Career Pathways, OH;
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Manufacturing Engineering Education, AL;
USD 259, Wichita Public Schools, Wichita, KS;
Valle Undo School District, Critical Math Technology, South EI Monte, CA;
Venango Technology Center, Oil City, PA;
Vision Therapy Project, Casper, WY;
Visually Impaired Preschool Services, Louisville, KY;
Washington College, Chestertown, MD;
Center for Community Education, Enrichment and Urban Studies, Washington State University, Tacoma, WA;
WE CARE San Jacinto Valley, Inc., San Jacinto, CA;
West Contra Costa Unified School District, John F. Kennedy High School Mary Gaddis;
Architecture Construction and Engineering Academy, Richmond, CA;
White-Williams Scholars, Philadelphia, PA;
Widener University, school readiness programs, Chester, PA;
Wildlife Information Center, Inc., Slatington, PA;
Williamsburg County First Steps, Kingstree, SC;
Yonkers Public Schools, Yonkers, after school and summer academic enrichment programs, NY;
Youngstown City School District, pre-apprenticeship program, OH;
Youngstown State University, Rich Center for Autism Technology, Youngstown, OH;
YWCA of Gary, Gary, IN;
Adelante Development Center, Albuquerque, NM;
Agudath Israel of America Community Services, Inc., Brooklyn, NY;
Arc of Blackstone Valley, Pawtucket, RI;
Bellingham Technical College, Bellingham, WA;
Bismarck State College, Instrumentation and Control Program, Bismarck, ND;
Center for Excellence in Technology, Telecommunications and Economic Development, Brookdale Community College, Center for Excellence in Technology, Telecommunications and Economic Development, Lincroft, NJ;
Center for Employment Training, San Jose, CA;
Central Carolina Tech College, Central Allied Health Sciences Center, Sumter, SC;
Central Maine Community College, Precision Manufacturing Advantage, Auburn, ME;
Chinese-American Planning Council, New York, NY;
City College of San Francisco, Welcome Back Center, CA;
City of Alexandria, automotive industry workforce development and training initiative, VA;
City of Baltimore, MD for the Park Heights Partnership for Jobs;
City of Milwaukee, WI for a project to train youth in construction trades;
City of Palmdale, Palmdale, CA for a business resource network to enhance worker skills development;
Suffolk Workforce Development Center, City of Suffolk, VA;
Clarian Health Partners, Indianapolis, IN;
College of Southern Maryland, La Plata, MD;
Community Learning Center, Fort Worth, TX;
Des Moines Area Community College, Arkeny, IA;
Dillard University, New Orleans Workers Initiative, New Orleans, LA;
East Los Angeles Community Union, Los Angeles, CA;
Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana, Inc., Fort Wayne, IN;
Edgar Campbell Foundation, Philadelphia, PA;
Employment & Economic Development Department of San Joaquin County, Stockton, CA;
Essex County Community Organization, Lynn, MA;
Foundation of the Delaware County Chamber, Media, PA;
Goodwill of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, NV;
Greater Akron Chamber, Akron, OH;
Groden Center, Providence, RI;
Guam Community College, Mangilao, Guam;
Hamilton County Government, Chattanooga, TN;
Home of Life Community Development Corp., Chicago, IL;
Homecare Workers Training Center, Los Angeles, CA;
International Fellowship of Chaplains, Inc., Saginaw, MI;
Iowa Valley Community College, Education and Training Center, Marshalltown, IA;
Center for Cybersecurity, Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana—Columbus Region, Indianapolis, IN;
Center for Health Information Technology, Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana Lafayette, Indianapolis, IN;
Kansas City Kansas Community College, Workforce Investment demonstration program, Kansas City, KS;
Northeast Ohio Advanced Manufacturing Institute, Kent State University Trumbuli County, Warren, OH;
Louisiana Delta Community College, Monroe, LA;
Louisiana National Guard, Carville, LA;
Manufacturing Association of Central New York, Syracuse, NY;
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Healthcare Professional Training Initiative, Manchester, NH;
McHenry County Community College, F.A.S.T. Solutions, Woodstock, IL;
Minot State University, Job Corp Fellowship Training Program, Minot, ND;
Neighborhood First Program, Inc., Bristol, PA;
Newlife Academy of Information Technology, East Liverpool, OH;
North West Pasadena Development Corp., Pasadena, CA;
Northcott Neighborhood House, Milwaukee, WI;
Oakland Community College, Emerging Sectors Educational Consortium, Bloomfield Hills, MI;
Opportunity, Inc., Highland Park, IL;
Our Piece of the Pie, Hartford, CT;
Parish of Rapides Career Solutions Center, Alexandria, LA;
Philadelphia Shipyard Development Corporation, Philadelphia, PA;
Residential Construction Academy, Piedmont Virginia Community College, Charlottesville, VA;
Poder Learning Center, Chicago, IL;
Precision Manufacturing Institute, Meadville, PA;

Project One Inc., Louisville, KY;
Project QUEST, Inc., San Antonio, TX;
PRONTO of Long Island, Inc., Bayshore, NY;
Schoenbaum Family Enrichment Center, Charleston, WV;
Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29, Marlin, PA;
South Bay Workforce Investment Board, Hawthorne, CA;
Southeast Missouri State University, Economic Workforce Development Program, Cape Girardeau, MO;
Southern University at Shreveport, Allied Health Program, Shreveport, LA;
Southside Virginia Community College, Heavy Equipment training Center, Alberta, VA;
Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Western Oklahoma Business Commercialization Center, Weatherford, OK;
St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment, St. Louis, MO;
Towson University, Towson, MD;
United Mine Workers of America, Career Center, Washington, PA;
University of West Florida, Hometown Heroes Teach Program, Pensacola, FL;
Veteran Community Initiatives, Inc., Johnstown, PA;
Vincennes University, Heavy Equipment Training program, Vincennes, IN;
Wayne County, NY Planning Department, Lyons, NY;
West Los Angeles College, Culver City, CA;
Women Work and Community, Augusta, ME;
A.O. Fox Memorial Hospital, Oneonta, NY;
Access Community Health Network, Chicago, IL;
Adirondack Medical Center, Saranac Lake, NY;
Adrian College, Nursing Program, Adrian, MI;
Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, Glendale Heights, FL;
Adventist Health, Roseville, CA;
Alamo Community College System, San Antonio, TX;
Alaska Addictions Rehabilitation Services, Inc., Wasilla, AK;
Alderson-Broaddus College, Philippi, WV;
Alice Hyde Medical Center, Malone, NY;
Alleghany Memorial Hospital, Sparta, NC;
Alle-Kiski Medical Center, Natrona Heights, PA;
Alliance for NanoHealth, Houston, TX;
AltaMed Health Services Corp., Los Angeles, CA;
American Oncologic Hospital, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA;
LBJ Medical Center, American Samoa, Pago Pago, AQ;
Amite County Medical Services, Liberty, MS;
Arnold Palmer Hospital, Orlando, FL;
Ashland County Oral Health Services, Ashland, OH;
Asian Americans for Community Involvement, San Jose, CA;
Association for Utah Community Health, Salt Lake City, UT;
Atlantic Health Systems, Florham Park, NJ;
Avis Goodwin Community Health Center, Dover, NH;
Avista Adventist Hospital, Louisville, CO;
Bad River Tribe of Lake Superior Chippewa, Odanah, WI;
Ball Memorial Hospital, Muncie, IN;
Baltimore City Health Department, Baltimore, MD;
Baltimore Medical System, Baltimore, MD;
Baptist Health Medical Center—Heber Springs, Heber Springs, AR;
Barnert Hospital, Paterson, NJ;
Barnes-Kasson County Hospital, Susquehanna, PA;
Barre Family Health Center, Barre, MA;
Bay Area Medical Clinic, Marinette, WI;
BayCare Health System, Clearwater, FL;
Baylor Research Institute, Dallas, TX;
Bayonne Medical Center, Bayonne, NJ;
Baystate Health Systems, Springfield, MA;
Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, MI;
Health Science Center, Belmont University, Nashville, TN;
Bemidji State University, nurse training program, Bemidji, MN;
Benedictine Hospital, Kingston, NY;
Benefis Healthcare, Great Falls, MT;
Berea Health Ministry Rural Health Clinic, Inc., Berea, KY;
Bloomington Hospital Foundation, Bloomington IN;
Bloomsburg Hospital, Bloomsburg, PA;
Blount Memorial Hospital, Maryville, TN;
Boone Hospital Center, Columbia, MO;
Boriken-Neighborhood Health Center, New York, NY;
Boscobel Area Health Care Boscobel, WI;
Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA;
Boston University Medical School, amyloidosis treatment, Boston, MA;
Bridge Community Health Clinic, Wausau, WI;
Bridgeport Hospital, Bridgeport, CT;
Brockton Neighborhood Health Center, Brockton, MA;
Brookside Community Health Center, San Pablo, CA;
Brunswick County, Bolivia, NC;
Bryan W. Whitfield Hospital, Demopolis, AL;
Bureau County Health Clinic, Princeton, IL;
Cactus Health Services, Inc., Sanderson, TX;
California Hospital Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA;
California State University, Department of Nursing, Bakersfield, CA;
Camillus House, Inc, Miami, FL;
Canonsburg General Hospital, Canonsburg, PA;
Cape Cod Free Clinic and Community Health Center, Mashpee, MA;
Capital Park Family Health Center, Columbus, OH;
Cardinal Stritch University, Agape Community Center, Milwaukee, WI;
Carolinas HealthCare System, Charlotte, NC;
Carroll County Regional Medical Center, Carrollton, KY;
Outpatient Mental Health Clinic, Carroll County Youth Service Bureau, Westminster, MD;
Center for Health Equity, Louisville, KY;
Virtual Medical Skills Center, Central Wyoming College, Riverton, WY;
CentroMed, San Antonio, TX;
Champlain Valley Physician's Hospital, Plattsburgh, NY;
Charles A. Dean Memorial Hospital, Greenville, ME;
Chatham County Safety Net Collaborative, Savannah, GA;
Cherry Street Health Services, Grand Rapids, MI;
Children's Friend and Family Services, Salem, MA;
Children's Home of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA;
Children's Hospital and Clinics of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN;
Children's Hospital and Health System, Milwaukee, WI;
Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY;
Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron, Akron, OH;
Children's Hospital of Orange County, Mission Viejo, CA;
Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters, Norfolk, VA;
Children's Hospital, Denver, CO;
Mobile Pediatric Health Simulation Center, Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN;
Children's Medical Center, Dayton, OH;
Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL;
Children's National Medical Center, Washington, DC;
Children's Specialized Hospital, Mountainside, NJ;
Chippewa Valley Hospital, Durand, WI;
Chiricaua Community Health Centers, Inc., Elfrida, AZ;
Christian Health Care Center of New Jersey, Wyckoff, NJ;
Christian Sarkine Autism Treatment Center, Indianapolis, IN;
Christus Santa Rosa's Children's Hospital, San Antonio, TX;
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH;
Citrus County Board of County Commissioners, Inverness, FL;
Travis County Hospital District, City of Austin, TX;
City of Chesapeake, Pilot Project Use of Technology for Targeted Public Health Intervention, VA;
Senior Citizens' Center, City of Hueytown, AL;
City of Oakland, Oakland Youth Center, CA;
City of Stockton, Community & Health Center/Airport Way, CA;
City of Stonewall, Stonewall Primary Care Clinic, OK;
Clarion Health Center, Clarion, PA;
Cleveland Clinic Huron Hospital, East Cleveland, OH;
Cobb County Government, Marietta Senior Health Center, GA;
Coffeyville Regional Medical Center, Coffeyville, KS;
Coles County Council on Aging, Mattoon, IL;
College Misericordia, Dallas, PA;
Collier County, Health Care Access for the Uninsured, Naples, FL;
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO;
Columbia Memorial Hospital, Hudson, NY;
Columbus Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH;
Communi Care, Inc., Columbia, SC;
Community College of Aurora, Combined Position Emission Tomography (PET) and Computer Tomography (CT) Scanner, Aurora, CO;
Community Dental Services, Albuquerque, NM;
Community Health Care, Tacoma, WA;
Community Health Center of Franklin County, Turners Falls, MA;
Community Health Works, Forsyth, GA;
Community Hospital of Bremen, Bremen, IN;
Community Hospital TeleHealth Consortium, Lake Charles, LA;
Gleason House, Community Medical Centers, Stockton, CA;
Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP), Cranston, RI;
Connecticut Hospice, Inc., Branford, CT;
Cook Children's Medical Center, Fort Worth, TX;
Cooperative Education Service Agency 11 Rural Health Dental Clinic, Turtle Lake, WI;
County of Modoc, Modoc Medical Center, Alturas, CA;
County of Peoria, Bel-Wood Nursing Home, Peoria, FL;
County of San Diego, Public Health Services, CA;
Crousee Hospital, Syracuse, NY;
Moss Higher Education Center, Crowder College—Nevada Campus, Nevada, MO;
Crozer-Chester Medical Center, Upland, PA;

Cumberland Medical Center, Crossville, TN;
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH;
Delaware Technical and Community College, Shaping the Future of Delaware Citizens program, Dover, DE;
Denver Health and Hospital Authority, Denver, CO;
Des Moines University and Broadlawns Medical Center, Des Moines, IA;
Detroit Primary Care Access, Detroit, MI;
Dixie County primary care facility, Cross City, FL;
Dodge County Hospital, Eastman, GA;
Drew County Memorial Hospital, Monticello, AR;
DuBois Regional Medical Center, DuBois, PA;
Metabolic Institute, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC;
East Tennessee Children's Hospital, Knoxville, TN;
East Tennessee State University College of Pharmacy, Johnson City, TN;
Easter Seals of Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana Counties, Youngstown, OH;
Eddy County, Regional Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Center, Carlsbad, NM;
Edgemoor Hospital, Santee, CA;
Eisenhower Medical Center, Rancho Mirage, CA;
Azusa Health Center, EI Proyecto del Barrio, Arleta, CA;
EI Proyecto del Barrio, Winnetka, CA;
Elizabeth City State University, School of Mathematics, Elizabeth City, NC;
Emerson Hospital, Concord, MA;
Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, Englewood, NJ;
Excela Health, Mt. Pleasant, PA;
Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster, OH;
Fairview Southdale Hospital, Edina, MN;
Harmony Center, Family and Children's Aid, Danbury, CT;
Family Behavioral Resources, Greensburg, PA;
Family Center of the Northern Neck, Inc; White Stone, VA;
Family Health Center of Southern Oklahoma, Tishomingo, OK;
Family HealthCare Network, Visalia, CA;
Family Medicine Spokane, Spokane, WA;
Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL;
Autism Research and Treatment Center, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL;
Floyd Valley Hospital, Le Mars, IA;
Freeman Health System, Joplin, MO;
Fulton County Medical Center, McConnellsburg, PA;
Gardner Family Health Network, Inc., San Jose, CA;
Gaston College, Health Education Institute, Dallas, NC;
Gateway to Care, Houston, TX;
Autism Early Identification Diagnostic and Treatment Center, Gertrude A. Barber Center, Erie, PA;
Glen Rose Medical Center, Glen Rose, TX;
Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Glendale, CA;
Glens Falls Hospital, Glens Falls, NY;
Grady Health Systems, Atlanta, GA;
Grandview Hospital, Dayton, OH;
Greater Hudson Valley Family Health Center, Inc., Newburgh, NY;
Greater New Bedford Community Health Center, New Bedford, MA;
Griffin Hospital, Derby, CT;
Gritman Medical Center, Moscow, ID;
Gundersen Lutheran Health System, West Union, IA;
Gunderson Lutheran, Decorah, IA;
Halifax Regional Health System, South Boston, VA;
Hamilton Community Health Network, Flint, MI;
Hampton University, Cancer Treatment Initiative, Hampton, VA;
Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX;
Harris Methodist Erath County Hospital, Stephenville, TX;
Hatzoloh EMS, Inc., Monsey, NY;
Hawkeye Community College, Health and Fitness Center, Waterloo, IA;
Healing Tree Addiction Treatment Solutions, Inc., Sterling, CO;
HEALS Dental Clinic, Huntsville, AL;
HealthCare Connection, Cincinnati, OH;
HealthEast Care System, St. Paul, MN;
Heartland Community Health Clinic, Peoria, IL;
Hekloen Institute for Medical Research Beloved Community Wellness Program, Chicago, IL;
Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, Grand Rapids, MI;
Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital, Valencia, CA;
Highland Community Hospital, Picayune, MS;
Highlands County, Veteran Services Building, Sebring, FL;
Holy Name Hospital, Teaneck, NJ;
Home Nursing Agency, Altoona, PA;
Hormel Foundation, Austin, MN;
Hospice of Northwest Ohio Toledo Center, Toledo, OH;
Hospice of the Western Reserve, Cleveland, OH;
Houston County Hospital District, Crockett, TX;
Howard Community College, Radiologic Technology Program, Columbia, MD;
Hudson Alpha Institute for Biotechnology, Huntsville, AL;
Hudson Headwaters Health Network, Inc., Glens Falls, NY;
Humility of Mary Health Partners, Youngstown, OH;
Humphreys County Memorial Hospital, Belzoni, MS;
Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, NJ;
Hunter's Hope Foundation, Orchard Park, NY;
Huntsville Hospital, Huntsville, AL;
Hurley Medical Center, Flint, MI;
Idaho Caring Foundation, Inc., Boise, ID;
Advanced Clinical Simulation Laboratory, Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID;
Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago, IL;
Illinois Primary Health Care Association, Springfield, IL;
India Community Center, Milpitas, CA;
School of Nursing, Indiana University Bloomington, IN;
Northwest Indiana Health Research Institute, Indiana University School of Medicine, Gary, IN;
Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN;
School of Nursing, Indiana University Southeast, New Albany, IN;
Inland Behavioral Health Services, Inc., San Bernardino, CA;
Institute for Family Health, New Paltz, NY;
Institute for Research and Rehabilitation, Houston, TX;
INTEGRIS Health, Oklahoma City, OK;
Intermountain Healthcare, Salt Lake City, UT;
Jameson Hospital, New Castle, PA;
Jasper Memorial Hospital, Monticello, GA;
Jefferson Regional Medical Center Nursing School, Pine Bluff, AR;
Jenkins County GA, Hospital, Millen, GA;
Bell Gardens Health Center, John Wesley Community Health Institute, Bell Gardens, CA;
Johnson Memorial Hospital, Stafford Springs, CT;
Johnston Memorial Hospital, Smithfield, NC;
Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Kalamazoo, MI;
International Center for Spinal Cord Injury facility, Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, MD;
Kent State University Stark Campus, Health Building, North Canton, OH;
Kent State University, Health and Science Building, Ashtabula, OH;
Kilmichael Hospital, Kilmichael, MS;
Kirkwood Community College, Advanced Medical Simulation Instructional Center, Cedar Rapids, IA;
Knox Community Hospital, Mount Vernon, OH;
San Antonio Neighborhood Health Center, La Clinic de la Raza, Oakland, CA;
La Rabida Children's Hospital, Chicago, IL;
Lakeland Community College, Regional Healthcare Workforce Development Project, Kirtland, OH;
Community and University Partnership Service, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX;
Lanai Women's Center, Lanai City, HI;
Laurens County Health Care System, Clinton, SC;
Lawrence Hospital Center, Bronxville, NY;
League Against Cancer, Miami, FL;
Liberty County, medical offices, FL, Bristol, FL;
Liberty Regional Medical Center, Hinesville, GA;
Limestone Community Care, Inc. Medical Clinic, Elkmont, AL;
Lincoln Community Health Center, Durham, NC;
Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center, Bronx, NY;
Lodi Memorial Hospital, Lodi, CA;
Loretto in Syracuse, elderly health care facilities, Syracuse, NY;
Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital, Los Angeles, CA;
Louisville Metro Department of Public Works, Louisville, KY;
Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County, Willingboro, NJ;
Loyola University Health System, Maywood, IL;
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Palo Alto, CA;
Madison Center, South Bend, IN;
Madison County Memorial Hospital, Rexburg, ID;
Madison County, Nursing Homes, Virginia City, MT;
Madison St. Joseph Health Center, Madisonville, TX;
Maine Center for Marine Biotechnology, Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Portland, ME;
Maine Primary Care Association, Augusta, ME;
Manchester Memorial Hospital, Manchester, CT;
Marana Health Center, Marana, AZ;
Marias Medical Center, Shelby, MT;
Marquette General Hospital, Marquette, MI;
Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center, Marshalltown, IA;
Mary Scott Nursing Center, Dayton, OH;
Maryland State Dental Association, Columbia, MD;
Center for Science and Health Professions, Maryville University, St. Louis, MO;
Mason County Board of Health, Maysville, KY;
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Worcester, MA;
Maury Regional Hospital, Columbia, TN;
Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN;
Memorial Hermann Baptist Beaumont Hospital, Beaumont, TX;
Memorial Hermann Healthcare System, Houston, TX;

Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital, Houston, TX;
Mendocino Coast District Hospital, Fort Bragg, CA;
Family Wellness Center, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Keshena, WI;
Mercy College of Northwest Ohio, Professional Education Division, Toledo, OH;
Mercy Health Foundation, Durango, CO;
Mercy Hospital Grayling, Grayting, MI;
Mercy Hospital, Buffalo, NY;
Mercy Medical Center, Redding, CA;
Mercy Medical Center—House of Mercy, Des Moines, IA;
Mercy Memorial Hospital, Monroe, MI;
Mercy Ministries Health Center, Laredo, TX;
Mercy Suburban Hospital, Norristown, PA;
Methodist Hospital of Southern California, Arcadia, CA;
Methodist Hospital, Houston, TX;
Metropolitan Hospital, New York, NY;
Metro West Medical Center Framingham Union Hospital, Framingham, MA;
Miami Beach Community Health Center, Miami Beach, FL;
Middle Tennessee State University, Center for Physical Activity, Murfreesboro, TN;
Middlesex Community College, Health Education Programs, Lowell, MA;
Middletown Regional Hospital, Middletown, OH;
Mid-Ohio FoodBank, Columbus, OH;
Miles Community College, Pathways to Careers in Healthcare, Miles City, MT;
Mission Hospitals, Asheville, NC;
Missouri Delta Medical Center, Sikeston, MO;
Monroe Clinic, Monroe, WI;
Monroe County Hospital, Forsyth, GA;
Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY;
Montgomery Area Nontraditional Equestrians, Pike Road, AL;
Morehead State University, Healthy Communities Outreach and Demonstration, Morehead, KY;
Morris Heights Health Center, Inc., Bronx, NY;
Morton Hospital and Medical Center, Taunton, MA;
Mount Nittany Medical Center, State College, PA;
Mount Vernon Hospital, Mount Vernon, NY;
Mount Wachusett Community College, Northern Tier Healthcare Simulated Instructional Mannequin System (SIMS), Gardner, MA;
Muhlenberg Community Hospital, Greenville, KY;
Naugatuck Valley Community College, Nursing Program, Waterbury, CT;
Nebraska Hospital Association Research and Education Foundation, Lincoln, NE;
New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Old Westbury, NY;
New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY;
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Newark, NJ;
Newark-Wayne Community Hospital, Newark, NY;
Newport Hospital Newport, RI;
Newton Memorial Hospital, Newton, NJ;
Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, Niagara Falls, NY;
Norman Regional Health System, Norman, OK;
NorthEast Ohio Neighborhood Health Services, Inc., Cleveland, OH;
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Green Bay, WI;
Northern Dutchess Hospital Rhinebeck, NY;
Northern Westchester Hospital, Mount Kisco, NY;
Northland Medical Center, Princeton, MN;
Northwest Community Health Care, Pascoag, RI;
Northwest Hospital Intermediate Care Unit, Randallstown, MD;
Northwest Kidney Centers, Seattle, WA;
Northwest Nazarene University, Nursing Facility, Nampa, ID;
Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL;
Oakland University School of Nursing, Rochester, MI;
Oaklawn Adult Group Home, Goshen, IN;
Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation, Dearborn, MI;
Ocean Beach Hospital, Ilwaco, WA;
James Cancer Survivorship Center, Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, Columbus, OH;
Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, OH;
Oklahoma University College of Medicine—Tulsa, Tulsa, OK;
Olympic Community Action Program, Port Angeles, WA;
Oregon Coast Community College, Nursing Program, Newport, OR;
Osceola County Health Department, Poinciana, FL;
Osceola Medical Center, Osceola, WI;
Our Lady of Lourdes Memorial Hospital, Binghamton, NY;
Palisades Medical Center, North Bergen, NJ;
Palmetto Health Foundation, Columbia, SC;
Parkland Health Center, Farmington, MO;
Passavant Area Hospital, Jacksonville, IL;
Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center, Richmond, KY;
Pee Dee Healthy Start, Florence, SC;
Peninsula Hospital Center, New York, NY;
People, Inc., Williamsville, NY;
Highland Hospital, Peralta Community College, Oakland, CA;
Person Memorial Hospital, Roxboro, NC;
Phoenix Children's Hospital, Phoenix, AZ;
Children's Health Center/Emergency Shelter, Placer County, Auburn, CA;
Pointe Coupee Better Access Community Health, New Roads, LA;
Ponce Center of Autism, Municipality of Ponce, PR;
Powell County Medical Center, Deer Lodge, MT;
Powell Valley Health Care, Powell, WY;
Prairie Star Health Center, Hutchinson, KS;
Preston Memorial Hospital, Kingwood, WV;
Project Access Spokane, Spokane, WA;
ProMedica Continuing Care Service Corporation, Adrian, MI;
Provena Saint Joseph Hospital, Elgin, IL;
Providence Health System, Anchorage, AK;
Putnam Hospital Center, Carmel, NY;
Quebrada Health Center, Municipality of Camuy, PR;
Quincy Valley Medical Center, Quincy, WA;
Rancho Santiago Community College District, Public-Private Medical Education Complex, Santa Ana, CA;
Reading Hospital School of Nursing, West Reading, PA;
Reformed Presbyterian Women's Association, Pittsburgh, PA;
Regional Children's Hospital, Johnson City, TN;
Rhode Island Quality Institute, Providence, RI;
Health Commons, Rio Arriba County, Espanola, NM;
Riverside County Regional Medical Center, Moreno Valley, CA;
Riverside Health System, Newport News, VA;
Roosevelt Hospital, New York, NY;
Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Rosebud, SD;
Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, NY;
Rural Health Technology Consortium;
Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL;
Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, MI;
Saint Mary's Health Care, Grand Rapids, MI;
Sam Rogers Health Clinic, Kansas City, MO;
San Antonio Hospital Foundation, Upland, CA;
San Francisco Medical Center Outpatient Improvement Programs, Inc., San Francisco, CA;
San Mateo Medical Center Emergency Department, San Mateo County, Redwood City, CA;
San Ysidro Health Center, San Ysidro, CA;
Sandoval County, Telemedicine Project, Bernalillo, NM;
Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, Orange, CA;
Schneck Medical Center, Seymour, IN;
Scotland Memorial Hospital, Laurinburg, NC;
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Seattle, WA;
Sharp Rehabilitation Services, San Diego, CA;
Shasta Community Health Center, Redding, CA;
Shawano County Rural Health Initiative, Shawano, WI;
Sidney Health Center, Sidney, MT;
Sierra Nevada Memorial Foundation, Grass Valley, CA;
Sistersville General Hospital, Sisterville, WV;
Skagit Valley Hospital Cancer Care Center, Mount Vernon, WA;
Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital, Wellsboro, PA;
Somerset Medical Center, Somerville, NJ;
South Broward Hospital District, Hollywood, FL;
South Carolina HIV/AIDS Council, Columbia, SC;
South Nassau Communities Hospital, Oceanside, NY;
South Shore Hospital, South Weymouth, MA;
Southampton Hospital, Southampton, NY;
Southeast Alabama Medical Center, Dothan, AL;
Southeast Community College, Allied health training center, Cumberland, KY;
Southeast Missouri State University, Economic Workforce and Development program, Cape Girardeau, MO;
Southern Methodist University, Southwestern Consortium for Anti-Infective and Virological Research, Dallas, TX;
Southern Vermont Recreation Center Foundation, Springfield, VT;
Southwest Tennessee Community College, Nursing and Biotechnology Program, Memphis, TN;
St. James Hospital and Health Centers, Chicago Heights, IL;
St. Agnes Hospital, Fresno, CA;
St. Ambrose University, Davenport, IA;
St. Anthony Community Hospital, Warwick, NY;
St. Anthony Hospital, Chicago, IL;
St. Anthony Memorial Health Centers, Hammond, IN;
St. Bernard Health Center, Inc., Chalmette, LA;
St. Bernardine Medical Center, San Bernardino, CA;
St. Camillus Health and Rehabilitation Center, Syracuse, NY;
St. Catharine College, Allied Health and Sciences Education Project, St. Catharine, KY;
St. Charles Parish, LaPlace, LA;
St. Clair Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA;
St. Claire Regional Medical Center, Morehead, KY;

St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Utica, NY;
St. Francis Hospital, Escanaba, MI;
St. Francis Medical Center, Trenton, NJ;
St. James Parish Hospital, Lutcher, LA;
St. John's North Shore Hospital, Harrison Township, MI;
St. Joseph of the Pines, Southern Pines, NC;
St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, South Bend, IN;
St. Joseph's Hospital Mercy Care Services, Atlanta, GA;
St. Joseph's Hospital, Buckhannon, WV;
St. Joseph's Hospital, Savannah, GA;
St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Paterson, NJ;
St. Joseph's/Candler Health System, Savannah, GA;
St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital, Quakertown, PA;
St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Ltd., Boise, ID;
St. Mary Medical Center Foundation, Langhorne, PA;
St. Mary Medical Center, Apple Valley, CA;
St. Mary's Hospital Foundation, Grand Junction, CO;
St. Mary's Hospital, Madison, WI;
St. Mary's Medical Center, Huntington, WV;
St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, Reno, NY;
St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center, Missoula, MT;
St. Peter's Hospital Foundation, Albany, NY;
St. Petersburg College, Orthotics and Prosthetics building, St. Petersburg, FL;
St. Vincent Hospital, Billings, MT;
St. Vincent's Charity Hospital, Cleveland, OH;
St. Vincent's Medical Center, Bridgeport, CT;
St. Xavier University, Chicago, IL;
Stamford Hospital, Stamford, CT;
Stark Prescription Assistance Network, Canton, OH;
State Fair Community College, Science and Allied Health Center, Sedalia, MO;
Stewart-Marchman Center, Inc., Daytona Beach, FL;
Stony Point Ambulance Corps, Stony Point, NY;
Appalachian Regional Healthcare Hospital, Summers County Commission, Hinton, WV;
Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago, IL;
Sylvan Grove Hospital, Jackson, MS;
Tangipahoa Parish, Loranger, LA;
Rural Nursing Education Program, Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX;
Tarrant County Infant Mortality Task Force, Ft. Worth, TX;
Taylor Regional Hospital, Hawkinsville, GA;
Temple Health and Bioscience Economic Development District, Temple, TX;
Teton Valley Hospital and Surgicenter, Driggs, ID;
Texas A&M University—Kingsville, Animal Research Facility, Kingsville, TX;
Texas Institute for Genomic Medicine, College Station, TX;
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, El Paso and Lubbock, TX;
Thomas Jefferson University Breast Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA;
Thomason General Hospital, El Paso, TX;
Thundermist Health Center, Woonsocket, RI;
Tohono O'odham Nation, Sells, AZ;
Toledo Children's Hospital, Toledo, OH;
Tomorrow's Child/Michigan SIDS, Lansing, MI;
Senior Citizens' Center for Health and Wellness, Town of Argo, AL;
Translational Genomics Research Institute, Phoenix, AZ;
Transylvania Community Hospital, Inc., Brevard, NC;
Tulare District Hospital, Tulare, CA;
Tuomey Healthcare System, Sumter, SC;
Twin City Hospital, Dennison, OH;
Union Hospital, Terre Haute, IN;
Uniontown Hospital, Uniontown, PA;
Unity Health Care, Washington, DC;
University Community Hospital/Pepin Heart Hospital, Tampa, FL;
University Health System, San Antonio, TX;
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL;
University of Arizona Medical Center, Tucson, AZ;
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR;
Antenatal and Neonatal Guidelines, Education, and Learning System, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR;
University of Arkansas Medical School Cancer Research Center, Little Rock, AR;
Center for Education, University of California, Davis Health System, Sacramento, CA;
University of Chicago Hospitals, Chicago, IL;
University of Illinois College of Medicine, Peoria, IL;
Public health research and education building, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA;
Advanced biomedical research institute, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA;
University of Kansas Research Center, Lawrence, KS;
University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, MA;
University of Memphis, Health Building, Memphis, TN;
Center for Research in Medical Education, University of Miami, Miami, FL;
C.S. Mott Children's and Women's Hospitals, University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI;
University of North Alabama, Science and Health Facility, Florence, AL;
Center for Computational Epidemiology, University of North Texas, Denton, TX;
National Center for Nursing Education, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO;
University of South Florida, Cancer Clinical Trials Project, Tampa, FL;
University of Tennessee of Chattanooga, Chattanooga, Low Birth Weight Study Project, TN;
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX;
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX;
University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, VA;
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Living Healthy Community Clinic, Oshkosh, WI;
Utah Navajo Health System, Inc., Montezuma Creek, UT;
Valley Cooperative Health Care, Hudson, WI;
Vanguard University Nursing Center, Costa Mesa, CA;
Village Network Boys' Village Campus, Wooster, OH;
Virtua Memorial Hospital Burlington County, Mount Holly, NJ;
Visiting Nurse Association Healthcare Partners of Ohio, Cleveland, OH;
Wadsworth Rittman Hospital Foundation, Wadsworth, OH;
Holly Hill Hospital, Wake County, Raleigh, NC;
Washington County, GA Regional Medical Center, Sandersville, GA;
Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC;
Washington Parish, Bogalusa, LA;
Wayne Memorial Hospital. Jesup, GA;
West Jefferson Medical Center, Marrero, LA;
West Shore Medical Center, Manistee, MI;
West Side Community Health Services, St. Paul, MN;
West Virginia University Hospital, Morgantown, WV;
Western North Carolina Health System, Asheville, NC;
Whidden Memorial Hospital, Everett, MA;
White County Memorial Hospital, Monticello, IN;
White Memorial Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA;
White Plains Hospital Center, White Plains, NY;
Whiteside County Department of Health, Rock Falls, IL;
Whittemore Peterson Institute for Neuro-Immune Disease, Sparks, NV;
Wind River Community Health Center, Riverton, WY;
Wing Memorial Hospital, Palmer, MA Winneshiek Medical Center, Decorah, IA;
Wolfson Children's Hospital, Jacksonville, FL;
Woodhull Medical and Mental Health Center, Brooklyn, NY;
Woodruff County Nursing Home, McCrory, AR;
Wyoming County Community Hospital, Warsaw, NY;
YMCA of Central Stark County, Canton, OH;
York Memorial Hospital, York, PA;
Youth Crisis Center, Jacksonville, FL;
Zucker Hillside Hospital, Glen Oaks, NY;
Alma Family Services, Monterey Park, CA;
Bronx-Lebanon Hospital, New York, NY;
Community Health Partnership, Santa Clara, CA;
Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, NJ;
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, LA;
Marymount University, Nurse Managed Health Center, Arlington, VA;
Nassau University Medical Centers, East Meadow, NY;
National Hispanic Medical Association, Washington, DC;
Prince George's County, Health Insurance Media Campaign, Upper Marlboro, MD;
St. Luke's Community Free Clinic, Front Royal, VA;
Thurston-Mason County Medical Society, Olympia, WA;
Alabama Institute of the Deaf and Blind, Talladega, AL;
Albany State University, African American Male Initiative, Albany, GA;
American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation, Rockville, MD;
Anne Arundel Community College, Center for Health, Science, and Homeland Security, Arnold, MD;
Armstrong Atlantic State University, Cyber Security Research Initiative, Savannah, GA;
Asnuntuck Community College, Manufacturing Technology Center, Enfield, CT;
Azusa Pacific University, School of Nursing, San Bernardino, CA;
Bellevue Community College, Building Safer Information Technology project, Bellevue, WA;
Beloit College, Science Building, Beloit, WI;
Engineering technology center, Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN;
Bennett College for Women, Suspension Intervention Program, Greensboro, NC;
Berkshire Community College, Access to Education Initiative, Pittsfield, MA;
Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Technology Equipment, Winchester, KY;
Broward Community College, Minority Center for Preparedness and Prevention, Broward County, FL;

Bucknell University, Environmental Initiative, Lewisburg, PA;
Buena Vista University, post secondary education online curriculum, Storm Lake, IA;
Butler Community College, technological worker training program, Andover, KS;
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, County Teaching Center, Hudson, NC;
California Baptist University, School of Engineering, Riverside, CA;
California Polytechnic State University, Animal Research, San Luis Obispo, CA;
California State University—Channel Islands, Regional Clinical Simulation Technology Laboratory, Camarillo, CA;
Ruby Gerontology Center, California State University—Fullerton, Fullerton, CA;
Campbell University, Advancement for Underrepresented Minority Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Scientists Program, Buies Creek, NC;
Central Arizona College, Bilingual Nursing Program, Coolidge, AZ;
Central Florida Community College, Equine Studies Curriculum, Ocala, FL;
Central Methodist University, Novel Partnership, Fayette, MO;
Center for Integrated Emergency Response Training, Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte, NC;
Central Washington University, Wine Quality Testing and Education Initiative, Ellensburg, WA;
Chemeketa Community College, Health Sciences Education Center, Salem, OR;
Charles B. Rangel Center for Public Service, City College of New York, NY;
Clark State Community College, Green County Campus, Springfield, OH;
Clayton College and State University, archival graduate program, Morrow, GA;
Institute for Environmental Sustainability in the Workforce, Clover Park Technical College, Lakewood, WA;
College of Lake County, Family English as a Second Language Program, Grayslake, IL;
College of Southern Idaho, Pro-Tech Program, Twin Falls, ID;
College of Southern Maryland, Construction and Transportation Training, LaPlata, MD;
College of the Canyons, Medical Lab Technician Degree Program, Santa Clarita, CA;
College Success Foundation, Issaquah, WA;
Community College of Allegheny County, Technical Education, Pittsburgh, PA;
Community College of Beaver County, Aviation Sciences Center, Monaca, PA;
Consensus Organizing Center, San Diego, CA;
Coppin State University, School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD;
Darton College, Biomedical Technology Education, Albany, GA;
Delaware County Community College, Science, Engineering, and Technology Complex, Media, PA;
Jasper County Career Academy, Des Moines Area Community College, Des Moines, ID;
Digital Campus Initiative, DeSales University, Center Valley, PA;
Eastern Illinois University, Nursing Program, Charleston, IL;
Eastern Shore Community College Industrial Maintenance Program, Melfa, VA;
Eckerd College, educational technology initiative, St. Petersburg, FL;
Edison College, Nursing Program, Charlotte County Campus, Punta Gorda, FL;
El Camino College, Nursing Program, Torrance, CA;
Teacher Education Enhancement Program, Elmira College, Elmira, NY;
Florida Campus Compact, Tallahassee, FL;
Coastal Watershed Institute, Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers, FL;
Focus: HOPE, Detroit, MI;
Franklin Pierce College, Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing Program Development, Rindge, NH;
Frontier Community College, utility lineman training program, Fairfield, IL;
Ft. Valley State University, Teacher Preparation and Research Center, Ft. Valley, GA;
Gadsden State Community College, fiber optic planning and development, Gadsden, AL;
Center for Advanced Manufacturing Competitiveness, Gateway Community and Technical College, Ft. Mitchell, KY;
Gateway Community College, advanced manufacturing center, New Haven, CT;
Gila County Community College, registered nurses program, Globe, AZ;
Grace College, Access to Education for All Program, Winona Lake, IN;
Greenfield Community College, art training and education, Greenfield, MA;
Harcum College, laboratory and teaching facilities, Bryn Mawr, PA;
Harrisburg Area Community College, health department equipment, Harrisburg, PA;
Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, Academic Development and Equipment, Harrisburg, PA;
Herkimer County Community College, Renovation of Science Laboratory, Herkimer, NY;
Hiwassee College, dental hygiene program, Madisonville, TN;
Holy Family University, Teaching with Technology for Nurses Initiative, Philadelphia, PA;
Huntington Junior College, Closed Captioning program, WV;
Huston-Tillotson University, math and science education initiative, Austin, TX;
Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Danville, VA;
Ivy Tech Community College, equipment and curriculum, Evansville, IN;
Jackson State University, Osteopathic Medical School, Jackson, MS;
James Rumsey Technical Institute, Automotive Technology Martinsburg, WV;
Tuscarawas County campus, Kent State University, New Philadelphia, OH;
King's College, civic engagement and service learning, Wilkes-Barre, PA;
La Sierra University, Science Building, Riverside, CA;
Extension center, Susquehanna County, Lackawanna College, Scranton, PA;
Lake City Community College, Math Initiative, Lake City, FL;
Latino Institute, Inc., Newark, NJ;
National Great Rivers Research and Education Center, Lewis and Clark Community College, Godfrey, IL;
Lincoln College, training equipment and material, Lincoln, IL;
Lincoln Memorial University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Curriculum Development, Harrogate, TN;
Linn-Benton Community College, Science and Health Equipment, Albany, OR;
Lorain County Community College, Library and Community Resource Center, Elyria, OH;
Los Angeles Valley College, Solving the Math Achievement Gap Program, Valley Glen, CA;
Lyon College, emergency equipment, Batesville, AR;
MacMurray College, Technology Upgrades, Jacksonville, IL;
Madonna University, Curriculum Development and Disaster Relief, Livonia, MI;
Gateway Community College, Maricopa County Community College, Tempe, AZ;
Marymount Manhattan College, Minority Teacher Preparation, New York, NY;
Louisiana Academy for Innovative Teaching and Learning, McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA;
Mesa Community College, Online Registered Nurses Recertification Program, Mesa, AZ;
Metropolitan State University, nursing education programs, St. Paul, MN;
Advanced Technology Center Midland College, Midland, TX;
Midwestern University Chicago College of Pharmacy, Downers Grove, IL;
Institute for Civic Leadership, Mills College, Oakland, CA;
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Office of the Chancellor, St. Paul, MN;
Mira Costa Community College District, Nursing Education, Oceanside, CA;
Marine technology center and estuarine education center, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Gautier, MS;
Academic Support Center, Missouri State University-West Plains, West Plains, MO;
Monroe Community College, special needs preparedness training program, Rochester, NY;
Montgomery County Community College, Advanced Technologies Initiative, Blue Bell, PA;
Mount Ida College, Veterinary Technology Program, Newton, MA;
Veterinary Center, Murray State University, Hopkinsville, KY;
Nevada State College, Accelerated Nursing Program, Henderson, NY;
Jane Bancroft Cook Library, New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL;
Public Archaeology Laboratory, New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL;
Strategic Languages Resource Center, New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL;
New Hampshire Community Technical College-Manchester, Manchester, NH;
Niagara County Community College, Nursing Equipment, Sanborn, NY;
North Arkansas College, Center Campus (including the L.E. ''Gene'' Durand Conference and Workforce Development Center), Harrison, AR;
Center for Engineering Technologies, North Carolina Center for Engineering Technologies, Hickory, NC;
Center for Nanoscience Technology Training, North Dakota State College of Science, Wahpeton, ND;
College of Engineering and Engineering Technology, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL;
METS Center, Northern Kentucky University Research Foundation, Highland Heights, KY;
Northwest Shoals Community College, technology upgrades, Phil Campbell, AL;
Norwich University, Nursing Equipment and Technology, Northfield, VT;
Oakland Community College, International Education Programs, Bloomfield Hills, MI;
Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Water Testing Facility, Goodwell, OK;
Onondaga Community College, equipment and infrastructure upgrades, Syracuse, NY;
OGI School of Science and Engineering, Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, OR;
Owens Community College, First Responder Training Initiative, Toledo, OH;
Palm Beach Community College, technology enhancements, Lake Worth, FL;
Paula and Anthony Rich Center for the Study and Treatment of Autism, Youngstown, OH;
Philadelphia School District, CORE Philly Scholarship Program, Philadelphia, PA;
Center of Excellence for Homeland Security, Pierce College, Tacoma, WA;
Kansas Technology Center, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, KS;
Polk Community College, manufacturing and training programs, Winter Haven, FL;
Portland State University, Science Research Teaching, Portland, OR;

Prince George's Community College, Management Information Upgrade, Largo, MD;
Purchase College, State University of New York, Math and Science Programs, Purchase, NY;
Radford University, Medical Graduate School Feasibility Study, Radford, VA;
Rhode Island College, Portuguese and Lusophone Studies Program, Providence, RI;
Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Curriculum Development, Pomona, NJ;
Richland Community College, Industrial Training Center, Decatur, IL;
Industrial Training Center, Richmond Community College, Hamlet, NC;
Rockford College, technology and telecommunications equipment, Rockford, IL;
Round Rock Higher Education Center, Round Rock, TX;
Rutgers University School of Law-Camden, NJ;
San Jacinto College, Healthcare Education and Training Initiative, Pasadena, TX;
Santa Clara University, Learning Commons and Library, Santa Clara, CA;
Seton Hall University, Life Science and Technology Center, South Orange, NJ;
Siena Heights University, Nursing Program, Adrian, MI;
Silver Lake College, Nursing Program, Manitowoc, WI;
Simpson College, Blank Performing Arts Center, Indianola, IA;
Sparks College, Close Captioning Program, Shelbyville, IL;
St. Bonaventure University, Science Equipment Program, St. Bonaventure, NY;
St. Clair County Community College, Water Quality Technology Program, Port Huron, MI;
St. Francis College, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Initiative, Brooklyn, NY;
St. Petersburg College, Long Distance Learning Program, St. Petersburg, FL;
State University of New York at Potsdam, Teacher Training Initiative, Potsdam, NY;
Sweetwater Education Foundation, Chula Vista, CA;
Texas Chiropractic College, Pasadena, TX;
Texas State Technical College, Manufacturing Workforce Training, Waco, TX;
Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX;
Tohono O'odham Community College, math and science equipment and instruction materials, Sells, AZ;
Tri-County Community College, Cherokee Center for Applied Technology, Murphy, NC;
Trident Technical College, Nursing Curriculum, Charleston, SC;
Trinity University, Educator's Technology Teaching Laboratories, San Antonio, TX;
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ;
Matsui Center for Politics and Public Service, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA;
University of Central Arkansas, technology training initiative, Conway, AR;
Lou Frey Institute of Politics, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL;
College of Education, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL;
College of Pharmacy, University of Louisiana at Monroe, Monroe, LA;
University of Michigan Depression Center, Ann Arbor, MI;
Teacher Leadership Initiative for School Improvement, University of Montevallo, Montevallo, AL;
American Indian Language Policy Research and Teacher Training Center, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM;
Assistive technology center, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, NC;
University of North Florida, Virtual School Readiness Incubator, Jacksonville, FL;
University of Texas at Tyler, Keeping American Competitive: Consortium for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), Tyler, TX;
University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, TX;
University of Virginia Center for Politics, Charlottesville, VA;
University of Wisconsin-Marshfield, Marshfield, WI;
Utah Valley State College, Center for the Study of Ethics, Orem, UT;
Vanguard University Nursing Center, Costa Mesa, CA;
Waldorf College, science equipment and library resources, Forest City, IA;
Weber State University, Teaching Assistant Pathway to Teaching (TAPT) Program, Ogden, UT;
West Central Technical College, workforce development and technical training, Waco, GA;
West Chester University, Nursing Program Development, West Chester, PA;
Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Madison, WI;
Wittenberg University, Teacher Training Initiative, Springfield OH;
York College City University of New York, York College Aviation Institute, Jamaica, NY;
Aerospace Museum of California Foundation, McClellan, CA;
Alabama School of Math and Science, Mobile, AL;
America's Black Holocaust Museum, Milwaukee, WI;
American Airpower Museum, Farmingdale, NY;
American Jazz Museum, Kansas City, MO;
American West Heritage Center, Wellsville, UT;
Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc., Annapolis, MD;
Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA;
Bandera County, Bandera, TX;
Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA;
Boyle County Public library, Danville, KY;
Burpee Museum, Rockford, IL;
Charlotte County, FL, Archival System, Port Charlotte, FL;
Children's Museum of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN;
Children's Museum of Los Angeles, Van Nuys, CA;
Cincinnati Museum Center, Cincinnati, OH;
City of Chino Hills, Chino Hills, CA;
College Park Aviation Museum, College Park, MD;
Connecticut Historical Society Museum, Hartford, CT;
Juvenile Hall Library, Contra Costa County, Martinez, CA;
Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest, Forest, VA;
County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino, CA;
Discovery Center of Idaho, Boise, ID;
Everson Museum of Art of Syracuse, Syracuse, NY;
Florida Holocaust Museum, St. Petersburg, FL;
Florida Southern College, Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Achieve Wing, Lakeland, FL;
George and Eleanor McGovern Library, Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell, SD;
George C. Marshall Foundation, Lexington, VA;
George Washington University, Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project, Washington, DC;
Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ;
Heckscher Museum of Art, Huntington, NY;
Historic Hudson Valley, Tarrytown, NY;
History Museum of East Ottertail County, Perham, MN;
Impression 5 Science Center, Lansing, MI;
Lola Public Library, Lola, KS;
James A. Michener Art Museum, Doylestown, PA;
Jefferson Barracks Heritage Foundation Museum, St. Louis, MO;
Kansas Regional Prisons Museum, Lansing, KS;
Massie Heritage Center, Savannah, GA;
Metropolitan Library System, Chicago, IL;
Monterey Bay Aquarium, Monterey, CA;
Morris Museum, Morristown, NJ;
Museum of Aviation Foundation, Warner Robins, GA;
Museum of Science and Technology, Syracuse, NY;
Onondaga County Public Library, Syracuse, NY;
Overton County Library, Livingston, TN;
Pennsylvania State Police Historical, Educational and Memorial Museum, Hershey, PA;
Pico Rivera Library, Pico Rivera, CA;
Portfolio Gallery and Education Center, St. Louis, MO;
Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum, Savannah, GA;
Rust College, Archival Equipment, Holly Springs, MS;
Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, State University of New York at New Paltz, NY;
San Gabriel Library, San Gabriel, CA;
Shedd Aquarium, Chicago, IL;
South Carolina Aquarium, Charleston, SC;
South Florida Science Museum, West Palm Beach, FL;
Texas Tech University, Virtual Vietnam Achieve, Lubbock, TX;
Tubman African American Museum, Macon, GA;
Twin Cities Public Television, St. Paul, MN;
James R. Slater Museum of Natural History, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA;
Yolo County Library, Woodland, CA;
Young At Art Children's Museum, Davie, FL;
Advocating Change Together, Inc. St. Paul, MN;
City of North Miami Beach, FL, North Miami Beach, FL;
Jewish Vocational and Career Counseling Service, San Francisco, CA;
Vocational Guidance Services, Cleveland, OH;
Access Community Health Center, Bloomingdale, IL;
Advocate Health Care, Oak Brook, IL;
Alfred University, Powell Institute for Children and Families, Alfred, NY;
American Red Cross, Lower Bucks County Chapter, Levittown, PA;
City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health, San Francisco, CA;
City of Los Angeles, supportive housing services, CA;
Community Rehabilitation Center, Inc., Jacksonville, FL;
Family Services of Greater Waterbury, Waterbury, CT;
Family Support Systems Unlimited, Inc., Bronx, NY;
Fulton County Department of Mental Health, Atlanta, GA;
Heartland Health Outreach, Inc., Chicago, IL;
Helen Wheeler Center for Community Mental Health, Kankakee, IL;
Holy Spirit Hospital, Camp Hill, PA;
Institute of Training in Addiction Studies, Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN;
Jewish Association for Residential Care, Farmington Hills, MI;
Kids Hope United, Waukegan, IL;
New Image Homeless Shelter, Los Angeles, CA;
Pacific Clinics, Arcadia, CA;

Prime Time House, Inc., Torrington, CT;
Ruth Rales Jewish Family Service, Boca Raton, FL;
Ventura County Probation Office, Ventura, CA;
Ventura County Sheriffs Department, Thousand Oaks, CA;
Adoption and trauma resource center, Youthville, Wichita, KS;
Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, New Haven, CT;
Fighting Back Partnership, Vallejo, CA;
Institute for the Advanced Study of Black Families, Oakland, CA;
Operation Safe House, Riverside, CA;
Partnership for a Drug-Free America, New York, NY;
Shiloh Economic Development Center, Bryan, TX;
South Boston Community Health Center, South Boston, MA;
YMCA of the East Bay, Richmond, CA;
City of Las Vegas, EVOLVE program, NV;
City of Oxford, Oxford, substance abuse treatment program, MS;
Fulton County government, Atlanta, Project Excell, CA;
Gavin Foundation, South Boston, MA;
Glide Foundation, San Francisco, CA;
Metro Homeless Youth Services of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA;
Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Minneapolis, MN;
Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow, NY;
Sandhills Teen Challenge, Carthage, NC;
Sheriffs Youth Program of Minnesota, Inver Grove Heights, MN;
Talbert House, Cincinnati, OH;
Trumbull County Lifelines, Warren, OH;
Union Station Foundation, Pasadena, CA;
United Way of Treasure Valley, Boise, ID;
Wayne County Academy, Alpha, KY;
WestCare Kentucky, Ashcamp, KY;

Mr. CAMPBELL of California (during the reading). Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, reserving the right to object, I am not sure we have this amendment. Would the Clerk designate and read the amendment, please?

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will continue to read.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, is this a multi-page amendment, could I ask? If it is, I don't want to delay the House.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

Mr. DINGELL. Reserving the right to object, and I will not object, at what page and what section is the amendment offered by my good friend from California?

The CHAIRMAN. The amendment is at the end of the bill.

Mr. DINGELL. I thank the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from California (Mr. CAMPBELL) and a Member opposed each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Madam Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like the House and certainly the esteemed chairman of the Appropriations Committee, the gentleman from Wisconsin, to know that this amendment is essentially identical to the amendment you just offered and proffered, and it is my intention to ask unanimous consent to withdraw this amendment. However, I would like the opportunity to talk about my rationale behind it.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. I would be happy to yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. Just answer one question. Does it affect every project in the bill?

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. We drafted it with that intention, and it is my intention and expectation that it does.

Mr. OBEY. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Madam Chairman, we already had a debate and discussion about whether there should be earmarks and whether there should not be earmarks. And let me just say that as much as I think there are many inappropriate earmarks, I don't think there have to be no earmarks, but I do think that the process under which we do these earmarks now is still flawed.

Now, admittedly, it is frankly, more open than it was last year. But it is still not as transparent and still not as accountable as it should be. And I offered a few suggestions which I will run through quickly, and then I would like to yield to the gentleman from Arizona, as to things that I think we could do in this House in order to make earmarks completely transparent and completely accountable so that this House is not embarrassed by them because, frankly, we have been embarrassed by them in the past, and there are ones I believe that are embarrassing this House that are presently involved in this bill and some other bills and will be in the future.

So my suggestions are simple. First, disclose all the earmark requests. Why should we not do that? When we enter a bill, it is disclosed. It is public knowledge that this is something we are trying to make a change on. If any Member wants to spend the taxpayers' money on something and they want to do an official form where they sign that says they have no financial interest, then why shouldn't that be made public?

Let's put every earmark in the text of the bill. As I believe the gentleman from Wisconsin knows, it is very difficult to write amendments to take all the earmarks out of the bill because they are not actually written in the bill. So let's write them in the bill so that we do that.

And the bill should fully disclose all earmarks with the requesting Member, the amounts, recipients, and the purpose at least a week before we bring them to the floor. We got the certifications less than 24 hours, I think it was only about 12 hours, before we started debate on the last bill. And that is just not enough time to review or make clear what these amendments are.

All earmarks should be available for discussion and open congressional hearing. If there are earmarks in a bill, there should be a congressional hearing on those earmarks. Now, that doesn't mean that if there are 200 that you are going to discuss every one, but certainly every one would be available for discussion at that point.

All earmark programs should be previously authorized by Congress. If not, why do we even have an authorization process? If we are not going to follow it, if you are just going to be able to earmark anything you want, then why do we have an authorization process? And that is what I think is a lot of what has gone wrong with this process.

They should serve a Federal interest or have some Federal nexus. The Federal Government does not, should not, cannot, will not fund every single need and every single desire of every Member and every person in this country. There are lots of things which are properly left to State and local governments and charitable organizations. So we should make it clear that we only spend Federal money on those things with a Federal nexus.

No earmarks outside of a Member's own State. If the point of this is just to do things for your constituency, make sure you are doing things for your constituency.

No earmarks for private entities without some kind of a competitive bid process. I will tell you a story of a defense contractor in my district who came to me and showed me this fine device, and I said, That's great, but how do I know it works? And if I knew it works, how do I know you are the best source for that? And if I knew you were the best source for that, how would I know that this is the right price for that? The answer is I don't think Members can know those things. So if it is a private entity, let's competitively bid it.

Nine, no earmark can be added or increased in conference committee. That is a way to go around all of this. Let's make it that you take the Senate version or the House version but you don't make up a new one.

And, finally, that the dollar amount of any earmark that is reduced by an amendment, that money should be saved to the taxpayer. It should go to debt reduction. It should go to deficit reduction. Congressman CULBERSON had a proposal in the Appropriations Committee, which was defeated, to do exactly that. And why shouldn't we do that? If there is money in a bill and we are not going to spend it on that, let's save it for the taxpayers. That is one of the ways we can reduce this deficit.

So those are some thoughts that I have as to how this process can be improved.

How much time do I have remaining, Madam Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman has 5 minutes remaining.

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Madam Chairman, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I won't take 4 minutes, but I just want to commend the gentleman for bringing this forward and having such a thoughtful approach to earmarks.

I should mention what we will hear today, I am sure many, many times, is that Members will come to the floor and say, It is my district, I know it best; and other Members will say, Let's defer to that Member because that Member knows his district better than anybody else, and, therefore, we should defer all spending decisions to that Member.

Let me remind us all, though, that just a couple of weeks ago more than 100 Members from this side of the aisle and 149 Members from that side of the aisle voted to strike an earmark from a Member's district. So I hope that we don't hear that because that is not always the case.

We make policy for the entire country, and we spend the taxpayers' money, and it is not always the case that any Member should have his or her way in their district.

So I think that this is a thoughtful process and I would support this. It looks like that there are conflicting amendments that are similar, and I hope that one of them passes to strike all earmarks from the bill.

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Madam Chairman, how much time do I have remaining now?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman has 4 minutes remaining.

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Madam Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING).

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I certainly thank him for his leadership in this institution on this very, very important subject.

I will be supporting, I suppose, the chairman's amendment. He said he was not interested, I believe, in biasing the decision; so he will vote present, although I think that the distinguished chairman had voted against the gentleman from California's amendment yesterday on another bill. So I am not sure if the outcome hasn't already been prejudiced.

Be that as it may, I have not been opposed to all earmarks. I understand the opportunity and constitutional responsibility that this body has. But as I have observed the process, the process, I believe, more often than not, has led to bad results. And particularly the bad result that I see and why I commend the gentleman from California for his leadership in this area is that I believe, more often than not, we help teach people to become more dependent upon the Federal Government. People who never thought about receiving a Federal earmark now come to their local Member of Congress. There was a time when many individuals would compete in the marketplace of ideas and compete in the marketplace for business and compete in the marketplace for charitable contributions, and now they are being taught they need to compete in the halls of Congress.

I recall dealing with a large major medical research institute in my hometown of Dallas, Texas, that does world renowned science who was always happy to come and compete in a competitive bid process for research dollars at the National Institutes of Health, but they woke up one day and many other institutions instead were receiving earmarks; so now they went out and invested their money in a Washington lobbyist and they started receiving earmarks. I do not necessarily view this as a good thing.

And I wish I had coined the phrase, but our colleague in the other body, the gentleman from Oklahoma, Mr. COBURN, once said that earmarks are the gateway drug to spending addiction. That may not be true in all cases, but it is certainly true in many cases. And more often than not, I fear that they represent a victory of special interests over the general interest. They represent a victory, often, of secrecy over transparency. Even now we are having trouble trying to put the dollar amounts with the Member, with the earmark. Certainly, I don't see the transparency that I thought that we would have seen from the committee on this matter.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from Texas has expired.

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Madam Chairman, I intend to support the gentleman from Wisconsin's amendment. But I do believe, and I hope the gentleman from Wisconsin can hear me, that there is an alternative. There is something between the current very flawed process and no earmarks. I hope that we can engage in a discussion about this. I realize it is too late for it in this appropriations cycle but to discuss in the next appropriations cycle.

Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment since it is virtually identical to what the chairman has offered.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT NO. 19 OFFERED BY FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 19 offered by Mr. FLAKE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Exploratorium, San Francisco, California, for its Bay Area Science Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Improvement Initiative.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Department of Education—Innovation and Improvement'' is hereby reduced by $300,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, this amendment would prevent $300,000 from funding the Exploratorium, a science museum in San Francisco, California, and reduces the cost of the bill by a consistent amount.

Madam Chairman, when I came across this earmark, I decided that I would explore why a successful museum like this would request money from the Federal Government. According to the earmark description in the certification letter submitted to committee, the earmark would fund an initiative to promote professional development for science education teachers. But when my staff and I did research on this earmark, we found that a teacher development program already exists at the museum.

According to the museum's Web site, the Teacher Institute trains teachers during the summer sessions, while they participate in a mix of learning experiences designed to help teachers with hands-on activities, inquiry, and strong science content.

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The institute was founded by numerous corporate sponsors and foundations, including the Noyce Foundation and the Bank of America. All of the teachers who attend the Teacher Institute do so with private support. Again, why is the Federal Government funding an initiative that corporations can and do already fund?

The Exploratorium is a science museum that consists of 400 exhibits of art, science and the human perspective. It had over 600,000 visitors just last year. Cost of admission is $14 for adults, $9 for children. Income from government sources, both local and Federal, is almost $12 million. Nearly $9 million was contributed from individuals, corporations and foundations. It hardly seems that this museum is in some kind of financial straits, especially to the point that taxpayers around the country should be asked to help fund a program that would benefit only teachers from one small area of the country.

I don't disagree with the sponsor's desire for qualified science teachers in the classroom. Qualified teachers are necessary. But I do take issue with the increase in spending. This bill represents an increase of over $10 billion above the President's request and more than $2 billion over the Senate bill.

Spending has got to stop somewhere. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. Again, we are simply stopping $300,000 for a museum that has a budget of some $12 million.

With that, Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Let me simply say, Madam Chairman, that there is nothing in the world more deadly than a dull science teacher. I know from long, personal experience, and so does one of my sons. Let me say that this earmark is meant to correct that problem in at least one area of the country.

The funds that are attacked by this amendment are for the Bay Area Science Teacher Recruitment, Retention and Improvement Initiative, which supports the professional development of the K–12 science teacher workforce of the Bay Area, with a particular focus on the needs of underserved schools. These funds would be used for professional development programs consisting of summer workshops and academic year follow-up activities for 500 science education teachers, online professional development activities, and curriculum development.

This initiative is being conducted by the Exploratorium, a private, nonprofit science museum in San Francisco. It is a longstanding program of professional development for science teachers. It has been awarded more National Science Foundation grants than any other museum. Those funds will significantly increase the number of teachers served.

Recruitment and retention of science teachers is a major problem in the Bay Area, with over 50 percent of new science teachers leaving the workforce within 5 years, causing ongoing shortages, particularly in high-poverty urban school districts.

It is estimated that in the Bay Area urban school districts, more than 40 percent of high school teachers, 60 percent of middle school teachers, and 90 percent of newly hired science teachers are teaching at least one science course for which they are not technically qualified. High school science students in schools serving large minority populations are twice as likely to be taught by an unqualified teacher, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

This program is consistent with the bipartisan White House and Congressional Priorities for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, the STEM program, and the U.S. Competitiveness Initiative.

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

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I would have hoped that the sponsor of the amendment, which I believe is the Speaker of the House, would have come here to defend it or talk more about it.

That was a nice description, but again, the point isn't whether this is a worthy program or not or whether or not we need science teachers. I've had some rather dull ones as well, and I would rather have ones that are taught well and can teach well. But this museum has $12 million in revenue. This is 300,000 additional dollars given by the Federal Government. Why are we doing this? It's not because it's needed. It's because somebody can.

I would submit that when we are running a deficit like we are in this country and we have the debt like we do, why in the world are we doing this? What possible nexus is there for the Federal Government to come in and supplant private dollars with taxpayer dollars?

With that, I would urge adoption of the amendment.

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

Mr. HONDA. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HONDA. Madam Chairman, it's interesting that folks would be making judgment about what I consider an educational facility. I am a science teacher and a good one. I was a student. I grew up in south Chicago where there were other facilities like the Museum of Science & Industry and the Museum of Natural History, without which, as a youngster, I might have gotten more in trouble if I weren't interested in those facilities. It provided me a place to learn in a very casual way, but it was imprinted in me for my life.

The Exploratorium, I went there as a student when I was in grade school, and I remember all the experiences I had there. And as a science teacher, I took my classes there. $300,000 is a very small investment for a facility like this.

And by the way, I thought that we were always supportive of public/private ventures, and this is one of them. This Exploratorium is not a private facility either. It's open to the public for anyone who wishes to visit it and learn from it. Why, even people from Arizona can come and enjoy the kind of instruction that's in there. For me, it was life-long learning as a science teacher. It was a great facility to engage my students and expand their thinking.

And so I think that this is a wonderful investment. And in the words of people from Silicon Valley, ''return on investment is what you get.''

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. DINGELL

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. DINGELL:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay the basic pay of any individual serving as Deputy Commissioner of Social Security, Social Security Administration, whose appointment to such position has not been confirmed by a vote of the Senate pursuant to section 702(b)(1) of the Social Security Act.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

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

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Chairman, the amendment is simple. It's about protecting Social Security. It is about the fox guarding the hen roost. The fox is the new appointee who has been made Deputy Commissioner of Social Security, but who is unconfirmed by the United States Senate. The hen roost is Social Security and the care and concern of millions of Americans, retirees, orphans, widows, persons who are disabled. What we want to do is to see to it that those people who are in charge of Social Security and guard Social Security are friends to the system and not enemies.

Social Security is one of the most extraordinary devices in the history of this country. It is one of the cheapest and the best ways of collecting money, and one of the fairest and the best ways of disbursing it and seeing to it that our senior citizens are protected by their government and that their pensions and that their retirement is made dignified and worthwhile.

The President appointed a fellow by the name of Biggs by a recess appointment, and he was made Deputy Commissioner of Social Security. His name is Andrew Biggs. He has had his appointment opposed by the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, the chairman said this, ''because his support for the failed idea of privatization would reopen a settled debate about the future of Social Security reform.''

The amendment simply says no money may be spent on his salary until he has been confirmed; a simple, sensible, decent and proper protection for our retirees.

Mr. Biggs has written dozens of articles in favor of privatization. He has compared Social Security to Enron and claimed that it was on the verge of imminent bankruptcy. He has argued that private accounts are the only solution to fund Social Security over the long term.

He has worked to promote the agenda of privatization of Social Security time after time. Listen to some of the words

which he has said: ''Social Security reform featuring personal retirement accounts doesn't send just one liberal sacred cow to the slaughterhouse; it sends the whole herd.'' This was a 1999 paper made by Mr. Andrew Biggs in which his thesis is that the dismantling of Social Security would lead to the dismantlement of all New Deal era programs.

What we are doing by adopting this amendment is putting Mr. Biggs before the Senate Finance Committee for hearings to inquire, is he in favor of Social Security? Does he want to privatize it? Does he want to abolish it?

This amendment will protect Social Security. It will protect retirees. It will see to it that we do not have the fox guarding the hen roost. It will see to it that the hopes and the dreams and the expectations of our senior citizens and those who look forward to Social Security as protection in their retirement years can be assured that there will be a protection for them and that their Social Security benefits will be there when they retire. It also is to assure that within the structure of Social Security there would not be an avowed and announced enemy of Social Security, of the program which protects our senior citizens.

This is a fight which has been before the Congress many times. It's been before the Senate. It has been before the House. The American people have made it plain; they want Social Security protected. They have made it equally plain that they don't want people in charge of Social Security who want to destroy the program or who want to send it, as he has said, to the slaughterhouse.

I think that this is an amendment which you can safely vote for, secure in the knowledge that you are protecting the concerns of your Social Security recipients and of others who believe that Social Security is one of the great and wonderful programs in the history of this country. And you can, in so doing, see to it that this individual is inquired of properly of his attitude with regard to Social Security, and that we can address the question of how Social Security should be protected. Certainly not by the insertion into the structure of the organization which runs it by a man who has consistently displayed hostility to it.

I urge the adoption of the amendment. I urge my colleagues to vote for it. In so doing, you are voting to remove an enemy from Social Security from a responsible position where he can do a great hurt. And you are assuring that you are protecting Social Security for our constituents, for our people, and for our Social Security retirees.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I think this amendment is somewhat inappropriate, and I say that at my own peril. I have great respect for the chairman of the Commerce Committee. He is a wise man, far wiser than I. He has been here for many, many years. He knows how to make a point. I think he has made it.

I'm aware that this appointment is somewhat controversial, but the best way to get the Social Security Administration to perform as the Congress wishes is to pass laws and to bring them in for oversight hearings. I don't think that a rifle-shot cutting of one individual's salary is the right way to proceed.

I'm not intimately familiar in this case, but this type of amendment does cause me some pause. I can't recall in my years here any time when an amendment like this passed, although the chairman, who has been here far longer than I, could probably cite them.

If we want to deal with this issue of recess appointment, let's do so in an authorizing bill and not in this manner. And for that reason, I would urge a ''no'' vote on this amendment.

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, as you know, I have been less than enthusiastic about virtually every amendment offered here today, but this is one exception.

I want to congratulate the dean of the House. He has been a lion for all of the years he has been here in defending Social Security and in pursuing the goal of universal health care for every American.

□ 1845

Before that, his father played the same role. I am pleased to see that he is carrying on the tradition. For a moment, when the gentleman from Michigan explained this amendment to me, I had doubts about supporting it. But then I recognized the legitimacy of the gentleman's concern, especially because the gentleman in the Social Security Administration in question had been appointed through a recess appointment.

I felt that that process was an indication of disrespect for the congressional prerogatives of this body, or I should say the other body. To express what I mean, I want to simply remind Members that several weeks ago when the amendment was offered by Mr. EMANUEL to eliminate funding for the Office of the Vice President, I voted against that amendment because I thought that members of one institution in the government owe a certain degree of respect to the other institution, even if you don't especially care for the policies of the people who run that institution.

When the Vice President and I talked about the issue, I told him that the reason I had voted that way was simply because there were at least some people in this body still left who respected other institutions of government. I wish that the administration had demonstrated the same respect for this institution when they allowed this gentleman in question to be appointed through a recess appointment without confirmation.

When a program as vital as Social Security is at stake, I think that rather than lecturing each other about how we find a middle road to solve long-term problems of that program, I think the best way to find that middle road is to walk it and to look for ways to cooperate institutionally with the other branch of government. That is certainly what the White House chose not to do in this instance.

It is for that reason that I think that the gentleman's amendment is a wise one, because it reminds both bodies of the need to respect each other's prerogatives. Sometimes they need to be forcibly reminded of that which this amendment would do.

Madam Chairman, I therefore urge its adoption.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MRS. SCHMIDT

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mrs. SCHMIDT:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 888. None of the funds in this Act shall be made available to any provider of services under title X of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300 et seq.) if it is made known to the Secretary of Health and Human Services that such provider has been found within the preceding 36-month period to have violated State law requiring notification or the reporting of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape, or incest.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman reserves a point of order.

Pursuant to the order of the House today, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SCHMIDT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Chairman, this amendment is very straightforward. It seeks to hold accountable title X grantees who do not abide by State laws that require notification or

reporting of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape or incest. This issue is not a new one. In 1997, it came to light that title X grantees were not reporting rape, incest, sexual abuse, child abuse and molestations.

In response, Congress included language in the 1999 Labor, Health and Human Services appropriations bill to clarify that title X grantees are not exempt from State reporting laws. This language has been retained since that time. Unfortunately, despite this clarification, some title X grantees still do not appear to be reporting cases of rape and incest.

On May 10th of this year, the Cincinnati Enquirer reported the story of two young ladies who were victims of sexual abuse. One young lady was continually molested by her father. The abuse began when the girl was just 13 years old. In November 2004, she was forced by her father to have an abortion. She says that she told an employee of the abortion clinic that she was being ''forced to have sex and do things she didn't want to do.'' Despite this fact, no report was made. She was sent home with her father to endure another year and a half of sexual abuse.

In another case, a 14-year-old girl was taken by her 21-year-old soccer coach to have an abortion. She allegedly used a junior high school ID and her abuser paid for the procedure with a credit card and driver's license. The abuse was never reported.

According to the story in the Enquirer regarding the second case that I mentioned, a form filled out by Planned Parenthood said, ''Patient reports pregnancy is the result of sexual assault by a stranger. After consultation with attorney, report of a crime to the police was not made. Due to physician-patient privilege, we are prohibited from reporting as no severe bodily injury was reported.''

The young lady's attorney says that prosecutors in four local counties know of no such exception in reporting requirements.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment is simple. It simply says that title X grantees who have been found by a Federal or State agency or a court of law to have violated State reporting requirements in the preceding 36 months cannot receive Federal title X funds. I urge support for my amendment.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation in an appropriation bill in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI. The rule states in pertinent part, ''An amendment to a general appropriation bill shall not be in order if changing existing law.'' The amendment requires a new determination.

The CHAIRMAN. Does any other Member wish to be heard on the point of order?

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Chairman, I understand the chairman has objected to my amendment. I am sorry we do not have the opportunity to vote on this very important issue.

Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BARTON OF TEXAS

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. BARTON of Texas:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

TITLE VI

ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 601. None of the funds made available in this Act for the National Institutes of Health may be used for activities under section 241(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 238j(a)).

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Chairman, one of the things I am most proud of in my service in the Congress was the reauthorization on a bipartisan basis of the National Institutes of Health in the last Congress. It is the first time the NIH has been reauthorized in over 13 years. It is the stellar institution for health care research in this country.

As a part of that reauthorization, I promised the stakeholder community that I would support increased funding for NIH this year, and I have done the best I can to follow through on that commitment. Unfortunately, because of the press of funding that this particular appropriation bill has, the NIH increase in H.R. 3043 is only 1.6 percent. I am glad that it is that much. I wish it were more.

The amendment before the body at this point in time would make sure that all of that money actually goes to the NIH. Sadly, a lot of the increase in NIH is going to be immediately siphoned off to two different funds. One is a global AIDS fund, which will take $300 million. The other is called a ''tap,'' which takes about $600 million to another line item outside of NIH. So what this Barton amendment would do was keep that $600 million that would be siphoned off for the tap fund and keep it in the NIH.

I am not opposed to the amount that the appropriators have increased it. I wish it were more. But at least I want to keep as much of that money that has been increased within the NIH. That is what this amendment would do.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I oppose the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chairman, I held up this sign from the well yesterday, and I will do so again today. I have the sign hanging in my office, and every time somebody comes in looking for money, I ask them to read it out loud. What the sign says is, ''What do you want us to do for someone, besides yourself, that is more important than whatever it is you want us to do for you?'' That request includes even medical researchers at universities.

Now, the fact is, this bill contains $750 million over last year, and before that in the continuing resolution we added $620 million to NIH at that time. This bill is $1 billion higher than the President's request for the National Institutes of Health.

Now, everybody loves the National Institutes of Health. I do too. But it does no good to any patient if we only concentrate on putting money in the National Institutes of Health and do not see to it that the information produced by the NIH is disseminated adequately to medical practitioners all over the country.

It also does no good if in the process of squirreling away this money to NIH we do substantial damage to the public health programs of the United States and if we essentially wipe out the one agency which is doing the research to demonstrate to us how to produce the best treatments and how to produce cost savings that will prevent private medical care and Medicare from going bankrupt.

□ 1900

This amendment has all of those problems. This country is consumed about out-of-control health care costs. This amendment would devastate funding for the one agency doing the research necessary to determine the best ways to deliver medical care in order to avoid bankrupting our health care system.

The amendment will also devastate the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health by cutting 20 percent of the funding provided for NIOSH, the only agency in government that supports occupational safety and health research and brings that research from the laboratory into the workplace.

What we are trying to do in this bill is what has been done for the last 16 years: We take a small percentage of the funds we appropriate to these agencies, and we set that aside for research and for evaluation so that we have a truly holistic approach to health care in this country. It does no good if we do lots of research in the lab and the implications of that research never get out into the doctor's office. It does no

good if patients aren't given enough information so that they can question their own treatment. That is what this does.

I would urge strongly, in the strongest possible terms, the rejection of this amendment.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute in rebuttal.

First of all, we are not talking about a small amount of money. The 2.4 percent tap transfer is almost $700 million. That is a lot of money when you are only increasing the NIH 1.6 percent, or $750 million. It doesn't make any sense to me to then take $700 million of that and give to other programs that have their own line items.

One of the programs that the gentleman from Wisconsin talked about has $329 million in its own line item. So we are saying if you are going to increase the NIH, congratulations. We are for it. Let's keep the money in the NIH.

Madam Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE).

Mr. CASTLE. Let me thank Mr. BARTON, who has been a tremendous leader in medical research in this country.

I couldn't agree with him more. I think this amendment is of extraordinary importance. I would ask every single Member of Congress to think about who comes into your office, and I guarantee no less than 30 percent, maybe 50 percent, are there for health reasons. They are concerned about cancer, they are concerned about heart, they are concerned about lung, MS, AIDS, whatever it may be. That is who comes into our office.

We need to appropriate whatever funds are necessary in order to try to eliminate these diseases or to make these people's lives better who contract these diseases.

I understand exactly what the gentleman from Wisconsin is saying. He is absolutely right. You do need evaluation, and you do need to be able to understand how to get this information out to the various people who are going to apply this information. I don't believe that is happening particularly well. I do not feel that $700 million is needed for that, and if it is, it shouldn't have to go through NIH and be taken away from NIH, which is what is happening now. It should go directly to HHS or wherever else it needs to go in order to carry out that responsibility. There is a mixup, in my judgment, for these last 16 years in terms of how this funding is handled.

This amendment is absolutely in order, and I would hope that every single Member of Congress who believes in medical research, and I think we all do, and who believes in helping our constituents will support this.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Am I the only one who has time?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas has 1 minute and the gentleman from Wisconsin has 1 minute.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Who has the right to close?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS).

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

Mr. SHAYS. I will include a longer statement for the RECORD, but I would like to say that I align myself with Mr. BARTON and Mr. CASTLE. Mr. BARTON described the $700 million that is basically siphoned off the NIH budget. But there is $300 million in addition that goes to the Global Fund. Last time it was $99 million. In this, we are taking another $201 million and siphoning it to the Global Fund. Why not just give it to the Global Fund directly instead of putting it into the NIH budget.

I urge support of Mr. BARTON's amendment, which will prevent funding from being transferred out of the National Institutes of Health and will effectively increase the NIH research budget nearly $700 million.

Each year, 2.4 percent of NIH funding is reallocated for the Evaluation Tap, which provides nearly all the funding for the AHRQ (pronounced ARC), as well as some funding for CDC and SAMHSA.

This leads to nearly $700 million being removed from the NIH allocation each year. Coupled with the $300 million being transferred to the Global Fund, the NIH has already lost nearly $1 billion before it spends its first penny.

I do not oppose funding these other agencies, but it seems to me if Congress deems this to be a priority, we should fund these agencies with their own line items in the budget, not survive by siphoning off funding from other agencies.

I do not believe we should require the NIH to give up part of its budget.

While I appreciate the Chairman and Ranking Member's work in this bill to increase funding for many of our critical health, education and labor programs, I was nonetheless disappointed by the NIH's relatively small increase of $750 million, or 2.5 percent. When the Global AIDS funding is transferred out, the increase is only $549 million, or 1.6 percent.

The Barton Amendment will increase the funding available for the NIH's core function—medical research that saves and improves lives. I strongly urge its adoption.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Chairman, I am going to yield the balance of my time to the former sheriff from the great State of Washington, Mr. REICHERT.

Mr. REICHERT. I was proud to lead a bipartisan effort with Congressman MARKEY to advocate for long-term investment in NIH research. I am proud to stand here today in support of the Barton amendment. I hope the other 184 Members who joined us in advocating for these funds increase earlier this year will join us today in supporting this amendment. NIH funding is absolutely necessary, and I commend Mr. BARTON for bringing this amendment forward.

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY) for a unanimous consent request.

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, I will submit my remarks for the RECORD in opposition to this amendment. It is outrageous that we would eliminate the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I rise in opposition to this amendment.

I rise as someone who has, for 25 years, as a member of the Labor-Health Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee serving with my friend, Mr. OBEY, supported increases in funding at NIH.

Mr. CASTLE is absolutely right. Many of those who come to our office want to make sure that we invest properly in the research and the basic biomedical research on disease.

John Porter was the chairman of our committee when we doubled the funding of NIH. We did so, of course, over the objections of the Republican budgets, as you may recall, which is why John Porter voted against so many of the Republican budgets because he said it did not sufficiently allow him to do his job. We agreed with him.

I care deeply about the process of discovery at NIH that brings so much hope to all the world for conquering and curing so many diseases that afflict humanity. Let me be clear, this amendment does not help medical research in my opinion. Not because it doesn't give it some more dollars. We have had a billion dollar increase, as you know, over the President's request.

I do not question the gentleman's motive in offering this amendment. I do question the wisdom of the measure which is, after all, what debates are about.

This amendment takes away from the whole spectrum of research, and particularly our ability to translate the research results from that basic research to its application to prevent, treat and cure illnesses that afflict mankind.

While this amendment may sound good, as very frankly some of the amendments that have been offered before which say we are going to take from here and give to there, which sound good on the surface, all of us would like to give more money to NIH. Simply stated, we do not have, however, the luxury of supporting research

for the sake of simply having research if we do not translate it, have the statistical data available and the application. I take a backseat to no one in supporting medical research, but to cut funding for other public health service agencies as proposed under this amendment is simply not good policy. It is not good for the health of our people.

If the gentleman would like to offer an amendment to increase funding for NIH without harming other health priorities, then certainly that should be discussed and supported. But let me note that this bill includes a $750 million increase in funding for NIH. I said a billion, which is a billion higher than the President's request.

If we are to take molecules and turn them into miracles, the research that all of us seek, then we must support the long-term quality of our research efforts. I have done so for the last, as I said, 25 years. It is important for us to do so. But I think, frankly, the gentleman's amendment will harm the objective that he ultimately seeks and that Mr. CASTLE spoke of and that all of us support. So I urge defeat of this amendment.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, Mr. BARTON's amendment would increase NIH funding by $650 million by prohibiting NIH from contributing funding through the authorized program evaluation tap to support other Public Health Service agencies.

The Committee has already provided generous increases for NIH—$620 million in the joint funding resolution and $750 million in this bill. That has provided an increase of over 1500 new research grants. The bill's $750 million increase is over $1 billion higher than the President's FY08 request.

This amendment is dangerous because it would eliminate the only agency that is doing research to evaluate and identify what healthcare treatments work, what is safe for patients, and how to control the costs for the medical interventions produced by NIH research—the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, AHRQ.

Twenty percent of our economy is tied to health care. 42 million seniors are dependent on Medicare for health care, and 50 million Americans are on Medicaid. We desperately need the research that AHRQ provides to improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of the health care services provided through this enormous share of our economy.

Comparative effectiveness research allows us to expand coverage by only paying for what works and using the savings to expand health coverage.

The country is concerned about being consumed by out of control health care costs. This amendment would devastate funding for AHRQ, the one agency doing the research necessary to determine the best ways to deliver medical care in order to avoid bankrupting Medicare and our private health care system.

The amendment will devastate the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, NIOSH, by cutting 20 percent of the funding provided for NIOSH—the only agency in government that supports occupational safety and health research and brings that research from the laboratory into the workplace.

In 2005 there were 5,734 workplace injury deaths, 50,000 deaths from occupational diseases and more than 4.2 million workplace injuries in the U.S. In 2006 we saw more than a doubling of coal mine fatalities in the nation's mines. Now is not the time to cut our investments in important health and safety research programs that are critical to our efforts to protect workers from job deaths, injuries and disease.

The amendment would devastate the CDC's ability to track the health status of Americans. Knowledge of, and the ability to understand issues such as infant mortality, obesity risk factors, and childhood diseases will be seriously curtailed if this amendment passes.

While this amendment on its face would appear to provide short-term benefits to university researchers, it would have dramatic and serious long-term consequences for the patients with conditions that NIH research addresses.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 57 OFFERED BY MR. HENSARLING

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 57 offered by Mr. HENSARLING:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for Twin Cities Public Television, St. Paul, MN.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, we have had a number of debates this evening over the subject of earmarks. I have been heard on that, and I have been happy to have been heard on this particular debate. And again, I know there are many worthy expenditures of funds when it comes to earmarks. I do not necessarily believe that they are all bad.

And I must admit, until coming to the floor, I wasn't completely certain what the Minnesota Digital Public Media Archive was. Fortunately, the gentlelady from Minnesota was kind enough to come to me and explain to me exactly what the purpose of the earmark was. I enjoyed our conversation and I appreciated her courtesy, and I want to stipulate this is not a debate on whether or not the gentlelady has a noble purpose for these funds. As explained to me with her enthusiasm, I stipulate there is a noble purpose for these funds.

I am not necessarily going to engage in a debate on whether or not the Twin Cities public television station in St. Paul can make good use of the money, the half a million dollars. I am sure they can, as explained to me by the gentlelady from Minnesota.

And so I want to again make it very clear, and we don't have the time to debate each and every earmark, but every time we expend these funds we have to look at, number one, where is the money coming from, and number two, what is the fiscal health of our Nation. Already the Federal Government is spending over $23,000 per American family. This is only the second time since World War II that the Federal Government has spent so much money.

And right now with just the Federal Government that we have, we are on a collision course to double taxes on the next generation. Don't take my word for it. Go to the Office of Management and Budget, the Congressional Budget Office, or the conservative Heritage Foundation or the liberal Brookings Institute. They will all tell you the same thing.

So we are sitting here with an explosion of spending. Some will say, relatively speaking, this is a small amount of money. Relative to the Federal budget, it is a small amount of money. I am happy to stipulate that. But I still believe that earmarks, although a small portion of the Federal budget, tend to be a large portion of the culture of spending.

Again, I have no doubt this is a worthy project, but I do note that the PBS television station, I believe, gets almost 85 percent of its funding from donations and other public grants. I am led to believe, and if I am incorrect, I invite the gentlelady from Minnesota to correct me, that they receive rather generous support from the taxpayers of the State of Minnesota. But I don't quite know what the compelling Federal purpose is, Federal purpose, money from Federal taxpayers, to fund the Minnesota Digital Public Media Archive.

Look, this isn't a debate on whether or not this is a noble purpose for the money. It is not a debate on whether or not the gentlelady's public television station could do something good with the money. But let's remember where the money is coming from. As long as this Nation is running a deficit, which it is, is this money going to come from raiding the Social Security trust fund yet again, even though I have introduced and supported legislation that would protect that trust fund?

If we run a deficit, we are still borrowing money from the Social Security trust fund. Or as we know in the Democratic budget resolution passed earlier this year, we have the single largest

tax increase in American history, over 5 years ramping up to an average of $3,000 per American family.

□ 1915

More spending fuels more taxes. Are we going to increase that greater tax burden on present American families or are we going to pass on more debt to our children? Government will be paid for. This earmark will be paid for one way or another.

And so the question is not whether or not there's a noble purpose. The question is not whether or not they make good use of the funds, but is it a compelling Federal purpose, worthy of sending debt to our children, worthy of taking money away from the Social Security Trust Fund, worthy of being a part of the largest tax increase in history, and I respectfully submit to my colleagues that I believe it is not.

And with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Chairman, I speak today on behalf of public television and its contributions to inform our citizens, people of all ages, throughout Minnesota and our Nation, and I look forward to the opportunity to share with the Member of this body what this money will do.

As a Minnesotan, I'm proud of the people in my district and the people throughout my State. They support public television and they're committed to it. On no issue in my 7 years in Congress did I receive more calls from my constituents and from citizens around Minnesota than when the Republican majority tried to cut the funding for public broadcasting.

The people of Minnesota treasure their public television stations, and they support with their own dollars, with State dollars, and they look forward to support from a Federal commitment to ensure that excellent public television programming is available in Minnesota and around this Nation.

Over the past 50 years, Minnesota's award-winning public television stations have produced tens of thousands of hours of local and regional programs that capture our State's history, politics, daily life and culture.

Today, these programs are stored in a physical tape archive. They're not stored digitally because they're old tapes. They're archived. They're locked away, and they're totally inaccessible to the public.

At worst, these videotapes that are stored this way are physically deteriorating. That means these programs could be lost forever if they are not converted to a digital format.

This is about a public investment. Twin Cities Public Television is already investing in the process of converting its tape archive into a fully searchable digital archive. The project involves public television stations across the State: Duluth, Brainerd, Austin and Moorhead.

Once the conversion is completed, all the information will be free and available to anyone, free and available to anyone at any time, anywhere, on the Internet. Programs like Newton's Apple, which was the Mr. Wizard of my children's generation, still has requests from teachers across this country to use those programs in their classrooms. At a time when we're trying to encourage our children to be captured, to be interested in science and math, Newton's Apple being available on the Internet, free to our teachers, free to our families, will make America, I believe, have children more interested in science and math.

This digital archive will be an asset, as I said, for educators and students and all the citizens in Minnesota, not just in science and math but in history, arts and culture. People will be able to access, as I said, around the country and around the world, and I believe that the knowledge put forward by this type of innovative use of digitizing the old tapes will put our Internet to work for democracy around the world as well.

The challenge of preserving information and media for future generations is a 21st century problem, and Congress is just starting to address it. This is an issue for those of us on the Appropriations Committee. We heard time and time again from the Library of Congress and others in hearings this year about this problem.

This is a public-private partnership in Minnesota to preserve public television programs, and this is one of the first of the kind in the Nation.

Minnesota's effort will result in a best practices that can help other stations save two generations of American history and tens of millions of dollars. We will save dollars.

This is an important project that seeks to address a national problem. It will produce benefits far beyond Minnesota, and it will produce benefits long into the future.

Congress should be in the business of taking advantage of opportunities of partnering with States to solve problems that affect our country as a whole, and this is exactly what this project's all about.

This is a partnership to make the problem of saving our history and to turning it into an opportunity for our children and for our families to learn together about the richness of this country.

Madam Chairman, I yield back my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING).

The amendment was rejected.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Burpee Museum, Rockford, Illinois, for educational programming and exhibits.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Institute of Museum and Library Services—Office of Museum and Library Services: Grants and Administration'' is hereby reduced by $150,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO) each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, this amendment would strike $150,000 for the Burpee Museum in Rockford, Illinois, for educational programming and exhibits and, as mentioned, reduces the cost of the bill by a consistent amount.

Now, I don't want to take a lot of time on these amendments. I know a lot of people want to move pretty quickly.

Let me just say that I know the name, the Burpee Museum, lends itself to a lot of nice jokes about having dry heaves as a taxpayer and paying this or whatever else.

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FLAKE. I yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. MANZULLO. I take personal offense to that. That's the name of the museum. Burpee was the name of an inventor of seeds.

Mr. FLAKE. I apologize.

Mr. MANZULLO. And after him. You should apologize. I accept your apology.

Mr. FLAKE. None was intended. I was just hoping to shorten the conversation here.

But this museum began as a Works Progress Administration project in 1942. It's an old New Deal program. It's still around, and one might question why the museum is still receiving Federal funds, even though the Depression era has come and gone, and the WPA has long since closed up shop.

I spoke to the author of this amendment. I have a great deal of respect for Mr. MANZULLO, and he explained some of the things I had a question about. One was a question about where the funding actually goes, was it to the Burpee Museum or was it to Northern Illinois University that has a paleontology department, and as I understand it, is lending staff to the museum. He clarified that, and I think I understand how that goes now.

My question is, and the gentleman points out as well and I'm sure he will in defense of this earmark, that this is an economically distressed area. There are many around the country, in every district in the country. If the entire district is not economically depressed,

certain areas of it are, and it would be difficult, if not impossible, to try to discern by Members of Congress where funding should go and where it should not.

And I simply believe that it's not our place here to do this. In many cases, the accounts that we're earmarking are accounts that there is a competitive process at the Federal agency for the funds to be given out. By earmarking, we circumvent that process and we say, well, we know best so that we can decide who gets this funding.

I don't believe that that's right, and I believe that we should stop the funding for this earmark.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Chairman, this is a very immodest request that's part of an overall strategy to revitalize an economically depressed area of downtown Rockford.

The City of Rockford led the Nation in unemployment in 1980 at 25 percent. We lost 14,000 highly skilled manufacturing jobs at many of our over 1,500 factories in the area.

What this money does, it sets up a paleontology lab, which is an extension of Northern Illinois University, into the Burpee Museum of Natural History itself. This is astonishing because what it is doing, it's moving many of the assets of this great university to a city 30 miles away, and the reason that that lab has been created in Rockford is because of the incredible finds that were made by the university in terms of the paleontologist digs several years ago in Montana with regard to dinosaur projects.

There are currently eight Northern Illinois University faculty and 13 graduate and undergraduate students working on various cutting-edge physical science projects at the Burpee Museum. Thus, the request is ready to be used to support these research projects by Northern Illinois University students and staff utilizing the laboratories at Burpee Museum in Rockford.

With this assistance, Burpee Museum is becoming one of the foremost places in the world to study and view paleontology. What we lost with our manufacturing base we're trying to compensate for in an educational center and people coming to town in order to tour this great center. In fact, tourism is up by 7 percent as a result of the paleontology digs by the museum.

Besides that, the Institute of Museum and Library Services would receive this money, but there is no way to get it through the regular budget. The rules and regulations simply do not allow this type of project to be funded by it.

The Burpee Museum is a center for study. Students are coming from around the world. In fact, recently Burpee and Northern Illinois University co-hosted a scientific symposium. Almost 200 scientists from around the country and from China, Norway and Canada attended this important scientific meeting in Rockford.

I spend, probably, 75 percent of my time working on manufacturing issues. I was born and raised in Rockford. This was a city that refused to die. This was a city that refused to give up. This is a city whose citizens came together and said we have lost so many manufacturing jobs, but we're going to find another way to keep our kids in town to allow them to have jobs there so parents can see their grandkids, and unlike many Midwest towns that gave up, kids just leave the area because of no opportunities. What we're doing here is the creation of this wonderful laboratory to study paleontology to help put Rockford back on the map again.

I believe that this is extremely fair.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I'd simply repeat what I said. Virtually every district in the country can accurately say that certain parts of their district are economically depressed. We simply don't have enough money in the Federal Treasury to address all those needs.

So our decision is how do we adequately and equitably distribute funds to the Federal Government. If we make the decision that Federal agencies should fund these projects, then we should stick to the process that we have in place, and that process usually involves competitive bidding, for example. We don't want to give up no-bid contracts, but that's what earmarks by definition typically do.

So I don't think that that is proper here, and with that, I would urge an affirmative vote on the amendment.

Madam Chairman, I yield back my time.

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Chairman, the Institute of Museum and Library Services does not offer grants for conservation efforts such as what is going on at the museum. It's simply not available, and the issue is, do unelected bureaucrats who answer to no one in this city make all the decisions as to where the money is spent or do Members of Congress who are responsible to our electorate every 2 years have the ability to come in and say this is something worthy of the money that's going to be spent anyway. Because the Flake amendment does not save money. It just puts more money back into the hands of the bureaucrats to spend wherever they should.

So I would obviously oppose this amendment, and I would encourage my colleagues also to vote ''no'' on the Flake amendment to strike these funds.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The amendment was rejected.

□ 1930

AMENDMENT NO. 14 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 14 offered by Mr. FLAKE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for Rhode Island College, Providence, Rhode Island, for development of a Portuguese and Lusophone Studies Program.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Department of Education—Higher Education'' is hereby reduced by $100,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, this amendment would prohibit $200,000 in Federal funds from being used for the Rhode Island College for development of a Portuguese and Lusophone Studies program and reduces the cost of the bill by a consistent amount.

Let me just make a comment on the last comment that was made. It was said that we aren't saving money with these earmarks if we were to strike funding for them.

The way these earmarks are structured, we reduce the cost in the bill by a consistent amount. So whether we save money depends on the Appropriations Committee.

In any case, that's always what we are told, we will never save any money by striking funds for earmarks. That's simply not the case ever, because the Appropriations Committee could simply request less money the following year or the prior year, knowing that earmarks were going to be struck down.

Let me just say, with regard to this earmark, perhaps something was lost in translation. But my understanding is that this program has already been developed. Are we developing a program here that has already been developed, or is this a redevelopment?

According to the Web site, the Rhode Island College officially launched its Institute on Portuguese and Lusophone World Studies in October of 2006. The Web site states that the Institute of Portuguese and Lusophone World Studies is designed to be a nucleus of instruction and interaction for the benefit of its students and the larger Portuguese-speaking community of Rhode Island.

The certification letter submitted to the Appropriations Committee says that the money would be used for the Rhode Island College Lusophone Studies program. But since we don't have any further information, I guess we can assume, and I see that the sponsor of the amendment is here, and can clarify this, that the Lusophone World Studies is the intended recipient of the funds.

Supporters of the earmark will no doubt note that approximately 10 percent of Rhode Island's population is of

Portuguese descent. Through foundation donations and private contributions, over $620,000 has been raised to support the new program at Rhode Island College. In fact, Meredith Vieira, a well-known cohost of NBC's Today Show, and a Rhode Island native, serves as the national honorary chairperson of the Community Campaign for Portuguese Studies Endowment Fund. Here is another case where there is a lot of money coming in.

Why in the world do we need to spend more Federal money on it? Why do we need an earmark to divert more funds from our Treasury to programs that seem to exist and subsist fine on their own? In many cases we supplant private or local funds that could be used for this purpose.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Rhode Island is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, education as a whole is something I don't think we can ever go wrong in investing in, especially at a time when education is more important than ever before in keeping our country competitive in a global economy. What's going to make our workers more competitive is their ability to compete on an international level.

Now, part of that edge is going to be able to be determined whether they are going to be bilingual, whether they are going to be fluent in not just one language, but maybe two languages. It's interesting in our country, especially over the debate the last several weeks, denigrating immigration as if it's something of a drain on our society, that we have lost sight.

The greatest strength of our Nation are our immigrants, especially now. The United States is unique around the world in that we are a country of nations, nations that make up every part of the world. We are uniquely positioned as a Nation to take full advantage of the multiethnic backgrounds of all the people that make up this great country of ours. We have a ready-made market in every part of the world because of all of ethnicities that we have in our country.

Now, in my neighborhood, in Rhode Island, we have a large Portuguese community. The fact of the matter is, we have, in Rhode Island, a large Portuguese community that could be very beneficial to this country's ability to compete internationally.

By 2010, Brazil will be the third largest consumer of American-made products. Now, don't you think it would be a smart move for our country to invest more in Portuguese literacy and fluency? I think so. That's why I am for investing in the language development for the third leading consumer market of American goods that's going to lead to more American jobs right in our hometowns all across America.

This is about building up American jobs here at home. Frankly, I don't understand what the objection is. This is all about investing in our people. We are not running any deficits when we are investing in people. We are making investments, investments that are going to pay huge dividends in the future.

Where is your balance sheet?

You know, the cost of everything but the value of nothing. When you look at your balance sheet, you would assume that you can do everything on the sheet. You can just automatically have someone grow up, not get an education, expect to get more out of them than you put into them.

I don't know any business deal where a business person expects to get something more out of a deal than they put into it, except maybe Enron. Is that your kind of politics over there? You expect to get rich quick without even investing?

I don't know, as Democrats we believe that you have to invest in people before you can get a return on your investment. That's what we are doing in this investment in education. We are investing in our workers. We are investing in our people, because we know in order for us to get a return on our investment that is what's going to be the key.

I can give you specific examples in my State where we have bilingual workers who now are able to take what they have learned, thanks to these Portuguese studies, and also take that and be able to teach other people Portuguese and be able to add fluency to their vocabulary and also be able to expand their economic opportunities as well.

I think that's a good thing for this country. It expands the American Dream in this country, and that's why I oppose the gentleman's amendment.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is reminded to address his remarks to the Chair.

Mr. FLAKE. Again, I think something has been lost in translation here. I have no idea what this amendment has to do with Enron. This amendment is simply saying that the Federal Government need not spend money on this program.

This Rhode Island College is a State university, it's my understanding. If the taxpayers in Rhode Island want to decide through their State representatives that it should receive more funding, then by all means it should.

My question is why are we coming here to the Federal Government with all the choices out there. The university that I went to, private university, teaches dozens and dozens of languages. I am sure they would like more funding, but it wouldn't be my place to come in and say, all right, let's have a big earmark for the Afrikaans program or the Chinese program or something else. I just don't think that would be proper. We can't do that.

Last time I checked, we are running a deficit here, and we have a big debt. To try to fund all of these programs simply is not prudent. It has nothing to do with Enron. It has nothing to do with misplaced priorities elsewhere.

It has to do with whether or not the Federal Government should in this case fund an earmark that is circumventing the regular process of authorization and appropriation. There are programs out there through the Department of Education that award grants to universities that have language programs. This is circumventing that process.

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chairman, the fact of the matter is, we are living in a global economy. We are living in a great country. Whether the person is from Arizona or Rhode Island, the gentleman ought to know that we are all in it together.

As a Federal Government, we have a responsibility to this country. Whether the person comes from one State or another is irrelevant. It's an investment in all of us to invest in this education.

I urge defeat of this amendment.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I have been trying to figure out what to name this operation I have been watching, and I think we ought to name it ''Operation Divert Attention.''

We have heard comments on a number of occasions now, when Members are offering amendments to strike these tiny items, we constantly hear, oh, we are running a deficit, we have to be fiscally responsible.

Well, if I am looking at the RECORD correctly, the gentleman offering this amendment voted to authorize the President to go to war in Iraq. If I take a look at the RECORD correctly, all three of the gentlemen who have been acting as the point men in going after these projects and in going after other small amendments today, all voted for the 2007 Republican budget resolution.

I would point out it is those budget policies, and those foreign policies, which have given us, counting the supplemental this year, $600 billion in borrowed money spent on the Iraqi war in a case of mistaken identity, where the President mistook that stocky fellow with the mustache, Saddam Hussein, for that tall fellow with the beard, Osama bin Laden, and hit the wrong country by mistake.

I would also say that the three gentlemen who voted for those Republican budget policies are the fellows who voted for tax policies that are watching $57 billion go out the door this year in tax cuts for millionaires.

Then they try to recoup on the deficit front by saying, oh, we ought to

save a little piece here and a little piece there. If they had been as concerned about the fiscal impact of their actions, voting for past budget resolutions, and voting for past war resolutions, we wouldn't be sitting here with this deficit today, and this attack on these investments would be even more chuckle-producing than this episode.

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

Mr. FLAKE. My time is yielded back, but I would love to take some time to answer that.

If I could make the point, tax cuts going out the door. Tax cuts never come in the door. That's the difference between tax cuts and spending. You leave it with the taxpayer, or you give it back.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman did yield back the balance of his time.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The amendment was rejected.

□ 1945

AMENDMENT NO. 59 OFFERED BY MR. HENSARLING

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 59 offered by Mr. HENSARLING:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for the On Location Entertainment Industry Craft and Technician Training project, West Los Angeles College, Culver City, CA.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I do have a number of comments I would like to make about this particular earmark. But before I do, I do feel compelled to address some of the comments by the distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee. I think the way to paraphrase what he just said is: You guys spend too much, so we will spend even more. I am not exactly sure about the logic of that particular argument.

I also heard complaints about the war, something that has been debated on this floor, should be debated on this floor, will be debated on this floor. But I would note that the gentleman's party controls both the House and both the Senate; and if his party wants to end funding, they can do that tomorrow. His party is in control of this now.

Last, but not least, the distinguished gentleman complains about tax relief. Last I looked, don't take my word for it, go to the United States Treasury, we are awash in tax receipts. Tax relief has brought us in more tax revenue, because when you let the American people save more and invest more, they go out and they create and they grow the economy. So I think the gentleman's comments were very much misplaced.

Speaking to this particular amendment; one, this particular amendment would eliminate the earmark of $300,000 in funds to the West Los Angeles Times College. From the certification letter, this is to establish a first-of-its-kind entertainment industry craft and technician college job training program to respond to the film and television industry's immediate need for new trained employees.

Previous to coming to floor, I did know a lot about this particular earmark. The sponsor of the earmark, the gentlelady from California, was kind enough to share with me information about it, and I became convinced of a couple of different propositions:

Number one, that she has a very noble purpose for this earmark. Again, I want to stipulate to that.

Number two, I came away, as I did with the last amendment, knowing that not only is there a noble purpose, I have no doubt that some good things could be done with this money.

But like in many of these earmark debates, there tends to be great focus on the good that can be done with this money, but we don't spend a lot of time talking about the harm that can be done with this money. And I know that the gentlelady from California feels that low-income people within her district could benefit from this program. I have no doubt that that is true. But I might point out that there are very many worthy community colleges, for example, in the Fifth Congressional District, who could benefit from this money as well.

Eastfield College, we need a lot of people trained for our high-tech industry, for jobs with companies like Texas Instruments, companies like Raytheon. These monies could be used by Trinity Valley Community College. There are several locations within the Fifth District of Texas. They could help in our burgeoning nursery industry. It is a very agricultural part of my district. So, again, education is good. But the education is going to the one particular district in this particular case, not going to the Fifth Congressional District of Texas. So there are many worthy competing goals for this particular money.

But I really want us to focus upon the fact that although I have no doubt that good things can be done with these funds, all of government must be paid for. And so, again, I think we should use this debate as an opportunity to focus on who is paying the bill. And, again, as long as this Nation is running a deficit and it is down, thanks to the fact we are awash in tax revenues due to tax relief, we are still running a deficit. That means that any earmark, not just the gentlelady's from California, but any, is going to be raiding the Social Security Trust Fund as we continue, unfortunately, a practice from both parties of raiding the Social Security Trust Fund.

In addition, we know that more spending fuels more taxes. And I hear from constituents in my district who have to pay the bills for all these earmarks no matter how worthy they are. I hear from somebody like the Flores family in Garland, Texas. She writes, ''Dear Congressman, I am a divorced mother with a child in college and a child in daycare. An increase in taxes would wipe out hope of the first college graduate in the family. Please don't let this happen. Let's hold the budget down. There are a lot of things I can't afford, so I don't buy them. I need government to take the same attitude.''

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Chairman, I would first like to thank Chairman OBEY both for his help securing this funding and for giving me this opportunity to defend it here on the floor.

The entertainment industry in Los Angeles is what the auto industry is to Detroit or the oil industry is to Houston, a source of skilled, high-wage jobs for average working class families.

The On Location training program at West Los Angeles Community College seeks to make sure that Los Angeles youth get the skills they need to fill these jobs. The skills we are talking about here are film editing, electrical wiring, lighting, and set design and construction.

At a time when more and more film production is moving offshore, this program ensures that L.A. retains its number one competitive advantage, the highest quality film production workforce in the world. In 1996, when we worked out the welfare reform program for California, we placed the retraining of those coming off welfare in the community colleges, and this is one of the programs that is located there, because we find that people who are returning to the workforce and our veterans, average age 27 years, go to the community college.

Young people in Los Angeles County suffer from one of the highest rates of youth unemployment and violence in the Nation. At last count, the unemployment rate for young people in L.A. County was close to 12 percent.

The On Location program creates opportunities for Los Angeles young people while supporting the most important industry to the southern California economy. This program makes sure that kids of average means can get the technical skills they need to get good jobs working in film and television production.

Earlier, I approached Mr. HENSARLING, who announced his opposition in a press release, and explained

that the money in this project doesn't go to Hollywood studios, it goes to West Los Angeles Community College, and the program trains youth in the skills needed in this industry.

I could draw parallels to other community college programs in other people's districts, but I won't do that. So what we want to do is to use these Federal funds, because it is connected to the Federal welfare reform program, to allow this college to prepare our young people to work in an industry that really is the fuel to the economy. It is a $600 billion industry. It not only fuels the economy in California, but it fuels the economy nationwide. So, we need critical investments in education and job training so that we can compete in the global economy.

Rather than seeking to defend the tax cuts for the wealthy, let us work together to support needed investments in job training like the effective On Location program that benefits the average family and the unemployed youth of California.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The CHAIRMAN. Thirty seconds.

Mr. HENSARLING. Again, I appreciate the gentlelady and her purpose for her amendment. When she spoke about the term ''wealthy,'' if there is an industry in America that is wealthy it is obviously Hollywood. I would hope that they would be able to train their own people. But as I spoke about earlier, Rose Flores of Garland, Texas, doesn't consider herself wealthy, and yet she is staring at an average increase in her taxes of $3,000 a year as she tries to put a child through college, the very first one in her family to ever graduate from college.

Again, we must focus on the cost of these earmarks.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 15 offered by Mr. FLAKE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the American Ballet Theatre, New York, New York, for educational activities.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Department of Education—Innovation and Improvement'' is hereby reduced by $150,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, this amendment would prohibit $150,000 in Federal funds from being used for the American Ballet Theater in New York for educational activities, and it would reduce the cost of the bill by a consistent amount.

I should point out that it has been said that if we don't spend this money, those faceless bureaucrats will just spend it. This actually reduces it. So it is up to the Appropriations Committee how that money is spent, not the agency itself. But I think that we could be facing the music if taxpayers learn that we are dancing away with their hard-earned money here.

The American Ballet Theater has been home to some of the world's best dancers since 1939. I believe that it holds assets of more than $15 million, $15 million in net assets. Yet, we are being asked to fund $150,000, I believe, to expand outreach by completing in-depth residencies in small and medium-sized communities across the country.

I have an obvious love for the ballet. I am not sure if it is that obvious, but I do like culture, and I think it is good for everyone. But telling taxpayers across the country that they should pony up $150,000 for the American Ballet Theater, an organization that has over $150 million in net assets I think is just a bridge too far.

There are many corporate sponsors involved in the American Ballet Theater, including American Airlines, Saks Fifth Avenue, Superfund Investing, Countrywide Financial. There are many well-known names on the board who contribute themselves. There is a Kennedy who is an honorary chairman; there is a Trump on the board as well.

There is a lot of support out there for this organization. I just fail to see why the Federal taxpayers should be put on the hook for this as well.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the Flake amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment which would cut funding to the American Ballet Theater, which is headquartered in the district I represent.

Last year, the House of Representatives and the Senate showed their support for the American Ballet Theater by passing identical resolutions recognizing the American Ballet Theater's important role as cultural ambassador and America's national ballet company.

An important part of ABT's mission is to expose as many people as possible to high quality ballet. This is at the heart of the request for studio company funding to bring ABT studio company and a host of educational and cultural programs to smaller communities that have limited economic means and access to these cultural benefits.

Educational research strongly suggests that young people who learn about and participate in the arts acquire skills that help them in decision-making, problem solving, creative thinking, and teamwork.

□ 2000

An increasing number of studies also finds that art programs motivate young people to learn, assisting in improving performance in core academic subjects.

For some children, the arts provide the impetus to stay in school until graduation, and for others, inspire them to pursue a college education.

Arts education programs will continue to play an important role as the Nation struggles to improve high school graduation rates, develop pre-kindergarten programs, and counter the achievement gap in urban communities.

The requested funds will allow ABT to expand the studio program's outreach by completing in-depth residencies in small and medium-sized communities in five regions, the Northeast, the Mid-Atlantic, South, Midwest and West. Bringing world-class ballet and education programs, they're a very important part of the ABT's key mission.

More than simply offering performances, a studio company engagement leverages the company's resources to offer a range of educational activities and direct interaction with the company, often partnering with local ballet schools and universities to reach the local dance constituency.

While visiting a community, the studio company works with dance departments within universities and supplies tickets and study guides to local K–12 schools, exposing young people to dance, encouraging movement, physical fitness, creativity, and concentration.

Performing for local schools challenges youth to become more serious about the dance craft, while inspiring and expanding awareness of the possibilities for a career in the performing arts. The local arts community benefits from the experience of hosting ABT.

It appears that my good friend, the gentleman from Arizona, does not support the arts and does not appreciate the importance of arts education to our young people.

As I said, the arts are critical to our children's overall education. Creativity can be taught. This funding allows those communities who do not have the access to the arts to gain the benefits of having world-class arts education brought to them.

This is a worthy project, and I hope my colleagues recognize its importance. I urge the defeat of my friend and colleague's amendment.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. I find it curious when it's often said that the gentleman or somebody does not support the arts, does not support education. What would be said if there was a local individual, a philanthropist who gave $10 million to a local university, but did not believe that it was the Federal Government's place to do so? Would that person support education or not? If this is the standard by which people are judged, perhaps not.

But I would submit that it's not a very good standard. Just because you don't believe that it's the Federal Government's place, in this case, to favor what is perhaps the best known ballet company in the country, with net assets of more than $15 million, over perhaps local ballet companies that could maybe use more support. How do we make that choice here? It just doesn't seem right to me.

We have over 1,300 earmarks in this appropriation bill. I just don't know when Congress is going to draw the line.

For the average American taxpayer, I would argue that this $150,000 to the American Ballet Company is too much, or in this case, maybe too, too much.

Madam Chairman, I yield back.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. The gentleman may not support the opportunity to bring the arts to small communities across the country that may inspire them.

I was very much inspired as a young person, going to the ballet. In fact, I studied for many years to be a professional dancer until I crushed my leg in an automobile accident.

But what the gentleman does support, he talks about what he doesn't support. But what the gentleman did support was a budget that Clinton left President Bush, a surplus well over $5 trillion that has been squandered. And what this gentleman has supported is budgets that have given this country records, but they're the wrong kinds of records.

We now have a record debt over $8 trillion. Every man, woman and child in America owes over $29,000 personally to that debt. And this administration gave this country record deficits, the largest in the history of this country, and the largest trade deficit in the history of this country.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman's time has expired.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. That is what the gentleman has supported. What we are supporting in this amendment that I am putting forward is the opportunity for young people in communities across this country to be exposed and taught the arts.

I urge the defeat of the gentleman's amendment.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 10 offered by Mr. FLAKE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the South Carolina Aquarium, Charleston, South Carolina, for exhibits and curriculum.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Institute of Museum and Library Services—Office of Museum and Library Services: Grants and Administration'' is hereby reduced by $150,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, this amendment prevents $150,000 from going toward programs at the South Carolina Aquarium in Charleston, South Carolina, and reduces the cost of the bill by a consistent amount.

Madam Chairman, when I saw this amendment, or saw this earmark, I thought I was experiencing deja vu here. In the past we've seen earmarks for other aquariums in other appropriations bills. Last year, the Mystic Aquarium received $1 million in the bill allocating funding for the Defense Department. And now we see the South Carolina Aquarium is a beneficiary in the spending bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education.

This earmark may have found a more appropriate home in this spending bill rather than the Defense bill; but if I were a betting man, I would not bet against seeing other aquarium earmarks in other appropriations bills. It seems to be a trend here that the Federal Government seems to be funding more aquariums across the country, without, I would submit, much of a Federal purpose.

The Web site for the South Carolina Aquarium states that the purpose is to inspire conservation of the natural world by exhibiting and caring for animals, excelling in education and research, and providing an exceptional visitor experience.

This aquarium sells tickets for $16 for adults, $14 for seniors, $8 for children. It also has a sea turtle hospital, sustainable food initiative, which includes sustainable seafood recipe contests and a variety of exhibits.

But I would ask, why do not all aquariums across the country receive similar funding? What is the criteria for picking winners and losers?

This aquarium seems to get favorable treatment over aquariums in Massachusetts, Colorado, Arizona, Kansas, as well as just about every other State. Is this a fair and equitable process?

In addition, here, the case again is that the aquarium has a number of business partners and sponsors. The list reads like a who's who of Fortune 500 companies: BP, Whole Foods, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage.

Why are the taxpayers being asked to be on the hook? Why are we asked to sponsor this aquarium as well?

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from South Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Chairman, the earmark I'm here to discuss and defend is for the South Carolina Aquarium located in my district in Charleston, South Carolina.

The South Carolina Aquarium is a nonprofit education and conservation organization that is truly part of the Charleston community. The aquarium is funded by a combination of tickets, concessions and souvenir sales and corporate, government and private funding. The aquarium has more than 80 paid staff, with a complement of more than 300 volunteers.

Funding from this earmark would go towards the development of user-friendly, interactive exhibits and displays, including touch tanks where children can interact with rays, horseshoe crabs, and many other native species from the waters of South Carolina.

Funding would also go towards funding a live feed connection so the children would be able to see into the inaccessible realms of the Hollings Marine Lab, and further development of the South Carolina Sustainable Seafood Initiative, which educates children on fisheries conservation.

Madam Chairman, funding for institutions such as the South Carolina Aquarium are worthwhile investments for the taxpayer. The reason is that with ''seed money'' organizations such as the South Carolina Aquarium are able to attract corporate donations which amount to much more than the original earmark and prove to be the foundations that our zoos and aquariums are built upon.

If my colleagues would like to research the criteria for projects under the Institution of Museum and Library Services account within this bill, the South Carolina Aquarium project is exactly why the Institute of Museum and Library Services account exists.

And I urge my colleagues, Madam Chairman, to vote ''no'' on the Flake amendment.

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

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 12 offered by Mr. FLAKE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Kansas Regional Prisons Museum, Lansing, Kansas, for educational and outreach programs.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Institute of Museum and Library Services—Office of Museum and Library Services: Grants and Administration'' is hereby reduced by $100,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, this amendment would prohibit $100,000 from being used to fund educational and outreach programs at the Kansas Regional Prison Museum at Lansing, Kansas. I've often joked that the way we splurge taxpayer funds on thousands of earmarks is a crime. But this earmark gives that sentiment a little new relevance.

It appears that Leavenworth County in Kansas uniquely hosts Federal, State, military and private prisons, and a regional prison museum is proposed to honor that heritage. This prison museum building would be in addition to the existing Lansing Historical Museum, complete with a gallows chamber, replicated cells and a 12- to 14-foot stone wall around the complex.

All told, it appears this prison museum addition would significantly increase the overall display area of the Lansing Historical Museum from roughly 1,500 square feet to nearly 8,000 square feet of display area. Here, I think it is a pretty clear case. It may have some local relevance, but asking taxpayers across the country to pay for a prison museum is probably not a wise use of funds here.

The Kansas director of Americans for Prosperity, a grass-roots organization that focuses on taxpayer issues, called earmarking Federal funds for this project ''wasteful Federal spending'' and suggested that ''if there is truly a market for a prison museum, people who find it interesting should pay for it, not the 99.9 percent of taxpayers who will never visit it.''

AFP, or Americans for Prosperity, also suggested that nontaxpayer sources of revenue could be found if there was adequate local support to build an economically viable prison museum in Lansing.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. I rise in opposition.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. First of all, Mr. FLAKE, I would certainly like to just say thank you so much for this opportunity. I've had a lot of people on both sides of the aisle say that this whole thing is a complete waste of time. And I personally just want to thank you for the opportunity to stand up and talk about Leavenworth County, Kansas. We don't get that opportunity enough.

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Actually we have many prisons. We probably have more prisons in Leavenworth County, Kansas, than any other county in the United States. Let me tell you about three of them. Lansing, which is in Leavenworth County, hosts and houses the Kansas State correctional facility for the entire State. Then, of course, we have the United States penitentiary. It is an historic penitentiary, has got some names of people who have been housed there: George ''Machine Gun'' Kelly; the NFL running back Bam Morris; Leonard Peltier; Fritz Duquesne, a Nazi spy; and Robert Stroud, who later became the Birdman of Alcatraz. So it has a huge history there. But it currently still houses close to 2,000 prisoners for the United States Government, Mr. FLAKE.

Then let me tell you about the detention barracks, which is part of Fort Leavenworth. Actually, for the first time in, say, 50 years, a unit from Fort Leavenworth was actually sent to Iraq because they were so expert in detentions and in handling these kinds of extremely difficult and sensitive issues that they went to Iraq to try to clean up some of the mess that was made by some of the detention problems.

So, Mr. FLAKE, I would just say to you that I don't think this is a joking manner in any way, shape, or form. It is very easy for you to go tell the people of Arizona that you are tough on crime. But let me say that it is a very difficult thing to do, and we take a great deal of pride about it in Kansas. It does take a lot more than talk to say that you are tough on crime.

The local residents are proud of their heritage and rightly so, and they see it as part of their responsibility to preserve this history. Let me talk about what they are doing. They are raising $2 million of private funds for this.

So I am proud. And, again, I just thank you for giving me the opportunity to talk about this. We are asking for $100,000 to add to this museum. But let me talk about one other thing. Mr. FLAKE, I don't know if you understand this.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Chairman, would the gentlewoman please address the Chair and not a Member?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman must address her remarks to the Chair.

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Chairman, real life corrections work is sometimes dangerous, and it involves loss of life and injury. This memorial, this museum, will actually be a memorial to those fallen who have, again, at the U.S. penitentiary as well as our State, as well as our fort, and the detention barracks that are there, this memorial will offer an appropriate tribute to the sacrifices that these people have made.

So, again, it is very, very easy to say that we are tough on crime. The men and women who do the corrections work in Leavenworth County, Kansas, understand that it takes a heck of a lot more than talk to get behind this and be tough on crime to be able to do what we know needs to be done in this country.

Again, I am glad to have the opportunity to stand up here. Leavenworth County has a rich tradition. We were part of the border wars when it came to the settling of one of the biggest issues in this country about slavery. We have the United States penitentiary, which is just so intense in its history. We have the Leavenworth, which has played a huge role in keeping our country safe.

So I appreciate this. We would like as many people to come. This is going to be a tourist attraction, and we are inviting as many people as we can to Leavenworth County, Kansas, while we are building this museum and certainly as well as after it is built.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, again, I don't want to diminish the need that the locals feel to have this museum. People around the country have varying needs and wants for museums, whether it is a teapot museum in North Carolina or a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Ohio. Local needs are such and people visit and tourists find that interesting.

But why should the Federal taxpayer be on the hook? When do we say, is there a time at which we say enough is enough, we can't handle any more? Thirteen hundred earmarks. Yes, it is down from the heyday of 2005, and I make no excuses for my own party for doing that. But is it right? When should we say enough is enough and simply say we shouldn't be using Federal taxpayer dollars for these kinds of projects?

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

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Again, Madam Chairman, I would just reiterate that the people of Leavenworth County, Kansas, are proudly working hard to raise $2 million of private funds. And I stand before this body today and am proud to say that $100,000 will go to this. And, again, I am very proud to do this on behalf of Leavenworth County, Kansas, and invite everyone to come see the rich tradition that makes Leavenworth County a great place.

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I will just take 1 minute to observe this: The gentleman from Arizona has said, in reference to this project, enough is enough. Let me ask why don't we say enough is enough to spending $600 billion in a futile and fruitless and misguided war in Iraq? Why don't we say enough is enough in putting the needs of millionaires who are going to get $57 billion in tax cuts this year ahead of the needs of average working people with respect to investments in their education, their job training, and their community development and their health care? I think, indeed, enough is enough, but we ought to be saying that about the right things.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 13 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 13 offered by Mr. FLAKE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Shedd Aquarium, Chicago, Illinois, for exhibits and community outreach.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Institute of Museum and Library Services—Office of Museum and Library Services: Grants and Administration'' is hereby reduced by $150,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of House of today, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, this amendment would eliminate $150,000 in Federal funds for the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, Illinois, for exhibits and community outreach.

Shedding some light on earmarks like this should be one of Congress' top initiatives, and I am glad that we have this opportunity to do it.

The certification letter I submitted to the Appropriations Committee by the Member sponsoring the project stated ''the funding would highlight the Great Lakes aquatic ecosystem and incorporate community outreach, team mentor and stewardships program.''

This is the second largest indoor aquarium in the world containing 8,000 animals, 650 species. An ''all access pass'' for admission is $23 for adults and $16 for children, and this aquarium gets 2 million visitors annually. According to the Charity Navigator, annual revenue for the Shedd Aquarium in 2004 totaled over $50 million. This is revenue in 2004 totaling $50 million.

In 2004 alone the Shedd Aquarium had over $215 million in net assets and nearly $13 million in excess revenue. Let me read that again. In 2004 alone the Shedd Aquarium had over $215 million in net assets and nearly $13 million in excess revenue.

Why in the world, please tell me, are we giving 150,000 hard-earned Federal tax dollars to a local aquarium that has $13 million in excess revenue in 1 single year? It simply doesn't seem right to me.

The Shedd Aquarium has applied for and has received at least four competitive IMLS grants in the past, but this earmark skirts that process.

Again, we often talk about how we know more about our districts than some faceless bureaucrat in some agency. Well, those faceless bureaucrats in some agency awarded four grants to this institution. But that wasn't enough. They were back for another earmark, where apparently maybe they didn't get the grant this year; so we are going to earmark funds for the organization. Why do we set up a competitive grant program in a Federal agency and then say we are going to go around it by issuing an earmark?

Oftentimes we give earmarks to organizations that fail to get a grant, that fail the competitive process that we have ordered the Federal agency to establish. The oversight process dictates that we actually call in Federal agencies if we don't like the processes that they have set up and tell them to set up a new process or we deny them funding. And for those of us who say that they won't talk to us or those Federal agencies are nonresponsive, cut their funding for a while and see how responsive they become. That is our role, not to compete with the Federal agencies in how we can spend taxpayer dollars without competitive bids or without a process in place.

And I see that those who sponsored the amendment are here.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Chairman, I was listening to my friend from Arizona, which is a State with a desert that has both Lake Powell and Lake Havasu that have been built with Federal money so they can have water. Talk about Lake Michigan and the other Great Lakes, the largest body of freshwater in all of America, in fact, 90 percent of the freshwater in the United States, 20 percent of the world's freshwater. Thirty-seven million Americans get their daily drinking water from Lake Michigan and other Great Lakes.

The Shedd Aquarium, as you noted, has more visitors, 2 million people, in fact, people from Arizona come to see the Shedd Aquarium. More people visit that aquarium than any other aquarium for the last 10 years.

This program actually has bipartisan support, as you probably know, in the Commerce, State, and Justice bill. My good friend from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), a Republican, got resources to help the Shedd Aquarium.

The reason we are doing this, and you may not have known this and obviously those of us in the Great Lakes States care greatly about it, but BP, British Petroleum, the other day has gotten a waiver now to dump more untreated ammonia in the Great Lakes. It is our greatest national treasure like Yellowstone Park, like the Grand Canyon and others. The freshwater that surrounds Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio is a great national treasure. It provides, as I said, 37 million Americans with their daily drinking water. And the Shedd Aquarium educates other people to the importance of the Great Lakes.

And I always noted the State of Arizona actually had a plan on the books, and I think got an earmark for this once, how to build a pipeline from the Great Lakes to provide water to Arizona. You have got a desert; we have got the Great Lakes.

Madam Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to my colleague from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), who has been a supporter of the Shedd Aquarium.

Mr. KIRK. Madam Chairman, I thank my colleague from Illinois for yielding.

I rise in opposition to this amendment because he is exactly right. A detailed review of the Shedd Aquarium shows that it has now become the center for Great Lakes advocacy. We are in the middle of a battle to stop the increase in ammonia and wastewater dumping by British Petroleum, the first new polluter in Lake Michigan. The Shedd is the fort with which we advocate for this protection of the crown jewel of the Midwest ecosystem, and I think this is an essential way to

go forward to make sure that we protect the drinking water for over 30 million Americans.

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to my colleague from Illinois (Ms. BEAN).

Ms. BEAN. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

And I acknowledge that the Illinois delegation on a bipartisan basis has supported this project. And this project, unlike the one that my colleague from Arizona mentioned, isn't a typical aquarium project. This is focusing on resources that highlight the importance and fragility of our Great Lakes aquatic ecosystem from the Dunes to Chicago's unique urbanized lakefront to the Illinois Beach State Park, where this interactive saltwater and freshwater aquatic biology lesson can take place.

□ 2030

This has bipartisan support. It is timely, given BP's recent announcement that it has received a permit to dump 1,500 pounds of ammonia and almost 5,000 pounds of sludge into Lake Michigan every day.

I am proud to defend this request to protect our largest source of drinking water, not just in Illinois, not just in the country, but in the world.

And my colleague from Arizona and from States like Colorado, who are experiencing severe water shortages, should want us to make sure that we're educating our community how to defend this important national resource.

I would also suggest that, while I respect the gentleman's concern for fiscal responsibility that he shows on this $150,000 request out of a $150 billion bill, he didn't show such restraint in rolling back subsidies to the oil and gas industry for $14 billion earlier in the year. I would suggest that he look elsewhere to promote fiscal responsibility.

I ask my colleagues to join me in opposition.

Mr. FLAKE. I think the gentlelady may want to check the RECORD with regard to an energy bill. I'm not familiar with any that I voted for because they are hugely corporate subsidies.

And let me just say one thing. Charlie brought up, well, you're from Arizona. The Central Arizona Project, the big Federal project, or the Glen Canyon Dam in the 1950s was built largely with Federal funds, as if these were some earmark slipped into a conference report 3 days before the bill came to the floor. Not at all. I mean, no projects were debated more. Nothing went through more authorization, appropriation and now oversight than those projects. I may have voted differently if I were around in the 1950s, but I wasn't.

What we're debating here is whether we should spend $150,000 in Federal funds for a local aquarium in Chicago that in 2004 had $215 million in net assets, $50 million in total revenue, and $13 million in excess revenue. That is the question before us. We can talk about Enron. We can talk about the war. We can talk about anything, but this is what's relevant here, whether the taxpayer should be spending $150,000 for an aquarium, a local aquarium that had $50 million in revenue in 1 year alone. It simply doesn't seem right.

With that, Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. EMANUEL. Here it states, ''37 million Americans get their daily drinking water.'' It's the largest body of fresh water in North America. In fact, it's 90 percent of the water as it relates to body water.

In that effort, this is a bipartisan effort because we are dealing with the contamination of the Great Lakes, and the Shedd Aquarium is at the forefront of preserving and helping us make sure that the Great Lakes are here for future generations.

And the reason the Hoover Dam and other projects are relevant here, not the process about how they were authorized or appropriated, Arizona still seeks Federal subsidies for its water rights, which we still subsidize.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The amendment was rejected.

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment No. 11 offered by Mr. FLAKE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest, Forest, Virginia, for expansion of exhibits and outreach.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Institute of Museum and Library Services—Office of Museum and Library Services: Grants and Administration'' is hereby reduced by $200,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, this amendment would prohibit $200,000, and reduce the cost of the bill by a consistent amount, from being used to expand the exhibits and outreach at Jefferson's Poplar Forest in Forest, Virginia.

Now, I'm sure that Thomas Jefferson himself would appreciate the sentiment about this, but I'm not sure the earmark is consistent with the Jeffersonian philosophy of ''limited government,'' particularly limited Federal intrusion. He talked about a wise and frugal government in his 1801 inaugural address. I'm not sure that this sits well with that philosophy, spending Federal money, $200,000 in this case.

Poplar Forest is an octagonal house, an acreage that was inherited by Jefferson's family. They used it as a retreat in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Now, I won't take too much time on it, but suffice it to say there is a lot of local support for something like this. It sounds like a great house.

I enjoy going to Monticello and visiting the sites of Thomas Jefferson. I'm sure that this is a fitting reminder of his life work and historical importance, along with a lot of other things that we have. But here again, there is an infinite need around the country for money for projects like this. If you simply ask the sponsoring Members, if you say that it's needed for economic development or tourism, what earmark would ever fail with that kind of criteria? We simply have to have a higher standard here. Does it have a Federal nexus? Can we afford it? Is it consistent with limited government, economic freedom, individual responsibility? That's what we should be asking ourselves here.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALSH of New York. I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. I rise in opposition to this amendment on behalf of the gentleman from Virginia's Sixth Congressional District, Mr. GOODLATTE. He is involved in the markup of the Agriculture bill this evening, and so I would like to place this statement in the RECORD on his behalf.

Madam Chairman, for Members not familiar with Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest in Bedford, Virginia, the House was designed in 1806, and the grounds are located about an hour south of Charlottesville in the heart of central Virginia.

This investment of Federal funds will allow the landmark to open to the public 50 acres of hallowed ground once roamed by this farmer, diplomatic, meteorologist, President, and author of the Declaration of Independence; indeed, America's first Renaissance man.

Poplar Forest was an important part of Jefferson's life, a private retreat situated far from the public scrutiny and demands on our Nation's third President. It was his most personal architectural creation and landscape, a place where he came to find rest and leisure, to rekindle his creativity, and to enjoy private time with his family.

Poplar Forest was also a working plantation, critical to his efforts as a farmer. In fact, the area around Poplar Forest is where Mr. JEFFERSON was forced to retreat while being pursued by British troops.

Today, scholars and historians work on restoring the home to its original design and conduct archeological research on the farming, landscaping and slave life of the grounds. While the staff at Poplar Forest continues to restore the historic land and house, they

are working on the first steps of developing the retreat for public use.

As is the case with other historic Presidential sites, it will take time to tap the extraordinary potential of Poplar Forest to provide even more insight into one of America's most influential and public figures whose ideas still influence world debate and even govern rules of decorum on the House floor this evening.

Madam Chairman, while I share the gentleman's desire for fiscal responsibility, I will inform him that the private sector has furnished 84 percent of the funds it has taken to bring Poplar Forest's rescue and development through the initial stages. However, given the clear national role that Thomas Jefferson's legacy plays in our cultural heritage, I believe that Federal investment is prudent. It is vital to preserve this national treasure, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, so that all Americans can continue to learn about Jefferson's life and his vision for the future of our country.

I offer this for Mr. GOODLATTE. I'm sure he would be here, but duty calls at the Agriculture Committee.

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

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, to end this debate tonight on these earmarks, I would just say that there has not been one earmark that has been challenged here tonight that isn't going to a valuable organization as far as I'm concerned. The question is not is there value in that organization or is there value in what this aquarium or what this historic site is doing. The question is should we be paying for it at the Federal level. And I think that's what taxpayers have a hard time with, and I think they should, particularly given the fiscal problems that we're having at the Federal level.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 49 by Mr. SHADEGG of Arizona.

Amendment No. 50 by Mr. WESTMORELAND of Georgia.

An amendment by Mr. FERGUSON of New Jersey.

An amendment by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey.

Amendment No. 65 by Mr. PRICE of Georgia.

Amendment No. 55 by Mr. SHADEGG of Arizona.

Amendment No. 56 by Mr. LAMBORN of Colorado.

An amendment by Mr. OBEY of Wisconsin.

Amendment No. 19 by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona.

An amendment by Mr. DINGELL of Michigan.

An amendment by Mr. BARTON of Texas.

Amendment No. 59 by Mr. HENSARLING of Texas.

Amendment No. 15 by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona.

Amendment No. 10 by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona.

Amendment No. 12 by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona.

Amendment No. 11 by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 49 OFFERED BY MR. SHADEGG

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 116, noes 309, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 656]

AYES—116

Akin
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Boozman
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Culberson
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Reynolds
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Walberg
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Wolf

NOES—309

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonner
Bono
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Gordon
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)

Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—11

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Costa
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Hobson
Jefferson
Meeks (NY)
Stark
Sutton
Tancredo

□ 2104

Messrs. ROTHMAN, GORDON of Tennessee, STEARNS, and BONNER changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California changed his vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 50 OFFERED BY MR. WESTMORELAND

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 97, noes 331, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 657]

AYES—97

Akin
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bilbray
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Culberson
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Granger
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Linder
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
McHenry
McKeon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Neugebauer
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Poe
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Reynolds
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Walberg
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)

NOES—331

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—8

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Jefferson
Myrick
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised 1 minute remains in the vote.

□ 2108

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FERGUSON

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FERGUSON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 419, noes 11, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 658]

AYES—419

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson

Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOES—11

Dingell
Ehlers
Flake
Hinchey
Hirono
Honda
Johnson, Sam
Mollohan
Moran (VA)
Obey
Olver

NOT VOTING—6

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). One minute remains on this vote.

□ 2115

Mrs. TAUSCHER, Ms. NORTON, Messrs. PALLONE, MARKEY, UDALL of Colorado, JEFFERSON, MICHAUD, ALLEN, BLUMENAUER, SERRANO, HILL, COOPER, BOYD of Florida, CLAY, KUCINICH, and VISCLOSKY, Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. WATSON and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GARRETT OF NEW JERSEY

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 95, noes 335, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 659]

AYES—95

Akin
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bean
Biggert
Blackburn
Boehner
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Deal (GA)
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ellsworth
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Granger
Hall (TX)
Heller
Hensarling
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marshall
Matheson
McCaul (TX)
McHenry
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Myrick
Paul
Pence
Petri
Poe
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shuler
Shuster
Space
Sullivan
Tanner
Taylor
Walberg
Wamp
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)

NOES—335

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Buchanan
Burgess
Butterfield
Camp (MI)
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doolittle
Doyle
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Simpson

Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tauscher
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—6

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there is 1 minute left on the vote.

□ 2119

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 65 OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 79, noes 349, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 660]

AYES—79

Akin
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burton (IN)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Culberson
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Duncan
Feeney
Flake
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Goode
Granger
Heller
Hensarling
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McHenry
Mica
Miller (FL)
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rohrabacher
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Souder
Stearns
Terry
Thornberry
Wamp
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)

NOES—349

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Buchanan
Burgess
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—8

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Hall (TX)
Stark
Sullivan
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there is 1 minute remaining in this vote.

□ 2123

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio changed her vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 55 OFFERED BY MR. SHADEGG

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 96, noes 334, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 661]

AYES—96

Akin
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Brady (TX)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Cubin
Culberson
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Doolittle
Dreier
Duncan
Feeney
Flake
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Goode
Goodlatte
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hensarling
Herger
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McHenry
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Paul
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe
Price (GA)
Radanovich
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Stearns
Sullivan
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Walberg
Wamp
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Young (FL)

NOES—334

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Butterfield
Camp (MI)
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Drake
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Heller
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—6

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised 1 minute remains on this vote.

□ 2128

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 56 OFFERED BY MR. LAMBORN

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 72, noes 357, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 662]

AYES—72

Akin
Bachmann
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boehner
Brady (TX)
Buyer
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carter
Chabot
Conaway
Culberson
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Doolittle
Dreier
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hensarling
Herger
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Lamborn
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McHenry
McKeon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Paul
Pence
Pitts
Poe
Price (GA)
Radanovich
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)

NOES—357

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Drake
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Heller
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi

Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—7

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Pickering
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there is 1 minute remaining in this vote.

□ 2132

Mr. STUPAK changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. OBEY

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 53, noes 369, answered ''present'' 8, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 663]

AYES—53

Akin
Bilbray
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Burgess
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Chabot
Conaway
Cooper
Costa
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
Delahunt
Feeney
Flake
Fossella
Franks (AZ)
Gohmert
Goode
Heller
Hensarling
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Linder
Mahoney (FL)
Marchant
Marshall
Miller (FL)
Musgrave
Myrick
Pence
Pitts
Price (GA)
Radanovich
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shimkus
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Westmoreland
Wexler

NOES—369

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blunt
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—8

Boehner
Foxx
Garrett (NJ)
Lewis (CA)
Obey
Sessions
Shuster
Sullivan

NOT VOTING—6

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there is 1 minute remaining on this vote.

□ 2136

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 19 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 89, noes 341, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 664]

AYES—89

Akin
Bachmann
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Bilbray
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Brady (TX)
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Cooper
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Duncan
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Fossella
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Gohmert
Graves
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hoekstra
Inglis (SC)
Jindal
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
McHenry
Mica
Miller (FL)
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Price (GA)
Ramstad
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)

NOES—341

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker

Baldwin
Bartlett (MD)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Carter
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—6

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there is 1 minute remaining on this vote.

□ 2140

Mrs. SCHMIDT changed her vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. DINGELL

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 231, noes 199, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 665]

AYES—231

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Frank (MA)
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOES—199

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mollohan
Moran (KS)
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt

Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—6

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there is 1 minute remaining on this vote.

□ 2143

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BARTON OF TEXAS

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 181, noes 249, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 666]

AYES—181

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Latham
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rehberg
Reichert
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Wamp
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (FL)

NOES—249

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Butterfield
Camp (MI)
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Frank (MA)
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—6

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that 1 minute remains in this vote.

□ 2148

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas changed her vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 59 OFFERED BY MR. HENSARLING

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 114, noes 316, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 667]

AYES—114

Akin
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bilbray
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Cooper
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Dent
Duncan
Everett
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gingrey
Gohmert
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Heller
Hensarling
Hobson
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
King (IA)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marchant
Marshall
McCarthy (CA)
McHenry
Mica
Miller (FL)
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Taylor
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Young (FL)

NOES—316

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—6

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that 1 minute remains on this vote.

□ 2152

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 118, noes 312, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 668]

AYES—118

Akin
Bachmann
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boehner
Boozman
Brady (TX)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Cooper
Culberson
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Dreier
Duncan
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Gohmert
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
LaTourette
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marchant
Marshall
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McHenry
Mica
Miller (FL)
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Price (GA)
Putnam
Ramstad
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Taylor
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Walberg
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (SC)
Young (FL)

NOES—312

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bonner
Bono
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez

Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—6

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that 1 minute remains on this vote.

□ 2156

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 70, noes 360, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 669]

AYES—70

Akin
Bachmann
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Bilbray
Blackburn
Boehner
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Cooper
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Feeney
Flake
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Graves
Hastert
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hunter
Issa
Jindal
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
King (IA)
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
Miller (FL)
Murphy, Patrick
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Ramstad
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Smith (NE)
Souder
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Walberg
Wamp
Waxman
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland

NOES—360

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—6

Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

□ 2200

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 112, noes 317, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 670]

AYES—112

Akin
Bachmann
Barrett (SC)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Boozman
Brady (TX)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Cooper
Culberson
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Dent
Duncan
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marchant
Marshall
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Musgrave
Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Price (GA)
Putnam
Ramstad
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Taylor
Thornberry
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)

NOES—317

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonner
Bono
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Butterfield
Calvert

Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fortuño
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—7

Bishop (GA)
Bordallo
Brown, Corrine
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Stark
Tancredo

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that there is 1 minute remaining on this vote.

□ 2203

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 68, noes 360, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 671]

AYES—68

Akin
Bachmann
Barrett (SC)
Barton (TX)
Blackburn
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Buyer
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Cooper
Deal (GA)
Feeney
Flake
Fossella
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Graves
Heller
Hensarling
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Linder
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
Miller (FL)
Murphy, Patrick
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Price (GA)
Ramstad
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland

NOES—360

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Carter
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Tim
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—8

Bordallo	Faleomavaega	Stark
Brown, Corrine	McCollum (MN)	Tancredo
Davis, Jo Ann	Murtha	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there is 1 minute remaining on this vote.

□ 2208

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. LYNCH). The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I first want to thank Chairman OBEY for including $50 million for treating the health needs of 9/11 first responders from all over the country in this bill. Without his leadership, the heroes of 9/11 would still be waiting for the Federal funding they so desperately need for medical treatment following their work at Ground Zero. Although this funding is an important step, we need so much more.

Just this morning the New York Times revealed a new study by the Department of Health and Human Services that says that the cost of treating 9/11 illnesses will reach $20 million a month, $20 million a month by the end of this year.

The Federal Government must drastically increase its funding commitment if it is to fulfill its obligation to those suffering the health effects of 9/11. But today's bill is at least a first step.

We have all heard the harrowing stories of those first responders, firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians and countless others from all around the country who responded and put their own lives in danger to save others. But they are not the only victims of the environmental disaster that resulted from the attacks on the World Trade Center.

The toxic mixture of asbestos, mercury, benzene, dioxins, jet fuel and other harmful substances landed inside apartments and schools and office buildings. The dust settled onto furniture and carpets and onto curtains and air ducts.

Before buildings in Lower Manhattan had ever been tested to insure that they were safe to reoccupy, residents were urged by the EPA to return to their homes near Ground Zero, and students were sent back to school, where they breathed poisonous dust for months.

Residents and students followed EPA instructions to clean up the dust in their apartments with a ''wet mop or a wet rag,'' a completely inadequate, not to say illegal, method for cleaning up asbestos and other toxic materials.

Students at Stuyvesant High School returned to a building that sat next to enormous piles of toxic debris being carted off to landfills. To this day, there has been no comprehensive testing or cleanup of World Trade Center dust in buildings in Lower Manhattan and Brooklyn and Jersey City. More than 5 years later, an increasing number of residents and students are now becoming ill from 9/11 toxins.

□ 2215

Residents and students, in addition to first responders, should be eligible for 9/11 health funding as our colleagues in the Senate seek to do but this bill does not do.

I had planned to offer an amendment that would have made residents and students eligible for 9/11 health funding, too. I will not offer that amendment tonight, but I will express the hope that the chairman will support, as we go forward, the work to provide treatment to the tens and thousands of residents and students who are now suffering and will suffer the health effects of 9/11. And I hope we will accede to the Senate version of the bill.

On a separate matter, I would also like to say that I am extremely pleased to see that $39 million has been included in this bill for arts and education. In past years I have had to offer amendments to add funds in this area, but for the first time we have a bill before us that does a very good job in arts and education. The funds provided in this bill are vital as they bring the arts to schoolchildren across the country, many of whom would otherwise have no other opportunity to experience the arts.

I again thank the chairman for his initiative in this respect.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Mr. Chairman, I would just like to remind my good friend and colleague from New York City that I too am a New Yorker and that I was there with a number of Members of Congress and the President after the attack occurred, and I spent a good deal of time talking with the workers, construction workers, the telephone company people, the police and firemen. And the impression of their sacrifice and their commitment to those people who were lost that day was burned into my memory. Ever since that day, it has been a priority of mine to make sure that those individuals were provided for in every way possible.

So I just want to remind my colleague from New York City that I, as a member of the New York delegation from Syracuse, care very deeply about those individuals and providing these funds in this bill was a very high priority of mine, and I thank the chairman for working with me on that.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, first let me thank our chairman for yielding and just say to him once again thank you for a bill which really does make the forward-thinking investments in our Nation that we so critically need.

The values of a country are really demonstrated through its funding priorities, and I think when you look at this subcommittee and the priorities of it, we can really determine what our great Nation values as being a priority. So let me, even though I talked for a few minutes yesterday, I want to make a few general remarks about some additional issues that this bill addresses.

First, let me just briefly discuss how this bill addresses the dropout crisis that this Nation is facing.

Forty years ago the United States was number one in the world in terms of high school graduation rates. Today it ranks seventh. About one-third of the students who enter ninth grade each fall will not graduate from high school within 4 years, if at all. High school students living in low-income families drop out of school at six times the rate of their peers from high-income families.

Dropout rates are especially high in communities of color. Only about 55 percent of African American students and 52 percent of Hispanic students graduate on time from high school with a regular diploma, compared with 78 percent of white students.

Now, in my district in Oakland, California, which is not unlike other districts in urban communities, the graduation rate for African American males is 26 percent, mind you, 26 percent. That is about a 75 percent dropout rate, compared to 57 percent of the graduation rate for white males, which still is deplorable.

We must do better by our children. Nothing less than the future of this country is at stake. Yes, black and Latino and low-income children deserve a piece of the American Dream also. That is why I am so pleased that this bill recognizes that and invests in dropout prevention.

It includes millions of dollars to increase elementary and secondary counseling, a $40 million increase in TRIO, $20 million in GEAR UP. Also we add $125 million in 21st Century Community Learning Centers for before and after-school programs.

And let me just mention and highlight the 77 percent increase in comprehensive school counseling, which involves making sure that our teachers are freed up to do what they do best, and that is teach. This increase allows for counselors, psychologists, social workers, and psychiatrists to really help in our schools in terms of making sure that young people who are demonstrating the need for intervention early on receive the type of assistance

before the situation gets out of control. This is so critical in terms of school safety because, of course, many of the issues that we have witnessed around the country in terms of violence on campuses, if we had just intervened earlier with the proper support staff, counselors, social workers, those situations may not have occurred. So I am very pleased that we have an increase for our counseling program.

Another critical issue facing many of our communities is the issue of re-entry and ex-offender programs, which this bill recognizes and makes a modest increase with a little bit over $26 million in reintegration and ex-offender programs and real focuses on youthful offenders. We must do everything to prevent, I mean prevent, the vicious cycle of recidivism in this Nation, and that means working to ensure that re-entry programs are available. So this bill recognizes that employment and mentoring and transitional services do reduce recidivism and help individuals stay out of jail. So this provision is an excellent crime prevention measure which also helps formerly incarcerated individuals get their lives together.

On the issue of HIV/AIDS, of course, this bill provides important increases in funding for our domestic HIV/AIDS programs. Specifically, the addition of $100 million for the Ryan White CARE Act and the additional $3.5 million is especially welcomed given the largely flat funding we have had for this important program.

The state of emergency in my district is a state of emergency as it relates to the African American community and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. We need really to declare a state of emergency nationally. We need a Federal state of emergency as it relates to HIV/AIDS.

Finally, let me just say thank you, Mr. Chairman, for recognizing the fact that there is a disparity in the rates of unemployment in the black community and in the Latino community and in the Native American community and for directing the Secretary of Labor to develop a specific plan to develop these disparities.

Thank you very much for a great bill, Chairman OBEY.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. DAVIS OF KENTUCKY

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky:

Page 125, after line 2, insert the following:

SEC. 522. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay a bonus or other performance-based cash award to any employee of the Social Security Administration or the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services who holds a position to which such employee was appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, or a Senior Executive Service position (as defined by section 3132 of title 5, United States Code).

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. DAVIS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment that would restrict funds allocated in this bill from being used to pay a bonus or other performance-based cash award to any employee of the Social Security Administration or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services who is a presidential employee or a member of the Senior Executive Service. Neither agency would ever survive as a private business trying to make a profit based upon their constituent service abilities which are often inefficient and inept.

The premise is simple. Bonus pay is for exemplary work. It is my opinion that the American people are not getting exemplary work from the SSA and the CMS. Therefore, the management of the agency, as in the private sector, should not be eligible for bonus pay and should be accountable for their performance.

In March of 2006, my office received a call from a concerned constituent who was having a problem with the withholding of Medicare part D premiums from his Social Security check. After an intensive investigation by my staff, we discovered that this was a widespread problem that affected hundreds of thousands of Medicare beneficiaries who have changed their prescription drug benefit plans.

After enrolling in a Medicare prescription drug plan during early enrollment and arranging for his premium to be deducted from his Social Security check, my constituent determined that his initial choice of a plan didn't fit his medical needs. He then decided to change his plan and his payment method, opting this time for direct payment instead of deduction from his Social Security check.

However, when he received his check, he realized that his premium for his initial selection was still being withheld. He attempted to address these problems himself with both CMS and SSA. He worked with them for 3 months without success. After contacting my office, my constituent liaison had more than a dozen exchanges with CMS and SSA over the next 6 months. Repeatedly, he was told by one agency that it was the other agency's fault. Several times he was told that the problem had been resolved and it would be reflected in the next Social Security check but never was. By this time our constituent had to live within an enormously reduced Social Security check for 9 months. My office had actively engaged on his behalf for 6 months, and my constituent is frustrated and angry. CMS and SSA say it is not their problem, and my constituent's hard-earned money is unaccounted for.

If the Social Security Administration was able to stop paying the plan provider by April of 2006, which is still an outrageously long period of time, then surely they would have been able to stop the withholding of the plan premium for my constituent 10 months after the fact.

Mr. Chairman, this is not only unacceptable; it is outrageous. For the millions of seniors in Kentucky and across the country that live on a fixed income or who are struggling to make ends meet, unnecessarily withholding these funds can create serious cash-flow problems. It is inappropriate to reward management of these organizations for taking money away from our seniors.

In the roll-out of a program as large as Medicare part D, there are bound to be bumps in the road. That is completely understandable. However, that it should take 11 months to resolve an issue like this is incomprehensible.

This story represents only one of the most egregious examples. The problem is not one of individual case managers in the departments but rather a systemic inefficiency and cultural problem, bureaucratic attitudes that involve shifting blame as opposed to working actively to take responsibility for problems in their departments and then solving them. It often requires multiple inquiries and sometimes several months to even get a status update on a case. Getting to the root of the issue and fixing a problem can take upwards of a year. This is simply unacceptable.

The amendment I wanted to offer would have conditioned the payment of bonuses based on reports to Congress by both agencies detailing how they are addressing these issues. Unfortunately, the Parliamentarian has informed me that such an amendment would constitute changing existing law in an appropriations bill and be subject to a point of order.

Therefore, I am offering only a straight prohibition against the payment of bonuses for the coming fiscal year. I think this is something that both sides of the aisle can agree on. It is my sincere hope that the chairmen and ranking members of the Appropriations, Ways and Means, and Energy and Commerce Committees will work with both agencies and with me to improve the service delivered to our constituents.

If you are going to receive performance-based bonuses, then I think your performance needs to be exceptional. When we are causing seniors frustration and unnecessary problems with their hard-earned money, I don't view that as a satisfactory performance, let alone performance that should be rewarded with a taxpayer-funded bonus.

In conclusion, if you believe that the performance of CMS and SSA exceeds your expectations, then you should oppose this amendment.

However, if you believe, as I do, that both agencies are performing well below expectations in meeting the needs of our senior citizens, then I urge you to support my amendment to prohibit bonus pay for those responsible for running these agencies in the coming fiscal year.

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

□ 2230

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, the amendment offered would not permit the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services or the Social Security Administration to pay a bonus or performance-based cash awards to Presidential appointees who are not eligible for bonuses, or to senior executive personnel who are, by definition, eligible for bonuses. Frankly, I don't understand why the gentleman would want to stop CMS or SSA from awarding employees who are eligible for bonuses if they're achieving exemplary performance. The fact is that senior executive service personnel are specifically eligible for bonuses and are paid on the basis of performance.

The gentleman's amendment would overturn the entire personnel policy of the agencies. And I really don't think that makes much sense on the basis of a 10-minute debate at 10:30 at night, especially when this matter is not within the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee. This is something which ought to be dealt with by the authorizing committee.

I'm sure that many Members have frustrations with the performance of many agencies from time to time, and I'm sure sometimes we're pulling our hair, but that doesn't mean that we ought to have an across-the-board policy that penalizes people across the board because someone didn't perform up to someone else's standards. So, I would respectfully urge a ''no'' vote on the amendment.

I would be happy to work with the gentleman. If there is a specific problem which can be ironed out by talking to the agency, I would be happy to help in that respect. But I don't think I will overturn the entire personnel policy of the United States for these people because one Member, on the basis of a 10-minute debate, thinks that that ought to be done.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. I appreciate the distinguished chairman's comments and perspective on this.

The one thing that I would share is I think we're dealing with some cultural challenges in the customer service responsiveness of many of the agencies.

Oftentimes in this Chamber, we highlight the poor performance of private corporations in their management, but having worked in helping businesses turn around and reform their practices, one of the things that I've noticed, especially in corporations that are successful in transforming their culture, the executives, the management leadership at those corporations, take personal responsibility and have a significant personal stake in the performance of every level of their department. I think this requires across-the-board change.

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

Mr. OBEY. I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. DAVIS).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HARE

Mr. HARE. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. HARE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SECTION _____. (a) Section 9320(k) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 1395k note), as amended by section 6132 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) Any facility that qualifies as a critical access hospital (as defined in section 1861(mm)(1) of the Social Security Act) shall be treated as being located in a rural area for purposes of paragraph (1) regardless of any geographic reclassification of the facility, including such a reclassification of the county in which the facility is located as an urban county (also popularly known as a Lugar county) under section 1886(d)(8)(B) of the Social Security Act.''.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to calendar years beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act (regardless of whether the geographic reclassification of a critical access hospital occurred before, on, or after such date).

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman reserves a point of order.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HARE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. HARE. Madam Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chairman, my amendment deals with critical access hospitals and their ability to provide crucial surgical services to rural communities.

Recently, three of these hospitals in my district have fallen prey to a narrow interpretation by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that now prevents them from providing basic surgical services.

The CAH program was created as a Federal reimbursement system for small rural hospitals. Providing cost-based reimbursement through Medicare allows CAHs to be a vital part of the safety net for my small communities in my district. This reimbursement allows these rural hospitals to provide both emergency and primary care services for the elderly and disadvantaged. In particular, CAH reimbursements for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists enable tens of thousands of citizens in medically underserved areas to access surgical services every year.

Until December 31, 2006, the CAHs were being reimbursed for CRNA services. Now, in 2007, a new interpretation of the law excludes CAHs whose counties have gone through a reclassification process due to a new census process known as ''Lugar counties.''

No new law has said that these CAHs should no longer be reimbursed for CRNA services, however. Now CAHs are being denied their CRNA pass-through payments. Most hospitals affected expect to average losses between $45,000 and $100,000; a drop in the bucket in overall health care dollars. But to these hospitals, this effectively terminates their ability to provide emergency surgical services. My amendment would fix the law to ensure that if a hospital is designated as a critical access hospital, then it is reimbursed for CRNA services.

Congress intended for CAHs to assist rural communities with limited access to health care services. I am committed to rectifying this unfair and harmful application of the law.

I would now like to yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Mr. OBEY.

Mr. OBEY. Well, let me simply say I would like to be helpful to the gentleman, but my problem is that the gentleman's amendment, I believe, is subject to a point of order. I would hope that the gentleman would withdraw the amendment and we could try to work together with the committee of jurisdiction to try to help get a favorable result for the gentleman's concerns.

Mr. HARE. I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Reclaiming my time, I want to thank Chairman OBEY for his wonderful work as the leader of our Appropriations Committee, and I look forward to working with you and this Congress to address this serious issue.

Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. PASCRELL

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. PASCRELL:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

TITLE VI

ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 601. The amounts otherwise provided by this Act are revised by reducing the amount made available for the ''Department of Labor Departmental Management Salaries and Expenses'', by reducing the amount made available for the ''Department of Health and Human Services Departmental Management Office of the Secretary General Departmental Management'', by reducing the amount made available for the ''Department of Education Departmental Management Program Administration'', by increasing the amount made available for the ''Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration Health Resources and Services'', and by increasing the amount made available for the ''Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Disease Control, Research, and Training'' by $424,666, $424,667, $424,667, $1,090,000, and $184,000, respectively.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman reserves a point of order.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Chairman, I rise to offer an amendment to provide an additional $1,274,000 for programs making up the Traumatic Brain Injury Act, a modest increase for a vital public health program.

Traumatic brain injury is the signature injury of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Congressional Brain Injury Task Force is extremely grateful for the increased funding for both the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to address these needs of our injured servicemembers.

TBI is a civilian epidemic as well. 5.3 million Americans currently living with a long-term disability as a result of TBI and the 1.4 million new TBI cases occurring each year at an annual cost of $60 billion clearly illustrate Congress' responsibility to provide adequate funding for the TBI Act.

The TBI Act is the only Federal law that specifically addresses this major public health problem, provides a foundation for State health departments and Federal agencies to combat the Nation's leading cause of disability for children and adults. Without adequate funding, the program and the progress made to date will be jeopardized, thereby diminishing the Federal investment during the last 10 years and severely limiting the Nation's ability to address the complex needs of individuals with traumatic brain injury.

This funding for the Traumatic Brain Injury Act will help strengthen and improve State systems, preserve and strengthen families, foster community living, and assist States in preventing traumatic brain injury.

Madam Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, let me simply say that I fully support the intent of the gentleman's amendment, and I think our friends on the other side of the aisle do, too. The problem is that, while this is an ongoing program, it is not an authorized program, and that means that under the rules of the House it is subject to point of order, which I'm obligated to lodge. So I would simply ask the gentleman if he would be willing to withdraw his amendment. I'm sure that both sides of the aisle would be willing to try to work between here and conference to find ways to accomplish the purpose of the gentleman's amendment, but at this time, in order to treat everyone fairly, I would feel required to lodge a point of order against the amendment.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PASCRELL. I will yield.

Mr. WALSH of New York. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I absolutely agree with the chairman; this is an issue that we all feel very deeply about. And in order to be consistent with all Members, if an amendment is out of order, we will enforce the rule. But I will absolutely work with the chairman and with the gentleman from New Jersey to try to remedy this before we get through the conference.

Mr. PASCRELL. I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member.

Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SCOTT OF VIRGINIA

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to carry out the student drug testing pilot program of the Department of Education. The preceding sentence does not prohibit the use of funds to complete the evaluation of the program currently taking place and does not prohibit the use of funds to carry out the program if the evaluation determines that the program is cost-effective.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (during the reading). Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I reserve a point of order against the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin reserves a point of order.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This amendment would restrict funds in the bill from being used to fund the Random Student Drug Testing program run by the U.S. Department of Education. The amendment would allow, however, the evaluation of the program being conducted by the Department to continue, and if the evaluation shows that the program is cost effective, the funding would be restored.

For the past several years, the Department has been using money designated for the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program to conduct random school-based student drug testing programs.

□ 2245

The problem is, Madam Chair, that this program has been studied and found ineffective. In 2003, the National Institute on Drug Abuse conducted a study that found that there was no difference between drug use in schools that tested for drugs and those that did not. The study found that the drug testing at schools did not affect either the prevalence or frequency of drug use.

Furthermore, such testing is very expensive. The cost of these tests can range between $10 and $75 each. Indeed, one school conducting random drug testing found that only a small fraction of its students actually tested positive, resulting in a cost of over $3,000 for every positive result.

My amendment would prohibit money from being spent on the drug testing program until the program has been shown to be cost effective, because we should not be spending taxpayer dollars on programs that are not cost effective. At this point, the drug testing program has not been proven to meet that standard. This amendment would prohibit the Department from wasting the taxpayers' money on student drug testing until the Department shows that the program is cost effective.

Madam Chair, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin, who I believe will insist on his point of order.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chair, I again regrettably will have to insist on the point of order. I understand the gentleman's concerns and I share them. Sometimes I win arguments and sometimes I don't. I take some comfort in the fact that even Babe Ruth struck out over 1,400 times.

Having said that, I would simply say that I would appreciate if the gentleman could withdraw his amendment.

If he cannot, then I will have to lodge a point of order against it in order to be consistent in terms of the way we treat all Members.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Chairman, it is my understanding from the Parliamentarian that the point of order would be well taken, so I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GINGREY

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. GINGREY:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

TITLE VI

ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 601. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to establish or implement any requirement that individuals receive vaccination for human papillomavirus (HPV) as a condition of school admittance or matriculation.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment that I am offering along with the gentleman from Ohio, Representative JIM JORDAN. This amendment would ensure that none of the funds made available in this act may be used to establish or implement any requirement that individuals receive vaccinations of the human papillomavirus, or HPV, as a condition of school admittance or matriculation.

Essentially, the amendment would serve as an incentive to States to keep HPV vaccination programs voluntary and not mandatory.

Madam Chairman, at least 24 States have entertained legislation which takes the unprecedented step of requiring young girls to be vaccinated against HPV. I say ''unprecedented'' because HPV is not a communicable disease. It is not mumps. It is not measles. You don't get it by sneezing or sharing a juice box over recess. HPV is, in fact, a sexually transmitted disease. As such, vaccination should not be mandatory to attend school.

Indeed, Madam Chairman, we urgently need to address this issue. The Commonwealth of Virginia has already enacted a vaccine mandate into law. The District of Columbia City Council has passed one that is awaiting congressional action.

Madam Chairman, there are many reasons parents and students might object to mandatory HPV vaccination, from age appropriateness, indeed, initially, in the State of Texas it was going to be required for admission to middle school for fifth and sixth graders, and concerns over vaccine safety. I could go on. But whatever the reason, it is a discussion for parents and physicians, not legislators and bureaucrats.

Madam Chairman, excluding children from school for refusal to be vaccinated for a disease that is spread only by sexual intercourse is a serious, precedent-setting action that trespasses on the rights of parents to make medical decisions for their children, as well as on the rights of children to attend school. A mandatory HPV vaccine program improperly and unnecessarily inserts the government into lives of children, parents and physicians.

The American College of Pediatricians is opposed to it. The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons is opposed to it. We need to make sure that these programs are not mandatory.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I am willing to accept the amendment on this side of the aisle because we think that while it is well-intentioned, it has no impact. I would like to explain what I mean. The CDC is responsible for making recommendations for vaccines along with immunization advisory committees. But decisions on whether any vaccine should be a mandatory requirement for school admittance or matriculation is the responsibility of State and local governments and school districts.

The HPV vaccine is recommended for females age 9 to 26. It protects these young women against the cause of the majority of cervical cancers. While it has been made a requirement for schools in some cities and States around the country, these decisions were made locally, not by the CDC or HHS. Because no Federal funds are used to establish such requirements, we do not object to the gentleman's amendment.

Mr. GINGREY. If the gentleman will yield, I say to the gentleman, of course, Federal funds could definitely be used in a situation where a child is eligible for SCHIP or the Medicaid program. In this amendment, Federal dollars would not be used for that purpose.

At this time, Madam Chairman, I would like to yield to my good friend from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN).

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman from Wisconsin has yielded to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. OBEY. I would be happy to yield very briefly, but I would emphasize ''briefly'' because we've got a lot of work to do yet tonight.

I've seen people lose their amendments on the floor when they didn't accept the acceptance by the committee.

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. I have put my notes away. I understand.

Madam Chairman, I want to thank the gentleman from Georgia for his work and the chairman for yielding time and the ranking member as well.

Look, this amendment is real simple. It recognizes a fundamental fact: Parents make better decisions than government does. And even though a few parents in some situations make poor decisions about the well-being of their children, in the vast majority of cases they make infinitely better decisions than the government, bureaucrats and politicians ever make.

That is why this is good public policy and why I support the amendment.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I yield back my time.

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, in conclusion, I ask all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, the chairman is going to accept my amendment, and I hope that everyone else will.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, could I ask, did the gentleman ask for a recorded vote?

Mr. GINGREY. To the gentleman from Wisconsin, yes, we did ask.

Mr. OBEY. Then I withdraw the committee's acceptance of the amendment.

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my request for a recorded vote.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman, and I renew the committee's acceptance of the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to by voice vote.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. EHLERS

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 8 offered by Mr. EHLERS:

Page 125, after line 2, insert the following:

SEC. 522. The amounts otherwise provided by this Act are revised by reducing the amount made available for ''DEPARTMENT OF LABOR—Departmental Management—Salaries and Expenses'', and increasing the amount made available for ''DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION—School Improvement Programs'' (for activities authorized by part B of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965), by $15,665,760.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS)

and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Chairman, I would like to remind everyone that not too many years ago when America was just getting into the space program, we were very excited about launching the first satellite into space when the Russians launched Sputnik. This was a national disgrace. President Eisenhower had to go on national TV to apologize. He set in place a large number of science and math programs to get us caught up with the Russians.

The Eisenhower programs continued for many years until we decided to write No Child Left Behind, and we killed the Eisenhower funding, which was in the neighborhood of $450 million a year to teach teachers how properly to teach math and science.

In its place, we adopted a Math and Science Partnership Program, which operates within the Department of Education. However, the funding, which was authorized at $450 million, which matched the Eisenhower funding of the era before, was never appropriated at a level near that. It has gone up slightly each year.

But this year, even though the appropriations bill increases the No Child Left Behind funding by $8.6 percent, it held the funding for Math Science Partnerships flat, exactly where they were last year. My amendment would increase the Math Science Partnership funding by precisely the same percentage as the entire No Child Left Behind Act was increased.

The offset for this I selected is from the Department of Labor in an area that was funded far above the President's request. I believe this is a reasonable offset. Apparently the CBO agrees. They have scored my amendment as a $10 million savings overall.

So, here I am, proposing an amendment which will improve our math-science education effort in this Nation. I think it will be very advantageous for our teachers and our schools. Furthermore, the offset is appropriate, and the entire amendment saves the Federal Government $10 million.

I strongly urge the adoption of this amendment. I believe it is reasonable and appropriate.

Madam Chairman, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I also thank him for presenting this amendment, similar to an amendment that I offered earlier in a larger dollar amount. Perhaps this one will have a better chance of success. It still should provide funding for hundreds of teachers in each State, to get some of the professional development that we have promised them that they need and that will help our competitiveness, our quality of life, our economic productivity and the science capacity of our students.

Madam Chairman, we are not doing nearly enough in this area, and everyone says so. We should look for every opportunity to enhance our science and math education, and start by helping the teachers whom we ask to teach these subjects to our students.

□ 2300

Mr. EHLERS. I thank the gentleman for his comments. Let me reinforce. This is a major area of concern. We are losing ground compared to other countries. Numerous international tests have displayed that our students are not doing nearly as well. That explains in part why we are losing business, research funding and manufacturing to other countries which are simply outpacing us in their educational effort.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I am of a split mind on this amendment, just as I was on the previous Holt amendment this evening. I think the goal of the amendment is certainly worthwhile; but at the same time I am trying to follow a responsible course with respect to the ability of executive agencies to function administratively.

So again I would simply say that I think the fact that this amendment is being offered in a way that would draw further funds out of the Department of Labor management accounts is another demonstration that the White House is dead wrong when they say that this bill contains too much money. Virtually every amendment that has been offered tonight on both sides of the aisle has been an amendment, with four exceptions, that relate to the President's budget, they have all been efforts to increase funds. I think that demonstrates that we are substantially short of where we really need to be.

I am not going to mount the barricades to oppose the amendment, but I simply have to observe that while the amendment is certainly worthwhile, the offset that it proposes is really not a real one, and I think we all know when we go to conference we are going to have to repair the administrative budget of the agency.

Having said that, I am not going to ask people to vote against it if they want to engage in those kinds of actions on the executive branch's administrative functions.

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

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. I certainly appreciate the chairman's dilemma. I have it also. But I would like to take just a moment to congratulate VERN EHLERS and RUSH HOLT for their leadership. When you come here, there are certain things that are important to you, and when you have an opportunity to effect them, you should. They are consistently supportive of this issue.

This is a national crisis that we have. They are only trying to prepare our kids for the future. And as I understand it, we have already cut the Labor Department by about $4 million. This would be another 15, so approximately an 8 percent reduction in their overall $400 million budget. A slight increase in this, I think, is worth a slight decrease on that side, so I will support the amendment.

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

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman from New York for his comments, and I appreciate his support.

I also appreciate the dilemma of the gentleman from Wisconsin because I previously served on an appropriations committee at the State level and had to fight exactly the same battles and make exactly the same decisions.

Let me just remind everyone here that No Child Left Behind was increased by 8.6 percent. Math and Science Partnership for some reason was left out of that and stayed flat. I am simply asking that it be increased the same amount as No Child Left Behind. I am quite willing to trust the judgment of the chairman of the Appropriations Committee and others in conference to make appropriate adjustments to the Labor Department or wherever else adjustments are needed, but I would certainly appreciate bringing the Math and Science Partnership funding up to exactly the same level that No Child Left Behind has been increased because it is part and parcel of No Child Left Behind.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. GINGREY

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 3 offered by Mr. GINGREY:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by the Commissioner of Social Security or the Social Security Administration to pay the compensation of employees of the Social Security Administration to administer Social Security benefit payments, under any agreement between the United States and Mexico establishing totalization arrangements between the social security system established by title II of the Social Security Act and the social security system of Mexico, which would not otherwise be payable but for such agreement.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, on June 29, 2004, the United States Commission of Social Security signed a totalization agreement with the director general of Mexican Social Security Institute to coordinate our Social Security programs.

The Social Security Totalization Agreement with Mexico gives those who have broken our laws the ability to claim Social Security benefits. While current U.S. law prohibits illegal immigrants from receiving Social Security benefits, until 2004 the law did permit illegal aliens to claim credit for work in the United States. If these individuals have amassed over 40 quarters of work, whether their status was legal or illegal, they would be eligible for full benefits.

Considering the ongoing debate over reform and solvency of our Social Security system, it is important to first remove financial incentives to individuals who undermine our immigration laws and then claim benefits, further jeopardizing our U.S. citizens' safety net. The Social Security Administration estimates that this totalization agreement with Mexico would result in 50,000 additional Mexicans qualifying for Social Security benefits in the first 5 years alone. This will only added to the problem of Social Security insolvency.

Without necessary reform, our Social Security system is set to go broke by 2042. Nobody disputes that date. However, Mexicans qualifying for Social Security benefits would cost the system $650 million a year by 2050.

A totalization agreement between the United States and Mexico is good only for Mexico. The Mexican Government requires a citizen, including a United States citizen, to pay into their system 24 years as opposed to 10 in the United States. And because of this disparity, the Social Security Administration estimates that only 3,000 American workers would be able to claim benefits in Mexico compared to the 50,000 Mexicans claiming benefits in the United States.

The United States-Mexico Totalization Agreement, Madam Chairman, is bad policy for an already distressed Social Security system and I believe an irresponsible way to spend the money of the American taxpayer. On top of everything else, the totalization agreement can go into effect without congressional approval because it would automatically become law within 60 days of being filed by the White House if Congress does not act.

With this in mind, I ask my colleagues to support this amendment, the Gingrey amendment, specifically address this problem with Mexico, and remove the incentive for the Social Security Administration to fulfill the United States-Mexico Social Security Totalization Agreement.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. Is the gentleman opposed to the amendment?

Mr. BECERRA. I am opposed to the amendment, yes.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Chairman, I would like to say to my friend, Mr. GINGREY, and I think he knows, that there was an amendment accepted in committee that addressed any concern that anyone might have with regard to any type of totalization agreement that this country might sign with a partner, friend, or ally which would require that any totalization agreement conform with existing American law and that no law, including immigration law, could be violated.

Secondly, I think the gentleman is aware or should be aware that there is no way under existing law that anyone who does not have authorization to work in this country, including undocumented immigrants, qualify for receipt of Social Security benefits. Therefore, I would say to the gentleman that his amendment is not only unnecessary, not only overly prescriptive and not only harmful to American workers who are called to service in other countries, including Mexico, and as a result of their service, whether privately or publicly in these other countries, they are paying into a Social Security system which they may never have a chance to benefit from. And when they come home to the U.S., they may never qualify with enough credits, 40 quarters, to qualify for American Social Security benefits. We would harm those American workers here in this country under this amendment.

But beyond all that, I think what the gentleman tried to explains with regard to his concerns relating to undocumented immigration are totally off base because existing law would not allow anyone who works in this country without authorization to collect those Social Security benefits which he seeks to protect.

I would also say that of our 10 largest trading partners, we already have totalization agreements with seven of them. Two of those trading partners don't qualify for totalization agreements, Taiwan and China, because they don't have comparable Social Security systems to ours; and, therefore, we would not have a way to have a compatible system to exchange those benefits among our workers.

The only one of those top trading partners with whom we have not yet finalized a totalization agreement is Mexico. We happen to have totalization agreements with 21 of our allies, partners, and close friends and neighbors, including countries like Korea, Chile, Ireland, Japan, Italy, Spain, and Canada. A totalization agreement with any country, including Mexico, must go through this Congress before it could ever be approved. It would have to go through a public hearing that would be held by the committee of jurisdiction, and each body in this Congress would have an opportunity to vote for disapproval in which case the totalization agreement signed by any administration would not go into effect.

Finally, we must remember that there are millions of American workers who have worked abroad who are impacted by not having a totalization agreement. The estimates are that American workers would benefit to the tune of $140 million, and that is on a yearly basis, if we had a totalization agreement with Mexico because of the large number of Americans who go and work in Mexico.

How much would it cost us to finalize this agreement? The estimates are it would cost us about $105 million, less than we would collect for our American workers.

And for comparison purposes, I should mention that the totalization agreement we have with Canada cost us $197 million in the year 2002 alone.

So this is a good deal for American workers because many of them have given a lot of their service, good service, to this country and other places outside of the U.S. They should have an opportunity to benefit from our Social Security system. They should not be deprived of that opportunity simply because they didn't fulfill those 40 quarters all in the U.S. That is what totalization agreements are about. They have to benefit our country, otherwise they wouldn't be reached. For anyone to say otherwise is to mask an argument, perhaps the issue of immigration, at the expense of American workers who are trying to get their pension and future retirement benefits under Social Security.

So I would hope that the Members here in the House would recognize that we won't reach any totalization agreement with any country unless it is in our interest.

Secondly, it shouldn't be just one country that is singled out if a totalization agreement is bad. It should be with any country that it doesn't benefit us to have this agreement with.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, I would just say to my friend, the gentleman from California, the totalization agreements we have with other countries, I think there are some 20 other countries, and this totalization agreement with Mexico would cost more than all of those 20 agreements combined at the 50,000 estimate that I gave.

In addition to that, the Social Security Administration estimates the 50,000 number is a significant underestimate. So I feel very strongly that at a time when our Social Security system is in such a dire crisis, needs significant reform, for us to have a totalization agreement with Mexico that in

fact of course has already been negotiated and signed for all of those workers prior to 2004; and, no, it doesn't apply to any after 2004, but this is a significant cost that we cannot afford. I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

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

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Chairman, I yield myself the such time as I may consume.

I would say to my friend from Georgia that what he is trying to accomplish has already been included in the bill, and I would urge my friend from Georgia to consider that this looks like he is trying to target just one country in particular at the expense of American workers who happened to have worked for years in Mexico.

With that, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ).

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California's time has expired.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. I yield briefly to the gentleman.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Let me just indicate that the gentleman's premise for his amendment is incorrect. I would also just add that Mexico is the number one country that has the largest number of U.S. citizens that are residing within Mexico.

□ 2315

I would also mention to the gentleman that it is one of our major trading partners, and I would ask that as we look at these type of issues. There are 21 other countries that fall into the category. So to treat one differently is, in all honesty, very discriminatory, and I would hope that we would look at that as we move forward, and thank you for yielding.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentlewoman from Wisconsin.

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Chairman, I thank the chairman for his courtesy in yielding me time.

In lieu of offering an amendment this evening, I appreciate the opportunity to briefly share with Members a concern regarding the education title of this bill. I have learned that taxpayer dollars in this bill, combined with taxpayer dollars at the State and local level, are used to purchase textbooks printed and manufactured in countries that censor these teaching materials.

Madam Chairman, one of the consequences of outsourcing to cheaper labor sources overseas is that an increasingly large number of American textbooks and educational materials are printed overseas, especially in China, a country which the State Department's 2006 Country Report on Human Rights concludes actively censors all publications.

The State Department's Human Rights report reads, ''By law, only government-approved publishing houses are permitted to print books. The State Press and Publications Administration controls all licenses to publish. The Chinese Communist Party exerts control over the publishing industry by preemptively classifying certain topics as off limits.''

In addition, ''the government does not respect academic freedom and increases controls on political and social discourses at colleges, universities, and research institutes.''

Madam Chairman, the Chinese Government is forcing the same censorship on American students and teachers, and let me just explain how this happens.

An American publishing company develops a textbook or any educational material and decides to print it overseas because they can save on printing costs by doing so. But the material content will be censored by the government-sanctioned publishing houses to conform to Chinese requirements. The Dalai Lama, Tiananmen Square, and balanced discussions of Tibet, political freedoms and descriptions of democratic participation and public protest will intentionally be left on the cutting room floor.

And then a well-meaning, well-prepared unsuspecting teacher or school district buys this textbook for their classroom, a textbook which contains no mention of the Dalai Lama and a decidedly altered discussion of politics and culture, even American politics and culture because Chinese censorship laws do not discriminate between Chinese and American texts and contexts.

And ultimately public funds meant to educate our children are simultaneously suppressing human rights and freedoms, and limiting exposure and curriculums on important topics of history, politics and culture.

The same situation exists, with far more harmful consequences, for teacher manuals because if a lesson does not exist in the teacher's curriculum, chances are that the students won't be taught that lesson.

Madam Chairman, the lesson that our students truly need to learn, and which must not be censored, is that State-sponsored censorship should not be supported with public dollars. I hope that my colleagues will join me in future efforts to teach our schoolchildren that ethics and morals and their education are more important, and more valuable, than cheap labor and production costs.

Again, I thank Chairman OBEY for the courtesy of yielding this time.

Mr. OBEY. I thank you very much, and I appreciate the gentlewoman raising this issue. I think it's a very legitimate one, and I hope we pay more and more attention to it.

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

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SOUDER

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. SOUDER:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the National Labor Relations Board to recognize as the exclusive bargaining representative of employees any labor organization that has not been certified as such by the National Labor Relations Board pursuant to section 9(c) of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 159).

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Chairman, I yield myself 2 minutes.

This is a very simple amendment, one that we have debated the basic principle in the Education and Labor Committee. This is a funding limitation amendment that would say, under the National Labor Relations Act, the board can only recognize a union if there has been a private ballot vote. The current law basically says this, although they have an option for card check.

This amendment would say that they cannot expend funds to recognize a union that has not been certified through a secret ballot election. It would basically say the board cannot recognize a card checked union as bargaining agent for employees, with the practical effect of requiring that a union be chosen by secret ballot election if it wishes to actually avail itself of any protections under the act.

I believe that the right to have a private vote is very important. I believe that it's very easy to do a shakedown in committee but not on the floor during the debates. We had various amendments regarding penalties. We had various amendments, whether illegals could go on the card check, how intimidation could occur on illegals who signed the card check, from both sides, from management and labor.

I think the only way to have a fair election that we know that people

want to form a union is to have a private ballot, and that's the intent of this amendment, to restrict the enforcement of anything not allowing a private ballot.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Chairman, I rise to speak against the amendment and claim the time in opposition.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I thank the Chair.

Under this amendment, what this amendment says is that the National Labor Relations Board could not enforce the party's obligation to bargain in good faith following a voluntary recognition. So an employer and an employee can get together, they can voluntarily enter into an agreement by which they have their working relationship, and if they're down the road at some point, one of them wants to bring an action, the employer against the employees or the employees against the employer for not bargaining in good faith, the National Labor Relations Board couldn't enforce that, couldn't take any action.

This is a voluntary agreement. It doesn't even have to be through the card check process. Any voluntary agreement, you're suggesting that somehow these people would not be able to enforce that agreement once it was entered into.

This undermines the rights of potentially millions of American workers that have already organized under voluntary recognition agreements and already engaged in a collective bargaining relationship. These workers may have decades long collective bargaining arrangements already that they have worked under, and then if the most recent contract expires, they would have no enforceable right to go back and enforce their rights under the Souder amendment.

This makes no sense. It's rather incredible to me that under the Souder amendment what we would be doing is inserting the government in a private voluntary agreement between an employer and an employer. I understand the gentleman doesn't like card check, but that's not what this is about. This is about any voluntary agreement that they've entered into, and I don't know why we would be inserting the government at this point.

Madam Chairman, at this point, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

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

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Chairman, I thank my friend for yielding.

This amendment seeks in 7 minutes to undue 72 years of labor law. For 72 years, it's been the law of the land that if an employer and an employee organization voluntarily choose to engage in collective bargaining, they're permitted to do so. This is a process that has led to labor harmony, economic prosperity and growth for the economy. Why we would even consider prohibiting that kind of arrangement from going forward is beyond me.

So I would urge the defeat of the amendment on grounds that it rather recklessly undoes a 72-year process that's worked quite well for both labor and management.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HARE).

Mr. HARE. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

For 13 years, I cut men's suits at Seaford Clothing Factory in Rock Island, Illinois. I wouldn't be here as a Member of Congress if it were not for my union. My membership in UNITE HERE Local 617 afforded me access to higher wages, good benefits, and invaluable workplace safety protections.

Under the Souder amendment, the NLRB could not enforce either party's obligation to bargain in good faith following a voluntary recognition. This would undermine the rights of potentially millions of workers who have already organized under voluntary recognition agreements and already engaged in collective bargaining relationships.

Majority Sign-Up has been available under the National Labor Relations Act since 1935. It's proven to reduce strife in the workplace, resulting in better labor-management relations. Majority sign-ups also reduce coercion and pressure, compared to NLRB elections, which is why I'm a strong proponent of the Employee Free Choice Act.

As my colleague mentioned, the Souder amendment would force all workers into the broken, unfair, undemocratic election system and strip away the freedom of contract.

I ask all of my colleagues to vote against the Souder amendment which would take a huge step backwards for the rights of American workers, and I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Chairman, let me just reiterate again, and my two colleagues have said this. Under existing law today, if the employer doesn't like the agreement, the voluntary agreement, or if employees come to them and say, gee, we all want to join a union, here's a majority, whatever it is, the employer says, no, game is over, it's off, it's done. He has a veto, absolute veto, it's over. So the only way you can have this voluntary agreement is if the employer is happy with it.

So, now we have an agreement where the employer's happy, the employees are happy, and they work under it for a number of years, but you cannot ever go and seek enforcement. So apparently what the gentleman is doing, he's just decided he's going to insert the government for only one purpose, and that's the purpose to destroy basic worker rights and the ability to organize the workplace, even if they do it voluntarily and with the consent of the employer.

Now, I know the gentleman's always believed in limited government, and I know the gentleman doesn't think the government should interfere in all these contractual arrangements. Here's a voluntary arrangement and you're going to insert the government for one purpose, to deny the employees their rights under the voluntary agreement which they entered into with an employer who had the veto if he didn't want to enter into it. They can't coerce him into doing it. He has the veto. We should reject this amendment.

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

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Chairman, I yield myself the balance of the time.

First, let me read the amendment. ''None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the National Labor Relations Board to recognize as the exclusive bargaining representative of employees any labor organization that has not been certified as such by the National Labor Relations Board pursuant to section 9(c) of the National Labor Relations Act.''

Basically, to have this be ruled in order, I would have liked to have made it more precisely targeted towards just the card check. In effect what this says is that in order to be recognized as an exclusive bargaining representative, you have to have a free election. That is my intent. That is the intent of this.

Now, why do I feel that we need to do this bill at this time? One is we have a separate bill moving through that would in effect deprive workers of America of the right to a private ballot. But secondly, earlier today or yesterday I should say, with my support, unlike many of my Republican colleagues, I believe in the right to association. I supported the police and firemen's right to organize, and it came under suspension, and I voted for.

But here is another card check potential where police and fire would be put in a position where in some cases in towns in my district that oppose this bill, there are five people. With a card check, those people are going to be subject to everybody in town watching who they are, and there's no guarantee if three are pressured into signing that there will be a private ballot.

This amendment, and I understand that there are flaws with this amendment and hopefully we could work this out, but this amendment is basically a card check amendment given the fact that not only do we have one bill moving through, but we also had a bill move through last night on suspension that would in effect potentially have police and firemen unionize across the United States in areas where they previously hadn't been and a bill that I supported and believe in the right to association but I also believe there should be a private ballot associated with that right to association.

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

□ 2330

Mr. OBEY. I would simply like to read a portion of the letter from Greg Tarpinion from Change to Win. He simply says this: ''Since its inception in 1935, the National Labor Relations Act has permitted workers to unionize and their union representatives to be recognized by obtaining signatures in support from a majority of workers to be represented.''

Many large companies such as Cingular Wireless, Kaiser Permanente, and Harley-Davidson from my own State have voluntarily recognized their employees' desire for union representation using this type of majority signup procedure. By eliminating any funds for the National Labor Relations Board to enforce the laws, in cases in which the majority signup is used, the Souder amendment would gut this long-standing avenue for worker recognition.

As a result, any unions already recognized and any contracts already bargained with unions that obtained recognition using this method would be thrown into legal limbo, and any otherwise applicable labor law protections would become unenforceable. That, to me, doesn't seem to make very much sense.

I would urge opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Indiana will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SOUDER

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. SOUDER:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

TITLE VI

ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 601. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to implement the final rule published on March 30, 2007, on page 15275 of volume 72, Federal Register (relating to section 482.82(b) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations).

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Chairman, I yield to the chairman.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, in the interest of saving time in this late evening, on this side we would be happy to accept the gentleman's amendment.

Mr. SOUDER. I thank the chairman. It's something that I believe can be worked with, in a bipartisan manner, worked out in the long term in detail.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 22 OFFERED BY MS. MOORE OF WISCONSIN

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 22 offered by Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out the evaluation of the Upward Bound program described in the absolute priority for Upward Bound Program participant selection and evaluation published by the Department of Education in the Federal Register on September 22, 2006 (71 Fed. Reg. 55447 et seq.).

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wisconsin.

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Chairman, today I offer an amendment cosponsored by Congressman TOM COLE, Congressman BOBBY SCOTT, and Congresswoman CAROL SHEA-PORTER that will prohibit funds from being used to carry out a damaging, unethical Education Department proposed evaluation of a TRIO program, the Upward Bound program.

This amendment will put a halt to this unethical study that deceives students and their families, takes away critical opportunities for them, and sets the program up for failure. This same language is included in the higher education reconciliation bill.

I thank Members from both sides of the aisle for rebuffing the Education Department's repeated, relentless efforts to kill the TRIO Upward Bound program over the past 2 years. Because of the adamant congressional resistance, the Department has now decided that they can simply study the program to death. This is an unethical program.

Madam Chairman, I submit for the RECORD three letters from highly respected institutional review boards that indicate that this is an unethical program and also a letter from 15 highly respected educational associations deeming the study unethical. The FDA regulates these institutional review boards, and it's precisely to protect human beings who are subject to human experimentation.

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Beverly Simone, President, Southeastern Community College

From: Rebecca S. Rump, Chair, SCC IRB

Date: June 8, 2007

Re U.S. Department of Education Upward Bound Research of Higher-Risk Students

Following evaluation and consideration of the U.S. Department of Education's project, ''Impact Evaluation of Upward Bound's Increased Emphasis on Higher-Risk Students,'' Southeastern Community College's Institutional Review Board would like to express its concerns with this research and our involvement with the project.

Although we expect that our College's Upward Bound program staff will continue to work with the U.S. Department of Education and the evaluation project, our initial concern is that potential participation in Upward Bound (UB) requires students to participate in the evaluation study. For those students and families who do not want to participate in the study, they can complete forms indicating that decision. Yet, they are still entered into a lottery in which they may not be chosen for UB. The design of the study (with UB very likely serving fewer students due to half of the students being assigned to the control, group) inherently denies services to students that they otherwise would likely receive without the study being conducted. In essence, we question the validity and ethical foundation of a study which induces a negative impact on the program being studied.

Closely related to the fact that this study is not ultimately voluntary is the fact that the control group will only receive token monetary compensation as opposed to the benefits of Upward Bound (UB) despite having participated in the study to the same degree as the experimental group. In essence, by participating in the study some students will not have the opportunity to participate in UB. The project's research design is similar to other experimental-control group designs in which one group is denied a treatment in order to determine the treatment's effect. Typically in such research if the treatment is effective, the control group is immediately given the treatment as an ethical consideration for their being placed randomly in the control group. In the current project, the treatment is the Upward Bound program itself. Students in the control group will not be able to participate in UB due to age considerations after the study, and as the study stands, there is no plan to provide any educational program equivalent to UB after the study to the students in the control condition. Unfortunately, participants who are randomly placed in the control condition and not admitted to UB are not given equivalent compensation to those who are selected to participate in UB. Participants in the control condition wilt be given monetary compensation that simply does no equal the educational and personal benefits of participating in UB. Such inequity simply is not within the realm of ethical treatment of research participants.

Finally, our last concern relates to the language level used in the materials that parents of participating UB students must complete. We presume that many of those parents read at levels below high school. Requiring completion of these materials may discourage participation in the program, a

most unfortunate result for the prospective UB participants.

The IRB appreciates the purpose of Upward Bound and understands the institutional decision to participate in the study, but we want you to know our concerns with respect to this research. As always, we appreciate your consideration of our position and your support of ensuring the integrity of research at Southeastern Community College.

CENTRAL COLLEGE
Pella, IA, May 14, 2007.

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Paul Naour, Provost
From: Dr. Keith Jones, Institutional Review Board Co-Chair
Re U.S. Department of Education Upward Bound Research of Higher-Risk Students
Date: May 14, 2007

Following evaluation and consideration of the U.S. Department of Education's project, ''Impact Evaluation of Upward Bound's Increased Emphasis on Higher-Risk Students,'' the Institutional Review Board would like to express its concerns with this research and our involvement with the project.

Our initial concern is that potential participation in Upward Bound (UB) for all intents and purposes requires students to participate in the study. For those students and families who do not want to participate in the study, they can complete forms indicating that decision. Yet, they are still entered into a lottery in which they may not be chosen for UB. The design of the study (with UB very likely serving fewer students due to half of the students being assigned to the control group) inherently denies services to students that they otherwise would likely receive without the study being conducted. In essence, we question the validity and ethical foundation of a study which induces a negative impact on the program being studied.

Closely related to the fact that this study is not ultimately voluntary is the fact that the control group will only receive token monetary compensation as opposed to the benefits of Upward Bound (UB) despite having participated in the study to the same degree as the experimental group. In essence, by participating in the study some students will not have the opportunity to participate in UB. The project's research design is similar to other experimental-control group designs in which one group is denied a treatment in order to determine the treatment's effect. Typically in such research if the treatment is effective, the control group is immediately given the treatment as an ethical consideration for their being placed randomly in the control group. In the current project, the treatment is the Upward Bound program itself. Students in the control group will not be able to participate in UB due to age considerations after the study, and as the study stands there is no plan to provide any educational program equivalent to UB after the study to the students in the control condition. Unfortunately, participants who are randomly placed in the control condition and not admitted to UB are not given equivalent compensation to those who are selected to participate in UB. Participants in the control condition will be given monetary compensation that simply does not equal the educational and personal benefits of participating in UB. Such inequity simply is not within the realm of ethical treatment of research participants.

The IRB understands the institutional decision to participate in the study, but we want you to know our concerns with respect to this research. As always, we appreciate your consideration of our position and your support of ensuring the integrity of research at Central College.

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
Salt Lake City, UT, June 13, 2007.

KATHRYN S. FELKER,
Director, Educational Opportunity Programs, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT.

DEAR MS. FELKER: I am the Associate Vice President for Research Integrity at the University of Utah. The University of Utah Institutional Review Board (IRB) provided me with information regarding the U.S. Department of Education's plan to evaluate the Upward Bound program. My understanding is that the study has been deemed exempt from local IRB review. Normally our IRB would make that determination and would not defer that responsibility to external agencies. Nevertheless, the study would appear to be exempt under Category 5 of the federal regulations 45 CFR 46. While the IRB will not exert oversight authority for this research, IRB staff have raised a number of concerns about the conduct of this study.

After reviewing this information, I also will express my concerns over the study design. Recruitment of twice as many eligible students than can be served and randomly assigning applicants to intervention and control groups raises serious ethical issues. Assuming this well-established program has shown some evidence of benefit in past assessments, assignment to the control group would deny those benefits, but only after an extensive application process and the development of a relationship with program staff. Then to deny even the possibility of obtaining services from the Upward Bound program in the future may compound the harm and preclude services for which they would otherwise be eligible. Surely there is a better way to conduct an assessment of the program.

The DOE will continue to collect data on the educational outcomes of the children in the control group, although they will not be receiving any services from the program. Further, the consent forms do not indicate an ability to withdraw from the study.

Studies with non-intervention control arms always receive close scrutiny by the IRB because of their ethical complexities. It is incumbent on the investigators to demonstrate that this study design minimizes risks of harm and that other research designs are not feasible. Of course, I was not involved in the discussion over this research design, but it seems highly probable that other approaches could be used to assess the value of the Upward Bound program. I strongly encourage a reassessment of the conduct of this research.

By way of credentials, I will note that I currently serve of the DHHS Secretary's Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections (SACHRP) and so have extensive experience with research ethics and federal regulations governing the protection of human subjects.

Please relay our concerns to the DOE and other federal officials who are involved in governing this project.

Best regards,

JEFFREY R. BOTKIN, M.D., M.P.H.,
Professor of Pediatrics and Biomedical Ethics, Associate Vice President for Research Integrity.

JULY 18, 2006.

Re Upward Bound Program

JAMES F. MANNING,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. MANNING: I write on behalf of the higher education associations listed below to comment on the Notice of Proposed Priority for the Upward Bound program published in the July 3, 2006 Federal Register. My colleagues and I have both substantive and procedural problems with the proposed priority to narrow Upward Bound services to 9th grade students meeting criteria selected by the Department. We especially object to the fact that this process effectively exchanges a congressional priority for an administrative one—a practice we view as precedent-setting and disturbing.

Several aspects of this proposal concern us, among them:

The priority asserted is such a marked departure from existing program design that it effectively substitutes a new program for the one that Congress authorized and provided the funds to operate.

The proposed priority discards the current flexibility to vary the program in accordance with local needs, substituting in its place a monolithic federal vision about whom to serve.

By establishing a priority for a cohort of 9th grade students, the proposal would disenfranchise all of the 10th and 11th graders that Congress intended to be served by the Upward Bound services.

The requirement that 30% of newly-admitted students be ''at high academic risk for failure'' would deprive certain 9th grade students—those who may do well in school—from receiving the Upward Bound services they may require.

And finally, the proposal creates a troubling gray area between congressional intent as expressed in statutory language—sometimes amplified by report language—and the Department's Constitutional obligation to carry out that intent in a straightforward manner.

We appreciate that the Department is engaged with the problem of reducing the unacceptably high numbers of high school students who drop out prior to graduation. This is an important problem that deserves attention. However, if this priority setting approach is adopted, it is easy to imagine that many other programs administered by the Department will be subject to a wholesale redesign outside the normal legislative and regulatory processes. We strongly urge you to discard this proposed priority setting effort in favor of working with the Congress and the higher education community to develop promising approaches to solving this problem.

Sincerely,

DAVID WARD,
President,
American Council on Education.

On behalf of: American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, American Association of Community Colleges, American Association of State Colleges and Universities, American Council on Education, American Indian Higher Education Consortium, Association of American Universities, Association of Community College Trustees, Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, Council for Opportunity in Education, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, National Association independent Colleges and Universities, National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, and National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

Madam Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to one of the cosponsors, Mr. COLE.

(Mr. COLE of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, in the interest of time, I will be brief.

Madam Chairman, I rise in support of the Moore amendment to the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education bill.

This amendment, which would defund the evaluation component of the Department of Education's absolute priority, is crafted to spare our teachers from choosing between two values that should never be in conflict, following their Nation's laws and tending to their students' well-being.

I know Oklahoma educators well, and I can tell you that Oklahoma educators are honorable people. If there is a law on the books, they will follow that law to its letter and spirit.

However, I believe that this particular law, that is the Department of Education's absolute priorities, is inconsistent with our teachers' obligation to do what's best for our students. The absolute priority evaluation component would have Upward Bound students recruit twice as many students as they are able to serve. Half of those students would then be directed away from TRIO, becoming a control group to prove or disprove TRIO's effectiveness.

In short, we would raise these children's hope and then use them as guinea pigs to test our own theories and ideas. That's dishonest, it's cynical and it's wrong. I have no question in my mind about the outcome of such an experiment. TRIO would prove to be what it is, one of the most successful ways to encourage and support disadvantaged first-generation college students.

Yet even in the best-case scenario, where TRIO has proven successful, Upward Bound programs across the country would be left with a group of students that would never be able to use their services.

I oppose changing Upward Bound in order to recruit students into the program that could not receive help, giving on the one hand, and taking away with the other. We should aim to put our students and teachers in a position for success, and I believe that we will do so with the passage of the Moore amendment.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Let me simply say that I appreciate our colleagues bringing this to our attention. I know the authorizing committee is dealing with the issue at this time as well on this side of the aisle. We would be happy to accept the amendment.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. Surely.

Mr. WALSH of New York. We would be happy to accept the amendment also.

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. LEE. I want thank the gentlewoman from Wisconsin for her leadership on this issue.

Madam Chairman, when we took this up in the full committee, I raised this with the chairman. At the time, he committed to working with us on this issue. I am glad we have the opportunity to do that this evening.

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus communicated our concern to Chairman OBEY, who understood its importance.

In closing, let me just say that Congress has actually rebuffed attempts to eliminate or replace Upward Bound programs in the past. So the administration did administer these absolute priority initiatives which really does include a very unethical and immoral study at the expense of our young people.

I want to once again thank the gentlelady from Wisconsin for raising this and for making sure that we were aware of all the issues and the facts around this. I want to thank the chairman very much for accepting this tonight.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CAMP OF MICHIGAN

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. CAMP of Michigan:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

TITLE VI

ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 601. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to implement any policy prohibiting a Medicare beneficiary from electing during a coverage election period described in section 1851(e) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-21(e)) to receive health care benefits under title XVIII of such Act through enrollment in a Medicare Advantage plan under part C of such title.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Madam Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of my amendment that would preserve Medicare beneficiaries' access to the Medicare Advantage program.

My amendment is simple. It would prohibit the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services from implementing any policy that would prohibit a Medicare beneficiary from enrolling in Medicare Advantage, which allows seniors the option of receiving their Medicare benefits through a private health care plan.

Today, 8.3 million Medicare beneficiaries, including millions of low-income minority and rural seniors, are receiving their health benefits through Medicare Advantage. Retired union workers are also attracted to this important program. In fact, in my home State of Michigan, 116,000 retired teachers, janitors, bus drivers and school cafeteria workers are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan to the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System.

Vulnerable beneficiaries choose Medicare Advantage over traditional Medicare because it's often cheaper and comes with better benefits than traditional Medicare, like disease management programs and preventive care. Low-income seniors are more likely to enroll in Medicare Advantage, relying on the program's lower copayments and free preventive care. Medicare Advantage plans saved beneficiaries an average of $86 per month, compared to what they would have spent in traditional Medicare.

Additionally, Medicare Advantage provides protection against catastrophic health care costs not provided by traditional Medicare. For example, many beneficiaries can choose a Medicare advantage plan that would cap their annual out-of-pocket health care costs at $2,000. Minority beneficiaries are more likely to enroll in Medicare Advantage.

In fact, 40 percent of African Americans and 53 percent of Hispanics who depend on Medicare for their health care are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans.

The NAACP recognizes the importance of Medicare advantage saying: ''By providing more comprehensive benefits and lower cost-sharing than traditional Medicare, Medicare Advantage plans help racial and ethnic minority populations gain access to health care services that are critical to their long-term health and well-being.''

For the first time, seniors have access to Medicare Advantage, regardless of whether they live in big cities or in rural America, in districts like mine. Rural seniors have voted with their feet. Enrollment in Medicare Advantage has increased 300 percent since 2004 when just half of rural seniors had a Medicare Advantage plan in their area.

Rural beneficiaries clearly like their new options. Medicare Advantage is helping to provide flexible, affordable, modern health care benefits for minorities, low-income beneficiaries, seniors living in rural areas and union retirees. Congress must ensure that these health care benefits are available to qualifying beneficiaries. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, we have not had enough time to analyze the most recent version of this amendment. Its apparent innocuousness, frankly, raises my suspicions. It would appear to enforce current law for eligibility to enroll in benefits.

But for this to be offered just at the time that the authorizers are reauthorizing the SCHIP program and considering pay-fors that might include tightening payments to Medicare Advantage providers, it makes me wonder if this is more than a powerful coincidence.

This is certainly not within the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee. It most certainly is within the jurisdiction of the Ways and Means Committee. I don't think, given the sensitivity of it, that it ought to be handled in this manner.

So I would certainly intend not to support it. My understanding is also that the Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means Committees are both highly concerned about this amendment. And under these circumstances, I think it would be highly ill-advised for the House to adopt this amendment at this time.

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

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

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Chairman, I oppose the amendment and stand to claim the time.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BECERRA. I say to my friend from Michigan, as he knows, and we are working through the process in the Ways and Means Committee to try to figure out how we reform Medicare to make it more available to seniors throughout this country, and at the same time Medicare Advantage to find out a way to finally fund at an adequate level to fund the State health insurance program that is funded by the Federal Government, so that we can somehow find a way to cover the 9 million children in this country who still receive no health insurance coverage, that this amendment seems to do two things.

One is unnecessary, and that is to say that we will try to make sure that no one is denied access to any coverage under a Medicare Advantage plan. I know of nothing that would deprive any individual who seeks to enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan that opportunity to do so.

Secondly, it seems geared to spook seniors who might not know what's going on if they see language or hear that there is some provision in law through the appropriations process that would say that we can't deprive them of an opportunity to apply for a particular type of Medicare coverage. It might seem to lend some credence to those who are trying to make seniors believe that they are going to be deprived of the Medicare benefits.

□ 2345

There is nothing further from the truth. In fact, every effort that is being made, as the gentleman knows, in the Ways and Means Committee is to actually enhance the benefits that our seniors will receive under Medicare. What we have found is over the years that many Medicare providers are finding it very difficult to stay within the Medicare system because of the lack of reimbursement, or so at least they claim. And in many cases we do find areas of the country that are finding fewer and fewer providers available to Medicare recipients to be able to access their health care.

I would say to the gentleman that if indeed this amendment is targeted at something in particular, it would be great if we could have that identified. But at this stage, I see nothing in the current law or anything on the horizon emanating from the Congress and certainly from our committee that we both serve on, the Ways and Means Committee, that would in any way jeopardize any individual's opportunity to access Medicare coverage through the Medicare Advantage plans that are available. And for that reason I would hope that, if nothing else, seniors who might be watching this debate at this time take nothing from this particular amendment to indicate to them that they should have any reason to fear that anyone would try to deprive them of their Medicare benefits. In fact, what I think they will find is that under the program that will be provided or will come to the Ways and Means Committee will enhance seniors' opportunities to obtain not just adequate medical services through Medicare but enhanced services through Medicare.

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

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan, and I rise in support of his amendment.

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I just want to say that this is really a straightforward amendment. What it simply does is prohibit the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services from implementing any policy that would prohibit a beneficiary from enrolling in Medicare Advantage.

Now, obviously, if beneficiaries lose access to care by a reduction in funds to the Medicare Advantage program, and thereby benefits being reduced, that is something we want to try to avoid. This is a critically important program that, as I said, ensures millions of seniors that have seen rapid growth, and in particular parts of the country has made really great strides in covering low-income seniors, those in rural and urban areas, those in minority populations that might not otherwise have access to care, and we have seen enrollment increase 300 percent since 2004.

So I think in light of what is going on, it is important to reinforce our support for this strategically important program, but it is a fairly simple and straightforward amendment.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. CONAWAY

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 2 offered by Mr. CONAWAY:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. It is the sense of the House of Representatives that any reduction in the amount appropriated by this Act achieved as a result of amendments adopted by the House should be dedicated to deficit reduction.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I reserve a point of order against the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. A point of order is reserved.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Chairman, this is an attempt to do some stuff tonight that will eliminate otherwise doing it tomorrow and perhaps shortening tomorrow.

Amendment after amendment has come before this body seeking to reduce spending out of this appropriations bills. We took some 16 votes earlier this evening. The harsh truth of the matter is, should any of those votes to reduce spending have been successful, the reality is that money would not have been saved. The deficit for 2008 would still be exactly the same as it was under this bill that was presented.

What my amendment would do is to create a sense of Congress that should we be successful in reducing spending coming up out of these appropriations bills, that that money would in fact reduce the deficit; and, hopefully, in the near future when we are in a surplus circumstance, that would increase the

surplus as opposed to simply being recycled back through the Appropriations Committee to spend in perhaps some other area, but nevertheless spend that money.

I understand there is a point of order that lies against this, and I will not insist on a ruling from the Chair. But I did want to highlight again on this bill tonight that, should any of my colleagues be successful in getting a vote to reduce spending, that reduction in spending does not actually happen; the money stays in 302(b) allocations and is spent somewhere else. So all of the conversations we have in here on the pros and cons about those issues is really wasted rhetoric under our current set of rules.

Madam Chairman, I would ask unanimous consent to withdraw the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. CONAWAY

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 1 offered by Mr. CONAWAY:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program may be used while there continues in effect a Federal prohibition on the exploration, leasing, development, or production of oil or natural gas in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge or the Outer Continental Shelf.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairwoman, I reserve a point of order against the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. A point of order is reserved.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Chairman, again in an attempt to get a little work done tonight that we would otherwise have to put off until tomorrow, I am offering up an amendment that would say straightforwardly that we will not spend money. None of the funds made available under this act for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program would be spent as long as we keep restrictions into place on drilling in ANWR and our intercontinental shelves.

It seems illogical to me to drive the costs of home heating oil and natural gas up by restricting domestic production of those two commodities and, at the same time, try to fill an insatiable demand for LIHEAP funding. We added $400 million in LIHEAP money to the continuing resolution for 2007. This adds another $880 million in LIHEAP spending, again, an insatiable demand for these funds. And, at the same time, we are driving up the cost of that commodity so that the funds that we actually do plow back into LIHEAP don't go as far in terms of buying and giving relief to those folks who qualify for this program.

So while I am not so much opposed to LIHEAP, I am opposed to the illogical public policy of limiting domestic production of crude oil and natural gas through artificial restraints on drilling in those places of the United States where we have our own production and thereby increasing the cost to consumers in States that take advantage of these LIHEAP funds.

So, again, I understand a point of order lies against this. I do not intend to push that to a ruling of the Chair, but I did want to bring to the attention of my colleagues what I believe is the illogical position to take to restrict domestic production of crude oil and natural gas and, at the same time, try to fund as I see it is an insatiable demand for LIHEAP funding.

Madam Chairman, I would ask unanimous consent to withdraw the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT NO. 30 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 30 offered by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. The amount otherwise provided in this Act for ''DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION—DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT—Office of Civil Rights'' is hereby decreased by $2,000,000 and increased by $2,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Let me thank the Chair and also thank the Chair of the subcommittee and the ranking member of the subcommittee, and let me just for a moment thank them overall for this bill and mention the $3.3 billion in increased student aid; the $1.3 billion for Health Resources and Services Administration, the primary agency dealing with health care access; the $1 billion for medical research, which includes more research for cancer, diabetes, and Alzheimer's and Parkinson's; $880 million for low-income home energy; $949 million for employment and training services; and $660 million for the community services block grant. I wanted to acknowledge the direction of this bill and my support for it. But let me also acknowledge that there is more work to be done in the Department of Education Office of Civil Rights.

As I read from the report language, it indicates that this office is responsible for enforcing laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and age in all programs and institutions that receive funds from the Department. These laws extend to the 50 State educational agencies and 16,000 local educational agencies as well, 3,500 institutions of higher learning. And that is my concern.

This amendment reduces the amount of money in the area of the administration aspect of the Department of Education, which includes the Office of Civil Rights, to focus on glaring problems that exist in that program. For example, if you look at fiscal year 2005, only 18 percent of the cases that this agency dealt with was in regard to race and national origin. As relates to minorities in special education, 10 cases were initiated, 19 were resolved.

In 2000, the Clinton administration settled a number of OCR cases, Office of Civil Rights cases, segregation cases with Historically Black Colleges. Those cases included schools in Virginia, schools in Texas, schools in Georgia, and a number of others. These particular settlements required compliance, and that means that the Office of Civil Rights was responsible for enforcing the compliance of these agreements by the States that these schools were located in. Sadly, we have found that several schools have suffered from the lack of enforcement of the Department of Education: Texas Southern University in Texas, Morgan State in Maryland, and Florida A&M in Florida.

Without the enforcement of the Office of Civil Rights, the States don't comply with requirements to end discrimination on these historically black colleges. My amendment reinforces the importance of the Office of Civil Rights continuing to enforce strongly the agreements that were made pursuant to segregation or desegregation settlements at the beginning of 2000. I would hope that recognizing the value of education, the value of the 104 Historically Black Colleges, that the Office of Civil Rights would step up their enforcement on the issues dealing with race.

Let me indicate that this is not a question of borrowing from Peter to pay Paul. I do not want to diminish enforcement on issues of disability, age discrimination, on sex discrimination, but I do want to see the increase of enforcement on issues dealing with race where it is necessary.

Unfortunately, in my own State, the Governor of the State was willing to put our Historically Black College in conservatorship even though he recognized that that would eliminate the accreditation of that school. That required an enforcement by the Department of Education and the Office of Civil Rights. They were completely missing in their enforcement responsibilities in that instance.

So, Madam Chairman, it is a simple amendment that reinforces the importance of enforcement in the Office of

Civil Rights, broad based and needed, and I would ask my colleagues to support this amendment.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of my amendment to H.R. 3043, Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2008, and to commend Mr. OBEY for his leadership in shepherding this bill through the legislative process. Among other agencies, this legislation funds the Office of Civil Rights, which ensures equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the Nation through vigorous enforcement of civil rights.

Madam Chairman, my amendment is simple but it sends a very important message from the Congress of the United States. My amendment emphasizes the decrease in funding by $2,000,000 and an increase in funding by $2,000,000 to better assist the Office in their support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities, frequently known as HBCUs are institutions of higher learning that were established before 1964 with the intention of serving the African American community. Oftentimes people talk about HBCUs as if they were all the same, but nothing could be further from the truth. There are more than 100 HBCUs in the United States, and they come in all types and sizes. HBCUs can be public or private, and come in both the two-year and 4-year variety. Some are large, and some are small. HBCUs are located in 20 States, Washington, DC, the Virgin Islands, and in my great city, Houston, TX.

Madam Chairman, one of Texas's great treasures, Texas Southern University (TSU), and like many other HBCUs need our assistance in continuing their legacies in providing superior educational opportunities to deserving young men and women. That mission cannot be accomplished if Congress does not take the appropriate action of validating my amendment into this bill. I am strongly opposed to any action or non-action that would prevent or restrict opportunities to people to gain knowledge away from these educational institutions. HBCUs pride themselves on educating American minorities, especially since there was a time in our Nation's history when people of minority status were withheld from their humane right to education.

Madam Chairman, you may not be aware that there is a serious stigma associated with HBCUs in this Nation. Many stereotypes convey that HBCUs don't prepare students for the real world, or HBCUs have too many financial problems, and even non-HBCUs offer better quality of education. Many States are considering appointing a Conservator, an individual similar to a trustee in a bankruptcy case; the Conservator's duty would be to oversee the governance of the HBCUs in each particular State. This move would be unprecedented, never in the history of this Nation has an HBCU been placed on Conservatorship. This move is essentially a death sentence for all HBCUs. It would further validate the stereotypical stigmas attached to HBCUs around this country.

Madam Chairman, I can tell you first hand that my very own state, Texas, is considering a Conservatorship program for its HBCU, Texas Southern University. This action does not befit the distinguished history of TSU, which includes notable alumni such as two former Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, Barbara Jordan and George "Mickey" Leland, and will exacerbate rather than overcome the challenges facing TSU by demoralizing the faculty, alumni, and student body.

Madam, Chairman, Congress must act to bring restoration back to the HBCU community. Right now as it stands, HBCUs are underfunded and are resource deprived. Many students are unable to access the proper books, supplies and current technology needed to obtain a quality education comparable to predominately white, wealthier institutions. The lack of educational resources will disproportionately affect the type of education students receive attending HBCUs. As a direct result many HBCUs' graduates are unable to compete effectively with the non-HBCU graduates in the workplace; contributing to the ever present socio-economic disaster in America today.

Many of the HBCUs living arrangements for their students lack in comparison to predominately white institutions. HBCUs' dormitories have several maintenance problems, insect infestations, and minimum house upkeep. This type of atmosphere is hardly conducive to the learning environment that students need to excel in their school work.

For all these reasons, Madam Chairman, I urge adoption of my amendment and thank Mr. OBEY for his courtesies, consideration, and very fine work in putting together this excellent legislation.

NAFEO APPEALS TO GOVERNOR PERRY

WASHINGTON, DC.—NAFEO urges Governor Perry to reconsider his decision to eliminate the Texas Southern University, TSU, Board and appoint a conservator for the University. NAFEO President Lezli Baskerville said, "Eliminating the Board would most assuredly impact TSU's accreditation. The SACS Principles of Accreditation require that its accreted institutions have a board of directors. The elimination of the Board could result in public sanction or loss of accreditation. The appointing of a conservator would make matters worse. It would cast a pall on and further destabilize the University." "It would also bode ill for the University's accreditation and deter enrollment and fund development—both of which have been on the rise in recent years. It would have a negative impact on the morale of faculty, administrators, staff, students and alumni. Some may flee," she said. "Surely this is not what Governor Perry intends," Baskerville added.

As the trade association for the presidents and chancellors of all of the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities, HBCUs, and predominantly black institutions, NAFEO is uniquely situated to assist TSU through this challenging situation and to return it to its position of preeminence in the higher education community. NAFEO's membership of sitting HBCU and PBI presidents, and its network of former presidents and chancellors, academic vice presidents, business and finance officers, accreditation experts are willing, able and available to work with the Governor, legislators, the state higher education executive officer, TSU's Interim President J. Timothy Boddie, Jr., and others to put in place the structure, systems and personnel necessary to strengthen the institution.

President Baskerville said, "We are particularly concerned that Governor Perry's decision to appoint a conservator mimics a very disconcerting pattern. We have seen it in Florida, where last month the Florida Board of Governors established 'The Task Force on FAMU Financial and Operational Control Issues' and the state university system chancellor said the worst case scenario 'would be a decision not to fund [FAMU]. And without funding, the university would cease to exist.'"

"The trend toward states' expanding academic programs and establishing facility citadels at flagship and other historically white institutions while disinvesting in HBCUs is a problem we must quickly address. One of the challenges for TSU and other HBCUs is that at no time have they been provided public funding that would enable them to be comparable and competitive to their white counterparts. Today, when economic and social freedom are increasingly linked to a postsecondary education, and when the data demonstrate that HBCUs and PBIs are the most cost efficient and in many regards the most effective institutions at preparing disproportionate percentages of traditionally underserved students—the growing populations of the State of Texas and the Nation—states are continuing to invest disproportionately fewer dollars in public HBCUs than in their white counterparts. To be sure, this does not absolve HBCUs from being exemplary stewards of whatever resources they have. It does suggest that while it is critical to examine management issues and to address deficits we must simultaneously examine state policies, practices, appropriations and finance issues to ensure equitable funding that will take away from HBCUs and other under-funded institutions the need to continue doing more with less than their white counterparts and stretching disproportionately fewer dollars to remain competitive. This often leads to financial and other business practices that get underfunded institutions into difficulty." NAFEO will send representatives to Texas later this week to meet with its members there and other stakeholders to learn more about how NAFEO can play a central role in assisting Texas Southern through this challenging time and return it to its traditional luster.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. I would simply say, in the interest of time, I will forgo any comments and simply say that, on this side, we have no objection to the gentlewoman's amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 31 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 31 offered by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. The amount otherwise provided in this Act for "DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION—EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED" is hereby decreased by $2,000,000 and increased by $2,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE)

and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Chairman, as I indicated, I support this underlying bill and thank the chairman and ranking member for the work that they have done.

All of us are concerned as we move forward with educating our children, particularly in the primary and secondary school. As I work with teachers and students and families regarding public school education, one of the great concerns has been the fallout of the Leave No Child Behind. I realize that going forward we will be looking at a reform of that legislation, but I thought it was important in the reduction and increase in funding in areas dealing with disadvantaged children, disadvantaged education opportunities to emphasize the importance of providing teaching, teaching and student relationships, over testing.

Let me cite for you the dropout rates in the Hispanic and African American communities' percent of all dropouts.

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Black and non-Hispanic, 27.2 percent, and the population is only 14 percent. Hispanic, 20.8 percent dropout, and the population is 15.8 percent. Much of that dropout came as a result of standardized testing when the students did not pass and, therefore, did not return back to high school.

My amendment is simple. What it offers is an emphasis on teaching children, disadvantaged children, teaching more than testing, relating to the teacher-student relationship and providing teacher-based tests.

Might I offer just a brief comment that indicates Texas Parents, Teachers Unhappy with Standardized Testing. What we need is a comprehensive approach to stop the high dropout rate, as this particular legislation has had. But, more importantly, to evaluate the idea of testing as opposed to teaching.

I would ask my colleagues to support this amendment to emphasize the importance of thwarting the high dropout rate among Hispanics and African Americans and to emphasize the importance of teaching disadvantaged children so that they remain in school and to develop tests by teachers that will be more related to the subject that the student is learning.

I ask my colleagues to support this amendment.

Let me first thank my distinguished colleague Chairman OBEY for his extraordinary leadership and guidance in crafting this bill.

H.R. 3043 will play a crucial role in addressing and perhaps providing a cure for the many educational ills among this nation's poorest and most disadvantaged children. I fully support the spirit of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) but I question its effectiveness in leaving no child behind.

Madam Chairman, leaving no child left behind starts with ensuring that all students have adequate resources to meet their particular circumstances. That is why I offer my amendment which provides: The amount otherwise provided in this Act for "Department of Education—Title I for the Education of the Disadvantaged for "carrying out title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 ("ESEA") (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.)" is hereby decreased by $2,000,000 and increased by $2,000,000. The purpose of my amendment, which decreases and then increases the funding in Title I for the Education of the Disadvantaged, is to address the special problems and challenges to disadvantaged communities and children posed by the No Child Left Behind Act.

Madam Chairman, NCLB established goals everyone supports: high standards and accountability for the learning of all children. But NCLB is falling short of its goals for many reasons. Let's examine the purpose of NCLB which includes the following:

To improve teacher and principal quality through research supported innovation in teacher and principal preparation programs;

To increase the number of highly qualified teachers in the classroom and highly qualified principals and assistant principals in schools; and

To foster an environment of collaboration among Pre-kindergarten through 12 school districts and universities and their units that prepare teachers and school administrators.

Madam Chairman, regardless of the purpose of the bill, the reality is that a rigid one-size-fits-all approach to accountability does not work. Improving student learning is of vital importance, and we must be fully committed to creating great public schools with high academic standards for all students. Every child should be learning and succeeding in school, but the record reflects that many minority and disadvantaged students are struggling, and the reasons are as diverse and complex as the students themselves.

Madam Chairman, all across this great nation the high school dropout rates of disadvantaged and underserved students are steadily increasing. Moreover, many school administrators are under-representing the number of high school dropouts. In my home state of Texas nearly it has been reported that 119,400 students fail to graduate with their peers each year. African-Americans and Hispanics suffer disproportionately. The rate of graduation for African-American students is 62 percent and 58 percent for Hispanics; while the rates of graduation for Asian and White students are 87 percent and 76 percent, respectively. This dismal reality not only cost individual students the opportunity to reach their goals, but also cost individual states and the entire country in a number of ways:

Dropouts from the class of 2006 cost the state more than $31 billion in lost wages, taxes, and productivity over their lifetimes.

If Texas's likely dropouts from the class of 2006 graduated instead, the state could save more than $1.6 billion in Medicaid and expenditures for uninsured care over the course of those young people's lifetimes.

If Texas's high schools and colleges raise the graduation rates of Hispanic, African-American, and Native-American students to the levels of white students by 2020, the potential increase in personal income would add more than $46.5 billion to the state economy.

Increasing the graduation rate and college matriculation of male students in Texas by only 5 percent could lead to combined savings and revenue of almost $691 million each year by reducing crime-related costs.

Madam Chairman, we can reduce these costs exponentially by closing the achievement gaps between underserved students and those who are well served. Closing student achievement gaps is one of the most pressing challenges facing public education. Educators, with the support of the community, must reach all students—students from multiple ethnic, racial, language, and economic backgrounds; students of both genders; and students of comparable ability who are not currently achieving at equal academic levels.

Madam Chairman, student accountability is very important; however, if we are to hold all students to the same high standards, we must provide all students with the same level of opportunity to reach those high standards. In particular among minority and underserved communities, it is clear that providing children a quality education will take more than just imposing rigorous testing standards and stringent teacher evaluations. Indeed, it will take a village including school staff, parents, business and community leaders, legislators, and other education groups to fulfill our responsibility of helping a diverse array of students meet high standards. We all know that not all students are situated equally financially, socially or emotionally. Many students are severely limited in their level of academic achievement by virtue of their low-income and impoverished financial status.

Madam Chairman, minority students also have cultural and language limitations. It is extremely crucial to remember that improving educational achievements within minority and underserved communities requires the need to address culture, language, and economic differences within the educational curriculum. Helping learners make the link between their culture and the new knowledge and skills they encounter inside school is at the heart of ensuring that all students achieve at high levels. In addition, appreciation of diverse cultures is a philosophical concept built on the American ideals of freedom, justice, equality, equity, and human dignity.

We have the opportunity to truly make a difference in student achievement among all our children and leave absolutely no child behind if we provide: free, universal preschool; smaller class sizes; a qualified and caring teacher in every classroom; a challenging curriculum; ample resources for all public schools, including those that serve poor and minority students; involved parents.

We can achieve this through my amendment. I strongly urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment which will give the disadvantaged students in this country the chance to perform at the highest peak of their educational potentials.

TABLE 1.—EVENT DROPOUT RATES AND NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF 15- THROUGH 24–YEAR-OLDS WHO DROPPED OUT OF GRADES 10–12, BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS: OCTOBER 2005

Characteristic	Event dropout rate (percent)	Number of event dropouts (thousands)	Population enrolled (thousands)	Percent of all dropouts	Percent of population enrolled
Total	3.8	414	10,870	100.0	100.0
Sex					
Male	4.2	233	5,515	56.3	50.7
Female	3.4	181	5,355	43.7	49.3
Race/ethnicity					
White, non-Hispanic	2.8	196	6,897	47.3	63.5
Black, non-Hispanic	7.3	112	1,538	27.2	14.1
Hispanic	5.0	86	1,717	20.8	15.8
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	1.6	6	411	1.5	3.8
More than one race	4.9	12	241	2.9	2.2
Family income					
Low income	8.9	137	1,544	33.1	14.2
Middle income	3.8	228	5,990	55.2	55.1
High income	1.5	49	3,326	11.7	30.6
Age					
15–16	2.1	72	3,347	17.4	30.8
17	2.4	93	3,797	22.5	34.9
18	3.9	105	2,693	25.3	24.8
19	9.1	64	702	15.4	6.5
20–24	24.4	81	331	19.5	3.0
Recency of immigration					
Born outside the 50 states and District of Columbia.					
Hispanic	5.9	25	418	6.0	3.8
Non-Hispanic	5.0	22	440	5.3	4.0
First generation.					
Hispanic	5.5	40	738	9.8	6.8
Non-Hispanic	1.2	9	759	2.2	7.0
Second generation or higher.					
Hispanic	3.7	21	562	5.0	5.2
Non-Hispanic	3.7	297	7,954	71.8	73.2
Region.					
Northeast	3.8	79	2,074	19.1	19.1
Midwest	3.1	80	2,570	19.4	23.6
South	4.4	165	3,754	39,9	34.5
West	3.6	90	2,472	21.7	22.7

TEXAS PARENTS, TEACHERS UNHAPPY WITH STANDARDIZED TESTING

GEORGETOWN.—Parents and educators told school trustees they think the state's standardized achievement tests place too much stress on children and limit what they learn.

Speakers complained about the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills and the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills at a forum held Tuesday by the school board to hear from the public on topics that included elementary grade alignment and teachers salaries.

The TAAS, and the TAKS—which replaces the TAAS in the spring, measure students skills in core subjects. The Texas Education Agency uses exam scores to rate districts and campuses. . . .

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

Mr. OBEY. I move to strike the last word

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. I would simply say again that on this side of the aisle we have no objection to the gentlewoman's amendment.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALSH of New York. We have no objection to the amendment. We accept the amendment.

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

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Chairman, I rise not to oppose this legislation but to raise a very serious concern about a provision in the bill to mandate that the National Institutes of Health, NIH, change its public access policy for journal articles. Under this provision, the current, voluntary program to provide journal articles to NIH will now become a federally mandated requirement that private and nonprofit sector copyright owners provide their materials for posting—free-of-charge—by NIH on its publicly available websites.

I sympathize with the laudable goal of widely disseminating the results of publicly-funded research that comprises some of the information contained in these journals. And I am pleased to note that the bill does contain language stating "that the NIH shall implement the public access policy in a manner consistent with copyright law." I trust that this provision will mean that the agency must cooperate with journal owners and authors to assure that their rights are fully protected and that they receive just compensation for this use of their works.

However, I believe this new mandate will have unintended and negative consequences and will set worrisome precedents that may in the future actually diminish the amount of scientific, technical and medical information available to the public. By severely restricting the scope of protection for a critical class of copyrighted works, this provision could ultimately reduce incentives for publishers to continue to make substantial investments in conducting peer review of research prior to publication.

Finally, this provision could send a mixed message to our trading partners about the importance of intellectual property rights, IPR, to our economy. Such a message may make it difficult to advocate strong IPR protection and enforcement abroad, including the U.S. government's efforts to spread respect for IPR abroad and slow the trend in compulsory licensing of pharmaceutical patents by other nations.

Because this provision contains significant implications for IPR, the Committee on the Judiciary should have been given an opportunity to hold a hearing to further explore the complex issues involved.

Mr. STARK. Madam Chairman, I rise today in strong support of making quality education and health care available to our children. The last 6 years of Republican budgets created numerous human deficits—in health care, education, child care, and social services. This bill takes America in a new direction, beginning to fill those deficits with long overdue investments in Pell Grants, Head Start, public and special education programs and community health centers.

President Bush has threatened to veto this bill because he claims it is fiscally irresponsible. Only in an absurd parallel universe, where Iraq really had weapons of mass destruction, would increasing the amount of Pell Grants so that low-income students can afford college be considered irresponsible. Only in a fictional world, where abstinence-only education actually works, could increasing funding for childcare and Head Start be irresponsible.

In the real world, these investments will generate valuable returns for—our children and our country. Passage of this bill is essential to repairing the safety net and providing our children with the world class education they need to become engaged and productive citizens.

It is critical for the future of public education that the federal government provide states with the support they need to meet the laudable, but difficult goals set by President Bush's own No Child Left Behind Act, NCLB. Unfortunately, the President has negligently underfunded his own law by $50 million. This bill provides a $2 billion increase in K–12 education funding, rejects the President's proposed cuts for special education programs for the 6.9 million students with disabilities, and expands the Child Care Block Grant by $75 million.

Today's legislation also takes a small step toward improving our broken health care system, in which tens of millions of people are uninsured or underinsured. It expands access to health care for 1.2 million people by funding community health centers and state health access grants. This bill also makes overdue investments in the National Institutes of Health

by providing funds for 545 new research grants. Such grants fund breakthrough discoveries that can dramatically decrease suffering and disease.

I hope my colleagues recognize that this bill paves the way for a healthier, better educated, and more compassionate society and urge them to join me in voting yes.

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Chairman, I come to the floor today to compliment the Chairman of the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill, Mr. OBEY, on preparing an excellent and well-balanced appropriations bill. The large number of meritorious programs included in this bill creates difficult choices and the Chairman has done a great job balancing the competing interests and preparing a good bill for consideration in the full House.

However, on behalf of my constituents I feel compelled to express one concern with regard to language in the bill that would require NIH funded scientists to submit to the NIH their peer-reviewed manuscripts approved for journal publication. While I believe it is important to expand access to articles on government sponsored research, my concern is that such a mandatory policy could harm some nonprofit scientific societies that depend largely on income generated by their journal publications.

A mandatory policy like this could harm journal publishers who make substantial private-sector investments in the peer review, publishing, dissemination and archiving of these research articles. Scientific societies foster and promote our Nation's scientific endeavor, and these societies and their contributions to science should be protected.

I have a substantial scientific publishing organization, the American Institute of Physics, in my district, in Melville, New York. The American Institute of Physics, AIP, was established in 1931 for the purpose of promoting physics and its application to human welfare. AIP is a 501(c)(3) membership corporation of ten physical science and astronomy societies serving a combined membership of more than 125,000 scientists, engineers and students. AIP is a large publisher of physics journals and produces publications of more than 25 scientific and engineering societies through its New York-based publishing division. My concerns on this issue are to protect and support our Nation's scientific infrastructure and a viable export industry. The issue has been highlighted for me by my constituents in Melville, NY.

I also want to voice concerns with the rescission of $335 million from unexpended Workforce Investment Act, WIA, funds included in the bill. I fully support increasing funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Act, IDEA, the program this rescinded WIA funding was redirected towards in an amendment during full committee consideration of the bill. I've advocated for increasing funding for IDEA since I first came to Congress in 2000. However, I am concerned about the use of WIA as an offset.

Unexpended WIA funding is not actually "unspent carryover." It is either obligated for services, such as training, or set aside to respond to mass layoffs and other unpredictable economic events. And the Government Accountability Office, in a study on WIA expenditures, found that WIA funds are spent "much faster than required under the law." WIA regulations give local governments three years to spend Title I–B Adult and two years to spend Youth and Dedicated Worker funds. Local governments have been complying with the law.

Further, carryover was an intentional spending strategy built into WIA as a planned management strategy to assure proper and consistent operation of the workforce system. Since the WIA system must respond to unforeseen economic events such as plant closings, mass layoffs or disaster relief, some funds must be held in reserve to enable immediate response.

This rescission could impact the local workforce system and their ability to train workers. It is estimated that my state's share of the national rescission would be nearly $28 million.

I recognize the tough choices we need to make in a difficult budget environment and believe the Chairman prepared an excellent bill which I was proud to support in committee and I am proud to support today on the floor. And again, I fully support an increase in funding for IDEA. However, I wanted to express this concern regarding WIA rescissions and highlight the impact it can have on states like mine.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) having assumed the chair, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 3 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until today, Thursday, July 19, 2007, 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:

2581. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Diuron; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0559; FRL-8133-2] received June 22, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2582. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Tobacco Mild Green Mosaic Tobamovirus (TMGMV); Temporary Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0313; FRL-8134-5] received June 22, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2583. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Buprofezin; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0821; FRL-8133-1] received June 22, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2584. A letter from the Liaison Officer, DoD 6/15/2007, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension [DoD-2006-OS-0137] (RIN: 0790-AH97) received June 27, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2585. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Idaho and Washington; Interstate Transport of Pollution [EPA-R10-OAR-2007-0110; FRL-8330-9] received June 22, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2586. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Iowa [EPA-R07-OAR-2007-0457; FRL-8330-7] received June 22, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2587. A letter from the Legal Advisor to the Bureau Chief, WTB, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — In the Matter of Service Rules for the 698-806 MHz Band and Revision of the Commission's Rules Regarding Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems, Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones and Public Safety Spectrum Requirements [WT Docket No. 06-150 CC Docket No. 94-102 WT Docket No. 01-309 WT Docket No. 03-264 WT Docket No. 06-169 PS Docket No. 06-229 WT Docket No. 96-86] received June 7, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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. MILLER, GEORGE: Committee on Education and Labor. H.R. 2831. A bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to clarify that a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice that is unlawful under such Acts occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to the discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 110–237). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. OLIVER: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 3074. A bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes (Rept. 110–238). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. MILLER, GEORGE: Committee on Education and Labor. H.R. 2693. A bill to direct the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to issue a standard regulating worker exposure to diacetyl; with an amendment (Rept. 110–239). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. DAVIS of Alabama):

H.R. 3073. A bill to provide a mechanism for the determination on the merits of the claims of claimants who met the class criteria in a civil action relating to racial discrimination by the Department of Agriculture but who were denied that determination; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. BOOZMAN:

H.R. 3075. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to allow States to count certain students formerly identified as limited English proficient as being within the limited English proficient subgroup, and certain students formerly identified as students with disabilities as being within the students with disabilities subgroup; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BOOZMAN:

H.R. 3076. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to allow States to adopt alternate and modified standards for students with disabilities; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. JONES of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. TAYLOR, and Mr. PAUL):

H.R. 3077. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure the safety of imported seafood and seafood products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MAHONEY of Florida (for himself, Mr. EMANUEL, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, and Mr. KLEIN of Florida):

H.R. 3078. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to require screening, including national criminal history background checks, of direct patient access employees of skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, and other long-term care facilities and providers, and to provide for nationwide expansion of the pilot program for national and State background checks on direct patient access employees of long-term care facilities or providers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, 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 Mrs. CHRISTENSEN (for herself and Mr. RAHALL):

H.R. 3079. A bill to amend the Joint Resolution Approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. TURNER (for himself and Mrs. JONES of Ohio):

H.R. 3080. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the remediation of contaminated sites; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ELLISON (for himself, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, and Ms. WOOLSEY):

H.R. 3081. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to protect consumers from certain practices in connection with the origination of consumer credit transactions secured by the consumer's principal dwelling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. CARSON:

H.R. 3082. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the time limitation for the use of entitlement to educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill for certain persons actively pursuing a qualifying educational degree or certificate; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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. INSLEE:

H.R. 3083. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to establish deadlines by which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall issue a decision on whether to grant certain waivers of preemption under that Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 3084. A bill to require the Food and Drug Administration to establish a standard for broad-spectrum protection in sunscreen products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SLAUGHTER:

H.R. 3085. A bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to assess and reduce the levels of lead found in child-occupied facilities in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SNYDER:

H.R. 3086. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide, in the case of certain widows and widowers whose judicial survivors' annuities are terminated on account of remarriage, for the restoration of benefits upon the dissolution of the remarriage; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TANNER (for himself, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. COSTA, and Ms. SCHWARTZ):

H.R. 3087. A bill to require the President, in coordination with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other senior military leaders, to develop and transmit to Congress a comprehensive strategy for the redeployment of United States Armed Forces in Iraq; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. TERRY (for himself, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. SOUDER, and Mr. SAXTON):

H.R. 3088. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that distributions from an individual retirement plan, a section 401(k) plan, a section 403(b) contract, or a section 457 plan shall not be includible in gross income to the extent used to pay long-term care insurance premiums; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THORNBERRY:

H.R. 3089. A bill to secure unrestricted reliable energy for American consumption and transmission; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and 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. WILSON of Ohio (for himself, Mr. ROSS, and Mr. BERRY):

H.R. 3090. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to limit to class II narcotics the required use of tamper-resistant prescription pads under the Medicaid Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. WOOLSEY:

H.R. 3091. A bill to establish the Patsy T. Mink Graduate Fellow program; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BROWN of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. SPRATT, and Mr. CLYBURN):

H. Con. Res. 186. Concurrent resolution honoring the 75th anniversary of Brookgreen Gardens in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. EMANUEL (for himself and Mr. EHLERS):

H. Con. Res. 187. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the dumping of industrial waste into the Great Lakes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself and Mr. LANTOS):

H. Con. Res. 188. Concurrent resolution condemning the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in July 1994, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CLAY:

H. Res. 555. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Minority Donor Awareness Day; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HULSHOF:

H. Res. 556. A resolution recognizing the Winston Churchill Memorial and Library in Fulton, Missouri, as ''America's National Churchill Museum'', and commending its efforts to recognize the importance of the historic legacy of Sir Winston Churchill and to educate the people of the United States about his legacy of character, leadership, and citizenship; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

104. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Colorado, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 07-003 supporting the passage of the 2007 Farm Bill and continuing support for the federal food stamp program; to the Committee on Agriculture.

105. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Hawaii, relative to House Resolution No. 91 requesting that the Congress of the United States support the passage of the National Guard Empowerment Act of 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

106. Also, a memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 19 urging the Congress of the United States to provide funds to transport comfort items on military transports; to the Committee on Armed Services.

107. Also, a memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 6 urging the Congress of the United States to support the establishment of the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

108. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Nevada, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 13 urging the Congress of the United States to provide additional appropriations or any other form of assistance to federal agencies and the State of Nevada for the prevention and suppression of wildfires and the rehabilitation of public rangelands destroyed by wildfires in Nevada; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

109. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Hawaii, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 190 requesting the Congress of the United States enact H.R. 1287 and S. 671 relating to Filipino Family reunification, or similar legislation, to provide

priority issuance of visas to Filipino veterans' children with approved immigration petitions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

110. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7 urging the Congress of the United States fully fund the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

111. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7 urging the Congress of the United States to fully fund the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

112. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Louisiana, relative to Senate Resolution No. 53 memorializing the Congress of the United States and requesting the federal administration fulfill the commitment to the citizens of Louisiana to fully fund recovery from damages resulting from hurricanes Katrina and Rita; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

113. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Florida, relative to Senate Memorial 1680 urging the Congress of the United States to authorize improvements to bring the Herbert Hoover Dike into compliance with current levee protection standards and to authorize funding to expedite the improvements; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

114. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Hawaii, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 58 requesting all branches of the United States Government prohibit the dumping of vessel sewage in federal waters in the vicinity of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whate National Marine Sanctuary; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

115. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Maine, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 1354 memorializing the Congress of the United States to raise the weight limit on Interstate 95; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

116. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, relative to House Resolution No. 96 expressing opposition to Norfolk Southern Corporation's proposed sale of its rail line between Lansing and Jackson; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

117. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Arizona, relative to Senate Memorial No. 1005 urging the Congress of the United States to take action regarding space exploration; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

118. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Texas, relative to Senate Resolution No. 594 memorializing the Congress of the United States to support legislation for veterans' health care budget reform to allow assured funding; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

119. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, relative to House Resolution No. 53 memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to increase funding for veterans health programs and to reform budget practices to assure that veterans health care needs are addressed by direct rather than discretionary funding; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

120. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Hawaii, relative to House Resolution No. 63 requesting the Congress of the United States to create a replacement for the outdated fast track trade authority system so that United States Trade Agreements are developed and implemented using a more democratic, inclusive mechanism that enshrines the principles of federalism and state sovereignty; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

121. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Maine, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 1352 memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact the Social Security Fairness Act of 2007; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

122. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Maine, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 1359 memorializing the Federal Aviation Administration and the Congress of the United States to oppose certain federal aviation legislation; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Ways and Means.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. SNYDER introduced a bill (H.R. 3092) for the relief of Kimberly Ruth; which was referred 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. 23: Mr. LUCAS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. WALDEN of Oregon.
H.R. 135: Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 207: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 281: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H.R. 303: Mr. KELLER of Florida.
H.R. 500: Mr. RADANOVICH.
H.R. 503: Ms. HARMAN.
H.R. 513: Mr. PITTS and Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.
H.R. 522: Mr. ROTHMAN.
H.R. 563: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.
H.R. 678: Mr. WEXLER.
H.R. 743: Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, and Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.
H.R. 777: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 864: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 887: Mr. DUNCAN.
H.R. 891: Mr. WEXLER.
H.R. 901: Mr. ARCURI.
H.R. 920: Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 946: Mr. ELLISON and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 969: Mr. LOBIONDO, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 989: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
H.R. 997: Mr. PETRI and Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 1078: Mr. SAXTON.
H.R. 1102: Mr. STUPAK and Mr. HOLDEN.
H.R. 1177: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN.
H.R. 1190: Mr. SHAYS, Ms. WATSON, and Ms. FALLIN.
H.R. 1201: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 1216: Mr. MCNULTY.
H.R. 1222: Mr. KAGEN, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 1223: Mr. KAGEN, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 1248: Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1363: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. FILNER, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, Mr. MEEKS of New York, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 1376: Mr. WAXMAN.
H.R. 1399: Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, and Mrs. MYRICK.
H.R. 1400: Mr. FURTUÑO.
H.R. 1416: Mr. MEEKS of New York.
H.R. 1422: Mr. LOBIONDO.
H.R. 1439: Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 1440: Mr. WAMP and Mr. PASTOR.
H.R. 1459: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 1464: Mr. WEXLER.
H.R. 1514: Mr. CARNAHAN and Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota.
H.R. 1520: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1644: Mr. FILNER, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 1647: Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. WATERS, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. REYES.
H.R. 1687: Mr. PUTNAM and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 1691: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 1713: Mr. RANGEL and Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 1732: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 1738: Mr. ISRAEL and Mr. HALL of Texas.
H.R. 1754: Mr. GORDON.
H.R. 1756: Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 1760: Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H.R. 1769: Mr. SALI.
H.R. 1818: Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1843: Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 1845: Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. MCINTYRE, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. LATHAM, and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1890: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 1937: Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. COBLE, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 1940: Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 1971: Mr. WEXLER.
H.R. 1992: Mr. OBERSTAR and Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 2003: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. ANDREWS.
H.R. 2049: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 2054: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN.
H.R. 2060: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California and Mr. MILLER of North Carolina.
H.R. 2075: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 2092: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. SIRES, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. CLAY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HARE, Mr. WEXLER, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 2095: Mr. WEXLER and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 2102: Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Ms. WATSON.
H.R. 2111: Mr. WEXLER.
H.R. 2158: Mrs. CUBIN.
H.R. 2210: Mr. WU.
H.R. 2211: Mr. WEXLER and Mr. BERMAN.
H.R. 2231: Mr. MICHAUD, Mrs. MYRICK, and Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 2238: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2249: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H.R. 2250: Mr. BURTON of Indiana and Mr. TANCREDO.
H.R. 2265: Mr. OLVER.
H.R. 2327: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 2341: Mr. BOREN.
H.R. 2365: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ and Mr. BAKER.
H.R. 2370: Mr. REYNOLDS and Mr. ROSKAM.
H.R. 2380: Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. WOLF, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. WICKER, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. MICA, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. REICHERT, and Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 2449: Mr. DEFAZIO and Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H.R. 2499: Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 2578: Mr. LUCAS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 2610: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. ACKERMAN.
H.R. 2611: Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H.R. 2683: Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 2685: Mr. DONNELLY and Mr. LAMPSON.
H.R. 2686: Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. LAMPSON.

H.R. 2699: Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 2702: Mr. WYNN.
H.R. 2706: Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 2723: Mrs. CAPPS and Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 2729: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 2734: Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. BARTON of Texas, and Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 2746: Mr. WEXLER.
H.R. 2758: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 2762: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. BOREN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. FILNER, and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 2778: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 2794: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 2809: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 2850: Mr. GILCHREST.
H.R. 2857: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 2870: Ms. SOLIS.
H.R. 2874: Mr. ALLEN, Mr. SPACE, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, and Mr. WELCH of Vermont.
H.R. 2883: Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 2884: Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. KAGEN.
H.R. 2895: Mr. WALSH of New York, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. FARR, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 2905: Mr. PETRI and Mr. WELLER.
H.R. 2910: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 2922: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN.
H.R. 2925: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 2926: Ms. NORTON, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. LEE, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. WYNN, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RUSH, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CLYBURN, Ms. KILPATRICK, and Mr. TOWNS.
H.R. 2927: Mr. BACA, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. MCCOTTER, Ms. CARSON, Mr. RENZI, Mr. PITTS, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. MATHESON, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. MAHONEY of Florida, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BILBRAY, and Mr. POMEROY.
H.R. 2930: Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.
H.R. 2933: Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 2934: Mr. LAMPSON and Mr. HILL.
H.R. 2943: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 2954: Mr. DUNCAN and Mr. SULLIVAN.
H.R. 2960: Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 2966: Mr. HALL of New York.
H.R. 3035: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. HOLT, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 3037: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 3041: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 3046: Mr. CARTER.
H.R. 3051: Mr. UDALL of Colorado.
H.R. 3059: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.
H. Con. Res. 75: Mr. BAIRD.
H. Con. Res. 137: Mr. AKIN.
H. Con. Res. 138: Mr. WEXLER and Mr. CALVERT.
H. Con. Res. 162: Mr. CARNEY.
H. Con. Res. 163: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H. Con. Res. 176: Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. WALBERG.
H. Con. Res. 183: Mr. BONNER.
H. Res. 32: Mr. COHEN, Mr. STARK, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H. Res. 34: Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. BARROW, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. KAPTUR, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H. Res. 106: Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HERGER, and Mr. ARCURI.
H. Res. 111: Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. WICKER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.
H. Res. 148: Mr. FORTUÑO.
H. Res. 235: Mr. MARSHALL and Mr. KAGEN.
H. Res. 373: Mr. PAYNE and Mr. MCCOTTER.
H. Res. 442: Mr. WALSH of New York.
H. Res. 443: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. TIERNEY, Ms. HOOLEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. OLVER, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. FILNER, Mr. ORTIZ, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 489: Mr. FILNER.
H. Res. 508: Mr. ROYCE, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. TURNER, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. WAMP, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. COOPER, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. LINDER, Mr. AKIN, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. SHADEGG.
H. Res. 528: Mr. CLAY, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. CASTOR, Ms. GIFFORDS, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. WU, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. COHEN, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. BEAN, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. HOOLEY, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. KIND, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. COOPER, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. SPACE, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. HILL.
H. Res. 539: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H. Res. 541: Mr. UDALL of Colorado.
H. Res. 549: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H. Res. 553: Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. WOLF, Mr. CULBERSON, Mrs. EMERSON, and Mr. MARCHANT.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

98. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Commission of the City of Key West, Florida, relative to Resolution No. 07-168 requesting the Congress of the United States appropriate funds necessary to bring the Herbert Hoover Dike into compliance with current levee protection safety standards; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 3043

OFFERED BY: MR. FERGUSON

AMENDMENT NO. 66: Page 63, line 4, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000) (increased by $10,000,000)''.

H.R. 3043

OFFERED BY: MR. PENCE

AMENDMENT NO. 67: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available under this Act shall be available to Planned Parenthood for any purpose under title X of the Public Health Services Act.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING THE ST. MARY'S COLLEGE SAILING TEAM ON WINNING TWO 2007 NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, as the Washington Post so aptly put It last month, ''tiny colleges in rural Southern Maryland aren't supposed to win national championships in anything.'' But apparently, no one told that to the young men and women of the St. Mary's College sailing team, who won two out of the three legs of the NCAA sailing ''triple crown'' in 2007.

The Lady Seahawks swept the national title in convincing fashion—besting the next closest competitor by 44 points—and leading sailor and Olympic hopeful, Adrienne Patterson, was named female sailor of the year. In the team race, St. Mary's prevailed in a much closer battle, beating a very strong Yale team by a score of 12 to 11. And while the Seahawk sailors fell just short of their goal of winning all three major sailing championships in one year by taking the coed national title as well, they still managed to finish sixth in that leg of the competition and cement their place among the elite sailing teams throughout all of the NCAA.

St. Mary's College had won 10 national titles entering the 2007 season—and its performance in this year's NCAA championships is proof positive its legacy of greatness is not only intact, but growing stronger with each passing year.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the 2007 St. Mary's College Seahawks, their fans, their friends and their families. And I wish them all continued success in whatever life holds in store.

PASSPORT BACKLOG REDUCTION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation. The passport backlog has affected millions of people's travel plans, and I know in Houston, our district offices have been receiving calls on nearly a daily basis from constituents whose travel plans have been affected by the delay.

I visited the Houston Passport Office last month, and was amazed to learn people were arriving there hours before the office opened in order to get service. The staff at the Houston office has been working nights and weekends to clear the backlog, but there is only so much they can do.

Despite having known this increase would be coming since Congress passed the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, the Administration did not prepare for this increase and as a result, State Department employees and the American public is paying the price.

This was only the first phase of implementing the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative—the second phase, which will require all individuals traveling to or from the United States by land and sea, could see an even larger demand for passports, especially in border states like Texas where people have friends and family across the border.

Last week, Maura Harty, Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Consular Affairs, testified in front of the House Foreign Affairs Committee that her office anticipates the demand for passports will continue to grow and will be approximately 23 million in 200, and as high as 30 million by 2010.

The State Department must now do what they should have done over the last six months to a year, and hire additional employees to handle what appears will be a permanent increase in the number of passport applications they will be receiving annually.

This bill alleviates some of the backlog, but the State Department needs to ensure they have the people and systems in place to prevent this from happening in the future. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting S. 966.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on rollcall vote number 621, agreeing to H. Res. 533 which was to provide for consideration of H.R. 2956. Had I been present, I would have voted ''nay.''

PASSPORT BACKLOG REDUCTION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, S. 966 will help provide relief for the massive influx of passport applications due to a change in passport rules. This problem has frustrated many constituents in all of our districts.

Last week, the House Foreign Affairs Committee held a hearing focusing on this issue. As a result of questions I raised, it became apparent to Members of the Committee that the demands on the Bureau of Consular Affairs to get passports to Americans as fast as possible does raise fraud concerns. While the number of adjudicators has gone up, the number charged with investigating passport fraud, has not.

In that respect, I'd like to thank Chairman LANTOS for including additional language that would allow for the hiring of retirees to assist in investigation of fraud in connection with an application for a passport. These additional investigators are critical, as many times they uncover a broader fraud ring. We should be able to serve Americans in a timely matter and ensure their security. This bill will help do that.

PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE COOPERATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2007

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, yesterday, the House voted on a measure that would require public sector employees at the State and local level to set up a system of monopoly bargaining. H.R. 980, the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act, is well-intended, as are most bills that come before this body. Yet its effects would be profoundly negative, both on fire and police departments nationwide and on the way Congress operates with respect to our most fundamental allegiance, the Federal Constitution.

As we all know, the tenth amendment to the Constitution states, ''The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved for the States respectively, or to the people.'' Yet with H.R. 980, Congress is plainly overriding carefully crafted State labor laws with a single stroke. This bill dictates to States how they must deal with unionization issues, which is a serious abridgement of the role of Congress envisioned by our Founders.

We took an oath here, Madam Speaker—an oath to uphold a Constitution that does not give us the power to ride roughshod over States whenever it strikes our fancy.

Moreover, the practical effect of this legislation would be disastrous. As the International Chiefs of Police have noted, ''By mandating a 'one-size fits all' approach to labor-management relations, H.R. 980 ignores the fact that every jurisdiction has unique needs and therefore requires the freedom to manage its public safety workforce in the manner that they have determined to be the most effective.''

Worse yet, H.R. 980 would give the Federal Labor Relations Board the responsibility of overseeing labor-management laws in virtually every jurisdiction in the Nation, from municipalities to counties to States.

Not only is Congress extending its meddling arms into matters reserved by the Constitution for the States, but now, some of my friends across the aisle want to cut funding for the only Federal agency that reviews union

abuses. As John Fund put it in the Wall Street Journal, "The new Democratic Congress has finally found a government agency whose budget it wants to cut: an obscure Labor Department office that monitors the compliance of unions with federal law."

Allow me to quote Mr. Fund at some length:

In the past six years, the Office of Labor Management Standards, or OLMS, has helped secure the convictions of 775 corrupt union officials and court-ordered restitution to union members of over $70 million in dues. The House is set to vote Thursday on a proposal to chop 20% from the OLMS budget. Every other Labor Department enforcement agency is due for a budget increase, and overall the Congress has added $935 million to the Bush administration's budget request for Labor. The only office the Democrats want to cut back is the one engaged in union oversight . . . GOP Rep. John Kline of Minnesota will offer an amendment Thursday to restore $3 million of the $11 million planned cutback in OLMS's budget, so its budget would merely be restored to its 2007 level. Whatever sums are spent on union disclosure reports appear to be a good investment. Unions held $22 billion in assets in 2005, and you'd think that a modest enforcement budget, representing less than 0.003% of that amount shouldn't be the only target for cuts by budget appropriators.

Madam Speaker, allowing workers to determine whether or not they wish to join unions is consistent with the American principle of personal freedom and self-determination. A Federal law concerning public sector union membership that would render State laws irrelevant is unconstitutional, reckless, and unnecessary. And reducing funding for the one Federal agency that pursues notorious union corruption is incomprehensible in its own right—but especially coming from a new majority that heralds its own allegiance to the highest ethical standards.

These things must not be allowed. These are matters of "liberty and justice for all" we must not take lightly.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 607–629 I was absent. I would like the RECORD to show that, had I been present, I would have voted as follows: 607—"no"; 608—"no"; 609—"yes"; 610—"yes"; 611—"yes"; 612—"yes"; 613—"yes"; 614—"yes"; 615—"no"; 616—"yes"; 617—"yes"; 618—"yes"; 619—"yes"; 620—"no"; 621—"no"; 622—"no"; 623—"no"; 624—"no"; 625—"no"; 626—"no"; 627—"yes"; 628—"yes"; 629—"yes."

PROMOTING AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL AND MEDICAL EXPORTS TO CUBA ACT OF 2007

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues in Congress to lend support to The Promoting American Agricultural and Medical Exports to Cuba Act of 2007 (H.R. 2819). This bill addresses several important issues related to our relationship with Cuba and is intended to remove obstacles to legitimate transactions.

First, it removes pre-payment requirement for U.S. agricultural exports to Cuba. It also allows for direct payments to U.S. banks for purchases by Cuba, instead of third-country banks. From 2000 to 2004, American agricultural producers were allowed to embark on a trading relationship with Cuba. During the 4 year period, agricultural trade with Cuba grew from nothing to being a $380 million dollar trading industry. However through sanctions placed by the administration, this lucrative trading relationship was terminated after the administration placed barriers. Our American agricultural producers have potential to gain much-needed sales revenue in the Cuban market. Our agricultural sector has recently experienced declining sales numbers. Cuba, a new trading partner, will be a good customer and revitalize this area. It seems illogical that while other nations are taking advantage of this lucrative trading opportunity, the administration is denying us access to this opportunity. This bill is about America's right to prosper by participating and competing in international trade.

This legislation provides for the lift of the travel ban and also for the expedited issuance of U.S. visas for Cubans involved in agricultural purchases. As Americans, we pride ourselves on how our liberties are protected and respected by our government. However, banning American citizens to travel to Cuba is a blatant infringement on our democratic freedom to travel without restrictions. It is not appropriate for the government to prevent citizens to visit Cuba. Also, Cuban Americans should have the right to visit their native country without limitations placed on them. Scholars, architects, travelers and students should have an opportunity for cultural exchanges with Cuba.

Another provision included in the bill would eliminate on-site verification requirements for U.S. medicines and medical supplies, which currently is a major impediment on sales. This restriction makes the process of exporting medical goods more costly and difficult.

This act would recognize certain Cuban trademarks, while protecting U.S. trademarks there, by repealing Section 211 of the FY 1999 Omnibus Appropriations Act, which bars U.S. courts from hearing claims by foreign nationals asserting rights to trademarks similar to or associated with expropriated property. Section 211 currently violates the regulations of the World Trade Organization. Cuba has recently threatened to not uphold trademark protection for American companies because of the unfair balance between our country and theirs.

Finally, it also provides proceeds to fund an agricultural export promotion program for agricultural export promotion activities with respect to Cuba during a 5 year period. It is imperative that we find new markets to income opportunities for our farming community; therefore, this bill provides for support of an Agricultural Export Promotion Program with respect to Cuba to be administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This bill would allow us to achieve this.

It is time to depart from our flawed foreign policy on Cuba and normalize our relations with this nation. I strongly urge you to join me in Promoting the American Agricultural and Medical Exports to Cuba Act in 2007.

TRIBUTE TO THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARIN COMMUNITY CLINIC

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 35th anniversary of the Marin Community Clinic. The Marin Community Clinic has consistently provided high quality primary care to the residents of the community since 1972. Originally established as a free clinic in a Mill Valley Community Church, Marin Community Clinic has grown to become a federally qualified health center serving as a critical source of health care for all residents across Marin County who cannot afford medical insurance.

Throughout my district and across the Nation, the need for health care services among low income and uninsured residents continues to grow. Many residents who cannot afford care turn to hospital emergency rooms as their only health care option. Not only does this fail to meet the needs of patients, it also dramatically increases the costs of health care for everyone. Designed to offer a more cost-effective and affordable option than emergency rooms for non-emergency care, Marin Community Clinic receives at least 5–15 referrals from hospitals every day.

Marin Community Clinic also serves as a medical home to over 13,000 patients each year, 95 percent of whom live within 200 percent of the Federal poverty level. Between 1991 and 2007, patient visits have increased from 5,000 to nearly 50,000 annually, representing a 9-fold increase. Currently, 75 percent of the Clinic's patients are women and children. Today, Marin Community Clinic operates one clinic on the grounds of Marin General Hospital in Greenbrae and another clinic in Novato for residents of northern Marin. Next year, the organization plans to open a third clinic in San Rafael to respond to the growing community need for health care and dental services in the community.

As the clinic has grown, the organization has also developed a unique model of care that integrates physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, mental health clinicians, and case workers to deliver high quality, compassionate care. In addition, Marin Community Clinic also provides preventive health education for early breast cancer detection and for patients with chronic conditions like asthma, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Marin Community Clinic also operates a "Reach Out and Read" literacy program for children.

I commend Marin Community Clinic for their dedication, commitment and outstanding service for the citizens of Marin County during the last 35 years and I look forward to their continued success in meeting the health care needs with quality care for many more years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows: July 16, 2007—rollcall vote 630, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1980, to authorize appropriations for the Housing Assistance Council—I would have voted ''aye'', rollcall vote 631, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 1982, the Rural Housing and Economic Development Improvement Act of 2007, I would have voted ''aye'', rollcall vote 632, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 799, Appalachian Regional Development Act Amendments—I would have voted ''nay.''

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE CAROL ANN CAMPBELL

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor my dear friend and City Councilwoman, the Honorable Carol Ann Campbell. Just like the distinguished Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Carol Ann is the scion of a great political family. Her early years at the side of her father, the famous Edgar Campbell, prepared her well for her future leadership role. But it is her inner strength that plays the biggest part in making her who she is.

Everyone who knows Carol Campbell knows that she is a force of nature. Her drive and tenacity are matched only by her compassion and her loyalty. She has devoted her life to helping others. Her dedication to her neighbors led to tremendous public investment in her district during her time in City Council. Her advocacy on behalf of the African American community led to election of record numbers of judges and other officials. She has been the confidant of speakers, mayors, and governors and of presidents. And I am proud to say that she is my advisor, my strongest supporter and my best friend.

Madam Speaker, there aren't enough hours in the day to list the accomplishments of this great lady. But, I am proud to ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting her today.

HONORING UNITED PARCEL SERVICE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my home town of Louisville's largest employer and one of its greatest corporate citizens: The United Parcel Service, UPS. For one quarter of UPS's 100 year history, it has located its international hub in Louisville, Kentucky forging a partnership that has facilitated tremendous growth for both the company and our city.

Louisville has undoubtedly been good for UPS. They have built a four million square feet facility that processes more than 300,000 packages an hour, using 122 miles of conveyor belt and enough fiber optic cable to stretch from coast to coast four times. UPS went public with the highest initial public offering in the history of the New York Stock Exchange, reached a milestone that saw its services reach an astounding two-thirds of the world's six billion people, and—keeping with the times—just won the Clean Air Excellence Award for its ''Green Fleet'', which has logged more than 100 million miles.

But UPS has also been very good for Louisville. Let me tell you a little bit about what Brown has done for us.

UPS employs 20,000 members of our community and will hire 5,000 more after it completes a one billion dollar renovation to our airport—only the latest major improvement at least in part due to UPS's influence. But that is just a fraction of the story. Because they are not merely jobs, but good ones. We are fortunate that our largest employer pays wages on which a family can be raised, health benefits for personnel, and even college tuition for part-time workers. Through the Metropolitan partnership with the city and area universities, UPS has paid the tuition for thousands of Louisville students, giving them a chance to pursue fulfilling careers at UPS while earning a college degree.

Of the four billion people around the world who benefit from UPS, few can claim the advantages we gain in Louisville—not just the employees, but all who are helped by their economic development initiatives, community service, and commitment to our community. I congratulate UPS—the world's largest package delivery company—on its first successful century and hope that the next one yields continued success in our home of Louisville, Kentucky.

PASSPORT BACKLOG REDUCTION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, despite the backlog of passport applications and the lack of sufficient staff to accommodate the workload, passport agency personnel have done a remarkable job of assisting my constituents in getting passports. The National Passport Information Center, the Washington, DC, Passport Agency, and the San Francisco Passport Agency, in particular, have been extremely helpful. The men and women in the State Department who are meeting this administrative crisis should be acknowledged for the extra effort they have been making to ensure U.S. citizens are able to travel abroad to work, vacation, participate in church and service projects, and attend educational programs. I rise in support of S. 966 and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the bill.

RECOGNIZING 2007 AS THE YEAR OF THE RIGHTS OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN COLOMBIA

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, last week the U.S. House of Representatives unanimously approved H. Res. 426, recognizing 2007 as the Year of the Rights of the Internally Displaced in Colombia. The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner on Refugees, UNHCR, praised its passage, noting that ''It is the first time the U.S. Congress has singled out forced displacement in Colombia as one of the worst humanitarian crises on the American continent.''

More than one-third of the over 3 million internally displaced people in Colombia are Afro-Colombians or indigenous peoples. On July 11, 2007, the Association of Internally Displaced Afro-Colombians, AFRODES, issued a statement welcoming the action taken by the U.S. Congress in passing H. Res. 426 and bringing attention to the plight of Colombia's internally displaced.

I encourage my House colleagues to reflect on the words of Colombia's Afro-Colombian community and I welcome the opportunity to submit the statement of AFRODES into the RECORD of the debate on H. Res. 426.

[July 11, 2007]

INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT IN COLOMBIA AND ITS IMPACT IN AFRO-COLOMBIAN TERRITORIES AND COMMUNITIES

In Colombia, a chronic and sustained humanitarian and human rights crisis persists, due to the ongoing presence of the causes of forced displacement, and the limited and contradictory security policies that the national government has adopted to stop the exodus of the population. Under the government of President Álvaro Uribe, military confrontations between the public security forces and illegal armed groups have intensified; during President Uribe's first term, there were 8,001 such confrontations, an increase of 149 percent over the 3,211 which occurred during the previous government of President Andrés Pastrana. This shows there is a greater military presence in the country, but that does not necessarily imply that conditions for the security of the civilian population are being met. In other words, there are no guarantees for the security of internally displaced communities to return to their regions of origin.

Defining the dimensions of the problem of internal displacement should be a priority, in order to define the conditions faced by victims of the internal armed conflict and thereby establish peace, justice and reparations. The System of Information on Forced Displacement and Human Rights (SISDHES), which has been operated by CODHES since 1995 and which takes into account data from the Episcopal Conference of Colombia from 1985–1994, indicates that around 3,832,527 people have been displaced during the last 20 years in Colombia (from January 1, 1985 through June 30, 2006). The United Nations just recently stated in a June 2007 report that the number of internally displaced in Colombia has reached 3,000,000. According to the U.N., out of the 13 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) their organization attended to over the past year, three million—

or 23 percent of the world total—are Colombian. This according to the U.N. brings Colombia to the undesirable first position of the greatest number of IDPs in the world. Yet the Colombian government reports only 1,877,328 IDPs for the period from January of 1995–June of 2005.

Due to the lack of sufficient political will on the part of the government to attend to the IDP population, the Colombian Constitutional Court has delivered two rulings with the purpose of protecting the rights of the internally displaced: Ruling C–370 of 2005, relating to Law 975 of 2005, through which the Constitutional Court defines the scope of the rights and guarantees due to victims of the internal armed conflict under the system of transitional justice.

The Constitutional Court also issued Decree 218 of 2006, following Ruling T–025 of 2004 which declared the state of things to be unconstitutional in Colombia and ordered the government to develop a public policy designed to guarantee the effective protection of the rights of the internally displaced.

This decree examines the completion of the orders established through decrees No. 176, 177 and 178 of 2005; its principal conclusion is that the situation of unconstitutionality has yet to be overcome, while the necessary measures are not being taken to do so.

Finally, the Civil Commission for the Evaluation if Completion if Ruling T–025 and the Public Policy if Forced Displacement was formed as a plural and diverse coalition of civil society dedicated to overcoming displacement, at the same time that new protests and proposals for strengthening organizations of the internally displaced are being formed by the affected population.

Decree 218 illustrates the structural problems with the lack of a public policy for forced displacement and opens the possibility for greater public debate to examine the report presented by the government on September 13, 2006, such as the use of rights-based progress indicators.

We would also like to applaud the 42 cosponsors of H. Res. 426 and in particular our Afrodescendant brother Donald Payne and humanitarian James McGovern for raising the visibility of the plight of the many internally displaced Afro-Colombians to the U.S. Congress. In the last decade, especially during the last 5 years, internal displacement has intensified in areas of the Pacific Coast, in the departments of Nariño, Valle del Cauca, Cauca and Chocó in the collectively titled lands of Afro-Colombians. The particular characteristics of these displacements show them to be planned and deliberate, in order to cause communities to vacate their territories. This is corroborated by the study carried out by AFRODES and Global Rights in 2005, which illustrates that 61.73 percent of those people with collective titles to land in 50 municipalities with Afro-Colombian populations have been displaced from their territories. Most alarming is that there currently exists no public policy for attention to Afro-Colombian displaced populations, while the humanitarian crisis in their territories continues to worsen.

Finally, as an organization of internally displaced persons and in the name of many more who have lost their territories in Colombia, we appreciate and commend the efforts undertaken by the U.S. Congress and the international community to raise visibility of this humanitarian tragedy, specifically through H. Res. 426 in the U.S. House of Representatives. By working in partnership with the United States, the United Nations and many religious and non-governmental organizations, our communities can once again live with dignity and respect for their rights.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER FRANCIS HUND

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Father Francis Hund, who celebrates his 25th anniversary in the priesthood this Sunday, July 22nd.

Born July 31, 1956 in Paxico, KS, he was the oldest of Wilfred and Margaret Hund's eight children. He graduated from Paxico High School in 1974 and received a bachelor's degree from Benedictine College in Atchison, KS, in 1978, where he majored in music with a focus on organ. Although he had considered a vocation to the priesthood, he hadn't shared his thoughts with his parents; they thought he would be a music teacher until they read his career choice printed in his senior organ recital program!

He was selected to do his seminary studies in Rome at the North American College and was ordained to the priesthood at his home parish in Paxico in 1982. He served as associate pastor at four Shawnee Mission, KS, parishes: Queen of the Holy Rosary, Cure of Ars, St. Joseph; and Holy Trinity, before entering a graduate program in liturgical studies at St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. Returning in 1990 he served three rural parishes at Burlington, Waverly and Westphalia, KS, and was campus minister at Washburn in Topeka.

In 1992, Fr. Francis was appointed pastor of St. Theresa's in Perry, KS, and also St. Aloysius in Meriden, KS in 1993. In addition to pastoring those two parishes, he was appointed Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Liturgy and Worship, a position he held for 9 years prior to his appointment as pastor to Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Shawnee, KS, in 2001. He currently serves this parish of 1,700 families as well as being chairman of the Johnson County Regional Priests and a member of the archdiocesan Priests Personnel Board.

His family currently includes his mother, 2 brothers, 5 sisters, in-laws and 24 nieces and nephews. Madam Speaker, I know that all Members of the House of Representatives join with me in paying tribute to this dedicated servant of God upon the 25th anniversary of his entering the priesthood.

FREE THE ISRAELI SOLDIERS

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2007

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the 1-year anniversary of the kidnapping of Eldad Regev and Ehud Goldwasser, two soldiers in the Israeli Defense Force who were kidnapped by Hezbollah operatives on the border with Lebanon on July 12, 2006. Their kidnapping came only a few weeks after the abduction of Gilad Shalit, an IDF officer seized by Hamas militants on June 25, 2006, during a horrific attack near Kibbutz Kerem Shalom, on the border of the Gaza Strip.

These three brave young men are among eight Israeli soldiers kidnapped or missing in action over the last 25 years. Staff Sergeants Zachary Baumel, Zvi Feldman, and Yehuda Katz have been missing since June 11, 1982, after a battle at Sultan Yakoub in Lebanon. Major Ron Arad was captured on October 16, 1986, when his aircraft was shot down inside Lebanon. Israeli solider Guy Hever disappeared on August 17, 1997, from an army base in the southern Golan Heights.

Since my first day in the United States Congress, I have made advocating for the safe return of all Israeli soldiers a priority. During an official trip to Israel last July, I met with Benny Regev, brother of Eldad Regev, to express my deepest sympathy and concern and assure him of America's commitment to securing his brother's release. Today, I urge my colleagues to join me in renewing our commitment to secure the release of all Israeli prisoners of war and to hold those individuals, organizations, and governments involved in these abductions accountable for their violation of international law. In marking the anniversary of the kidnapping of these brave soldiers, we should also acknowledge the sacrifice of their families and of the Israeli people as they continue to defend their borders in the ongoing struggle for regional stability and peace.

As Israel's strongest ally and friend, the United States must continue to support Israel's right to self defense, and advocate for the safe return of all Israeli soldiers missing in action and being held as prisoners of war.

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR WANDA McNEILL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I recognize Pastor Wanda McNeill for her 17 years of tireless work as Executive Director of Washington, DC's Southeast Ministry, which she helped create in 1990. Pastor McNeill, on the surface, was not an obvious candidate to take on such work in an inner city neighborhood, having been born and raised in Sioux City, Iowa. But Pastor McNeill has touched the lives of thousands in Washington, DC, and this city will be forever grateful for her dedication to those in need. We wish her well and Godspeed as she leaves our Nation's Capital to accept a call to lead a parish in Lake Preston, South Dakota.

Whereas Pastor Wanda McNeill is a spiritual leader who, through her faith in God, has answered His call by dedicating her life's work to serving those in need;

Whereas Pastor Wanda McNeill was born on February 21, 1944 in Sioux City, Iowa, and was raised on a family farm along with her sister Stella by William and Louise Edwards;

Whereas Pastor Wanda McNeill in her earlier life was a foster parent with her late husband Frank McNeill to 12 children;

Whereas Pastor Wanda McNeill earned a Diploma in Nursing at Iowa Lutheran Hospital, Des Moines, Iowa in 1965 and has been a licensed Registered Nurse in Iowa, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Washington, DC;

Whereas Pastor Wanda McNeill served the citizens of North Carolina as a Vista Volunteer

working with low-income families from 1966 to 1968, and then as a public health nurse until 1984, and during that time, founded the Yancey County Hospice Agency in Burnsville, North Carolina in 1982;

Whereas Pastor Wanda McNeill earned a B.S. in professional arts, psychology emphasis, from St. Joseph's College, North Windham, Massachusetts in 1984, graduated from Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1988, was ordained in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in 1989, and earned a doctorate of ministry from Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 2005;

Whereas Pastor Wanda McNeill has held the positions of Assistant Pastor, Associate Pastor, and Pastor at the Lutheran Church of Reformation in Washington, DC, since 1990 and has served our Capitol Hill neighborhood faithfully for 17 years;

Whereas Pastor Wanda McNeill co-founded a non-profit social justice ministry named Southeast Ministry in the Anacostia neighborhood of southeast Washington, DC, in 1990 in response to expressed community needs for educational, cultural, and employment programs that lead those in need to self-sufficiency;

Whereas Pastor Wanda McNeill through Southeast Ministry has reached thousands of men and women with education and job-related information services, increased their basic education skills and assisted them in passing the GED, prepared them to secure jobs through a curriculum of African-American culture, history, parenting, health and vocational assessment and in placement in training, employment and education;

Whereas Pastor Wanda McNeill's personal decorations include the Community Service Award from Anacostia-Congress Heights Partnership in 1991, Women of Achievement Award from the Zonta Club of Washington, DC, in 2000, and the Bob Woodson Award for special accomplishments from the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise in 2005;

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives recognizes Pastor Wanda McNeill for her commitment to a life of service to the citizens of the United States, especially the poor and underprivileged who society has passed by, for her continued dedication to this life-long calling, and for touching the lives of thousands with her work in the poorest neighborhoods of the District of Columbia, our Nation's Capitol.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, because I was out of the country last week on an important diplomatic and constituent services mission, I was unable to vote on rollcall Nos. 607 through 629. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall Nos. 607–610, 613–615, 617–624, and 628–629. I would have voted "no" on rollcall Nos. 611–612, 616, and 625–627.

CONGRATULATING THE KINGDOM OF LESOTHO

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 294, which commends the Kingdom of Lesotho for the enactment of a law to improve the status of married women and ensure the access of married women to property rights. Lesotho has made incredible progress towards gender equality, and I hope this Congress will recognize these steps forward.

This landlocked country of about 12,000 square miles has achieved a significant milestone towards gender equality by legally eliminating any deprivation of property rights for women. It gives me great pride to recognize not only the Kingdom of Lesotho, but also the idea that gender equality can be achieved in developing countries. Through the diligent efforts of many women's rights organizations, as well as the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the women of Lesotho now can turn to their court to protect their rights.

I am especially proud that this resolution includes continued support for International Women's Day, which we celebrate annually on March 8. Earlier this year the House passed House Resolution 149, legislation I introduced that supports the goals of International Women's Day. International Women's Day recognizes and honors the women around the world who have fought and continue to struggle for equality in the face of adversity. What is happening in Lesotho is a manifestation of the actions of those persistent women.

I want to again congratulate the Kingdom of Lesotho for enacting this crucial legislation and proving again that gender discrimination is simply unacceptable. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Lesotho.

IN MEMORY OF STEPHEN R. DEMBSKI

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, words can hardly express our admiration and gratitude as we note the tragic passing of an awe-inspiring civil servant. On Sunday, July 15, 2007 the community of Ridgefield Park, the County of Bergen, and the State of New Jersey lost a great hero upon the passing of Stephen R. Dembski, 41, after battling a major fire in neighboring Bogota. I join Steve's family, friends, and the entire community in mourning the loss of such a dedicated public servant.

A devoted husband and father to his wife Nancy and two children Kyle and Raymond, Steve was a pillar of our community. Steve came from a long line of firefighters, starting off as a junior firefighter when he was 16, becoming a full-fledged firefighter at the Ridgefield Park Hook and Ladder Company 2 at age 18, and later serving as chief for 2 years. His more than two decades of public service and his commitment to his duties as a firefighter reveal his extraordinary dedication to the safety and security of his family, friends, and community.

Firefighters like Steve are willing to give their lives to protect the safety of American citizens and willfully advance to the front lines of danger to provide assistance to those around them. Each time firefighters courageously rush into burning buildings and willingly lay their lives on the line for their fellow citizens, their unshakeable devotion to others leads us to place our lives and priorities in perspective and also helps reaffirm in the hearts of all Americans what is really important in life. Firefighters like Steve are essential to our communities and help to ensure the safety and security of our great nation. Each firefighter is a testament to the indomitable and caring spirit that drives our nation and makes America the incredible country it is today. This nation owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to Steve Dembski for his service to our community. May God bless the Dembski family.

HONORING DALE D. PETERSON UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, my colleague, Mrs. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER, and I rise in honor of Dale D. Peterson who is retiring after more than 40 years of service to his country, our community, and the educational system of Contra Costa County.

After earning a degree from Contra Costa College, Dale Peterson began his long career of public service by enlisting in the United States Marine Corps, serving from 1965 to 1969. Having completed this service to his country, Dale achieved his journeyman status after completing a 4-year electrical apprenticeship.

From 1973 to 1993, Dale worked as general electric contractor, a foreman, and a superintendent. His service during these years involved the responsibilities of managing commercial, residential and industrial electrical construction jobs in Contra Costa County. During this time Dale also served as the Assistant Business Manager of the IBEW Local 302 and on several committees of that same labor union.

For over 20 years, Dale Peterson has continued to share his time and talent with our community by serving on a number of Boards and Councils. His work as a Trustee of the Contra Costa Building Trade Council and as a member of the Contra Costa Central Labor Council reflect Dale Peterson's continued dedication to his fellow tradesmen and the labor movement in this county. Dale's work as a Contra Costa County Library Commissioner and as a member of the Board of Directors for both the East County Business Education Alliance and the Delta Advocacy Foundation demonstrates his enduring commitment to education and educational reform.

In 1991, Dale Peterson became a Parent Education Facilitator at the Family Stress Center where he served for 8 years. In 2000 he

enrolled in a Cornell University Course on Mutual Gains Bargaining. Over a period of 2 years, Dale completed three courses on land use planning, urban redevelopment, and environmental and planning law at a UC Berkeley Extension Campus.

Since 2004 Dale Peterson has mobilized the construction industry to support high quality school reform in Contra Costa County and was instrumental in the creation of two high school career academies.

Throughout his illustrious career, Dale Peterson has been a strong and steady voice for labor and education in Contra Costa County. He has always been a champion of youth and community programs and of preparing our children for higher education and the workforce. This continued commitment to labor and education in Contra Costa County have set Dale Peterson apart as a leader in our community.

Today we recognize Dale Peterson's enduring strength, visionary leadership, and his lasting commitment to the workers, students and families of Contra Costa County and our Nation.

Madam Speaker, please join me and my colleague, Mrs. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER, in recognizing Dale D. Peterson as he retires from a long and honorable career.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 19, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 20

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine youth violence, focusing on the efficacy of mentoring children.

SD–116

JULY 23

3 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine energy and democracy, focusing on whether the development of democracy is incompatible with the development of a country's energy resources.

SD–419

JULY 24

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

To continue oversight hearings to examine the Department of Justice.

SH–216

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the protection of children on the internet.

SR–253

Finance

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the government tax policy in farm country.

SD–215

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael W. Michalak, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Eric G. John, of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand.

SD–419

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the BioShield and Preparedness programs, focusing on improvements needed for epidemics.

SD–628

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jim Nussle, of Iowa, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

SD–342

2 p.m.

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to markup the nomination of Charles L. Hopkins, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Operations, Preparedness, Security and Law Enforcement).

Room to be announced

2:30 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

Private Sector and Consumer Solutions to Global Warming and Wildlife Protection Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine economic and international issues, focusing on global warming policy.

SD–406

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

JULY 25

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine S. 732, to empower Peace Corps volunteers.

SD–419

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Department of Veterans Affairs health care funding.

SD–562

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 625, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, S. 1183, to enhance and further research into paralysis and to improve rehabilitation and the quality of life for persons living with paralysis and other physical disabilities, S. 579, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer, S. 898, to amend the Public Health Service Act to fund breakthroughs in Alzheimer's disease research while providing more help to caregivers and increasing public education about prevention, an original bill entitled, ''Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2007'', and the nominations of Diane Auer Jones, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, David C. Geary, of Missouri, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences, and Miguel Campaneria, of Puerto Rico, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts.

Room to be announced

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Dennis R. Schrader, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator for National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

SD–342

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Gulf Coast disaster loans, focusing on the future of the disaster assistance program.

SR–428A

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the national foreclosure crisis, focusing on subprime mortgage fallout.

SH–216

2 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

Superfund and Environmental Health Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the EPA's Environmental Justice programs.

SD–406

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Interstate Commerce, Trade, and Tourism Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine United States trade relations with China.

SR–253

3 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act. (Public Law 109–435).

SD–342

JULY 26

10 a.m.

Budget

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Jim Nussle, of Iowa, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

SD–608

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine preparation taken for digital television transition.

SR–253

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee

To continue hearings to examine the Railroad Safety Enhancement Act.

SR–253

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

JULY 31

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ronald Spoehel, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, William G. Sutton, Jr., of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, Thomas J. Barrett, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation, and Paul R. Brubaker, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Department of Transportation.

SR–253

9:30 p.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense education issues.

SD–562

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House committees order reported 10 sundry measures.

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session today. The Senate is scheduled to meet at 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 19, 2007.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held today.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 18 public bills, H.R. 3073, 3074–3091; 1 private bill, H.R. 3092; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 186–188; and H. Res. 555–556, were introduced.

Pages H8120, H8121

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H8121–22**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2831, to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to clarify that a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice that is unlawful under such Acts occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to the discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–237);

H.R. 3074, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008 (H. Rept. 110–238); and

H.R. 2693, to direct the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to issue a standard regulating worker exposure to diacetyl, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–239). **Page H8119**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Martin B. Lavengood, Wesley Enhanced Living at Evangelical Manor, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. **Page H7997**

Making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008: The House resumed consideration of H.R. 3043, to make appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008. Further consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, July 19th. **Pages H8000–H8119**

Agreed by unanimous consent that during further consideration of H.R. 3043 in the Committee of the Whole pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 547, no further amendment to the bill will be in order except those provided on a list at the desk. **Page H8000**

Agreed to:

Holt amendment (No. 34 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that increases funding, by offset, for Children and Families Services Programs for activities authorized by the Help America Vote Act of 2002 by $21 million;

Page H8005

Ferguson amendment that redirects $10 million in funding under the Departmental Management heading in Title II; **Pages H8010–13**

Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX) amendment (No. 36 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17,

2007) that increases funding, by offset, for Safe Schools and Citizenship Education by $46,500,000; **Pages H8013–14**

Cooper amendment that increases funding, by offset, under the Higher Education heading by $125 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Historically Black Graduate Institutions; **Pages H8045–48**

Ferguson amendment that increases funding, by offset, for Special Education by $50 million (by a recorded vote of 419 ayes to 11 noes, Roll No. 658); **Pages H8031–32, H8092–93**

Dingell amendment that prohibits funds from being used to pay the basic pay of any individual serving as Deputy Commissioner of Social Security, Social Security Administration, whose appointment to such position has not been confirmed by a vote of the Senate pursuant to section 702(b)(1) of the Social Security Act (by a recorded vote of 231 ayes to 199 noes, Roll No. 665); **Pages H8077–78, H8097–98**

Gingrey amendment that prohibits funds from being used to establish or implement any requirement that individuals receive vaccination for human papillomavirus (HPV) as a condition of school admittance or matriculation; **Page H8106**

Ehlers amendment (No. 8 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that adds a new section providing for $15,665,760 in increased funding, by offset, for math and science education; **Pages H8106–07**

Souder amendment that prohibits funds from being used by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to implement the final rule published on March 30, 2007, on page 15275 of volume 72, Federal Register; **Page H8111**

Moore (WI) amendment (No. 22 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that prohibits funds from being used to carry out the evaluation of the Upward Bound program described in the absolute priority for Upward Bound Program participant selection and evaluation published by the Department of Education in the Federal Register on September 22, 2006; **Pages H8111–13**

Jackson-Lee (TX) amendment (No. 30 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) regarding funding for the Office of Civil Rights at the Department of Education; and **Pages H8115–16**

Jackson-Lee (TX) amendment (No. 31 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) regarding funding for Education for the Disadvantaged. **Pages H8116–19**

Rejected:

Hensarling amendment (No. 44 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to reduce funding for the Administration on Aging by $21,400,000; **Pages H8008–09**

Brady (TX) amendment (No. 52 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to reduce funding for Safe Schools and Citizenship Education by $72,674,000; **Pages H8029–31**

Stearns amendment (that was debated on July 17th) that sought to increase funding, by offset, for the Health Resources and Services Administration by $12.5 million and to increase funding, by offset, for Higher Education by $12.5 million (by a recorded vote of 182 ayes to 242 noes, Roll No. 647); **Pages H8037–38**

Jindal amendment (that was debated on July 17th) that sought to redirect $37,200,000 in funding within the Health Resources and Services Administration account (by a recorded vote of 206 ayes to 217 noes, Roll No. 648); **Pages H8038–39**

Barton (TX) amendment (that was debated on July 17th) that sought to strike the proviso on page 36, beginning at line 5, relating to funding for metropolitan or transitional areas under part A of title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act (by a recorded vote of 196 ayes to 230 noes, Roll No. 649); **Pages H8039–40**

Graves amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Special Education by $125 million (by a recorded vote of 203 ayes to 224 noes, Roll No. 650); **Pages H8000–01, H8040**

Hensarling amendment (No. 41 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to reduce funding for Children and Families Services Programs by $8 million (by a recorded vote of 58 ayes to 370 noes, Roll No. 651); **Pages H8005–07, H8040–41**

Hensarling amendment (No. 42 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to reduce funding for Children and Families Services Programs by $5 million (by a recorded vote of 80 ayes to 347 noes, Roll No. 652); **Pages H8007–08, H8041–42**

Price (GA) amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Innovation and Improvement under title III by $21 million (by a recorded vote of 149 ayes to 274 noes, Roll No. 653); **Pages H8015–17, H8042**

Garrett (NJ) amendment that sought to reduce funding for School Improvement Programs by $33,907,000 (by a recorded vote of 74 ayes to 352 noes, with 1 voting ''present'', Roll No. 654); **Pages H8017–24, H8043**

Foxx amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Special Education by $10 million (by a recorded vote of 186 ayes to 241 noes, Roll No. 655); **Pages H8024–27, H8043–44**

Barrett (SC) amendment (No. 54 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought

to reduce funding under the Higher Education heading by $40,590,000 for the Byrd Honors Scholarship Program; **Pages H8044–45**

Holt amendment (No. 33 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to add a new section relating to funding for math and science partnerships; **Pages H8049–50**

Hensarling amendment (No. 57 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used for Twin Cities Public Television, St. Paul, MN; **Pages H8081–82**

Flake amendment (No. 9 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used for the Burpee Museum, Rockford, Illinois, for educational programming and exhibits; **Pages H8082–83**

Flake amendment (No. 14 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used for Rhode Island College, Providence, Rhode Island, for development of a Portuguese and Lusophone Studies Program; **Pages H8083–85**

Flake amendment (No. 13 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used for the Shedd Aquarium, Chicago, Illinois, for exhibits and community outreach; **Pages H8089–90**

Shadegg amendment (No. 49 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to reduce funding for Innovation and Improvement under title III by $10,695,000 (by a recorded vote of 116 ayes to 309 noes, Roll No. 656); **Pages H8027–28, H8091–92**

Westmoreland amendment (No. 50 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to reduce funding for Innovation and Improvement under title III by $23,533,000 (by a recorded vote of 97 ayes to 331 noes, Roll No. 657); **Pages H8028–29, H8092**

Garrett (NJ) amendment that sought to reduce funding for Rehabilitation Services and Disability Research by $2,279,000 (by a recorded vote of 95 ayes to 335 noes, Roll No. 659); **Pages H8032–35, H8093–94**

Price (GA) amendment (No. 65 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to reduce funding for Student Financial Assistance by $64,987,000 (by a recorded vote 79 ayes to 349 noes, Roll No. 660); **Pages H8035–36 H8094**

Shadegg amendment (No. 55 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to reduce funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service by $255,625,000 (by a recorded vote of 96 ayes to 334 noes, Roll No. 661); **Pages H8050–52, H8094–95**

Lamborn amendment (No. 56 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that relates to funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (by a recorded vote of 72 ayes to 357 noes, Roll No. 662); **Pages H8052–56 H8095–96**

Obey amendment that sought to prohibit the use of funds for a list of sundry projects contained in the bill (by a recorded vote of 53 ayes to 369 noes, with 8 voting ''present'', Roll No. 663); **Pages H8056–65 H8096**

Flake amendment (No. 19 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used for the Exploratorium, San Francisco, California, for its Bay Area Science Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Improvement Initiative (by a recorded vote of 89 ayes to 341 noes, Roll No. 664); **Pages H8076–77, H8096–97**

Barton (TX) amendment that sought to prohibit funds made available in this Act for the National Institutes of Health from being used for activities under section 241(a) of the Public Health Service Act (by a recorded vote of 181 ayes to 249 noes, Roll No. 666); **Pages H8079–81, H8098**

Hensarling amendment (No. 59 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used for the On Location Entertainment Industry Craft and Technician Training project, West Los Angeles College, Culver City, CA (by a recorded vote of 114 ayes to 316 noes, Roll No. 667); **Pages H8085–86, H8098–99**

Flake amendment (No. 15 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used for the American Ballet Theatre, New York, New York, for educational activities (by a recorded vote of 118 ayes to 312 noes, Roll No. 668); **Pages H8086–87, H8099–H8100**

Flake amendment (No. 10 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used for the South Carolina Aquarium, Charleston, South Carolina, for exhibits and curriculum (by a recorded vote of 70 ayes to 360 noes, Roll No. 669); **Pages H8087–88, H8100**

Flake amendment (No. 12 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used for the Kansas Regional Prisons Museum, Lansing, Kansas, for educational and outreach programs (by a recorded vote of 112 ayes to 317 noes, Roll No. 670); and **Pages H8088–89, H8100–01**

Flake amendment (No. 11 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used for Jefferson's Poplar Forest, Forest, Virginia, for expansion of exhibits and outreach (by a recorded vote of 68 ayes to 360 noes, Roll No. 671). **Pages H8090–91, H8101–02**

Withdrawn:

Whitfield amendment (No. 28 printed in the Congressional Record of July 17, 2007) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have increased funding, by offset, for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration by $10 million; **Pages H8001–05**

Walsh (NY) amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have added a proviso relating to English language proficiency scores; **Pages H8014–15**

Campbell (CA) amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have prohibited funds from being used for a list of sundry projects contained in the bill; **Pages H8065–76**

Schmidt amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have prohibited funds from being made available to any provider of services under title X of the Public Health Service Act if it is made known to the Secretary of Health and Human Services that such provider has been found within the preceding 36-month period to have violated State law requirement notification or the reporting of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape, or incest; **Pages H8078–79**

Hare amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn relating to Critical Access Hospitals; **Page H8104**

Pascrell amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn relating to funding for Traumatic Brain Injury programs; **Pages H8104–05**

Scott (VA) amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have prohibited funds from being used to carry out the student drug testing pilot program of the Department of Education; **Pages H8105–06**

Conaway amendment (No. 2 printed in the Congressional Record of July 16, 2007) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that stated the sense of the House that any reduction in the amount appropriated by this Act achieved as a result of amendments adopted by the House should be dedicated to deficit reduction; and **Pages H8114–15**

Conaway amendment (No. 1 printed in the Congressional Record of July 16, 2007) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have prohibited funds made available for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program from being used while there continues in effect a Federal prohibition on the exploration, leasing, development, or production of oil or natural gas in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge or the Outer Continental Shelf. **Page H8115**

Proceedings Postponed:

Davis (KY) amendment that seeks to prohibit funds from being used to pay a bonus or other performance-based cash award to any employee of the Social Security Administration or the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services who holds a position to which such employee was appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, or a Senior Executive Service position; **Pages H8103–04**

Gingrey amendment (No. 3 printed in the Congressional Record of July 16, 2007) that seeks to prohibit funds from being used by the Social Security Administration to administer Social Security benefit payments under any agreement between the United States and Mexico establishing totalization arrangements between the two countries; **Pages H8107–09**

Souder amendment that seeks to prohibit funds from being used by the National Labor Relations Board to recognize as the exclusive bargaining representative of employees any labor organization that has not been certified as such by the National Labor Relations Board pursuant to section 9(c) of the National Labor Relations Act; and **Pages H8109–11**

Camp (MI) amendment that seeks to prohibit the use of funds to implement any policy prohibiting a Medicare beneficiary from electing, during a coverage election period, to receive health care benefits under title XVIII of the Social Security Act through enrollment in a Medicare Advantage plan. **Pages H8113–14**

H. Res. 547, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Tuesday, July 17th.

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of Julio Redecker and the victims of the Brazilian plane crash of July 17, 2007. **Page H8042**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Twenty-five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8038–44, H8091–H8102. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 12:03 a.m. on Thursday, July 19th.

Committee Meetings

FARM BILL EXTENSION ACT

Committee on Agriculture: Continued consideration of H.R. 2419, Farm Bill Extension Act of 2007.

Will continue tomorrow.

IRAQ—TRENDS AND RECENT SECURITY DEVELOPMENTS

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on Iraq: Trends and Recent Security Developments. Testimony was heard from former Secretary of Defense William Perry; and public witnesses.

ALTERNATIVES FOR IRAQ's FUTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations continued hearings on A Third Way: Alternatives for Iraq's Future, Part 2, Testimony was heard froma public witness.

U.S. NUCLEAR WEAPONS POLICY

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing on U.S. nuclear weapons policy. Testimony was heard from former Secretary of Defense William Perry; and public witnesses.

PAUL WELLSTONE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION EQUITY ACT OF 2007

Committee on Education and Labor: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 1424, Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act of 2007.

MONETARY POLICY AND STATE OF THE ECONOMY

Committee on Financial Services: Concluded hearings on Monetary Policy and the State of the Economy. Testimony was heard from Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System.

ETHIOPIA DEMOCRACY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2007; FOOD SECURITY IN AFRICA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, and Global Health approved for full Committee action H.R. 2003, Ethiopia Democracy and Accountability Act of 2007.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Food Security in Africa: The Impact of Agricultural Development. Testimony was heard from Michael E. Hess, Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development, Department of State; and public witnesses.

IRAQ'S OIL SECTOR RECONSTRUCTION

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia and the Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight held a joint hearing on Reconstruction in Iraq's Oil Sector: Running on Empty? Testimony was heard from Joseph A. Christoff, Director, International Affairs and Trade, GAO; Issam Michael Saliba, Senior Foreign Law Specialist, Middle East and North Africa, Law Library of Congress; and a public witness.

PATENT REFORM ACT OF 2007

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 1908, Patent Reform Act of 2007.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 673, amended, Cocopah Lands Act; H.R. 1696, To amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act to allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe to determine blood quantum requirements for membership in that Tribe; H.R. 2120, amended, To direct the Secretary of the Interior to proclaim as reservation for the benefit of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians a parcel of land now held in trust by the United States for that Indian Tribe; H.R. 2863, amended, To authorize the Coquille Indian Tribe of the State of Oregon to convey land and interests in land owned by the Tribe; H.R. 2952, amended, To authorize the Saginow Chippewa Tribe of Indians of the State of Michigan to convey land and interests land owned by the Tribe; and S. 375, A bill to waive application of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to a specific parcel of real property transferred by the United States to 2 Indian tribes in the State of Oregon.

FEDERAL CONTRACTING

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement held a hearing on Federal Contracting: Do Poor Performers Keep Winning? Testimony was heard from William Woods, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, GAO; the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Elaine Duke, Chief Procurement Officer; and Richard Skinner, Inspector General; the following officials of the Department of Energy: William Desmond, Associate Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration; and Gregory Friedman, Inspector General; and public witnesses.

MEDICAID DRUG REIMBURSEMENTS

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled "Medicaid Drug Reimbursements: Are CMS Cuts Bad Medicine for Small Businesses and Beneficiaries?" Testimony was heard from Dennis Smith, Director, Center for Medicaid and State Operations, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER PRIVACY AND IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION ACT; AND THE TAX COLLECTION RESPONSIBILITY ACT

Committee on Ways and Means: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 3046, Social Security Number Privacy and Identity Theft Prevention Act of 2007; and H.R. 3056, Tax Collection Responsibility Act of 2007.

VOLUNTARY CARBON OFFSETS

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming: Held a hearing entitled ''Voluntary Carbon Offsets—Getting What You Pay For.'' Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 2007

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine modernization of Federal Housing Administration programs, 9:30 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the federal response to ensuring the safety of Chinese imports, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, ''The Children's Health Insurance Reauthorization Act'', 1:30 p.m., SD–219.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 1145, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform, S. Res. 248, honoring the life and achievements of Dame Lois Browne Evans, Bermuda's first female barrister and Attorney General, and the first female Opposition Leader in the British Commonwealth, S. Res. 236, supporting the goals and ideals of the National Anthem Project, which has worked to restore America's voice by re-teaching Americans to sing the national anthem, S. 1060, to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, to improve reentry planning and implementation, S. Res. 261, expressing appreciation for the profound public service and educational contributions of Donald Jeffry Herbert, fondly known as ''Mr. Wizard'', a bill entitled, ''School Safety and Law Enforcement Improvements Act'', and the nominations of Roslynn Renee Mauskopf, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, William Lindsay Osteen, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina, Martin Karl Reidinger, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina, Timothy D. DeGiusti, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, Janis Lynn Sammartino, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, Rosa Emilia Rodriguez-Velez, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico, and Joe W. Stecher, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine increasing government accountability and ensuring fairness in small business contracting, 2 p.m., SR–428A.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine abuse of elderly citizens, focusing on prevention methods, 10:30 a.m., SD–628.

House

Committee on Agriculture, to continue consideration of H.R. 2419, Farm Bill Extension Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, to consider the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Bill, Fiscal Year 2008, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Seapower and Expeditionary Forces and the Subcommittee on Air and Land Forces, joint hearing on the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) Vehicle Program, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 20, Melanie Blocker-Stokes Postpartum Depression Research and Care Act; H.R. 2295, ALS Registry Act; and H.R. 507, Vision Care for Kids Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, hearing on H.R. 2895, National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, hearing on Beyond Iraq: Envisioning a New U.S. Policy in the Middle East, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response, hearing entitled '' Leveraging the Private Sector to Strengthen Emergency Preparedness and Response,'' 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Antitrust Task Force, hearing on Credit Card Interchange Fees, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, to consider the Executive Privilege claims asserted by White House Counsel in response to the subpoena for the production of documents issued to Joshua Bolten, White House Chief of Staff, or appropriate custodian of records, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, to mark up H.R. 3073, Pigford Claims Remedy Act of 2007, immediately following joint hearing, 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security and the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, joint oversight hearing on Law Enforcement Confidential Informant Practices, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 783, Mesa Verdi National Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2007; H.R. 1266, Butterfield

Overland Trail Study Act; and H.R. 1674, Battle of Camden Study Act, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, hearing on FEMA Trailers; followed by a mark up of the following measures: H.R. 1520, Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commemoration Act of 2007; H.R. 1389, Star-Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission Act; H.R. 312, Civilian Service Recognition Act of 2007; H.R. 1664, To authorize grants for contributions toward the establishment of the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library; H.R. 3034, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 South Elm Street in Gardner, Kansas, as the ''Private First Class Shane R. Austin Post Office;'' H.R. 2654, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 South Dumont Avenue in Woonsocket, South Dakota, as the ''Eleanor McGovern Post Office Building;'' H.R. 1384, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 118 Minner Street in Bakersfield, California, as the Buck Owens Post Office;'' H. Res. 471, Congratulating the National Hockey League Champions, the Anaheim Ducks, on their victory in the 2007 Stanley Cup Finals;'' H. Res. 488, Congratulating the Detroit Tigers for winning the 2006 American League Pennant and for bringing the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan their first trip to the World Series in 22 years; H. Res. 442, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a National Youth Sports Week should be established; H. Con. Res. 143, Honoring the 50th anniversary of Stan Hywet & Gardens; H.R. 2688, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 South Getty Street in Uvalde, Texas, as the ''Dolph S. Briscoe, Jr. Postal Office Building''; H.R. 2467, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 69 Montgomery Street in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the ''Frank J. Guarini Post Office Building''; H.R. 2765, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 44 North Main Street in Hughesville, Pennsylvania, as the '' Master Sergeant Sean Michael Thomas Post Office''; H. Res. 519, Honoring the life and accomplishments of renowned artist Tom Lea on the 100th anniversary of his birth; H.R. 2825, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 326 South Main Street in Princeton, Illinois, as the '' Owen Lovejoy Princeton Post Office Building''; H.R. 954, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 365 West 125th Street in New York, New York, as the ''Percy Sutton Post Office Building''; H. Con. Res. 165, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Teen Driver Safety Week; H. Res. 490, Honoring the 2007 NBA champion San Antonio Spurs; H.R. 3052, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 954 Wheeling Avenue in Cambridge, Ohio, as the ''John Herschel Glenn, Jr. Post Office Building''; H.R. 2587, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 555 South 3rd Street Lobby in Memphis, Tennessee, as the ''Kenneth T. Whalum, Sr. Post Office''; H. Res. 551, Acknowledging the progress made and yet to be made to rebuild the Gulf Coast region after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita; H. Res. 501, Commending Craig Biggio of the Houston Astros for reaching 3,000 base hits as a Major League Baseball player and for his outstanding service to baseball and the Houston, Texas, region; and a resolution mourning the passing of former First Lady Lady Bird Johnson and celebrating her life and contributions to the people of the United States, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Federal Work Force, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia, hearing on Inquiring Minds Want to Know: What Is the Postal Service Contracting Out? 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, to consider H.R. 3074, Making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, 11:15 a.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment and the Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, joint hearing on Tracking the Storm at the National Hurricane Center, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 2992, SBA Trade Programs Act of 2007; and H.R. 3020, Microloan Amendments and Modernization Act, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to continue hearings on the Status of the Nation's Waters, including Wetlands, Under the Jurisdiction of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing on Federal Leadership by Example on Energy Conservation: No Cost Quick and Easy Steps for Immediate Results, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Vet Centers, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, hearing on Health Care for Children in Foster Care, 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, hearing on FISA, 11 a.m., H–405 Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, July 19

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: To be announced.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, July 19

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete consideration of H.R. 3043—Making appropriations for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

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