

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

Ms. CASTOR. Mr. Speaker, despite the threatened veto by the White House, we will continue to stand on the side of America's hardworking families today and pass this landmark affordable housing trust fund bill. This will help our States and our communities achieve over 1 million new affordable homes for our neighbors over the coming years.

I urge a "yes" vote on the previous question and on the rule.

The material previously referred to by Mr. HASTINGS of Washington is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 720 OFFERED BY MR. HASTINGS OF WASHINGTON

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 3. That immediately upon the adoption of this resolution the House shall, without intervention of any point of order, consider the resolution (H. Res. 479) to amend the Rules of the House of Representatives to provide for enforcement of clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The resolution shall be considered as ordered on the resolution to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules; and (2) one motion to recommend.

(The information contained herein was provided by Democratic Minority on multiple occasions throughout the 109th Congress.)

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Democratic majority agenda and a vote to allow the opposition, at least for the moment, to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives, (VI, 308-311) describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that "the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

Because the vote today may look bad for the Democratic majority they will say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what

they have always said. Listen to the definition of the previous question used in the Floor Procedures Manual published by the Rules Committee in the 109th Congress, (page 56). Here's how the Rules Committee described the rule using information from Congressional Quarterly's "American Congressional Dictionary": "If the previous question is defeated, control of debate shifts to the leading opposition member (usually the minority Floor Manager) who then manages an hour of debate and may offer a germane amendment to the pending business."

Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Democratic majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

□ 1145

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on postponed questions, in the following order:

ordering the previous question on H. Res. 720, de novo;

adoption of H. Res. 720, if ordered;

ordering the previous question on H. Res. 719, de novo; and

adoption of H. Res. 719, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2895, NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on or-

dering the previous question on House Resolution 720, which the Chair will put de novo.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 223, nays 195, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 951]

YEAS—223

Abercrombie	Green, Al	Murphy, Patrick
Ackerman	Green, Gene	Murtha
Allen	Grijalva	Nadler
Altmire	Gutierrez	Napolitano
Andrews	Hall (NY)	Neal (MA)
Arcuri	Hare	Oberstar
Baca	Harman	Obey
Baird	Hastings (FL)	Oliver
Baldwin	Herseth Sandlin	Ortiz
Becerra	Higgins	Pallone
Berkley	Hinchee	Pascarell
Berman	Hinojosa	Pastor
Berry	Hirono	Payne
Bishop (GA)	Hodes	Perlmutter
Bishop (NY)	Holden	Peterson (MN)
Blumenauer	Holt	Pomeroy
Boswell	Honda	Price (NC)
Boucher	Hooley	Rahall
Boyd (FL)	Hoyer	Rangel
Boyda (KS)	Inslee	Reyes
Brady (PA)	Israel	Richardson
Braley (IA)	Jackson (IL)	Rodriguez
Brown, Corrine	Jackson-Lee	Ross
Butterfield	(TX)	Rothman
Capps	Jefferson	Royal-Allard
Capuano	Johnson (GA)	Ruppersberger
Cardoza	Jones (OH)	Rush
Carnahan	Kagen	Ryan (OH)
Carney	Kanjorski	Salazar
Castor	Kaptur	Sánchez, Linda
Chandler	Kennedy	T.
Clarke	Kildee	Sanchez, Loretta
Clay	Kilpatrick	Sarbanes
Cleaver	Kind	Schakowsky
Clyburn	Klein (FL)	Schiff
Cohen	Kucinich	Schwartz
Conyers	Lampson	Scott (GA)
Cooper	Langevin	Scott (VA)
Costa	Lantos	Serrano
Costello	Larsen (WA)	Sestak
Courtney	Larson (CT)	Shea-Porter
Cramer	Lee	Sherman
Crowley	Levin	Shuler
Cuellar	Lewis (GA)	Sires
Cummings	Lipinski	Skelton
Davis (AL)	Loebsock	Slaughter
Davis (CA)	Lofgren, Zoe	Smith (WA)
Davis (IL)	Lowey	Snyder
Davis, Lincoln	Lynch	Solis
DeFazio	Mahoney (FL)	Space
DeGette	Markey	Spratt
Delahunt	Marshall	Stark
DeLauro	Matheson	Stupak
Dicks	Matsui	Sutton
Dingell	McCarthy (NY)	Tanner
Doggett	McCollum (MN)	Tauscher
Donnelly	McDermott	Taylor
Doyle	McGovern	Thompson (CA)
Edwards	McIntyre	Thompson (MS)
Ellison	McNerney	Tierney
Ellsworth	McNulty	Towns
Emanuel	Meek (FL)	Udall (CO)
Engel	Meeks (NY)	Udall (NM)
Eshoo	Melancon	Van Hollen
Etheridge	Michaud	Velázquez
Farr	Miller (NC)	Vislosky
Fattah	Miller, George	Walz (MN)
Filner	Mitchell	Wasserman
Frank (MA)	Mollohan	Schultz
Giffords	Moore (KS)	Waters
Gillibrand	Moore (WI)	Watson
Gonzalez	Moran (VA)	Watt
Gordon	Murphy (CT)	Waxman