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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. HIRONO).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 10, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MAZIE K. HIRONO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. HIRONO) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Today at the beginning of another week of time and work, we stand before You, Lord God of the universe. We also stand before the world community. There is no way of separating ourselves from this reality.

The truth of our living today and the ensuing week is dependent upon our attitude of mind toward the world we live in. This attitude is a matter of habit, dealing with others and circumstances according to past experiences and ever-present pressures. Help us, Lord, to see how our attitude guides any attempt to form relationships or pattern progress for ourselves and the Nation.

Most often, Lord, this unconscious attitude places an emphasis either upon the principle of duality or upon the principle of unity. Either we view everyone and everything as a combative conquest or a realized connection. Every moment we approach the whole universe through a cultivation of controlling power or through growth in sympathy.

Once we know there are no winners or losers, the game never ends. It is all a matter of attitude. Life is either a competitive struggle or a simple joy both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CARNAHAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CARNAHAN 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 8, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, The Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on March 8, 2008, at 11 :30 a.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he returns without his approval, H.R. 2082, the "Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008."

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 110-100)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following veto message from the President of the United States:

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning herewith without my approval H.R. 2082, the "Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008." The bill would impede the United States Government's efforts to protect the American people effectively from terrorist attacks and other threats because it imposes several unnecessary

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H1419

and unacceptable burdens on our Intelligence Community.

Section 444 of the bill would impose additional Senate confirmation requirements on two national security positions—the Director of the National Security Agency and the Director of the National Reconnaissance Office. The National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (9/11 Commission) observed that the effectiveness of the Intelligence Community suffers due to delays in the confirmation process; section 444 would only aggravate those serious problems. Senior intelligence officials need to assume their duties and responsibilities as quickly as possible to address the pressing requirements of national security. Instead of addressing the 9/11 Commission's concern, the bill would subject two additional vital positions to a more protracted process of Senate confirmation. Apart from causing such potentially harmful delays, this unwarranted requirement for Senate confirmation would also risk injecting political pressure into these positions of technical expertise and public trust.

Section 413 would create a new Inspector General for the Intelligence Community. This new office is duplicative and unnecessary. Each intelligence community component already has an Inspector General, and the Inspector General of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence has been vested with all the legal powers of any inspector general to carry out investigations on matters under the jurisdiction of the Director of National Intelligence. There is no reason to commit taxpayer resources to an additional inspector general with competing jurisdiction over the same intelligence elements. Creating duplicative inspectors general, who may have inconsistent views on the handling of particular matters, has the potential to create conflicts and impede the Intelligence Community from efficiently resolving issues and carrying out its core mission. In addition, the creation of a new inspector general would add yet another position in the Intelligence Community subject to Senate confirmation, contrary to the 9/11 Commission's recommendations.

Section 327 of the bill would harm our national security by requiring any element of the Intelligence Community to use only the interrogation methods authorized in the Army Field Manual on Interrogations. It is vitally important that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) be allowed to maintain a separate and classified interrogation program. The Army Field Manual is directed at guiding the actions of nearly three million active duty and reserve military personnel in connection with the detention of lawful combatants during the course of traditional armed conflicts, but terrorists often are trained specifically to resist techniques prescribed in publicly available military regulations such as the Manual. The CIA's ability to conduct a sep-

arate and specialized interrogation program for terrorists who possess the most critical information in the War on Terror has helped the United States prevent a number of attacks, including plots to fly passenger airplanes into the Library Tower in Los Angeles and into Heathrow Airport or buildings in downtown London. While details of the current CIA program are classified, the Attorney General has reviewed it and determined that it is lawful under existing domestic and international law, including Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions. I remain committed to an intelligence-gathering program that complies with our legal obligations and our basic values as a people. The United States opposes torture, and I remain committed to following international and domestic law regarding the humane treatment of people in its custody, including the "Detainee Treatment Act of 2005."

My disagreement over section 327 is not over any particular interrogation technique; for instance, it is not over waterboarding, which is not part of the current CIA program. Rather, my concern is the need to maintain a separate CIA program that will shield from disclosure to al Qaeda and other terrorists the interrogation techniques they may face upon capture. In accordance with a clear purpose of the "Military Commissions Act of 2006," my veto is intended to allow the continuation of a separate and classified CIA interrogation program that the Department of Justice has determined is lawful and that operates according to rules distinct from the more general rules applicable to the Department of Defense. While I will continue to work with the Congress on the implementation of laws passed in this area in recent years, I cannot sign into law a bill that would prevent me, and future Presidents, from authorizing the CIA to conduct a separate, lawful intelligence program, and from taking all lawful actions necessary to protect Americans from attack.

Other provisions of the bill purport to require the executive branch to submit information to the Congress that may be constitutionally protected from disclosure, including information the disclosure of which could impair foreign relations, the national security, the deliberative processes of the Executive, or the performance of the Executive's constitutional duties. Section 326, for example, would require that the executive branch report, on a very short deadline and in accordance with a rigid set of specific statutory requirements, the details of highly classified interrogation techniques and the confidential legal advice concerning them. The executive branch voluntarily has provided much of this information to appropriate Members of Congress, demonstrating that questions concerning access to such information are best addressed through the customary practices and arrangements between the executive and legislative branches on

such matters, rather than through the enactment of legislation.

In addition, section 406 would require a consolidated inventory of Special Access Programs (SAPs) to be submitted to the Congress. Special Access Programs concern the most sensitive information maintained by the Government, and SAP materials are maintained separately precisely to avoid the existence of one document that can serve as a roadmap to our Nation's most vital information. The executive branch must be permitted to present this information in a manner that does not jeopardize national security. The executive branch will continue to keep the Congress appropriately informed of the matters to which the provisions relate in accordance with the accommodation principles the Constitution contemplates and the executive and legislative branches have long and successfully used to address information sharing on matters of national security.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 8, 2008.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal, and the veto message and the bill will be printed as a House document.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that further consideration of the veto message and the bill be postponed until Tuesday, March 11, 2008.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1415

AIRBUS WINS AIR FORCE CONTRACT OVER BOEING

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, a week ago Friday, the market dropped 400-plus points, and the Air Force announced its award of a refueling aircraft contract to foreign-based Airbus over U.S.-based Boeing. At a time when we are working on national economic stimulus plans for our sagging economy, outsourcing vital defense work and good-paying jobs raises questions that are both troubling and alarming. Their decision to reward foreign interests by spending \$40 billion abroad has been ridiculed. Many today are still shaking their heads. It reminds me of a time not long ago when we were being asked to relinquish control of our ports. This latest debacle doesn't make sense, and it is not good for our country.

Air Force officials have agreed to move up a debriefing with Boeing officials to explain why they would outsource the construction of 179 aerial tankers abroad. Adding insult to injury, many believe the Air Force decision will end up actually buying a more costly and less capable aircraft.

Many Members are disturbed by what has transpired as a result of this deal. It degrades our national defense industry. It diminishes economic development opportunities and jobs here at home. When will we insist on putting America's interests first? This Congress should act swiftly and responsibly to review and to stop this questionable contract award.

JUDGES' HALL OF SHAME—
MARILYN MACKEL

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

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, judges should keep politics out of their judicial decisions, but not so with California Judge Marilyn Mackel. She is a loud opponent of U.S. liberation of Iraq. So when Shawn Sage, a foster child of 17, appeared before her to obtain permission to early enlist in the United States Marine Corps, she summarily denounced his request and told him she was opposed to the war in Iraq.

Shawn appeared in court with his supporting foster parents just to be insulted by a judge who makes decisions based on politics. Judge Mackel is a repeat offender, however. Judge "Gone Wild" Mackel has shown prejudice against the military before when she prevented a foster child from joining the United States Navy, all because of a political bias.

As a former judge, it appears to me the abuse of power by this anti-American military, peacenik judge is the perfect example of her having a terminal case of black robe disease, a disease some judges get when their personal politics cloud their judgment. Keep politics and wacky judges out of the courthouse. Judge Mackel is the newest member of the Judges' Hall of Shame.

And that's just the way it is.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I voted for the President's economic stimulus package, and I think it is going to actually help some people, but not nearly enough. In my city and in other major cities throughout the country, unemployment among young people is at an all-time high.

For example, in Chicago, more than 50 percent of the young African American males between the ages of 16 and 22 do not go to school and do not work. We want to stimulate the economy. Let us put young people to work, and I guarantee that will help.

FISA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, for over 20 days, the majority leadership in this House has refused to bring a permanent fix to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act to the floor. Everyone knows that the bill which passed the Senate would pass the House with bipartisan support. Yet, we have seen no action on the part of the majority. We need to send a clear message to our law enforcement, to our military, and to our intelligence community that they will have every lawful resource necessary to do their jobs and to protect American families. We need to send a clear message to our friends and to our enemies that America will do everything possible to stop those who have declared war on all Americans anywhere, anytime. It is misguided to obstruct our ability to track our enemies out of an unfounded fear that our intelligence community has the intent and the time to go spying on everyday Americans. The original FISA law addresses those concerns. This fix to FISA is about tracking potential terrorists overseas and not punishing individuals and businesses that would cooperate with our government.

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

THE EXPIRATION OF THE
PROTECT AMERICA ACT

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

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, it has been well over 20 days since the Protect America Act expired. For 3 weeks and counting, this Congress has allowed the quality of our surveillance programs to erode. As a result, our intelligence agencies have lost critical tools in the war on terror and are left potentially blind to lethal terrorist plots. In light of these dangers, Democrat leaders are facing a chorus of Members demanding action on the bipartisan Senate-passed surveillance bill.

Madam Speaker, it is time that we bring this bill to the floor. The Democrat chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee has said that passing this legislation is the right way to go in terms of the security of our Nation. In the House, over 20 Democrats have publicly urged Speaker PELOSI to bring the bill up for a vote. In fact, it seems that the Democrat leadership will not bring this bill up precisely because they know it will pass.

Madam Speaker, enough is enough. We have floated temporary patches and Band-Aids for months. It is time to get serious about our national security. It is time to bring a permanent fix to FISA and to a vote on this floor.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 7, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 7, 2008, at 3:20 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2733.

Appointments:

Public Interest Declassification Board.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE
SILVESTRE REYES,
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable SILVESTRE REYES, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,

Washington, DC, March 6, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have received a subpoena for documents issued by the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

SILVESTRE REYES,
Chairman.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

NATIONAL 9-1-1 EDUCATION
MONTH

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 537) expressing support for the designation and goals of "National 9-1-1 Education Month", and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 537

Whereas 9-1-1 is nationally recognized as the number to call in an emergency to receive immediate help from police, fire, emergency medical services, or other appropriate emergency response entities;

Whereas in 1967, the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice recommended that a "single number should be established" nationwide for reporting emergency situations, and other Federal Government agencies and various governmental officials also supported and encouraged the recommendation;

Whereas in 1968, the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) announced that it would establish the digits 9-1-1 as the emergency code throughout the United States;

Whereas 9-1-1 was designated by Congress as the national emergency call number under the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-81);

Whereas the ENHANCE 911 Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-494) established enhanced 9-1-1 as "a high national priority" as part of our Nation's homeland security and public safety;

Whereas it is important that policy makers at all levels of government understand the importance of 9-1-1, how the system works today, and the steps that are needed to modernize the 9-1-1 system;

Whereas the 9-1-1 system is the connection between the eyes and ears of the public and emergency responders, and is a significant homeland security asset;

Whereas there are over 6,000 9-1-1 public safety answering points (PSAPs) serving more than 3,000 counties and parishes throughout the United States;

Whereas PSAPs answer more than 200,000,000 9-1-1 calls each year in the United States, and a growing number of 9-1-1 calls are made using wireless and Internet Protocol-based communications services;

Whereas a growing segment of the population, including the deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind, and individuals with speech disabilities, are increasingly communicating with nontraditional text, video, and instant messaging communications services, and anticipate that these services will be able to connect directly to 9-1-1;

Whereas the growth and variety of means of communication, including mobile and Internet Protocol-based systems, impose challenges for accessing 9-1-1 and implementing enhanced 9-1-1, and require increased education and awareness about their capabilities and limitations;

Whereas numerous other N-1-1 and 800 number services exist for non-emergency situations, including 2-1-1, 3-1-1, 5-1-1, 7-1-1, 8-1-1, poison control centers, and mental health hotlines, and the public needs to be educated on when to use these services in addition to or instead of 9-1-1;

Whereas international visitors and individuals immigrating to the United States make up an increasing part of the Nation's population in any given year, and such visitors and individuals may have limited knowledge of our emergency calling system;

Whereas people of all ages use 9-1-1, and it is critical to educate members of the public of all ages on the proper use of 9-1-1;

Whereas thousands of 9-1-1 calls are made every year by children properly trained in the use of 9-1-1, resulting in lives saved, and which, in turn, underscores the critical importance of training children early in life about 9-1-1;

Whereas there is a need to reduce the widespread misuse of the 9-1-1 system, including

prank and non-emergency calls, which can result in costly and inefficient use of 9-1-1 and emergency response resources;

Whereas we as a Nation should strive to host at least 1 educational event in every school in the country each year regarding the proper use of 9-1-1;

Whereas an established National 9-1-1 Education Month could include public awareness events, including conferences and media outreach, training activities for parents, teachers, school administrators, care givers, children, the elderly, and businesses; educational events in schools and other appropriate venues; and production and distribution of educational content on 9-1-1 designed to educate people of all ages on the importance and proper use of 9-1-1; and

Whereas Americans deserve the finest the Nation can offer in 9-1-1 education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the designation of an appropriate month as "National 9-1-1 Education Month" and the goals of such designation; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation—

(A) designating a month as "National 9-1-1 Education Month"; and

(B) calling upon Government officials, parents, teachers, school administrators, care givers, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and the people of the United States to observe such month with appropriate ceremonies, training events, and activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Now I would yield myself such time as I might consume.

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H. Res. 537, as amended, which expresses the House's support for the designation and goals of National 9-1-1 Month.

H. Res. 537 was introduced by Representative ANNA ESHOO of the great State of California on July 11, 2007, and has the support and cosponsorship of nearly 60 Members of Congress. Upon introduction, the measure was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform where it was passed by the panel by voice vote after having been amended on February 26, 2008.

Madam Speaker, it is only fitting that we consider this resolution today, as it makes the important point of highlighting National 9-1-1 Month as a way of reminding everybody of the significance these three small numbers hold in times of emergency and distress.

Whether young or old, the number 9-1-1, which had its first debut back in 1968 when AT&T, under the encouragement of Congress, established the digits as the Nation's emergency telephone number, is known by most Americans as the number to ring when someone needs a fire, police, or ambulance response right away because of a threat to health, safety, or property. There are countless stories that I am sure we can all recall where children as young as 3 or 4 have remembered to pick up the phone and dial the numerical sequence of 9-1-1, thereby saving the lives of parents, grandparents, caretakers, and siblings.

Further, urging support for National 9-1-1 Month education would be futile if we failed to mention the commitment and diligence of the thousands of persons that serve on the other end of the 9-1-1 line. By simply doing their jobs, these 9-1-1 call takers are saving lives every hour of every day by dispatching emergency first responders and by providing verbal support and comfort in some of the most perilous moments of our lives.

As localities and communities across our great country consistently search for ways to make the 9-1-1 calling system more efficient, reliable and well-known, let us do our part in elevating the importance of the numbers 9-1-1 by passing the measure at hand, which expresses the support of the entire House of Representatives for the designation and goals of National 9-1-1 Month.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of this resolution expressing support for the designation and goals of National 9-1-1 Education Month. Every day across this great Nation, lives are saved thanks to this simple, yet vital, support service.

Recommended in 1967 by the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice and established a year later by AT&T, 9-1-1 has continued to evolve as an integral part of America's vital emergency response and homeland security. Each year over 200 million calls are received by the 6,000-plus public safety answering points across the country. These calls come from people of all walks of life, young and old, wealthy and poor. As this service is a vital access point for the public to reach a public safety official during a time of need, it is critical that we continue to educate our citizens on the services 9-1-1 provides and the appropriate uses of the number.

We must also continue to modernize this vital tool. There is a growing population of citizens, otherwise unable to communicate clearly, who are learning to communicate through new technologies such as text, video, and instant messaging. We should strive to connect the use of emerging technologies to the 9-1-1 system.

Madam Speaker, once again, increased awareness and understanding of this service will help save lives and increase national security. For this reason, I support this resolution and ask that my colleagues do the same.

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I'm proud to have sponsored this Resolution to establish a National 9-1-1 Education Month.

Forty years ago President Johnson's Commission on Law Enforcement and Justice recommended that a single, nationwide telephone number be established for reporting emergencies—9-1-1. Since then, 9-1-1 has been used by millions of people across the country to quickly and efficiently contact their local fire and police departments, as well as report emergencies in their communities. Over 200 million emergency calls are made each year through the 6,000 9-1-1 public safety answering points serving more than 3,000 counties.

As the connection between the eyes and ears of the public and the emergency response system in the U.S., 9-1-1 answering points are often the first to know of emergencies caused by natural disasters, to national security threats, making 9-1-1 a vital homeland security asset. Educating people of all ages and backgrounds about 9-1-1 is crucial to the effectiveness of our emergency response system. It is especially important for vulnerable populations like children, the deaf and the hard of hearing, and those with limited English skills to understand and use.

A National 9-1-1 Education Month will encourage the development of public awareness events, advertising to the public, targeted outreach to schools, and training activities for parents and teachers. The deaf and hard of hearing are increasingly using text, video and instant messaging to access 9-1-1 operators. With such an effective and comprehensive emergency network, everyone benefits from learning.

As co-chairs of the E9-1-1 Caucus, Mr. SHIMKUS and I understand the importance of the 9-1-1 emergency network to the public safety and security of our country and this resolution will help to ensure that all Americans can access these critical services in an emergency. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting a National 9-1-1 Education Month.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I would yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 537, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1430

E. ARTHUR GRAY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3196) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Sussex Street in Port Jervis, New York, as the "E. Arthur Gray Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3196

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. E. ARTHUR GRAY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Sussex Street in Port Jervis, New York, shall be known and designated as the "E. Arthur Gray Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "E. Arthur Gray Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I stand with my colleagues from the Empire State of New York in consideration of H.R. 3196, which renames a postal facility in Port Jervis, New York, in honor of E. Arthur Gray, former mayor and statesman from Orange County, New York. H.R. 3196 enjoys the support of the entire congressional delegation from New York, and was introduced by my colleague Representative John Hall back on July 26, 2007. The measure was taken up by the Oversight Committee on February 26, 2008, and was passed by a voice vote.

H.R. 3196 calls for honoring E. Arthur Gray's service to his community, State, and therefore his country by designating the post office in his hometown of Port Jervis, New York, as the E. Arthur Gray Post Office Building.

E. Arthur Gray was Port Jervis's longest serving mayor, completing 5½ terms from 1978 to 1988. After his tenure as mayor, in 1988 Gray became a New York State senator by ousting a 16-year incumbent. Gray represented New York's 39th District during his time in the New York legislature.

A native and lifelong resident of Port Jervis, Gray began his professional career as cofounder and director of Gray-Parker Funeral Home in Port Jervis, New York, before entering the realm of public service and politics. Well-known throughout Orange County, New York, for his stellar high school basketball days at Port Jervis High School and as a World War II veteran, Gray gave unselfishly of himself by serving as the chairman of the Port Jervis Community Development Agency, a member of the Orange County Economic Development Agency and as chairman of the National League of Small Cities Advisory Council.

Madam Speaker, in honor of E. Arthur Gray's public service and compassionate spirit, let us pass without reservation H.R. 3196 and rename the postal facility on Sussex Street in Port Jervis, New York, after this great American citizen.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Sussex Street in Port Jervis, New York, as the E. Arthur Gray Post Office Building.

A native of Port Jervis, Arthur Gray spent a lifetime serving his community, State, and country. He was well-known in the community, first as a high school basketball star, then as a veteran of the Second World War who later became a local funeral home director.

Mr. Gray accomplished a lot by the time he was elected to his first term as mayor of Port Jervis in 1978. Described as generous and always willing to lend a helping hand, Mayor Gray was the longest serving mayor in the history of Port Jervis, maintaining his position for five and a half terms until 1988, when he was elected to represent the 34th District in the New York State Senate.

His commitment to the community extended far beyond his office doors. He was a former member and chairman of the Port Jervis Community Development Agency, a former member of the Orange County Economic Development Agency, former chairman of the National League of Small Cities Advisory Council, and participated in numerous local boards and organizations.

Sadly, Arthur Gray died on April 10, 2007, at the age of 82. A loving husband, father of two, grandfather, and truly dedicated public servant, Arthur Gray exemplified civic duty and social responsibility. His contributions to his community and beyond will not soon be forgotten, and I urge that we accept this bill memorializing the tremendous life of this man.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this bill and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3196.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

STEVE W. ALLEE CARRIER ANNEX

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4166) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 East Copeland Drive in Lebanon, Missouri, as the "Steve W. Allee Carrier Annex".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4166

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. STEVE W. ALLEE CARRIER ANNEX.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 East Copeland Drive in Lebanon, Missouri, shall be known and designated as the "Steve W. Allee Carrier Annex".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Steve W. Allee Carrier Annex".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the honorable gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), the author of this bill.

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I certainly thank the gentleman for yielding and giving me this opportunity.

It goes without saying that the United States Postal Service has an historic reputation for excellence and unyielding dedication to the people of our Nation. "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these carriers from the swift completion of

their appointed rounds" are the words engraved on the outside of the James A. Farley Post Office Building in New York City. Every day, thousands of postal employees proudly wear the uniform of the United States Postal Service with the understanding of the enormity of this commitment.

Today, Madam Speaker, I stand before the House in support of H.R. 4166, a bill I introduced to pay tribute to the life of one of those public servants, Mr. Steven W. Allee of Stoutland, Missouri, and a rural mail carrier for the citizens of Lebanon, Missouri.

Since 1989, Mr. Steve Allee held a full-time position as a rural carrier at the Lebanon, Missouri, Post Office. He was a dedicated employee, a loving family man to his wife Debbie, his children and his grandchildren, a member of the Buffalo Prairie Baptist Church, and a friend to many.

Tragically, Madam Speaker, on August 20, 2007, Mr. Allee was killed in the line of duty when his vehicle was swept away by floodwaters in rural Lebanon. This flash flood was unprecedented in its magnitude. As Mr. Allee completed his route, he approached a country bridge under which a typically dry creekbed usually lies. However, on this day, the rapidly falling rainwater had overtaken the bridge. When Mr. Allee attempted to cross, his vehicle was swept away.

Today, I urge the House of Representatives to honor this man for his public service and his commitment to his community. Let us pay our respects to his personal and postal family by designating the facility, the United States Postal Service located at 701 East Copeland Drive in Lebanon, Missouri, as the Steve W. Allee Carrier Annex.

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

In his hometown of Lebanon, Missouri, Steve Allee was known not just as a rural postal carrier at the Lebanon Post Office, but also as a dear friend and loving family man. He came from a family of letter carriers. His father was a highway contract driver, and his cousin is the postmaster in Stoutland, Missouri.

Mr. Allee was a dedicated post office employee for over 15 years until the tragic loss of his life while on the job on August 20, 2007. On that tragic day, Mr. Allee was going about his daily routine of delivering mail until a torrential rainstorm began. He was attempting to cross a bridge over what is normally a dry creekbed, but due to the rainfall, the creek had become flooded. Mr. Allee perished as his vehicle was washed away in the rush of water. This serves as an example of how public servants in the course of their everyday duties are sometimes thrust into dangerous and, in this case, deadly circumstances.

We acknowledge Mr. Allee's service and his sacrifice. He will be deeply missed by all the people's lives that he touched.

With this, I ask my colleagues to join me in support of this fitting tribute to a dedicated postal employee who lost his life in the line of duty.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleagues from the great State of Missouri in the consideration of H.R. 4166, which names the postal facility in Lebanon, Missouri, after Steve W. Allee, a dedicated and long-serving United States postal worker.

H.R. 4166, which was introduced by Representative IKE SKELTON of Missouri on November 13, 2007, was considered and reported from the Oversight Committee on February 26, 2008, by a voice vote. The measure has the support of the entire congressional delegation from Missouri and provides us with yet another opportunity to pay tribute to an American citizen whose life was taken while simply performing his professional duties of delivering the mail.

The story of Mr. Allee's tragic death begins on Monday, August 20, 2007, where, according to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, at 2 p.m. in Laclede County, 10 miles east of Lebanon, Missouri, a 2003 Chevy Blazer driven by Steve Allee, 51, of Stoutland, Missouri, came upon a flooded roadway and was swept away as a result of flooding on the Missouri River.

□ 1445

Allee, who was on duty during the accident, was found 2 miles downstream and pronounced dead at the scene.

At the urging of Representative SKELTON, passage of H.R. 4166 will allow Congress to make in order a small tribute to this big-hearted individual, a United States postal carrier himself. Mr. Allee had been delivering mail since 1989, when he succumbed to his death as a result of the Missouri River overrunning its banks last fall.

Let us also remember and express our gratitude for the life of this dedicated postal worker, who was tragically taken from us by a force of nature while performing his vocation of delivering the mail, by passing H.R. 4166.

I want to thank Representative IKE SKELTON for moving to honor this gentleman for the work that he not only did but for the life that he gave.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4166.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGRATULATING IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FOR 150 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 924) congratulating Iowa State University of Science and Technology for 150 years of leadership and service to the United States and the world as Iowa's land-grant university, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 924

Whereas Iowa State University of Science and Technology was established by the Iowa General Assembly on March 22, 1858, as the Iowa Agricultural College and Model Farm in response to the State of Iowa's desire to provide higher education opportunities to farm families and working classes in Iowa, predating the passage of the Federal Morrill Act by 4 years;

Whereas on September 11, 1862, Iowa became the first State in the United States to accept the terms and conditions of the Morrill Act creating the land-grant system of colleges and universities;

Whereas the Iowa Agricultural College and Model Farm, known today as Iowa State University of Science and Technology, received Iowa's land-grant charter on March 29, 1864, making it one of the first land-grant institutions in the United States;

Whereas Iowa State University was a pioneer in all 3 parts of the land-grant mission, including—

- (1) allowing access to all, regardless of race, gender, or social class;
- (2) practical research; and
- (3) outreach;

Whereas Iowa State University fulfilled the 3 parts of the land-grant mission by—

- (1) creating the first land-grant institution to be coeducational from its opening, with 16 women in its first class; future suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt was an 1880 graduate; and George Washington Carver was the first African-American student, earning a bachelor's degree in 1894 and a master's degree in 1896, and was also the institution's first African-American faculty member;

- (2) establishing the United States' first Engineering Experiment Station and domestic economy experimental kitchen, and one of the first agriculture experiment stations; and

- (3) organizing the Farmers Institutes in the winter of 1869, by Iowa State President Adonijah Welch, and organizing the nation's first county Extension Service in 1903 in Sioux County in northwest Iowa by Professor Perry Holden;

Whereas some of the most important technological advancements of the modern world were the result of research at Iowa State, including—

- (1) development of hybrid seed corn in the 1920s;
- (2) pioneering work on soybean oil extraction and producing ethanol from corn and other plant materials by Professor Orland Sweeney in the 1930s;
- (3) invention of the electronic digital computer in the late 1930s by Professor John

Atanasoff and graduate student Clifford Berry, whose Atanasoff-Berry Computer was the first to incorporate the 7 basic principles of modern computing;

(4) laying the foundation for the modern plastics industry with polyethylene research by Professor Henry Gilman;

(5) development of the process still used today to refine pure rare-earth materials, including reactor-grade uranium, by Professor Frank Spedding and Harley Wilhelm, as a result of Iowa State's key role in the Manhattan Project in WWII;

(6) development of modern livestock animal genetics by Professor Jay Lush; and

(7) first field-testing of a genetically altered plant (tobacco) in 1987 and genetically altered tree (poplar) in 1989 by Professor Robert Thornburg;

Whereas Iowa State hired one of the first permanent campus artists-in-residence, with sculptor Christian Petersen holding that position from 1934 to 1955 and providing hundreds of sculptures and other art objects to the university, whose Art on Campus collection today includes more than 600 major public works of art;

Whereas Iowa State has had a technology transfer office since 1935, longer than all but one other university in the United States, and is acknowledged today as a leader in putting technology to work, being cited as a "model of economic development" and "licensing powerhouse" in a 2007 study commissioned by the National Science Foundation;

Whereas Iowa State University is today spearheading new advances in science and technology, including new materials, information sciences, green architecture, biological research, and the development of bio-renewable fuels and other resources to support the bioeconomy and the Nation's independence from nonrenewable petroleum resources; and

Whereas more than 257,000 degrees have been awarded by Iowa State, and its graduates include heads of State, leaders of industry, great humanitarians, and gifted scientists, whose work has improved the quality of life for people worldwide: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives congratulates Iowa State University of Science and Technology for 150 years of outstanding service to the State of Iowa, the United States, and the world in fulfilling its mission as a land-grant university; and thanks the State of Iowa for its visionary leadership in the beginning of the land-grant movement in the United States of America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KUHLM) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to House Resolution 924 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

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

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I am proud to speak today in strong support of House Resolution 924, congratulating Iowa State University of Science and Technology for 150 years of leadership and service to the United States and the world as Iowa's land-grant university.

Iowa State University is not in the Second District, but it is a very important place to me. The university serves thousands of students across Iowa, helping them prepare for the workforce and starting them on the path to success. Iowa State is my alma mater. I received a first-rate education at the university; and although I now represent the University of Iowa Hawkeyes, I am proud to be a Cyclone.

Iowa State has many claims to fame. It was the first land-grant institution to be coeducational from its opening, with 16 women in its first class.

Future suffragette Carrie Chapman Catt was an 1880 graduate. George Washington Carver was the first African American student, earning a bachelor's degree in 1894 and a master's degree in 1896 and was also the institution's first African American faculty member.

Iowa State is also known for its cutting-edge agricultural research. Agriculture is a driving force in our State's economy, and the work the university does helps us remain competitive and strong. I am proud to say that most undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at Iowa State come from Iowa, and a large proportion of these students remain in Iowa.

In fact, about 71 percent of College of Agriculture and Life Science graduates stay in Iowa for their first jobs. Young men and women graduate and gain employment on farms and agricultural services, in forestry, in fishing, and much more.

I congratulate Iowa State University for 150 years of excellence, and I look forward to another 150 years of the same.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KUHLM of New York. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 924, congratulating Iowa State University of Science and Technology for 150 years of leadership and service to the United States and the world as Iowa's land-grant university.

Iowa Agriculture College and Model Farm, now Iowa State University, was officially established on March 22, 1858. As a land-grant institution, Iowa agriculture college focused on ideals that higher education should be accessible to all and that the university should teach liberal and practical subjects. These ideas are integral to the land-grant university policy.

Even before Abraham Lincoln signed a law that gave birth to the land-grant universities, Iowa State was actively bringing knowledge to the people of

Iowa through farmers' short courses and farm demonstrations. The first official class, consisting of 24 men and two women, entered at Ames in 1869 and graduated in 1872.

Iowa State then was a leader and is now a leader in agriculture, engineering, extension, home economics, and created the Nation's first State veterinary medicine school in 1879. In 1959, the college was officially renamed Iowa State University of Science and Technology. The focus on technology has led to many research patents and inventions, including the first binary computer, the round hay baler, and many, many more.

Today Iowa State University has approximately 27,000 students, some change from over 100 years ago. With world-class programs in agriculture, technology, science and art, the "U.S. News & World Report" ranks Iowa State among the top 50 public national universities. Half of Iowa State University freshmen get an early boost in academic success by participating in Iowa State's highly touted Learning Communities Program. Additionally, Iowa State University is ranked 18th in the Nation for its study or work abroad programs.

Iowa State University is a very special place that is full of history; but what truly makes it unique is a rare combination of campus beauty, the opportunity to be part of the land-grant experiment, and to create a progressive and inventive spirit that they call the Cyclone Experience.

I extend my congratulations along with all my colleagues to the university president, Gregory Geoffroy, all of Iowa State University's faculty, its staff, certainly, its students and alumni, and wish them continued success.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOEBSACK. First I want to thank the gentleman from New York for his wonderful words for Iowa State University.

Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to my friend and mentor, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL).

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 924, celebrating the 150th anniversary of Iowa State University.

I want to thank my dear friend, Congressman LOEBSACK, for his leadership and yielding the time, and I also want to thank Congressman BRALEY and Congressman LATHAM for their leadership on this resolution.

Iowa State University has made noteworthy contributions to the State of Iowa, our Nation and the world since being established in 1858. Iowa State was the first co-ed land-grant institution providing opportunities for students regardless of gender, race, or social class. Iowa State is home to critical agriculture research, from the development of the hybrid seed corn in the 1920s to important work on the de-

velopment of ethanol and to the development of modern livestock animal genetics and many more.

Iowa State continues to lead the Nation in research into biorenewable fuels and modern agriculture. In 2005 Iowa State's students finished third in the North American Solar Challenge, the world's longest solar car race. Iowa State has excelled in a number of other areas, from development of the electronic digital computer in the 1930s to research into refining reactor-grade uranium.

The campus of Iowa State is also noteworthy. With over 600 public works of art, Iowa State was rated one of the 25 most beautiful campuses in "The Campus as a Work of Art." Iowa State has graduated a number of prominent contributors to our Nation, including, as mentioned, George Washington Carver, who went on to serve as the school's first African American faculty member, as well as suffragette Carrie Chapman Catt, who graduated in 1880.

In fact, more than half my colleagues in the current Iowa delegation attended Iowa State, including Mr. LOEBSACK, who is the floor manager of the bill, BRUCE BRALEY, TOM LATHAM, and Senator TOM HARKIN.

I look forward to continuing to work with the great institution that is Iowa State University and I am confident that Iowa State will continue to have great influence in Iowa and across our Nation. Again, congratulations to Iowa State University for 150 remarkable years.

Madam Speaker, I urge support of this resolution.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, Iowa State University is one of the most respected land-grant universities in the Nation. Created by the Iowa General Assembly in 1858, the Iowa Agricultural College and Model Farm was designated the first land-grant college when Iowa became the first state to accept the terms of the Federal Morrill Act in 1864.

The act allowed Iowa to sell Federal land to finance a new college open to all, regardless of wealth, race or sex; offering a practical education in engineering, agriculture, and military science as well as classical studies; and sharing research knowledge with all Iowans. Iowa State University officially opened in 1869 and was the first coeducational land-grant school. Today, we are proudly celebrating the 150th anniversary of Iowa State University.

Iowa State University has been a leader in science in technology throughout its long history. The world's first electronic digital computer was developed at Iowa State by math and physics professor John V. Atanasoff and graduate student Clifford Berry, in the late 1930s. Their invention, the ABC computer, has been called the most important technological innovation of the 20th century.

The university is a leader in virtual reality research and its most advanced virtual reality theater, the C6, is the Nation's first six-sided theater that totally immerses the user in images and sound.

Iowa State is one of the top three U.S. universities in the development of patentable biotechnology. Last February, the Iowa Board of Regents approved a \$32 million budget and

conceptual design for a new biorenewables research laboratory at Iowa State University. The laboratory is the first piece of a new biorenewables complex planned for the university.

Biorenewables research is the future of ISU and the State of Iowa. I congratulate Iowa State University on 150 years, and wish them many more. Go Cyclones.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my alumnus, Iowa State University, for 150 years of service to Iowa and the Nation. Iowa State University was founded on March 22, 1858, as the Iowa Agricultural College and Model Farm. The college was one of the first land grant institutions in the country and was founded in response to the state of Iowa's strong desire to provide higher education opportunities to farm families and the working class in Iowa.

I'm proud to say that my alma mater has taken an active role in promoting social justice and racial equality throughout its 150 year history. Iowa State University was the first coeducational land grant university graduating 16 women in its first graduating class. George Washington Carver was the first African American to graduate from the college in 1880 and later served as a faculty member at Iowa State. Women suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt also graduated from Iowa State in 1880. Finally, Iowa State is home to the only division one football stadium to be named for an African American. Jack Trice stadium is named for Iowa State football player Jack Trice. Trice died due to injuries suffered during an Iowa State football game in 1923.

Some of the biggest technological advancements in the world of science were made at Iowa State University. In the late 1930's Professor John Atanasoff and graduate student Clifford Berry invented the first electronic digital computer at Iowa State. In the 1920's hybrid seed corn was developed at Iowa State and in the 1930's Professor Orland Sweeny conducted pioneer work on ethanol production from corn. Finally, the school established the Nation's first engineering experiment station and domestic economy experimental kitchen, and one of the first agricultural experiment stations.

I'm proud to call Iowa State my alma mater and congratulate them for 150 years of academic excellence. I urge my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the Iowa State community for all they have done and will continue to do for Iowa and the nation.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 924, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the

Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2008 FEDEX ORANGE BOWL

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 948) congratulating the University of Kansas ("KU") football team for winning the 2008 FedEx Orange Bowl and having the most successful year in program history, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 948

Whereas on January 3, 2008, the University of Kansas (KU) football team won the 2008 FedEx Orange Bowl, defeating Virginia Tech by a score of 24 to 21 for the first major bowl victory in university history;

Whereas the KU football team won 12 games this season to set a school record;

Whereas KU ranked seventh in the final Top 25 polls released on January 8, 2008, for the second highest final ranking in school history (the school ranked sixth in 1968);

Whereas the KU football team reached a number 2 ranking on November 18, 2007, their highest national ranking in program history;

Whereas the KU team set the school record for points, an average of 42.77 points per game, and total yards (479.77 yards);

Whereas KU was the only school in the country to rank in the top 5 nationally in both scoring offense (second) and scoring defense (fifth);

Whereas Head Coach Mark Mangino was awarded multiple national coach of the year honors;

Whereas Head Coach Mark Mangino has produced a minimum of 6 wins in 3 straight seasons for the first time in 46 years for the KU football program;

Whereas the KU football team produced 2 first-team All-Americans, cornerback Aquib Talib and offensive tackle Anthony Collins, and 1 second-team All-American in defensive tackle James McClinton; and

Whereas the KU football team was also honored to have 2 Academic All-America recipients on the team, Russell Brorsen and John Larson: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates and commends the University of Kansas football team for winning the 2008 FedEx Orange Bowl and for having the most successful year in program history;

(2) recognizes the significant achievements of the players, coaches, students, alumni, and support staff whose dedication and hard work helped the University of Kansas football team win the FedEx Orange Bowl; and

(3) respectfully requests the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit enrolled copies of this resolution to the following individuals for display:

(A) Robert Hemenway, Chancellor of the University of Kansas.

(B) Richard Lariviere, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor of the University of Kansas.

(C) Lew Perkins, Athletics Director of the University of Kansas.

(D) Mark Mangino, Head Coach.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KUHL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to House Resolution 948 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

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

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the University of Kansas for winning the 2008 FedEx Orange Bowl and having the most successful year in the program's history.

On January 3, 2008, Kansas captured its first major bowl victory in university history by defeating Virginia Tech. College football fans, student athletes, and the Nation were treated to an exceptional college bowl game.

I want to extend my congratulations to head coach Mark Mangino, athletic director Lou Perkins, University of Kansas Chancellor Robert Hemenway, and Kansas's student athletes for winning the Orange Bowl and obtaining a school record 12-1 season.

I also want to extend my congratulations to the Virginia Tech Hokies and their student athletes for a great season.

Winning the Orange Bowl and finishing the season with a 12-1 record has brought positive national attention to Kansas, and I know the fans of the university will cherish this moment as they look forward to the 2008 season. Student athletes balance a rigorous school workload with the many practices and games in which they compete. I am proud of student athletes for their dedication to their schoolwork and their sport.

Madam Speaker, once again I congratulate the University of Kansas for their success, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1500

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I noticed that the gentleman from Iowa was a little quizzical and hesitant in congratulating a fellow Big 12 team from Kansas. But in any case, Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 948 congratulating the University of Kansas football team, affectionately known as KU, for winning the 2008 FedEx Orange Bowl and having the most successful year in program history.

On January 3, 2008, the University of Kansas football team won the 2008

FedEx Orange Bowl defeating Virginia Tech by a score of 24-20 for its first major bowl victory in university history.

The KU football team won a school record 12 games this past season and ended the season ranked seventh in the final top 25 polls released on January 8, 2008. This is the second highest final ranking in school history.

This past year's KU team set the school record with points per game, with an average of 42 points per game, and total yards per game, with an average of 479 yards. KU is the only school in the country to rank in the top five nationally in both scoring offense, which was second, and scoring defense, in which they were fifth.

Following the remarkable year, head coach Mark Mangino was awarded multiple national Coach of the Year awards. And, in fact, Coach Mangino has produced a minimum of six wins in three straight seasons, for the first time in 46 years for the KU football program.

The KU football team also produced two first team All Americans, cornerback Aquib Talib and offensive tackle Anthony Collins. Equally important, the team produced two academic All American recipients, Russell Brorsen and John Larson.

In addition to successful athletic programs, KU also provides faculty, academic and research programs of international distinction, and outstanding libraries, teaching museums, and teaching technology. These resources enrich the undergraduate experience and are essential for graduate-level education and for research.

From early existence, the University of Kansas has been fueled by high aspirations and has enjoyed a national reputation for innovation and academic excellence. I extend my congratulations to head coach Mark Mangino, all of the hardworking players, the fans, and to the University of Kansas. I am happy to join my friend and colleague in honoring this exceptional team for all of its accomplishments and wish all involved continued success. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), also the distinguished Chair of the Armed Services Committee on which I serve.

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and let me take this opportunity to congratulate the gentlelady from Kansas (Mrs. BOYDA) for paying tribute to the Kansas University football program. It is impressive.

But I would yield to the gentleman from Iowa if he would answer a few questions.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Yes, I will.

Mr. SKELTON. I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to ask you if you know of the outcome of the

Missouri University Tigers football team when they played the Kansas Jayhawks on November 24, 2007.

Mr. LOEBSACK. No.

Mr. SKELTON. Would you be interested in knowing that the Missouri Tigers defeated the Kansas Jayhawks 36-28 on November 24, 2007?

Mr. LOEBSACK. Yes.

Mr. SKELTON. And would you also be interested in knowing that the Missouri Tigers finished fourth on the national Associated Press poll to Kansas' number 7 on the Associated Press poll?

Mr. LOEBSACK. Yes.

Mr. SKELTON. I thank you.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman SKELTON for his comments.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 948, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGRATULATING THE WOMEN'S WATER POLO TEAM OF UCLA FOR WINNING THE 2007 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 493) congratulating the women's water polo team of the University of California, Los Angeles, for winning the 2007 NCAA Division I Women's Water Polo National Championship, and congratulating UCLA on its 100th NCAA sports national title, making it the most accomplished athletic program in NCAA history, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 493

Whereas on May 13, 2007, the women's water polo team of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), defeated Stanford 5-4 in the championship game of the NCAA Division I Women's Water Polo National Championship tournament;

Whereas the victory gave Head Coach Adam Krikorian and the Bruins women's water polo team their third consecutive NCAA Championship and was the team's fifth overall national title;

Whereas Kelly Rulon, a driver for the Bruins, was selected as the tournament's Most Valuable Player;

Whereas UCLA women's water polo players Kelly Rulon, Emily Feher, Courtney Mathewson, Jillian Kraus, and Kacy Kunkel were named to the NCAA All-Tournament First Team;

Whereas the UCLA women's water polo team finished the 2007 season with a record of 28 wins and 2 losses, and now has a record of 90 wins and 6 losses over the past 3 seasons;

Whereas the 2007 Women's Water Polo National Championship makes UCLA the first school ever to win 100 NCAA sports national titles;

Whereas UCLA won its 100th NCAA title less than 58 years after the UCLA men's tennis team won the school's first NCAA title in 1950;

Whereas 16 different men's and women's sports programs contributed to the Bruins' 100 NCAA national championships, including—

(1) men's basketball in 1964, 1965, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, and 1995;

(2) men's golf in 1988;

(3) women's golf in 1991 and 2004;

(4) men's gymnastics in 1984 and 1987;

(5) women's gymnastics in 1997, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2004;

(6) men's soccer in 1985, 1990, 1997, and 2002;

(7) women's softball in 1982, 1984, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1999, 2003, and 2004;

(8) men's swimming in 1982;

(9) men's tennis in 1950, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1956, 1960, 1961, 1965, 1970, 1971, 1975, 1976, 1979, 1982, 1984, and 2005;

(10) men's track and field in 1956, 1966, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1978, 1987, and 1988;

(11) women's outdoor track and field in 1982, 1983, and 2004;

(12) women's indoor track and field in 2000 and 2001;

(13) men's volleyball in 1970, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1987, 1989, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2006;

(14) women's volleyball in 1984, 1990, and 1991;

(15) men's water polo in 1969, 1971, 1972, 1995, 1996, 1999, 2000, and 2004; and

(16) women's water polo in 2001, 2003, 2005, 2006, and 2007;

Whereas UCLA teams have won 14 NCAA national championships during the tenure of Daniel G. Guerrero, the current Director of Athletics at UCLA; and

Whereas UCLA, under the leadership of Chancellor Gene Block, continues to establish itself as one of the top research universities as well as top athletic programs in the Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the women's water polo team of the University of California, Los Angeles, and Head Coach Adam Krikorian for winning the 2007 NCAA Division I Women's Water Polo National Championship;

(2) congratulates UCLA on becoming the first school to win 100 NCAA sports national championship titles, making it the most accomplished athletic program in NCAA history; and

(3) recognizes the achievements of all the players, coaches, students, alumni, and staff of UCLA who were instrumental over the years in this prestigious achievement.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KUHL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which

Members may insert material relevant to House Resolution 493 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

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

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of California, Los Angeles, on its 100th NCAA team championship. On May 13, 2007, the women's water polo team, led by head coach Adam Krikorian, defeated Stanford 9-4 in the last round of the Women's Water Polo National Championship tournament, thereby making the University of California, Los Angeles, the first team in history to win 100 NCAA team championships.

This was the team's third consecutive NCAA championship and its fifth overall national title. Team member Kelly Rulon was selected as the tournament's Most Valuable Player, and Ms. Rulon and four of her teammates, Emily Feher, Courtney Mathewson, Jillian Kraus, and Kacy Kunkel, were named to the NCAA all-tournament team.

UCLA won its first national title in men's tennis in 1950. Since then, 16 different athletics programs, nine men's programs and seven women's, have won national championships in the sports of basketball, golf, gymnastics, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, and, of course, water polo. In the last 5 years alone, under the leadership of director of athletics Dan Guerrero, UCLA teams have won 14 NCAA national championships in nine different sports.

This extraordinary achievement is a tribute to the skill and dedication of the many players, coaches, students, alumni, families, professors, staff, and fans who have helped to make UCLA an athletic powerhouse as well as an academic force.

Madam Speaker, I express my support for H. Res. 493 and urge my colleagues to pass this measure.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 493 as well. But there is a person in the Chamber who is a little closer than the gentleman from Iowa or myself from New York, and so I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS).

(Mr. LEWIS of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I very much appreciate my colleague's courtesy. Almost all that I was going to say about UCLA's prowess in athletics has already been stated for the RECORD.

Having said that, Madam Speaker, many a person looking at the wondrous world of athletics oftentimes thinks only of the 11 banners that involves John Wooden's era as coach of UCLA's basketball team. As has been suggested, one would really miss the point of the fabulous work done at the UCLA campus, way beyond athletics, in academics, et cetera. But indeed, the women's water polo team set the standard by winning the 100th championship when they won one more time. It is a fabulous item to be associated with UCLA and to get this recognition from so many great friends.

In the meantime, I want you all to know that my dog Bruin very much appreciates the attention.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the UCLA Bruins for being the most accomplished athletic program in NCAA history, having won 100 NCAA championships.

Many observers might presume that for UCLA the only game in town is men's basketball. Many walk into Pauley Pavilion and see 11 championship banners, experience the legacy of John Wooden, and presume that's all there is. But for UCLA, that is only the beginning.

The UCLA men's tennis team won the first NCAA championship for the Bruins in 1950 and the last 58 years have been witness to an unprecedented record of success. Including the 11 men's basketball titles, UCLA's championship record extends across 16 different programs including multiple titles in men's volleyball, 19; men's tennis, 16; women's softball, 10; men's track and field, 8; men's water polo, 8; women's gymnastics, 5; women's track and field, 5; and women's water polo, 5.

UCLA's 100th championship came from the women's water polo team, which won its third consecutive NCAA Division I championship on May 13, 2007. The Bruins, coached by Adam Krikorian, finished 28–2 and have been 90–6 over the past three seasons. Courtney Mathewson scored three goals and Jillian Kraus added two more as the Bruins beat rival Stanford. Kelly Rulon was selected as the tournament's Most Valuable Player. Rulon, Mathewson, and Kraus were joined by Emily Feher and Kacy Kunkel as members to the NCAA All-Tournament First Team.

These championships reflect the philosophies of great Bruin coaches like basketball icon John Wooden and volleyball legend Al Scates. Their commitment to hard work, discipline, and sportsmanship has created a legacy of victory unparalleled in college sports. Additionally, the contributions of all the fans, students, alumni, and staff have been instrumental over the years in helping UCLA achieve 100 championships.

The list of Bruin athletes who contributed to the school's heritage of victory is a rollcall of the greatest athletes of our time: Lewis Alcindor, Arthur Ashe, Evelyn Ashford, Jimmy Connors, Gale Devers, Mitch Gaylord, Florence Griffith-Joyner, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Karch Kirby, Jackie Robinson, Bill Walton, and others.

I'm especially proud that UCLA is a public university committed to diversity and fulfilling the promise of Title IX. Since 1982, Bruin women teams have contributed 30 championships to UCLA's total. This is enough to put them 11th on the NCAA's all-time champions list.

One hundred championships is a reflection of the teamwork that is the hallmark of UCLA athletics and its strong tradition of combining excellence in athletics with excellence in academics. UCLA's commitment to hard work, discipline, and sportsmanship has created a tradition of victory unparalleled in college sports.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I join with my colleagues from Iowa and California in support of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 493—Congratulating the women's water polo team of the University of California, Los Angeles, for winning the 2007 NCAA Division I Women's Water Polo National Championship, and congratulating UCLA on its 100th NCAA sports national title, making it the most accomplished athletic program in NCAA history.

On May 13, 2007, the UCLA women's water polo team defeated Stanford 5–4 in the championship game of the NCAA Division I Women's Water Polo National Championship tournament.

The victory gave head coach Adam Krikorian and the Bruins women's water polo team their third consecutive NCAA championship and was the team's fifth overall national title.

Kelly Rulon, a driver for the Bruins, was selected as the tournament's most valuable player; and Emily Feher, Courtney Mathewson, Jillian Kraus, and Kacy Kunkel were named to the NCAA All-Tournament First Team.

The UCLA women's water polo team finished the 2007 season with a record of 28 wins and 2 losses and now has a record of 90 wins and 6 losses over the past 3 seasons.

This national title makes UCLA the first school ever to win 100 NCAA sports national titles—only 58 years after the UCLA men's tennis team won the school's first NCAA title in 1950. Along the way, 16 different men's and women's sports programs contributed to the Bruins' 100 NCAA national championships.

UCLA teams have won 14 NCAA national championships during the tenure of Daniel G. Guerrero, the current director of athletics. Under the leadership of Chancellor Gene Block, UCLA continues to establish itself as one of the top research universities as well as top athletic programs in the Nation.

I extend my congratulations to Chancellor Block, Athletics Director Guerrero, Head Coach Adam Krikorian and his staff, all of the hard-working players, the fans, and to UCLA. I am happy to join my good friend and colleague Representative LEWIS in honoring this exceptional team and all of its accomplishments and wish all involved continued success.

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to congratulate the University of California, Los Angeles—My alma mater—on its 100th NCAA team championship.

In a Nation with so many colleges and universities known for their strong sports programs, heck, in a city the size of Los Angeles with sports powerhouse USC right across town, this is a truly amazing accomplishment.

At UCLA, which has so many firsts in other areas, the 2007 UCLA women's water polo Team helped UCLA reach another first: the first to 100 NCAA team championships.

On May 13, 2007, the women's water polo team, led by Head Coach Adam Krikorian, de-

feated Stanford 9–4 in the last round of the Women's Water Polo National Championship tournament, thereby making history.

This was the team's third consecutive NCAA championship and its fifth overall national title. Team member Kelly Rulon was selected as the tournament's Most Valuable Player, and Ms. Rulon and four of her teammates—Emily Feher, Courtney Mathewson, Jillian Kraus, and Kacy Kunkel—were named to the NCAA all-tournament team.

UCLA won its first national title in men's tennis in 1950. Since then, 16 different athletics programs—nine men's programs and seven women's—have won national championships in the sports of basketball, golf, gymnastics, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, and, of course, water polo.

In the last 5 years alone, under the leadership of Athletic Director Dan Guerrero, UCLA athletics teams have won 14 NCAA national championships in nine different sports.

This extraordinary achievement is a tribute to the skill and dedication of the many players, coaches, students, alumni, families, professors, staff, and fans who have helped to make UCLA an athletic powerhouse as well as one of the top academic universities in the Nation.

UCLA's accomplishment also demonstrates the success of Title IX. Of the 100 NCAA championships that UCLA teams have earned, women's teams have been responsible for 30. And the NCAA didn't even begin awarding championships in women's sports until the 1981–82 season.

To all the athletes of UCLA, past and present, male and female, you rock.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 493, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1834

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

Hinchey McDermott
 Hinojosa McGovern
 Hirono McHenry
 Hobson McHugh
 Hodes McIntyre
 Hoekstra McKeon
 Holden McMorris
 Holt Rodgers
 Honda McNeerney
 Hoyer McNulty
 Hunter Meek (FL)
 Inglis (SC) Meeks (NY)
 Inslee Melancon
 Israel Mica
 Issa Michaud
 Jackson (IL) Miller (FL)
 Jackson-Lee Miller (NC)
 (TX) Miller, Gary
 Johnson (GA) Miller, George
 Johnson (IL) Mollohan
 Johnson, E. B. Moore (KS)
 Johnson, Sam Moore (WI)
 Jones (NC) Moran (KS)
 Jones (OH) Murphy (CT)
 Jordan Murphy, Patrick
 Kagen Murphy, Tim
 Kanjorski Murtha
 Kaptur Musgrave
 Keller Myrick
 Kennedy Nadler
 Kildee Napolitano
 Kind Neugebauer
 King (IA) Nunes
 King (NY) Obey
 Kingston Oliver
 Kirk Ortiz
 Klein (FL) Pallone
 Kline (MN) Pascrell
 Knollenberg Pastor
 Kucinich Paul
 Kuhl (NY) Payne
 LaHood Pearce
 Lamborn Perlmutter
 Lampson Peterson (MN)
 Langevin Petri
 Larsen (WA) Pickering
 Larson (CT) Pitts
 Latham Platts
 LaTourette Poe
 Latta Pomeroy
 Lee Porter
 Levin Price (GA)
 Lewis (CA) Price (NC)
 Lewis (GA) Putnam
 Lewis (KY) Radanovich
 Linder Rahall
 Lipinski Ramstad
 LoBiondo Regula
 Loeb sack Rehberg
 Lofgren, Zoe Reichert
 Lowey Renzi
 Lucas Reyes
 Lungren, Daniel Reynolds
 E. Richardson
 Mack Rogers (AL)
 Mahoney (FL) Rogers (KY)
 Maloney (NY) Rogers (MI)
 Manzullo Roskam
 Markey Ross
 Marshall Rothman
 Matheson Roybal-Allard
 Matsui Royce
 McCarthy (CA) Ruppertsberger
 McCarthy (NY) Ryan (OH)
 McCaul (TX) Ryan (WI)
 McCollum (MN) Salazar
 McCotter Sali

NOT VOTING—46

Berry Hulshof
 Bonner Jefferson
 Brown, Corrine Kilpatrick
 Brown-Waite, Ginny Marchant
 Buyer McCrery
 Calvert Miller (MI)
 Cohen Mitchell
 Costello Moran (VA)
 Cubin Neal (MA)
 Cuellar Oberstar
 Davis, Tom Pence
 Doolittle Peterson (PA)
 Emerson Pryce (OH)
 Gilchrest Rangel
 Hooley Rodriguez

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
 The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1909

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STEVE W. ALLEE CARRIER ANNEX

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4166, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4166.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 382, nays 0, not voting 46, as follows:

[Roll No. 110]

YEAS—382

Abercrombie Cardozo
 Ackerman Carnahan
 Aderholt Carney
 Akin Carter
 Alexander Castle
 Allen Castor
 Altmire Chabot
 Andrews Chandler
 Arcuri Clarke
 Baca Clay
 Bachmann Cleaver
 Bachus Clyburn
 Baird Coble
 Baldwin Cole (OK)
 Barrett (SC) Conway
 Barrow Conyers
 Bartlett (MD) Cooper
 Barton (TX) Costa
 Bean Courtney
 Becerra Cramer
 Berkeley Crenshaw
 Berman Crowley
 Biggert Culberson
 Biliray Cummings
 Bilirakis Davis (AL)
 Bishop (GA) Davis (CA)
 Bishop (NY) Davis (IL)
 Bishop (UT) Davis (KY)
 Blackburn Davis, David
 Blumenauer Davis, Lincoln
 Blunt Deal (GA)
 Boehner DeFazio
 Bono Mack DeGette
 Boozman Delahunt
 Boren DeLauro
 Boswell Dent
 Boucher Diaz-Balart, L.
 Boustany Diaz-Balart, M.
 Boyd (FL) Dicks
 Boyda (KS) Dingell
 Brady (PA) Doggett
 Brady (TX) Donnelly
 Braley (IA) Doyle
 Broun (GA) Drake
 Brown (SC) Dreier
 Buchanan Duncan
 Burgess Edwards
 Burton (IN) Ehlers
 Butterfield Ellison
 Camp (MI) Ellsworth
 Campbell (CA) Emanuel
 Cannon Emerson
 Cantor Engel
 Capito English (PA)
 Capps Eshoo
 Capuano Etheridge

Inslee Israel
 Issa Meek (FL)
 Jackson (IL) Meeks (NY)
 Jackson-Lee Melancon
 (TX) Mica
 Johnson (GA) Michaud
 Johnson (IL) Miller (FL)
 Johnson, E. B. Miller (NC)
 Johnson, Sam Miller, Gary
 Jones (NC) Miller, George
 Jones (OH) Mollohan
 Jordan Moore (KS)
 Kagen Moore (WI)
 Kanjorski Moran (KS)
 Kaptur Murphy (CT)
 Keller Murphy, Patrick
 Kennedy Murphy, Tim
 Kildee Musgrave
 Kind Myrick
 King (IA) Nadler
 King (NY) Napolitano
 Kingston Neugebauer
 Kirk Nunes
 Klein (FL) Obey
 Kline (MN) Oliver
 Knollenberg Ortiz
 Kucinich Pallone
 Kuhl (NY) Pascrell
 LaHood Pastor
 Lamborn Paul
 Lampson Payne
 Langevin Pearce
 Larsen (WA) Perlmutter
 Larson (CT) Peterson (MN)
 Latham Petri
 LaTourette Pickering
 Latta Pitts
 Lee Platts
 Levin Poe
 Lewis (CA) Pomeroy
 Lewis (GA) Porter
 Lewis (KY) Price (GA)
 Linder Price (NC)
 Lipinski Putnam
 LoBiondo Radanovich
 Loeb sack Rahall
 Lofgren, Zoe Ramstad
 Lowey Regula
 Lucas Rehberg
 Lungren, Daniel Reichert
 E. Renzi
 Mack Mahoney (FL)
 Mahoney (NY) Richardson
 Manzullo Rodriguez
 Markey Rogers (AL)
 Marshall Rogers (KY)
 Matheson Rogers (MI)
 Matsui Roskam
 McCarthy (CA) Ross
 McCarthy (NY) Rothman
 McCaul (TX) Roybal-Allard
 McCollum (MN) Royce
 McCotter Ruppertsberger
 McDermott Ryan (OH)
 McGovern Ryan (WI)
 McHenry Salazar
 McHugh Sali
 McIntyre Sánchez, Linda
 McKeon T.
 McMorris Sarbanes
 Rodgers Saxton

NOT VOTING—46

Berry Hulshof
 Bonner Jefferson
 Brown, Corrine Kilpatrick
 Brown-Waite, Ginny Lynch
 Buyer Marchant
 Calvert McCrery
 Cohen Miller (MI)
 Costello Mitchell
 Cubin Moran (VA)
 Cuellar Murtha
 Davis, Tom Neal (MA)
 Doolittle Oberstar
 Emerson Peterson (PA)
 Gilchrest Pryce (OH)
 Hooley Rangel

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

Schakowsky Schiff
 Meek (FL) Schmidt
 Meeks (NY) Schwartz
 Melancon Scott (GA)
 Mica Scott (VA)
 Michaud Sensenbrenner
 Miller (FL) Serrano
 Miller (NC) Sessions
 Miller, Gary Sestak
 Miller, George Shadegg
 Mollohan Shays
 Moore (KS) Shea-Porter
 Moore (WI) Sherman
 Moran (KS) Shimkus
 Murphy (CT) Shuler
 Murphy, Patrick Shuster
 Murphy, Tim Simpson
 Musgrave Sires
 Myrick Skelton
 Nadler Slaughter
 Napolitano Smith (NE)
 Neugebauer Smith (NJ)
 Nunes Smith (TX)
 Obey Smith (WA)
 Oliver Snyder
 Ortiz Solis
 Pallone Souder
 Pascrell Space
 Pastor Spratt
 Paul Stark
 Payne Stearns
 Pearce Stupak
 Perlmutter Sullivan
 Peterson (MN) Sutton
 Petri Tancredo
 Pickering Tanner
 Pitts Tauscher
 Platts Terry
 Poe Thompson (CA)
 Pomeroy Thornberry
 Porter Tiahrt
 Price (GA) Tiberi
 Price (NC) Tierney
 Putnam Towns
 Radanovich Tsongas
 Rahall Udall (NM)
 Ramstad Upton
 Regula Van Hollen
 Rehberg Velázquez
 Reichert Visclosky
 Renzi Walberg
 Reyes Walden (OR)
 Reynolds Walz (MN)
 Richardson Wamp
 Rodriguez Wasserman
 Rogers (AL) Schultz
 Rogers (KY) Watson
 Rogers (MI) Watt
 Roskam Waxman
 Ross Weiner
 Rothman Welch (VT)
 Roybal-Allard Weller
 Royce Westmoreland
 Ruppertsberger Whitfield (KY)
 Ryan (OH) Wilson (OH)
 Ryan (WI) Wilson (SC)
 Salazar Wittman (VA)
 Sali Wolf
 Sánchez, Linda Wu
 T. Wynn
 Sarbanes Yarmuth
 Saxton Young (AK)

Berry Hulshof
 Bonner Jefferson
 Brown, Corrine Kilpatrick
 Brown-Waite, Ginny Lynch
 Buyer Marchant
 Calvert McCrery
 Cohen Miller (MI)
 Costello Mitchell
 Cubin Moran (VA)
 Cuellar Murtha
 Davis, Tom Neal (MA)
 Doolittle Oberstar
 Emerson Peterson (PA)
 Gilchrest Pryce (OH)
 Hooley Rangel

□ 1918

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 108, 109, and 110 I was unavoidably delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK. Madam Speaker, due to official business in the 13th Congressional District of Michigan, I was unable to attend several votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on final passage of H. Res. 537, Expressing support for the designation and goals of "National 9-1-1 Education Month," "yea" on final passage of H.R. 3196, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Sussex Street in Port Jervis, New York, as the "E. Arthur Gray Post Office Building," and "yea" on final passage of H.R. 4166, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 East Copeland Drive in Lebanon, Missouri, as the "Steve W. Allee Carrier Annex."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I was absent today from three rollcall votes due to family obligations in Arizona that required my attention.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 537, rollcall vote No. 108; H.R. 3196, rollcall vote No. 109; and H.R. 4166, rollcall vote No. 110.

PERMITTING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY AS PART OF THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to discharge the Committee on House Administration from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 306, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I reserve the right to object, but I will not object.

Madam Speaker, this is a very important resolution. It's something we do every year, and I can't imagine any more appropriate use of the rotunda of the Capitol than to recognize and commemorate the days of the Holocaust and the victims of the Holocaust. It's something that we do every year, something we should do every year and

perhaps more frequently. And it is extremely important for us to recognize this as we confront genocide in other parts of the world, to recognize the genocide that started all genocides and started the discussions about the horrible nature of genocide. So I'm very strongly in favor of this.

Madam Speaker, I withdraw my reservation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 306

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF ROTUNDA FOR HOLOCAUST DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY.

The Rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on May 1, 2008, for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY TO HONOR THE 5 YEARS OF SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF OUR TROOPS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE WAR IN IRAQ AND TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE SERVING OUR NATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I send a concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 313, to the desk and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I reserve the right to object, but I will not object. I simply want to point out this is a very important thing that we should do for our troops. I'm delighted that someone has suggested that we use the rotunda for this purpose.

We all know how difficult it has been for the troops in both Afghanistan and Iraq and in other parts of the world. We also know that there is not universal support in our country for the work that they are doing, and this makes their job doubly difficult. So I'm very pleased to support this resolution and make certain that we truly and properly honor the work of our Armed Forces and their families throughout the world when they work in such difficult circumstances.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. EHLERS. Yes, I would be delighted to yield.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. I would just note that, as the gentleman has mentioned, it is important that we honor the 5 years of service and sacrifice of our troops and their families in the war in Iraq and remember our troops serving in Afghanistan and throughout the world.

I would note that Ranking Member EHLERS is a cosponsor of this resolution, and both conflicts are still ongoing. Our troops' efforts have gone above and beyond the call of duty. Their sacrifice and dedication to their country must be honored, as well as the sacrifice and dedication of American troops stationed at home and around the world. And I am pleased that we will have this important recognition in the people's House, in the rotunda.

I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. EHLERS. Reserving the right to object, I simply want to thank the gentlewoman from California for her good comments. And I hope every Member of this Congress will join us in approving this particular resolution.

Madam Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 313

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF ROTUNDA FOR CEREMONY HONORING THOSE SERVING IN AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ.

(a) USE OF ROTUNDA.—The rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on March 13, 2008, for a ceremony to honor the 5 years of service and sacrifice of our troops and their families in the war in Iraq and to remember those who are serving our Nation in Afghanistan and throughout the world.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the ceremony referred to in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks in the RECORD on the two concurrent resolutions just considered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

REMARKS OF CONGRESSMAN STEVE KING REGARDING SENATOR BARACK OBAMA

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise to strongly condemn the remarks made about U.S. Senator and Democratic Presidential Candidate BARACK OBAMA by Congressman STEVE KING of Iowa, who said that if BARACK OBAMA became President, al Qaeda terrorists would, and I quote, “be dancing in the streets in greater numbers than they did on September 11.” Why? Because, he said, “of his middle name and because of who his father was.”

Senator OBAMA, like all of us in this House, swore on the Bible to defend our country from all enemies, foreign and domestic. He has done nothing to warrant this attack. He has served his country honorably in the U.S. Senate. This attack on his patriotism, religion, heritage, and middle name amount to nothing more than a smear campaign.

I would fully expect these comments to come from people like Rush Limbaugh or Ann Coulter, not from one of my House colleagues. There is simply no room in this country for remarks like these, remarks that Mr. KING declares he stands by.

I urge my colleagues to join me in condemning these hateful remarks.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

H.R. 3196, NAMING THE PORT JERVIS POST OFFICE THE E. ARTHUR GRAY POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HALL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, just moments ago, this body voted to pay an appropriate tribute to a dedicated public servant in New York's 19th Congressional District.

On April 10, 2007, the Hudson Valley lost one of its most involved leaders when E. Arthur Gray, a former five-term mayor of Port Jervis and New York State Senator, passed away at the age of 82 years old. He left behind a legacy of friendship, involvement and service that earned him a permanent place in the heart of Port Jervis and serves as an example of what it means to work for the betterment of your community.

By voting to pass legislation that would redesignate the post office in Port Jervis, New York, as the E. Arthur Gray Post Office Building, the House has acknowledged the contributions of an individual who loved his hometown and who, as a businessman, government official and family man, dedicated a significant portion of his time and energy to its civic life.

Simply put, Arthur Gray was a Port Jervis resident to the core: born February 28, 1925, in Port Jervis, a grad-

uate of Port Jervis High School before leaving briefly for college, only to return as president and co-owner of the Gray-Parker Funeral Home in his native Port Jervis.

Art Gray's participation in public life extended to government service. He was mayor of Port Jervis from 1978 to 1988. A lifetime resident of Port Jervis, Gray gave his undivided attention to issues, both large and small, and was widely known for his open-door policy.

Art Gray remains the longest-serving mayor in the history of Port Jervis. During his tenure he was able to reinvigorate the downtown area and greatly improve the city's economic development plan. Citizens of the local area remember Art as a man who was generous in nature and willing to help those in need. After finishing his service as mayor, Art Gray maintained his commitment to public service by successfully running for a seat in the New York State senate in 1988.

He represented the 39th Senatorial District in that capacity until 1990. But E. Arthur Gray's contributions to his city and his country were not limited to business and politics. He served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve during World War II. He was also deeply involved in community life, and the list of organizations that count him as a member is astounding.

At one time or another, Art Gray was a member of the Port Jervis Community Development Agency, the Orange County Economic Development Agency, the National League of Small Cities Advisory Council, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Bon Secours Community Hospital Advisory Board, Knights of Columbus Council No. 471, Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Elks Lodge No. 645, BPOE, Port Jervis Lions Club, Tri-States Chamber of Commerce, Port Jervis Country Club, Metaque Falls Hunting Club, Tri-States Rod and Gun Club, the Port Jervis Board of Education, and Port Jervis Planning Board.

When you look at that list, you gain a true appreciation for how much time, energy, and dedication Art Gray devoted to betterment of his hometown. However, he devoted just as much, if not more, to his family and friends. He was extremely devoted to his wife, Helen; son, Gerald; daughter, Brigid; and numerous other family members and close friends. He is remembered by those closest to him as enthusiastic, optimistic, supporting, loving, and inspirational.

Through it all, E. Arthur Gray's life was deeply interwoven with the fabric of Port Jervis, his home, and it is fitting that the adoption of this bill will help memorialize his service.

□ 1930

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SUNSET MEMORIAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand with yet another sunset memorial. It is March 10, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sunset today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today, Madam Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent American lives that were lost on September 11, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,831 days since the travesty called Roe v. Wade was handed down by an arrogant Supreme Court. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of our own children.

Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over their vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common: They were each just little babies that had done nothing wrong to anyone; each one of them died a nameless and lonely death; and each of their mothers, whether she realizes it immediately or not, will never be the same; and all the gifts these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever.

Yet, even in the full glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invisible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims to date, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's important for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves again of why we are really all here.

Thomas Jefferson said, “The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the only chief and only object of good government.”

The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, “No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law.” Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here. It is our sworn oath.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is that clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our core commitment to this self-evident truth. It has made us the beacon of hope for the whole world. It is who we are.

And yet, Madam Speaker, another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibilities as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection that we should have given them.

It seems so sad, Madam Speaker, that this sunset memorial may be the only public remembrance these children who died today will ever have in this Chamber. So, as small a gesture as it might be, I would respectfully ask this moment for a moment of silence for those lost little Americans.

Madam Speaker, let me conclude in the hope that perhaps someone new who hears this sunset memorial tonight will finally realize that abortion really does kill little babies, that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express, and that 12,831 days killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that the America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust is still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their babies than abortion on demand.

So tonight, Madam Speaker, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered, and that all too soon, each of us will walk through these Chambers for the very last time. And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene at yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of the innocent unborn. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and constitutional duty to protect the least of these, our tiny American brothers and sisters, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is March 10, 2008, Madam Speaker, 12,831 days since *Roe v. Wade* first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children. This, in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

JOBS POST BIGGEST DROP IN 5 YEARS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, since 2000, our Nation has lost over 3,400,000 more manufacturing jobs. In fact, the job creation record of the Bush administration is the worst since the Hoover administration.

The figures released by the U.S. Department of Labor last week posted the largest job loss in 5 years. The report was much weaker than expected, and, strangely, the unemployment rate declined because there were fewer people in the workforce. CNN's Moneyline re-

ported that employers made their deepest cuts in staffing in almost 5 years in February. There was a net loss of 63,000 more jobs, which is the biggest decline since March 2003, and weaker than the revised 22,000 job loss reported for January. The job loss was widespread, reaching beyond the battered construction industry, which lost 39,000 jobs, and manufacturing, where job losses hit 52,000.

Retailers cut 34,000 jobs while business and professional service cut 20,000 jobs. Temporary staffing firms cut nearly 28,000 jobs off their payrolls, another warning sign of employers pulling back, and hotels cut about 4,000 jobs, a sign that discretionary consumer spending could be on the wane. Overall, the private sector cut over 101,000 jobs according to the CNN Moneyline report.

The widening recession in almost every sector, not just the goods-producing sector, is extraordinarily important. I wish to place those numbers in the RECORD and say, Madam Speaker, America needs to create more real wealth here at home and stop borrowing prosperity and piling on more debt. We need to create jobs leading to energy independence in this country. We need to do more than just sort of flash our hand at that and be serious about it.

We need new transportation systems in our country. We need new bridges in the ground. We need people to be employed, those who now are idle labor, in helping to build back our economy from coast to coast.

A real stimulus package would lead our Nation to invest here at home, not just to borrow more from abroad. These numbers are serious omens. They're warning signs to those who have responsibility here in Washington to do more than manipulate interest rates. They would engage this Congress in an effort to build forward again in those sectors that would leave future generations real wealth, the kind of wealth that our ancestors left us: libraries, schools, highways, bridges, new energy systems, clean water systems, new transportation systems, new high-speed rail, new air control towers; the kind of wealth that can't be outsourced that belongs to the American people for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, I place in the RECORD the figures from the CNN Moneyline report about what happened with the biggest job loss in 5 years in this past quarter.

JOBS POST BIGGEST DROP IN 5 YEARS

(By Chris Isidore)

NEW YORK.—Employers made their deepest cut in staffing in almost five years in February, according to a closely watched government report Friday that showed the labor market far weaker than expected, fueling already building recession fears.

There was a net loss of 63,000 jobs, according to the Labor Department, which is the biggest decline since March 2003 and weaker than the revised 22,000 job loss reported for January. Economists surveyed by Briefing.com had forecast a gain of 25,000 jobs in the most recent reading.

The job loss was widespread, reaching beyond the battered construction sector, which lost 39,000 and manufacturing, where job losses hit 52,000. Retailers cut 34,000 jobs, while business and professional services cut 20,000 jobs.

Temporary staffing firms cut nearly 28,000 jobs off their payrolls, another warning sign of employers pulling back, and hotels cut about 4,000 jobs, a sign that discretionary consumer spending could be on the wane.

Overall the private sector cut 101,000 jobs, with only a gain in government employment limiting losses.

Despite the job loss, the unemployment improved to 4.8% from the 4.9% reading in January. Economists had forecast the unemployment rate would rise to 5%. The rate fell because of a big jump in the number of people that the government counted as no longer in the labor force.

The labor market has weakened significantly in recent months, prompting fears of recession along with a \$170 billion economic stimulus package and a series of interest rate cuts from the Federal Reserve.

The Fed is next set to meet March 18 to consider what to do with interest rates. Friday's report would seem to suggest more rate cuts are on the way, despite the improved unemployment rate.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS ON CONSTITUTIONAL WAR POWERS RESOLUTION OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, this Thursday, March 13, 2008, the International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight Subcommittee will conduct a hearing on "War Powers for the 21st Century: The Congressional Perspective." I would like to thank Chairman BILL DELAHUNT and Ranking Member DANA ROHRBACHER for scheduling this hearing. It is my understanding that Chairman DELAHUNT and Ranking Member ROHRBACHER also plan to hold two additional war powers hearings during the month of April.

I am extremely grateful for their interest in this very important issue. Along with former Congressmen David Skaggs and Mickey Edwards, who are cochairmen of the Constitutional Projects War Powers Initiative, this Thursday I will testify on the legislation I introduced in October of 2007, the Constitutional War Powers Resolution, H.J. Res. 53.

Too many times this Congress has abdicated its constitutional duty by allowing Presidents to overstep their executive authority. Our Constitution states that while the Commander-in-Chief has the power to conduct wars, only Congress has the power to authorize war.

It is for this reason that in 1999 I joined 16 of my colleagues in Congress to file a suit against President Clinton for unconstitutionally conducting offensive military attacks against Yugoslavia without obtaining a declaration of war or other explicit authorizations from Congress.

Now, as threats to international peace and security continue to evolve, the Constitutional War Powers Resolution, H.J. Res. 53, rededicates Congress to its primary constitutional role of deciding when to use force abroad.

In 1793, James Madison said, “. . . The power to declare war, including the power of judging the causes of war, is fully and exclusively vested in the legislature . . . the executive has no right, in any case, to decide the question, whether there is or is not cause for declaring war.”

The Framers of our Constitution sought to decentralize the war powers of the United States and construct a balance between the political branches.

□ 1945

The War Powers Resolution of 1973 aimed to clarify the intent of the constitutional Framers and to ensure that Congress and the President share in the decision-making process in the event of armed conflict. Yet, since the enactment of the resolution, time and again Presidents have maintained that the resolution's consultation, reporting, and congressional authorization requirements are unconstitutional obstacles to executive authority.

By more fully clarifying the war powers of the President and the Congress, the legislation I've introduced, H.J. Res. 53, the Constitutional War Powers Resolution, improves upon the War Powers Resolution of 1973 in a number of ways. It clearly spells out the powers that the Congress and the President must exercise collectively, as well as the defensive measures the Commander in Chief may exercise without congressional approval. It also provides a more robust reporting requirement that would enable Congress to be more informed and to have greater oversight. And it protects and preserves the checks and balances the Framers intended in the decision to bring our Nation into war.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to congressional hearings on this critical issue. The time for Congress to meet its constitutional duty is long overdue.

And with that, Madam Speaker, I would like to ask God to continue to bless our men and women in Afghanistan and Iraq, and to ask God to continue to bless the families of our men and women in uniform.

ECONOMIC ISOLATIONISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, as the two Democratic contenders duke it out in the Presidential campaign, there's one issue that they both seem very eager to be identified with. And it's very unfortunate, it's the issue of economic isolationism. This kind of policy is as dangerous as it is inconsistent with their own rhetoric.

Both Democratic contenders like to talk about the need to enhance our Na-

tion's image and increase our leadership in the international community. They talk about diplomacy and soft power, and then they turn around and insist we try to withdraw from the worldwide marketplace and cede our global economic leadership. It has even been suggested by them that we go back on a 14-year deal with our two closest neighbors, including our neighbor to the north who has been such a key political ally.

Perhaps this outlandish rhetoric is delivered with a wink and a nod. Perhaps it's merely an attempt to score a few political points without any intention to actually dismantle the deep economic and political ties that we share with our trading partners in this hemisphere. Frankly, I hope that that is the case. But either way, Madam Speaker, this is very dangerous rhetoric.

NAFTA has long been addressed by those running for office as though it were an unmitigated disaster; no one seems to want to touch it with a 10-foot pole. After all, everyone knows that NAFTA has hurt our economy and cost us millions of jobs. Right? Wrong. In 1994, when Bill Clinton sent NAFTA to the Congress, the gross domestic product in this country was \$6.9 trillion. Today, we have a \$14.1 trillion economy. In other words, we have more than doubled the size of our economy in the NAFTA-era. When adjusted for inflation, the numbers are still very striking, with 50 percent growth since 1994. During the same period, 25 million jobs have been created, while our labor force has grown by 18 million.

Fourteen years of NAFTA have seen our economy grow considerably while more Americans are working than ever before and new jobs have abounded. To put it bluntly, anyone who says that NAFTA has destroyed our economy is flat out wrong. Not only has the predicted “giant sucking sound” that we heard about during the NAFTA debate not come to pass, but the precise opposite has taken place.

But, Madam Speaker, NAFTA is just one component of the complex relationships that entail our global engagement, where the economic and the political are inextricably entwined, and nowhere is this role more critical than in our own neighborhood. We have spent years and countless resources promoting democracy in this hemisphere. The rise of Hugo Chavez in Venezuela and his cohorts throughout the region have demonstrated that authoritarianism in our backyard is still a reality. As he sends troops to the border he shares with our friend and ally, Colombia, we are reminded that tyranny in our hemisphere still poses very grave threats.

NAFTA, CAFTA, the Peru Free Trade Agreement, and the proposed agreements with Colombia and Panama build upon the twin pillars of liberty: democratic governments and free markets. They enhance our economic strength with new opportunities and

give us greater leverage to ensure that we have peaceful and prosperous neighbors. And we know that peace and prosperity, Madam Speaker, go hand in hand.

We simply cannot disengage economically without disengaging politically. Engagement through trade is our source of strength and our leadership, and we would disengage to our peril. Those who regard our leadership in the international community so casually that they would trash it for political gain threaten not only our own prosperity, but our ability to play a positive role in this hemisphere and around the globe as we seek to grow our economies and to grow the economies of our neighbors.

U.S.-COLOMBIA TRADE PROMOTION AGREEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to support the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement, to urge the Speaker of this House to bring the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement to this House floor for a vote.

And let me tell you this: this agreement is good for the State that I represent. It's good for Colombia. It's good for the United States. It's good for Illinois farmers. It's good for Illinois workers. And it's good for Illinois manufacturing.

And I would note that in my district I have 8,000 Caterpillar workers, union Caterpillar workers who are manufacturing workers. And under this agreement, I note under the U.S.-Colombia Trade Agreement that our machinery exports see their tariffs imposed on Illinois-made construction equipment eliminated on day one. Now, you think about it, mining equipment used in Colombia is \$1 million equipment, that's a \$100,000 tax on U.S.-made products eliminated on day one.

Currently, Illinois exports \$214 million to Colombia, and that's just the beginning. According to the International Trade Commission, Illinois is a big winner. Pork products will increase 72 percent, according to their economic analysis. Corn and soybeans will see increased sales to Colombia. Fabricated metal products, processed foods, and chemicals will all see increases. And, again, it's expected that machinery, manufactured machinery, like products made by John Deere and Navistar and Caterpillar, will increase 15 percent.

Agriculture. The leaders of agriculture will tell you the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement is the best for agriculture in the history of all trade negotiations. And let's not forget that 80 percent of U.S. exports are currently taxed when they enter Colombia, and they will become duty free immediately. That will allow us to

become competitive with China and Asia and other competition.

We know Colombia, a democracy, as a reliable partner and ally. We know that Colombia is the oldest democracy in Latin America. And we also recognize that President Uribe of Colombia is our hemisphere's most popular elected official with over 80 percent approval ratings. Compare that to this Congress, which has a 15 percent approval rating. Big difference.

Now, there are those who oppose the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement. They say that Colombia, amongst all the good things it's done, just hasn't done enough regarding violence against labor leaders. Let's remember that Colombia has had 40 years of civil strife driven by left-wing gorillas trying to overthrow the democratically elected government of Colombia. But today, 71 percent of Colombians say they feel more secure under President Uribe; 73 percent say Uribe respects human rights. Those are Colombians, not Americans, saying that.

Homicides are down 40 percent in Colombia; kidnappings are down 76 percent. The murder rate today in Medellin, once the poster child of violence in Colombia, one of the most dangerous cities on the planet, today has a lower murder rate than Washington, DC, or Baltimore.

But let's look at the facts on labor violence. President Uribe has made major changes, beginning with reforming the judiciary. He has had hired 418 new prosecutors, 545 new investigators. In fact, in the Prosecutor General's Office, responsible for targeting those who are responsible for the violence in Colombia, they've added over 2,000 new posts.

Funding has gone up 75 percent in the last few years alone under President Uribe. And quoting Carlos Rodriguez, president of the United Workers Confederation, a labor leader in Colombia: "Never in the history of Colombia have we achieved something so important." Again, that's a Colombian labor leader.

President Uribe and Colombia, under the government initiatives, have worked to protect labor leaders, giving them special protections. Last year, they spent over \$38 million for body guard protection for labor union leaders; 1,500 union members and activists received special protection, the second largest protected group in Colombia, and it's been successful. For labor activists under this program, none have lost their lives. And I would note that the murder rate today for labor unionists is lower than the national murder rate for everyone else.

So progress has been made.

And I would note that crimes categorized as anti-union violence often are not union related, but regular crime that everyone in Colombia has contended with, many are the responsibility of the leftist FARC.

I would note that the International Labor Organization has removed Colombia from its labor watch list. Co-

lombia has agreed to a permanent ILO representative in Colombia. And perhaps most telling, 14 Colombian labor leaders have given their support to the trade agreement.

The bottom line is, ladies and gentlemen, this agreement is good for Illinois workers, it's good for Illinois manufacturers, it's good for Illinois farmers. Let's bring it up for a vote. I ask my colleagues to support this important trade agreement. And I will also include for the RECORD a copy of an "Economist" article talking about President Hugo Chavez and the FARC and their opposition to this agreement.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 10, 2008.

DEAR COLLEAGUE: Please read this informative recent article from The Economist about FARC narcoterrorists in Colombia and troubling links with the Chavez administration in Venezuela. As noted below, "Mr. Chavez, still with oil money but politically on the defensive, may have thrown in his lot with an outlaw army of drug-traffickers."

Now more than ever we must support the pending Trade Promotion Agreement with our neighbor and friend Colombia.

Sincerely,

JERRY WELLER,
Member of Congress.

(From The Economist, Mar. 6, 2008)

COLOMBIA IS MOVING CLOSER TO BREAKING THE FARC—UNLESS VENEZUELA STOPS IT

On few, if any, other occasions has a head of state issued detailed orders for military mobilization as jauntily as if he were ordering pizza, and on live television. That is what Hugo Chavez, Venezuela's president, did on March 2nd, after Colombian forces bombed a camp just inside Ecuador, killing Raul Reyes, a senior commander of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrillas.

"Minister of defence!" bellowed Mr. Chavez, on "ALO PRESIDENTE" ("Hello President"), his weekly radio and television programme. "Send me ten battalions to the border, including tanks." He also ordered the forward deployment of his new Russian fighter-bombers, threatening that if Colombia's president, Alvaro Uribe, tried a similar raid on Venezuelan soil he would "send over the Sukhois". The next day he broke diplomatic ties with Colombia.

Venezuelan troops and tanks duly moved to the more populated points of the long border between the two countries. Customs officials halted Colombian trucks at the busiest crossing point, between Cucuta and San Cristobal.

What made this performance odd was that it was Ecuador, not Venezuela, whose sovereignty had been violated. True, Colombia has often accused Venezuela of harbouring guerrilla leaders and tolerating camps near the border similar to the one bombed in Ecuador. But did Venezuela's president have a guilty conscience?

"Maybe he knew what was coming," wrote Teodoro Petkoff, a guerrilla leader in the 1960s who now edits an opposition newspaper in Caracas. Mr. Chavez's apparent over-reaction was a pre-emptive attempt to "throw a veil over the revelations he suspected might come from Raul Reyes' computer," suggested Mr Petkoff.

With Ecuador's president, Rafael Correa, following Mr. Chavez's lead, this week's events sent Latin America's diplomats scurrying to prevent war enveloping the neighbourhood. But they also laid bare that Colombia's government is coming close to

breaking the back of the FARC, and in the process threatening to shine light on its murky relations with neighbouring governments.

When Mr. Uribe took office in 2002, the guerrillas were rampant. His predecessor had just halted peace negotiations because the FARC had used a "demilitarised" zone created to host the talks as a base for recruitment and for kidnapping (many of the politicians it has held hostage were seized during the talks). The guerrillas had some 17,000 troops; they blocked main roads and bombarded small towns, kidnapping and killing almost at will. To make matters worse, the state's inability to provide security had spawned murderous right-wing paramilitary groups.

Mr. Uribe's "democratic security" policy has achieved a dramatic change. By expanding the security forces, he has driven the FARC from populated areas, while persuading most of the paramilitaries to demobilize. Officials reckon they have reduced the FARC's ranks to fewer than 11,000. But the guerrillas withdrew to the vast tropical lowlands, to areas they have controlled for 40 years. There they resisted a two-year offensive by 18,000 troops. The army could not get near the FARC's seven-man governing secretariat, of which Mr. Reyes (the NOM DE GUERRE of Luis Edgar Devia) was a member.

SEEKING THE SECRETARIAT

Thwarted, the security forces refined their strategy. They put more effort into seeking the FARC's leaders using information from guerrilla deserters and infiltrators, and from sophisticated bugging equipment provided by the United States. Over the past year, this has started to pay off. Two FARC regional commanders have been killed and one captured. In January and February alone, the army claims to have killed 247 guerrillas and captured 226, with another 360 deserting. This pressure has pushed FARC units to the borders with Ecuador, Venezuela and Panama.

Last month the government received a tip-off that Mr. Reyes was in a camp less than two kilometers (1.25 miles) inside Ecuador. Mr. Uribe authorized a bombing raid by Brazilian-made Super Tucano aircraft, which killed at least 21 guerrillas. Colombian troops then crossed the border to recover Mr. Reyes's corpse—and his laptop computers. (They left three wounded women guerrillas unattended.)

Most Colombians were jubilant that the government had struck at the very top of the FARC at last. Mr. Reyes handled the guerrillas' relations with the outside world; he was one of three deputies to Manuel Marulanda, the FARC's elderly leader. For the first time the security forces have shown that they are capable of infiltrating and defeating the guerrillas' tough systematic strikes, said Roman Ortiz of Fundacion Ideas para la Paz, a Bogota think-tank.

Mr. Uribe doubtless thought that Mr. Correa could be mollified over the cross-border raid. But spurred on by Mr. Chavez, Ecuador's president sent 3,200 troops to the border and cut diplomatic ties. He demanded an emergency meeting of the Organization of American States (OAS) to condemn Colombia, and set off on a tour of regional capitals seeking support.

THE LAPTOP LODE

Almost as important as the killing of Mr. Reyes may be the capture of his laptops. Apart from inside information on the FARC, according to Colombian officials, they contain documents which—if true—are embarrassing to Mr. Correa but highly damaging to Mr. Chavez. As the FARC's top negotiator,

Mr. Reyes appears to have met representatives of many governments. According to one e-mail, he met Gustavo Larrea, Mr. Correa's security minister last month. Mr. Larrea is alleged to have proposed a formal meeting in Quito to discuss securing the border and negotiating the release of some of the FARC's 700-odd hostages. Mr. Larrea said that Colombian officials knew of his meeting, which was purely to talk about the hostages.

Ecuadorian officials having swapped complaints with their Colombian counterparts about their mutual inability to prevent the FARC from crossing the border. Ecuador claims to spend \$160m a year containing the spillover. It is also angry about Colombia spraying coca fields on the border with weed-killer, which it says drifts south on to other crops.

Nevertheless, Ecuador has given some help to Colombia. Mr. Correa claimed that last year his forces dismantled 47 FARC camps inside Ecuador and on three occasions carried out joint operations with Colombian troops. American surveillance aircraft still patrol over Colombia from an air base in Ecuador, although Mr. Correa has promised not to renew the lease for this when it expires in 2009.

By contrast, Mr. Chavez has recently been unambiguous in his support for the FARC. He fell out with Mr. Uribe last year over his attempt to act as a mediator for the hostages. Since then he has cast aside his previous stance as an honest broker seeking a peaceful solution to Colombia's internal conflict. When the FARC turned over two hostages to him in January, Mr. Chavez hailed the guerrillas as a "true army" whose status as belligerents should be recognised. No other government in the region, not even Cuba's, echoed this call. On "ALO PRESIDENTE" Mr. Chavez held a minute's silence in honor of Mr. Reyes, whom he said he had met three times over the years. He declared that Colombia needed to be "liberated" from its "subservience" to the United States.

Another document allegedly on Mr. Reyes's computer showed that Mr. Chavez paid (or planned to pay) the FARC \$300m. An (unrelated) e-mail to Mr. Reyes suggested that the FARC were trying to obtain uranium for a "dirty bomb". All this prompted some far-fetched exchanges. Mr. Uribe said that he would denounce Mr. Chavez for "financing genocide"; in return, Venezuela accused Colombia's police chief, who revealed the contents of Mr. Reyes's laptop, of being a "drug trafficker".

"This is * * * a microphone war," said General Raul Salazar, a former defense minister. Like many other Venezuelans, he doubts that it will become a real one. That is not least because many army officers do not want war with Colombia and find Mr. Chavez's actions an "embarrassment", said another former defense minister, General Raul Baduel, who is now a prominent opponent of the president.

So what is Mr. Chavez's game? One possible answer is his obsessive search for an external enemy to shore up his waning popularity at home. In December, his political blueprint for a socialist Venezuela, with indefinite presidential re-election, was defeated in a referendum. This came only a year after he won a second six-year term with 63 percent of the vote, and was the first time he had lost a national vote.

In November Venezuelans are due to vote for mayors and state governors. They are increasingly discontented about crime, an inflation rate that has surged to 25 percent and shortages of basic goods, including food and cooking gas. Because of Mr. Chavez's mismanagement of agriculture, Venezuela imports much of its food from Colombia. Any

lasting interruption of trade would hurt both countries. Reputable pollsters say that Mr. Chavez's popularity has fallen well below 50 percent. Visible faction fights have broken out in his newly formed Unified Socialist Party of Venezuela.

Picking a fight with Colombia and supporting the FARC are unlikely to win him friends. One poll, by Hinterlaces, showed 89 percent opposed to a war and 87 percent opposed to the FARC. So the reason for his military mobilization may be to deter Colombia from moving against the FARC camps in Venezuela where some Colombian officials believe that Mr. Marulanda is based. A more worrying, though improbable, hypothesis is that Mr. Chavez, a former army officer, is throwing off all pretence at being a civilian democrat and, fearing that he may not remain in power for long, wants to launch an assault on what he sees as American imperialism and its regional stooge, Mr. Uribe.

Although George Bush gave public support to Mr. Uribe, other governments in the region, led by Brazil, tried to drive a wedge between Mr. Correa and Mr. Chavez. There were signs that this might work. On March 5th Ecuador agreed to an OAS resolution criticizing, but not formally condemning, Colombia. The OAS also agreed to investigate the bombing. Once the region's diplomats have patched things up between these two countries, they face another, more intractable problem: Mr. Chavez, still with oil money but politically on the defensive, may have thrown in his lot with an outlaw army of drug-traffickers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS MESSAGE HOUR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members would have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, it's befitting that you are in the Speaker's chair today as we discuss this very important hour.

I have the pleasure to manage this hour on behalf of the Congressional

Black Caucus. And we're going to be talking about black history and women's history, a combination of last month and this month's themes.

I want to begin by saying that we will have an opportunity to discuss the state of black women in America and pay tribute to African American women in our communities. We felt it befitting, as we recently celebrated Black History Month in February and currently are in the midst of Women's History Month.

Tonight we will begin by highlighting some of the findings from the recent study of "The State of Black America," released by the Urban League, and discussing some of the wonderful women from our own congressional districts.

I would like to begin now by yielding time to my colleague and good friend from the great State of California, DIANE WATSON.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker and my honorable colleague, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, thank you for this opportunity to salute our women over a period of time.

I would like now to introduce you to a woman by the name of Mayme Clayton.

Mayme Clayton, a renowned librarian, worked her entire life to assemble a priceless collection of historical artifacts. The collection was assembled over a 40-year period by Mayme A. Clayton, 1923 to 2006, a career librarian at the University of Southern California in my district, and University of California, Los Angeles, my alma mater. And Dr. Clayton's singular commitment to preserve African American culture and history was inspired by her desire to ensure that children would know the richness and diversity of African American contributions to the world.

The Mayme A. Clayton Collection of African American History and Culture is comprised of seven main components. They are as follows: rare and out-of-print books, manuscripts, documents, films, music, photographs, and memorabilia. The collection is a remarkable cultural treasure, with a vast ability to educate and to delight. It is our hope that this particular collection will be explored on the Web site to learn more about the collection and why Dr. Mayme Clayton assembled it, and the goals of the Western States Black Research and Educational Center.

It's a research center, and it's scheduled to receive a Federal grant to refurbish its facilities that are located in my district, Culver City, California. The center will be known as the Mayme Clayton Library, and it has housed the largest collection of rare books, films, recordings, and other documents on black Americans outside of the Schomburg Library.

Ms. Clayton's historic efforts have not been in vain, but can rightfully serve as historical and intellectual nourishment for this generation as well as future generations of Americans.

□ 2000

When she learned that there was a location for her rare collection, which she kept in her garage, and I remember going over as a student at UCLA and going through her works for a paper that I had to do, I knew that she would outgrow that space and would have to find a place that could rightfully house such a precious collection. But we found a place for her. It was the old courthouse in Culver City. As you know, you cannot sell a courthouse; so we're on loan. They lent it to us for a period of time, and we're going to see that Federal grants go to that library to preserve this collection.

And I am so pleased to put that name into your psyche because she has skillfully, artfully, and scholarly recorded our history, as written by slaves themselves and written by free men.

Mayme Clayton, a true African American heroine.

Thank you, Stephanie Tubbs Jones, for giving me this time to talk about Mayme Clayton.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. I would like to thank my colleague for always being with me and supporting me and the Congressional Black Caucus on issues that we present.

Madam Speaker, I would like to begin this evening by paying tribute to one of my she-roes and a pillar of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio and the Cleveland community, Judge Jean Murrell Capers.

At 95 years of age, Judge Jean Murrell Capers is still ticking and kicking. Known for her feistiness and zest for life, Judge Capers has been a trailblazer for many black women including myself in the law and politics.

A native of Kentucky, Judge Capers moved to Cleveland with her family 88 years ago. She still resides in the family house located in the heart of Cleveland. Judge Capers credits her parents with her success and longevity to the teachings instilled in her by her parents: "My parents provided my four siblings and me with what we needed, not what we wanted. The two things that impact on the individual are heredity and environment. The most important thing for you is to learn."

In 1932 Judge Capers began teaching in the Cleveland Public Schools. She went on to receive her law degree from Case Western Reserve University, which she calls the "Harvard of the Midwest."

Raised as a devout Presbyterian, Judge Capers says that the Bible and the Constitution are the two books she lives by. Through the teachings of the Bible and her Christian upbringing, she learned the importance of serving the community. That belief led her into politics.

Judge Capers began her profession in law and politics in 1945. She was the

first black woman in the United States to be elected a city council member and the first to serve as an assistant county prosecutor in Cuyahoga County. Because of her commitment to her community, Judge Capers was appointed by then Governor James Rhodes to serve as a municipal court judge, a position she was elected to once her appointment expired.

A member of my great sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Judge Capers has accumulated numerous awards including the Frances Payne Bolton Award presented by the Western Reserve Republican Club and has been inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame.

The interesting thing about Judge Capers' life is the fact that she was born on the very day that Delta Sigma Theta was founded and in the very same year. So we always call her our representative of Delta Sigma Theta.

Widely recognized for her gorgeous hats, Judge Capers continues to be an advocate for all people in the community. She still practices law at the age of 95. I can honestly say there would be no Stephanie Tubbs Jones were it not for Judge Jean Murrell Capers. So tonight I'm pleased to recognize her for her life of service and for all that she does on behalf of candidates throughout the State of Ohio and throughout the United States of America. Tonight she's still actively involved in the presidential elections. Though we're not on the same side, I still love her dearly.

Let me go on to talk now about the Urban League's State of Black America Study. Urban League president and CEO Marc Morial states: "By uplifting black women, especially those struggling hardest to keep their families together and their dreams on track, we lift up every American community."

I want to applaud the Urban League for having the vision to highlight the issues of black women in this country in this year's report. Oftentimes our issues are overlooked and/or marginalized. I would like to share with you a few excerpts from some of the essays featured in this year's report. This year's essayists do a fantastic job of highlighting the many struggles of black women in America.

Black women and the workplace: In her essay "African American Women and Work: Still a Tale of Two Cities," Alexis Herman has this to say regarding the inequality women face in the workplace:

"Over the last 60 years, the labor force participation of women has more than doubled, which means nearly one out of every two workers is a woman. However, this increase in labor force participation was driven largely by non-African American women deciding to work outside their homes. African American women have a long history of working outside of their homes and have the highest labor force participation rate among women, 63.4 percent. Not only are more women working, but more of these working women are

mothers as well. Further, one in four married working women earn more than their husbands. However, many African American women are concentrated in low-paying service jobs or staff positions. African American women are 6 percent of the workforce but 14 percent of workers earning between \$15,000 and \$30,000 per year and are less than 1 percent of workers earning over \$100,000 per year. Not only do African American women earn less, the growth in their earnings has lagged behind that of white women, 19 percent and 29 percent respectively. At the upper end of the earnings distribution, disparities in the labor market impact approximately 1 percent of African American women in corporate officer positions whose earnings are on average \$229,000 compared to \$250,000 for white women."

Taking the conversation even deeper is Dr. Julianne Malveaux, who in her essay, "Shouldering the Third Burden: The status of African American Women," she states:

"The labor market presents the most striking example of the third burden. Black men and women both experience higher unemployment rates than the general population. However, the unemployment and underemployment of black men shifts a disproportionate economic responsibility onto the shoulders of African American women, who then must support households and children without sufficient contribution from their spouses, partners, or fathers. The failure of public policy to create jobs and access to employment in the wake of urban deindustrialization puts African American men at a particular disadvantage and thereby places the burden of family survival on African American women."

Another article about black women and the foreclosure crisis is written by Andrea Harris, the president of the North Carolina Institute for Minority Economic Development, and she had this to say about the impact of the foreclosure crisis and its effect on African American women:

"Nearly two-thirds of the wealth possessed by African American families is in the form of home equity. Without homeownership most of these households own very little and have few opportunities to build economic security. Half of all African American households with children are headed by women; therefore, homeownership is an important economic advantage for these families.

"The 1977 Community Reinvestment Act was enacted to abolish redlining, but it created a market for predatory lending. A recent report by the Consumer Federation of America notes that subprime loans have gone disproportionately to women and that African American and Latina women have the highest rates of subprime lending when compared to all other Americans, especially white men who receive the lowest share of subprime

loans. Moreover, the disparity increases as income increases. In fact, upper-income African American women are more than five times more likely to receive a subprime mortgage than white men. Since subprime borrowers typically refinance from one subprime loan to another, this translates into projected foreclosures for more than one-third of subprime borrowers.

“Considering that over half of all loans made to black borrowers in 2005 and 2006 were subprime and that African American women accounted for 48.8 percent of all African American subprime borrowers in 2006, it is easy to imagine the devastation that is headed toward black women and their communities. A January, 2008, report issued by United for a Fair Economy says that the subprime mortgage crisis will drain \$213 billion in wealth from black Americans, producing for African Americans the greatest wealth loss in modern U.S. history.”

Let's talk about black women's health for a moment. Dr. Doris Browne, president and CEO of Brown & Associates, Inc., had these observations about the impact of health disparities on African American women:

“Particularly striking are disparities in the occurrence of illness and death experienced by African Americans caused by higher rates of cardiovascular disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes, AIDS, and a shorter life expectancy. For instance, heart disease is the leading cause of death for women in the United States. However, the death rate for heart disease is 20 percent higher for African American women than white women. In addition, cancer is the second leading cause of death among women; yet the 5-year survival rate is 10 percent lower for African American women compared to their white female counterparts. Also, 15 million black women in the United States are afflicted with diabetes, roughly double the number of U.S. white women who are diagnosed with the disease.

“With regard to HIV and AIDS, 61 percent of those under age 25 with a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS are African American, and African American women are diagnosed with AIDS at a rate nearly 24 times higher than white women. Black women are more likely to be infected by heterosexual means, sexual contact with men who are HIV positive, compared to other racial and ethnic groups. Possible explanations for these disparities are the complex interaction of biological factors, environment, ethnicity, insurance, and certain health behaviors or life-style choices. Equally important are the effects of socioeconomic factors such as education and income in creating health disparities. For African American women, poverty, race, and ethnicity play a significant role in lower health quality and health outcomes.

“Overcoming persistent health disparities and promoting healthy behaviors for African Americans is a formi-

dable health challenge. African American women must devote more time to care for their own health needs because health education, awareness, and screening are essential in preventing and controlling chronic diseases in women.”

All of these points that have been made in this wonderful publication by the Urban League point to issues that predominate in the African American community, which particularly fall upon African American women in our country. The Urban League should be applauded for focusing in on the state of black women in America. And we focus in again around education, around health care, around job opportunities, around income within the workplace.

When we have been looking at issues around women and the workplace, one of the things that we have noticed persistently is that women still only make about 70 cents of every dollar that men make in the workplace, and we have to continue to fight for our opportunity to be paid equally in the workplace. It becomes even a greater dilemma as we focus in on the foreclosure crisis, which has caused so many families to go under.

In the State of Ohio, 90,000 houses or homes in Ohio are in the predatory lending process. I am told that the number across the country is somewhere around 900,000 families or houses in this country are in debt or in trouble as a result of the foreclosure crisis. It becomes even more important that Members of Congress and my colleagues begin to focus in on these issues and try to do what we can to assist those families in the process.

One of the dilemmas that we really face as well is, though, that the proposals that have been placed upon the table to try to fix the foreclosure process have not really focused on the people who are stuck in the foreclosure. They are more focused on the banking and financial institutions than on the people and the process.

□ 2015

We need to push as Members of Congress to make sure that we pursue other opportunities to assist people who are really in need of our support.

It is exciting as we go on and celebrate Black History Month and Women's History Month together that we think about all the great leaders and great women who have come before us in this country.

I had an opportunity about 2 weeks ago to be in Akron, Ohio, with a group of women. We were focusing on Women's History Month and that great woman, Sojourner Truth, an African American woman who was a leader in the suffragette movement, even though she recognized back then, even though she fought on behalf of the suffragette movement, that she as an African American woman would not have the opportunity to have the right to vote, even if she won the suffragette movement.

We recalled in our discussion this great speech that she gave that was called “Ain't I a Woman?” and she talked about that she had worked and slaved in cotton fields, that she was able to till the land just like a man, that she was able to cut down trees like a man and she said, “But ain't I a woman? And she went on to talk about the fact that women across this country have worked very hard and very diligently but, in fact, they have not been given the rights or recognition that they should. And she ends this great speech by saying, if one woman can be determined to have turned this world upside down, surely all the women in this room ought to be able to turn it right side up again. And then she said, And the men ought to let them do it.

So it is an exciting time as we focus in on Women's History Month that we have a time to reflect on great women like Sojourner Truth and others who were leading the charge to make sure that women had the right to vote and participate in the process.

I am excited to discuss in that same vein 22 women, and these 22 women were the founders of my sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. These 22 women had been part of another sorority and decided that they wanted to be more focused on political and social issues and created Delta Sigma Theta Sorority at Howard University back in 1913, the same year that Judge Jean Murrell Capers was born. Part of their first act was to participate in the suffragette march.

I gave a speech the other day that was interesting in the conversation that the people who put the march together, they wanted to push all the African American women to the back of the march because they knew that they would not be able to vote, but the African American women started participating in the march and they said, to heck with this, we're going to be at the front. And so they moved around the march and moved to the front of the march on behalf of the people that are represented. So it was really women who were participating in the forefront that clearly had the chance to give us or set the example for what we should be able to do.

I am just so pleased to have had this opportunity on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus to talk about Women's History Month, to talk about African American women who have done such a great job in the process. I am confident that my colleagues would have been here this evening but for other commitments and that is why I have sought to have the privilege to have them be able to revise and extend their remarks so that they can add information to this particular time.

It is always great to have a chance to participate in these Special Orders on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus; our Chair, CAROLYN CHEEKS KILPATRICK; our Vice Chair, BARBARA LEE, who happens to be the Speaker in the chair right now.

Madam Speaker, with that I am willing to yield back the balance of my time such that the next person who has a Special Order can come forward. I thank you for the time.

SIMPLIFYING THE TAX CODE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BURGESS. And I thank the Speaker.

Madam Speaker, it has been said over and over again that nothing in this life is certain except death and taxes. I was a practicing physician for over 25 years back in Texas and I've got to tell you, sometimes death seems a little less complicated than our Tax Code. The complexity of the Tax Code has done nothing but grow since the Federal income tax was first introduced in this body in 1913.

When it was first created, the Tax Code was 400 pages. This year, it is 67,506 pages, nearly a 17,000 percent increase, pretty typical of government math. Because I'm a visual person, I would like to show you what the statistics look like.

Here is a picture from the "CCH Standard Federal Tax Reporter" illustrating the exponential increase in the Tax Code. What this demonstrates, Madam Speaker, is way back here in 1913, we had one little 400-page book that was the Federal Tax Code, and then we fast forward to 2007 and 2008 and you see the number of pages now that fill the bookshelf, making the complexity of the code something that the average person, quite honestly just does not understand.

Madam Speaker, remember that one of the fundamental tenets of the American legal system, including the tax system, is that ignorance of the law is no excuse. Therefore, in theory, every single American who is merely trying to comply with the Tax Code and file their taxes by April 15 is supposed to be familiar with all of the 67,000 some odd pages that are contained within the Tax Code which comprise the tax rules.

Now, I don't know if my tax preparer back home knows all of the 67,506 pages and you have to wonder about other people in other congressional districts. What about the small business owner? What about the single mom who is just struggling to get by? How are they ever going to know all of the regulations contained within 67,506 pages of the U.S. Tax Code?

The complexity of the Tax Code is a result of countless deductions and exemptions aimed at steering a social agenda, quite honestly, when it's supposed to be a Tax Code. That's one of the fundamental problems with our tax system, is that we try to enforce social policy through the Tax Code rather than seeing the Tax Code simply as a vehicle for collecting those revenues

that the government has to collect in order to run. Special interest groups run rampant through every single page of that 67,000 pages. Anytime Congress wants to punish a special interest group or reward another, Congress adds a new credit or a new law to the mammoth Tax Code. The result is a Federal law fraught with opportunities for avoiding taxes and loopholes to be exploited at the expense of fellow Americans. Everyone is familiar with the problems inherent in our convoluted Tax Code, and criticizing the American Tax Code is as American as apple pie and baseball, and for good reason.

Let me share just a few interesting facts on why we need fundamental tax reform. Each year, Americans spend 6.5 billion hours preparing their tax forms, and businesses spend 800 million hours complying with the Tax Code. The cost of compliance for Federal taxpayers filling out returns and related chores was \$265 billion in 2005. The average taxpayer pays over \$1,800 per household in compliance costs. In other words, that taxpayer works a little over a week just to pay for the cost of preparing his or her taxes for that year.

A study was done back in 1998 when the forms in 1998 were less complicated than they are 10 years later, and it surveyed 46 tax experts. Each expert came up with 46 different answers when determining tax liability. Forty-six preparers, each given the same set of data, 46 different figures to determine tax liability. The tax calculations themselves ranged some \$34,000 to \$68,000, almost a doubling of the original estimated amount.

The Tax Foundation prepared the following information that actually I think will be of interest to this body:

In the year 2007, a person spent 79 days working to pay for their Federal taxes and 41 days on State and local taxes for a grand total of 120 days. That's more than health care, more than housing, more than transportation. And, honestly, you can see an immediate return on those categories. It's a little bit more difficult to see the tangible return on Federal tax dollars, albeit those are the moneys that are required to have the Federal Government run. But when you look at the bite that taxes take out of the average income compared with all of the other expenditures, it truly is significant.

We all complain about paying our taxes. The fact is if the system was fair and simple, it would be a lot easier to take. Americans don't mind paying for roads. They pay for a strong defense. They pay for health care for your grandmother. It's the fact that one family makes exactly the same amount as the family next door, but they're forced to pay a higher share of the tax burden. The Declaration of Independence says all men are created equal, and that should apply to the tax burden as well.

Now, let me just show you a breakdown by congressional district. Most Members of Congress should be inter-

ested in this chart, also produced by the Tax Foundation. In 2004, the Tax Foundation ranked Federal individual income tax burden by congressional district. My district, the 26th District of Texas, falls here somewhere in the middle, and it is highlighted in yellow so its easy for me to see, but it compares the ranking of Federal income tax burden as a percentage of the adjusted gross income versus the ranking of the average income tax liability per return. In other words, with identical incomes, we have some States with a much higher burden and some States with a much lower burden.

Now that is an average across the population, so clearly there will be some differences, but we see New York represented in both the upper and the lower categories. We see California likewise represented in both the upper and the lower categories. So it's not inconceivable that the discrepancy should not be that large; but, nevertheless, because of the complexity of the Tax Code, that's one of the things we're left with.

435 Members of Congress and here is the data from the top seven compared to the bottom seven. You can definitely see varying tax liabilities throughout the country. Again, my district ranked 139th in regards to the Federal income tax burden as a percentage of gross income, but ranked only 127 as the average income tax liability per return. Again, that's more of the Federal Government's math for you.

And yet another aspect of complying with our Tax Code. Time is precious. We often don't have enough of it for personal things, those mundane things like earning a living, raising your family, spending time with your friends, and then there's the dollars-and-cents side of the equation where, in fact, time is money and valuable resources are misspent navigating tax law instead of spent growing the economy and creating jobs. Taken together, this is a strong prescription for real change in our Tax Code.

We know what works when it comes to changing the Tax Code because we got a glimpse of it when during Ronald Reagan's administration he cut the Tax Code in half in 1986. As a result of that reform, the economy grew, revenues increased and jobs were created. I can't think of a better prescription for our slowing economy today than replicating the reform of the Tax Code on an even greater scale.

So what should we do? The prescription is fairly simple. Flatten the tax, broaden the base and shift the burden away from families and small businesses. Simplify the Tax Code and make it easier for individuals and businesses to file their taxes and pay their fair share. Even the National Taxpayer Advocate, Nina Olsen, stated simplify the Tax Code as one of her recommendations in the 2007 Annual Report to Congress:

“The complexity of the code increases the likelihood that honest taxpayers will make inadvertent mistakes, creates opportunities for taxpayers to avoid paying their fair share of taxes, and makes it difficult for the Internal Revenue Service to administer the tax system. Simplifying the tax law could improve the audit process and allow less taxpayer burden.”

□ 2030

Pretty simple stuff. Pretty straightforward. If the National Taxpayer Advocate thinks it is best for our constituents if we simplify the system, it would make sense that Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle would agree with this sentiment and work toward this goal.

Now, this next data I need to credit to some polling done by American Solutions. They conducted a nationwide poll on six different topics, with one being taxes and jobs. This poll crossed gender, ethnicity, economic and party lines, and they discovered the following opinions in America. Under taxes and jobs, 69 percent think the Federal income tax system is unfair. Seventy percent favor tax incentives for companies who keep their headquarters in the United States of America. What a great concept. Eight-two percent think the option of a single rate system would give taxpayers the convenience of filing their taxes with just a single sheet of paper. Pretty powerful stuff. Eight-two percent want to be able to file on a single sheet of paper.

Madam Speaker, it sounds to me as if America has spoken fairly clearly on this subject, and the evidence is that we do need real change in our tax system. The encouraging news is that we have a practical and effective blueprint for making this real change across-the-board. The blueprint is called the flat tax.

In 1981, Robert Hall and Alvin Rabushka proposed a new and radically simple structure that would transform the Internal Revenue System and our economy by creating a single rate of taxation for all Americans. Today, several States have implemented a single rate tax structure for their State income taxes and from Utah to Massachusetts, citizens are seeing the benefit.

In Colorado, a single rate generated so much income, so much revenue, that lawmakers actually reduced the rate 10 years after its implementation. In the State of Indiana, the economy boomed after a single rate went into effect in 2003, and in that time corporate income tax receipts have risen 250 percent.

In 1981, a simple concept put forth by Robert Hall and Alvin Rabushka, revisited in 1995 by my predecessor in this body, former majority leader Dick Armey, and, most recently, within the last couple of years, a book published by Steven Forbes on the flat tax revolution. All of those authors, all of those authors calling for the same type of reform in our Tax Code, to allow it to be flatter, fairer and simpler.

Now we have got several Members of Congress who are actually working on the problem. Certainly it is something that I remain focused on. Congressman DAVID DREIER from California, the ranking member on the Rules Committee, and PAUL RYAN of Wisconsin, the ranking member on the Budget Committee, are all working to establish the single tax rate structure for the United States. Members are working on it in the other body as well. Each of us have our own ideas. The legislation proposed is a little bit different, but it all has at the center of it the concept that you should be able to file your taxes on a single form at a much flatter rate that will be fairer across-the-board, and, in fact, evidence has shown that it will actually increase revenue.

The bill that I introduced actually two Congresses ago, and I have continued to introduce it every year, H.R. 1040, it makes it easy to remember the number, H.R. 1040 allows for a person to opt in to a flat tax. They can't go back and forth from the old IRS code and the flat tax, but if they elect to go into the flat tax, they may do so.

If quite honestly they have constructed their family or business finances such that they have been trying to utilize the code to maximize their effectiveness, no one is going to require them to go into the flat tax. They may stay under the old IRS code. But for a lot of people like myself, regardless of whether I would come up better or worse under the flat tax, just to give up that shoe box full of receipts every year, to give up that quality time spent with my accountant every year, to give up that \$1,800 or \$2,500 that I spend every year on tax preparation, and I promise you, mine are not that complicated, I would gladly give that up to be able to simply file my taxes on a single page form, or, better yet, populate a field on a computer screen on the Internet, click a mouse, send it in, and be done with it for the year.

Now, we all may not agree on just a single rate. I have mentioned some other individuals that have other bills, and they do have different approaches. We may not all agree on whether it should be a single rate or two rates, as it was back when Ronald Reagan simplified the Tax Code. We may prefer a tax method that does allow for deductions for mortgages or charitable contributions. But regardless, regardless, each of them embodies the fundamental principle that each American should bear the burden of taxation equally and at the lowest rate possible; we think everyone should be able to do their own taxes without the help of a professional and should be confident that people who earn the same income pay the same taxes.

Madam Speaker, just as an aside, I remember back in the year 1993, I was just a regular guy working in a medical practice back home in Texas. It just so happened that that year, the President of the United States and myself had an

almost identical income reported. And yet when you calculated what I paid as a percentage of income, it was in excess of 30 percent. When you calculated what the other individual paid, it was around 20 percent. So why the discrepancy? With the same amount of earned income, why should there be such a vast difference in the taxes owed and the taxes paid? That is really what got me to thinking about this subject, many, many years ago.

We all remember when the Tax Code was changed in 1993. It was changed retroactively so that we got both the rich and the dead involved in paying additional taxes. But it really got me focused. Then in 1995 when Congressman Armey published his book on the flat tax, I read it, I became a believer, and have continued to study the issue and have continued to talk about the issue. And this is the time of year to have these types of talks, because I do think it is important, regardless of which party is in power, that we take seriously the will of the American people. Eight-two percent, 82 percent, want to be able to fill out a single page form and be done with their taxes.

Just by way of comparison, according to the Wall Street Journal, citing a blog off the National Taxpayers Union website, there are about 1.2 million or more professional tax preparers during tax season, which equals roughly the population of Hawaii. There are 836,000 doctors in the United States. As a physician, I think that there is something a little askew with this number, that we require half again as many tax preparers in the country as we do physicians. Healers shouldn't be outnumbered by tax preparers. The government math stuff is starting to scare me, and really should start to scare a lot of Americans.

Also, according to the Wall Street Journal, more than half of the individual taxpayers now use a paid preparer for their income tax return. I do myself. Mine is not that complicated, but I don't dare go into the process without a professional guiding me, lest someone at some point say, hey, you made a mistake. I want a professional with me if I had to go in to justify what those numbers read on the form.

We actually anticipate the number of people using a paid preparer to increase this year. In 1960, less than a fifth of taxpayers used preparers. More than half now. Less than a fifth, less than 20 percent, back in 1960. In 2005, one of the most famous tax preparation companies garnered \$2.4 billion in revenue from the United States in tax preparation, up from \$841 million 10 years before in 1996. Pretty astounding. Pretty astounding figures when you stop and think about it.

Now, I respect and I fully appreciate everything that my tax preparer does for me, what my accountant does for me, what tax preparation companies do, and I think it is a shame that Congress has created a system that is so complicated that more than half of the

public feel a need to pay someone, to pay someone else, just to figure out how much they owe for their tax liability. The system doesn't have to be that complicated.

Now, bear with me, if you would, through one last poster, and this really sums it up. A faster, flatter, fairer tax structure, let me show you how it works. It is pretty simple.

Here we go. You put in a little bit of information, like your name; a little bit of identification data, income, personal exemptions, married filing jointly, single head of household; number of dependents. You add up your deductions. Taxable income is line 1 minus line 3. One subtraction equation on the form. And then calculate the amount of tax owed on this particular form, calculate by multiplying line 4 by 0.19. The tax is already withheld. Your tax refund you are owed or the taxes you are to pay. What did that take? According to the clock up there, a little less than 30 seconds. Thirty seconds, and your income taxes are done.

Now, in all honesty, I haven't started my taxes this year. Please don't tell my accountant. But I will spend the better part of a Saturday afternoon, probably this coming Saturday, going to all those places in the house where I have secreted away little receipts and things that I knew I would need when it came time to prepare my taxes. I will gather all of this stuff together and put it in a form that is presentable, take another half day and spend that with my accountant. He will spend several weeks churning it through whatever computer program that he uses. And then right before midnight on April 15th, I will get my tax form to sign, and I will send it in and I will either pay a little in taxes or I will get a little bit of refund.

But look at this. Thirty seconds. Your name, a little bit of identification data, a couple of numbers that are easy to obtain, and taxes are already withheld, your tax liability or your tax refund. No expensive tax attorney bills. No more hours of stressful research trying to figure out whether your military service or your marital status will adversely affect your return. No more headaches trying to determine where the estimated tax payments go. No more Congress taking one special interest group over the other trying to create social good works through the Tax Code. Instead, just a very simple and straightforward system. And remember that number: 82 percent of Americans want something simple like this for their tax preparation.

Now, in my opinion a single tax rate structure would eliminate taxes on capital gains, eliminate taxes on dividends and taxes on savings. You know, we always hear that our savings rate in this country is really pretty low, and that in fact is one of the things that may be behind some of the financial crisis that we find ourselves in now.

I will just tell you there was a time when I was in business for myself that

I thought the prudent thing to do would be to hold three months, three months, of operating capital in some easily convertible security, like a CD, something that was fairly liquid, earn a little bit of interest along the way, and have that money in case the dire wolf was ever at the door and I needed those funds to continue to operate my business. It seemed like a prudent thing to do.

But here is the deal. You earn some interest, but guess what? It is taxed at regular income rates. So it is suddenly eroded by, at that time almost a half, now around a third. And then if you ever get to the point where, okay, I am going to bring that money back into the business and pay it out in salary, well, guess what? If you have held it for over a year in that money market or CD, your business had to report that and pay taxes on it at the end of that first year, and then when you do disperse it as earnings to the owners of the business, guess what? It is taxed again. So it got taxed twice.

So for doing the prudent thing, the prudent thing, holding 3 months of capital in a relatively liquid account so you can get to it if you need it, for doing the prudent thing, you are punished on the interest you earn. So that is not a good deal. You have got to pay taxes on it from your business, and, oh, by the way, if you ever do pay it out to yourself in salary, you get taxed again. So you have been taxed three times on that money that you thought you were doing the right thing. You were putting it away against perhaps a lean month or two. Maybe those Medicare payments didn't come through as fast as I would like, or, God forbid, the SGR cut my payment again for Medicare reimbursement, I would have a little cash to fall back on. But, guess what. If you do that, if you do that, you are actually hurt.

□ 2045

If we were to change the Tax Code, again, with a single rate structure, no capital gains tax, no taxes on dividends, no taxes on savings, which is extremely important, and I personally would eliminate the Clinton tax on Social Security earnings, what would happen? Personal savings would increase.

Would that be a bad thing? Does anyone in this body think personal savings would be a bad thing, particularly given our current economic situation? Businesses might just actually expand and create jobs. Would that be a bad thing given our job creation numbers this past month? We lost a bunch. We didn't create anything.

Without the heavy corporate income tax, which is currently the second highest in the industrialized world, companies would have less incentive to offshore their headquarters and offshore their earnings. If they had less incentive, and those earnings and headquarters stayed in this country, wouldn't that ultimately be a good thing for the state of our economy?

So it really comes down to an all-American principle of freedom, and it comes in a prescription. The decision to move to a single-rate system would be entirely up to the business, not up to the government. This would be an optional program. If someone has constructed their domestic finances or their business finances to maximize their earnings under the current Federal Tax Code, stay in the code, that would be your choice.

But if you are tired of the shoe box, if you want to fill out a single-page return, single-page form, and then have the rest of that time, that half day I am going to spend on Saturday and that other half day I am going to spend on a week, if you would rather have that day to spend with your family, take a personal day off, go fishing, whatever, earn more money, whatever, that's yours. You don't owe it to the government any more.

A flat tax would be less costly. It would save taxpayers \$100 billion a year and would reduce cost of compliance by over 90 percent. The resulting increase in personal savings, well, wait a minute, didn't we just pass a big stimulus package? That would have an immediate effect on our American economy by putting that money back in the hands of productive people in this country.

As I said earlier, recent polling by American Solutions shows that over 80 percent of Americans favor an optional, single-page, one-page tax form with one rate. After all, is anybody really going to complain if this one time, this one time Congress does something worthwhile and actually makes something easier? After all, who could complain about making something easier, especially a process that comes with such a high cost?

One of the things we haven't even talked about, and you now hear talked about all the time, is the compliance gap, the 200 to 300 to \$350 billion that it's estimated that is owed in taxes but it's not paid in taxes because it's simply too hard to go through all that you have to go through to comply with the IRS code or you are worried about making a mistake and going to jail for misrepresenting yourself on your tax form.

So that compliance gap, the tax gap as it is called, you will hear people talk a bit on both sides of the aisle. They want to utilize, well we are going to go out and do a better job of collecting the taxes, so we will use that \$350 billion to offset an increase in the farm program or AMT patch, or, God forbid, we would fix the SGR formula for patients and doctors across the country. But you always hear people talk about that tax gap that they are going to collect that \$300 billion and put it to some other good work, but this gets rid of the tax gap. It's gone tomorrow.

You wouldn't have to worry about people not complying with the code because it would be so simple. The cost of not complying would be high. The cost

of complying would become much more bearable.

Well, guess what? This is a very political year. Everywhere you go, people are talking about change.

I will tell you what, I haven't heard the word "change" so much since I was an intern at the newborn nursery at the Parkland Hospital back in the 1970s. Everyone is talking about change. You turn on the television, people are talking about change.

Let's consider how that change could improve one of the most complicated of institutions, the Internal Revenue Service. More importantly, let's consider how that change could deliver prosperity, deliver time back to America's families and to America's taxpayers.

You know what, when it gets right down to it, that's a stimulus, that's a stimulus that every American could understand and every American could be for. That's a stimulus package that everyone on the floor of this House should consider and vote for.

I have got a bill, H.R. 1040. Ranking Member DREIER has a bill, Ranking Member PAUL RYAN has a bill. I think all of those are worth looking at. I would like to see those brought up in the appropriate committee of Ways and Means, the Subcommittee on Taxation. Let's have the debate; let's have the argument. Let's do it out in the open. Let the American people hear our debate, and let them decide who is arguing on their behalf and who is arguing on behalf of the special interests. I think it would become quite clear after just a few minutes of that debate.

Again, here is an opportunity to give time and money back to the American people. That is a stimulus package of which this body, both sides of the aisle, could be justifiably proud.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 9:07 p.m.

Accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 9:07 p.m.

□ 2110

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE) at 9 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 895, ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

Ms. SUTTON, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-547) on the resolution (H. Res. 1031) providing for the adoption of the resolution (H. Res. 895) establishing

within the House of Representatives an Office of Congressional Ethics, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. KILPATRICK (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and March 11, on account of official business.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and March 11 on account of official business in the district.

Ms. WOOLSEY (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical leave.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of a family medical emergency.

Mr. BUYER (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of flight delays.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of illness in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HALL of New York) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HALL of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. JONES of North Carolina) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DREIER, for 5 minutes, today, March 11, 12 and 13.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, March 14.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, March 13.

Mr. WELLER of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today, March 11, 12, 13 and 14.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, March 14.

Mr. FLAKE, for 5 minutes, March 11.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today, March 11, 12, 13 and 14.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S.J. Res. 25. Providing for the appointment of John W. McCarter as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 11 minutes

p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 10:30 a.m., for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5651. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report for the first quarter of fiscal year 2008 as required by the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Fund provision in Title VI of Division A of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2008, Pub. L. 110-116; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5652. A letter from the Chief, Congressional Action Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, Department of Defense, transmitting notice of a performance decision on the public-private competition affecting Detachment 1, Training Support Squadron, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5653. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Lamps, Reflective Devices, and Associated Equipment [Docket No. NHTSA-2007-28322] (RIN: 2127-AJ75) received February 20, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5654. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Standard; Final Listing of 2008 Light Duty Truck Lines Subject to the Requirements of This Standard and Exempted Vehicle Lines for Model Year 2008 [Docket No. NHTSA-2007-28497] (RIN: 2127-AJ97) received February 20, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5655. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — In the Matter of 2006 Quadrennial Regulatory Review — Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 FCC 07-216 [MB Docket 06-121 etc.] received February 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5656. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — In the Matter of Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Peach Springs, Arizona) [MB Docket No. 07-164 RM-11386] received February 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5657. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — In the Matter of The Commission's Cable Horizontal and Vertical Ownership Limits Implementation of Section 11 of the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992 Implementation of Cable Act Reform Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 Review of the Commission's Regulations Governing Attribution of Broadcast and Cable/MDS Interests Review of the Commission's Regulations and Politics Affecting Investment in the Broadcast Industry Reexamination of the Commission's Cross-Interest Policy [MM Docket No.

92-264 CS Docket No. 98-82 CS Docket No. 96-85 MM Docket No. 94-150 MM Docket No. 92-51 MM to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5658. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Comp. Bur., Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — In the Matters of Telephone Numbers Requirements for IP-Enabled Services Providers Local Numbers Portability Porting Interval and Validation Requirements IP-Enabled Services Telephone Number Portability CTIA Petitions for Declaratory Ruling on Wireline-Wireless Porting Issues Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Numbering Resource Optimization [WC Docket No. 07-243 WC Docket No. 07-244 WC Docket No. 04-36 CC Docket No. 95-116 CC Docket No. 99-200] received February 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5659. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — In the Matter of Leased Commercial Access [MB Docket No. 07-42] received February 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5660. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Blanket Authorization Under FPA Section 203 [Docket No. RM07-21-000; Order No. 708] received February 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5661. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Cross-Subsidization Restrictions on Affiliate Transactions [Docket No. RM07-15-000; Order No. 707] received February 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5662. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Delegated Authority to Order Use of Procedure for Access to Certain Sensitive Unclassified Information (RIN: 3150-A132) received February 28, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5663. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting an annual report required by section 655 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, pursuant to Public Law 104-164, section 655(a) (110 Stat. 1435); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5664. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting consistent with the resolution of advice and consent to ratification of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling, and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, adopted by the Senate of the United States on April 24, 1997, and Executive Order 13346 of July 8, 2004, certification for calendar year 2007; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5665. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on "Overseas Surplus Property," pursuant to Public Law 105-277, section 2215; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5666. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement for the export of technical data, defense services, and defense articles to the Governments of Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, Canada, South Africa, and Malaysia (Transmittal No.

DDTC 014-08); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5667. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency blocking property of persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Zimbabwe that was declared in Executive Order 13288 of March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5668. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's Annual Performance and Accountability Report for FY 2007; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5669. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Guajon (*Eleutherodactylus cooki*) (RIN: 1018-AU46) received February 29, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5670. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — CROSS-WAIVER OF LIABILITY (RIN: 2700-AB51) received February 28, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science and Technology.

5671. A letter from the Publications and Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Credit for New Qualified Alternative Motor Vehicles (Qualified Fuel Cell Motor Vehicles) [Notice 2008-33] received February 29, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5672. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Revenue Procedure: Purchase Price Safe Harbors for Sections 143 and 25 (Rev. Proc. 2008-17) received February 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5673. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare Program: Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP) Amendments [CMS-6272-F] (RIN: 0938-AN27) received February 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

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:

[The following action occurred on March 7, 2008]

Mr. SPRATT: Committee on the Budget. House Concurrent Resolution 312. Resolution revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2008, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2010 through 2013 (Rept. 110-543). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

[Filed on March 10, 2008]

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. House Resolution

936. Resolution honoring the 200th anniversary of the Gallatin Report on Roads and Canals, celebrating the national unity the Gallatin Report engendered, and recognizing the vast contributions that national planning efforts have provided to the United States; with amendments (Rept. 110-544). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5492. A bill to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to construct a greenhouse facility at its museum support facility in Suitland, Maryland, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-545). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. BERMAN: Committee on Foreign Affairs. H.R. 5501. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2009 through 2013 to provide assistance to foreign countries to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-546 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Ms. SUTTON: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1031. Resolution providing for the adoption of the resolution (H. Res. 895) establishing within the House of Representatives an Office of Congressional Ethics, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-547). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII, the Committee on Financial Services discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5501 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

REPORTED BILLS SEQUENTIALLY REFERRED

Under clause 2 of rule XII, bills and reports were delivered to the Clerk for printing, and bills referred as follows:

[Omitted from the Record of March 6, 2008]

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 2176. A bill to provide for and approve the settlement of certain land claims of the Bay Mills Indian Community, with an amendment; referred to the Committee on Judiciary for a period ending not later than April 4, 2008, for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(k) of rule X (Rept. 110-541, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4115. A bill to provide for and approve the settlement of certain land claims of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chipewya Indians, with an amendment; referred to the Committee on Judiciary for a period ending not later than April 4, 2008, for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(k) of rule X (Rept. 110-542, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BUYER:

H.R. 5561. A bill to amend the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 to provide for a temporary increase in the maximum loan guaranty amount for housing loans guaranteed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico:

H.R. 5562. A bill to authorize the National Guard to provide support for the border control activities of the United States Customs

and Border Protection of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. HOLT, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. SESTAK, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER):

H.R. 5563. A bill to reauthorize and reform the national service laws; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SHADEGG (for himself, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. POE, Mr. BACHUS, and Mr. FOSSELLA):

H.R. 5564. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to exclude an individual who has been convicted of committing certain sex offenses from receiving certain burial-related benefits and funeral honors which are otherwise available to certain veterans, members of the Armed Forces, and related individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 5565. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a Federal income tax credit for certain home purchases; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mrs. BIGGERT, and Mr. BACHUS):

H.R. 5566. A bill to amend the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 to provide for a temporary increase in the maximum loan guaranty amount for housing loans guaranteed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. HOEKSTRA):

H.R. 5567. A bill to rescind earmarks designated in the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008; to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select).

By Mr. GRAVES:

H.R. 5568. A bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to clarify requirements relating to the construction of a physical fence along the southwest border, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California:

H.R. 5569. A bill to extend for 5 years the EB-5 regional center pilot program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California:

H.R. 5570. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the sunset in the special immigrant nonminister religious worker visa program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California:

H.R. 5571. A bill to extend for 5 years the program relating to waiver of the foreign country residence requirement with respect to international medical graduates; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MORAN of Virginia:

H.R. 5572. A bill to stimulate the economy of the United States by providing assistance to States for foreclosure mitigation counseling activities and increased community development block grant assistance; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MORAN of Virginia (for himself, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia):

H.R. 5573. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for a lump-sum payment for certain Federal employees who retire with a substantial amount of unused sick leave for which they would not otherwise receive any compensation or benefit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. CHANDLER):

H.R. 5574. A bill to prohibit the transport of hydrolysate from the Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colorado, or the Blue Grass Army Depot, Kentucky, to an off-site location; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California (for herself and Mr. EHLERS):

H. Con. Res. 313. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to honor the 5 years of service and sacrifice of our troops and their families in the war in Iraq and to remember those who are serving our Nation in Afghanistan and throughout the world; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. KAGEN (for himself, Mr. OBEY, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. KIND, Mr. PETRI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and Mr. HINOJOSA):

H. Res. 1032. A resolution recognizing former Green Bay Packers quarterback Brett Favre on the occasion of his retirement from the National Football League, and honoring him for his years of commitment to the city of Green Bay and the State of Wisconsin, and his extensive charitable activities in Wisconsin and his home State of Mississippi; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. ALTMIRE, and Mr. DOYLE):

H. Res. 1033. A resolution honoring Mr. Myron Cope for his 35 years of service to southwest Pennsylvania and as the voice of the Pittsburgh Steelers; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

- H.R. 63: Mr. LAMBORN.
- H.R. 87: Mrs. CAPITO.
- H.R. 211: Mr. GRAVES.
- H.R. 333: Mr. GONZALEZ.
- H.R. 406: Ms. WATERS, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. ROSS, Mr. BARROW, Ms. BEAN, Mr. BOREN, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. HILL, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SHULER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, and Mr. KLEIN of Florida.
- H.R. 522: Mr. JEFFERSON.
- H.R. 623: Mr. STARK.
- H.R. 715: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
- H.R. 818: Mr. JEFFERSON and Mr. PAYNE.
- H.R. 914: Mr. KIRK.
- H.R. 992: Mr. ELLISON.
- H.R. 1014: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
- H.R. 1043: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. COSTELLO, and Mr. GONZALEZ.
- H.R. 1078: Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia.
- H.R. 1090: Mr. CULBERSON.
- H.R. 1178: Mr. PASTOR, Mr. PORTER, and Mr. PLATTS.
- H.R. 1187: Mr. MARKEY.
- H.R. 1188: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. FERGUSON.
- H.R. 1228: Mr. PASTOR.
- H.R. 1279: Mr. VAN HOLLEN and Mr. SPACE.
- H.R. 1282: Mr. JEFFERSON.
- H.R. 1321: Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.
- H.R. 1363: Mr. SKELTON.
- H.R. 1418: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Mr. ALTMIRE.
- H.R. 1512: Mr. BISHOP of New York.

H.R. 1554: Mr. PASTOR and Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN.

- H.R. 1621: Mr. DENT.
- H.R. 1645: Mr. ROTHMAN.
- H.R. 1653: Mr. INSLEE.
- H.R. 1730: Mr. CONAWAY.
- H.R. 1738: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
- H.R. 1774: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
- H.R. 1897: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.
- H.R. 1927: Mr. ROHRBACHER.
- H.R. 2016: Mr. BACA.
- H.R. 2066: Mr. LOEBSACK.
- H.R. 2131: Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia.
- H.R. 2189: Mr. WEXLER.
- H.R. 2332: Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia.
- H.R. 2514: Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.
- H.R. 2526: Mrs. MYRICK.
- H.R. 2548: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. FARR, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
- H.R. 2588: Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
- H.R. 2652: Mr. UPTON.
- H.R. 2702: Mrs. MYRICK and Mr. BISHOP of New York.
- H.R. 2734: Mr. LUCAS.
- H.R. 2744: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. MURTHA, and Mr. HOLDEN.
- H.R. 2747: Mr. COSTA.
- H.R. 2792: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. ELLISON.
- H.R. 2851: Mr. PLATTS, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. CUMMINGS.
- H.R. 2894: Mr. FILNER, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. BACA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. WU, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. BEAN, and Ms. SCHWARTZ.
- H.R. 2964: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. LEE, and Mr. FARR.
- H.R. 2965: Mrs. BIGGERT.
- H.R. 3014: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
- H.R. 3132: Mr. ELLISON.
- H.R. 3232: Mr. SIREN, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mr. CAPUANO, and Mr. BOREN.
- H.R. 3234: Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. HERGER, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Ms. FOX, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, and Mr. KUHL of New York.
- H.R. 3282: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. SPACE.
- H.R. 3309: Ms. LEE.
- H.R. 3326: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. GUTIERREZ.
- H.R. 3337: Mr. ELLISON.
- H.R. 3366: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas and Mr. CARNAHAN.
- H.R. 3438: Mrs. CAPPS and Mr. MEEKS of New York.
- H.R. 3439: Mr. RAHALL, Mr. McDERMOTT, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE.
- H.R. 3514: Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. REYES, and Ms. BALDWIN.
- H.R. 3533: Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. YOUNG of Florida.
- H.R. 3618: Mr. GONZALEZ.
- H.R. 3637: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.
- H.R. 3646: Ms. SUTTON and Mr. ISRAEL.
- H.R. 3660: Mr. ALTMIRE.
- H.R. 3696: Mr. CHANDLER.
- H.R. 3754: Mr. TERRY.
- H.R. 3769: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
- H.R. 3799: Mr. SARBANES, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. CUMMINGS.
- H.R. 3819: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
- H.R. 3836: Mr. BISHOP of New York.
- H.R. 3846: Mr. CASTLE and Mr. WAXMAN.
- H.R. 3896: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
- H.R. 3934: Mr. CANNON.
- H.R. 3980: Mr. HINOJOSA.

- H.R. 4008: Mr. GERLACH, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 4048: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 4055: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 4071: Mr. MICHAUD and Mr. PASTOR.
H.R. 4083: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 4138: Mr. GORDON and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 4236: Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. WU, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, and Mr. WEINER.
H.R. 4248: Ms. FALLIN and Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 4296: Mrs. BONO MACK and Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky.
H.R. 4308: Mrs. BONO MACK.
H.R. 4311: Mr. MCKEON.
H.R. 4355: Mr. ALLEN and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 4544: Mr. ISRAEL and Mr. GOHMERT.
H.R. 4790: Mr. WEXLER.
H.R. 4847: Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Mrs. MYRICK.
H.R. 4884: Mr. PAYNE and Mr. ANDREWS.
H.R. 4900: Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. WEST-MORELAND, and Mr. ROGERS of Michigan.
H.R. 4959: Ms. BALDWIN and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 5036: Mr. McNULTY.
H.R. 5109: Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. WAMP, Mr. LATTA, and Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 5110: Mr. CUMMINGS and Mr. SPACE.
H.R. 5148: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SHAYS, and Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 5236: Mr. REHBERG.
H.R. 5265: Mr. CALVERT, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. POE.
H.R. 5401: Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 5443: Ms. WATSON.
H.R. 5474: Ms. GIFFORDS.
H.R. 5475: Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 5481: Mrs. SCHMIDT.
H.R. 5483: Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia, Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. GOODE, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. WOLF, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Mr. FORBES.
H.R. 5513: Ms. FOXX.
H.R. 5515: Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. MCCREERY, Mr. GOODE, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. FEENEY, and Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 5532: Mr. HUNTER.
H.R. 5534: Mr. CAMPBELL of California and Ms. SUTTON.
H. Con. Res. 163: Mr. WOLF, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. CLAY.
H. Con. Res. 262: Ms. BERKLEY and Mr. SOUDER.
H. Con. Res. 299: Mr. COHEN, Mrs. Wilson of New Mexico, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. HINCHAY.
H. Con. Res. 302: Ms. FALLIN, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. HAYES, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. ISSA, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. TERRY, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. LATTA, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. OLVER, Ms. FOXX, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. COBLE, Mr. MICA, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. DREIER, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. STUPAK, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. WOLF, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WAMP, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. TAYLOR, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. REYES, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. HALL of Texas, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. MACK, and Mr. UPTON.
H. Con. Res. 305: Mr. OLVER, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, and Mr. LAHOOD.
H. Res. 76: Mr. STARK.
H. Res. 123: Mr. ELLISON.
H. Res. 169: Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. COOPER, Mr. HENSARLING, and Mr. ISRAEL.
H. Res. 351: Mr. TANCREDO and Mr. SHUSTER.
H. Res. 356: Mr. HUNTER.
H. Res. 407: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.
H. Res. 543: Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia.
H. Res. 672: Mr. MARKEY.
H. Res. 821: Mr. HUNTER.
H. Res. 834: Mr. ISRAEL and Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 896: Mr. CALVERT, Ms. LEE, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. SUTTON.
H. Res. 924: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. COSTELLO.
H. Res. 939: Mr. BUYER.
H. Res. 958: Mr. PITTS.
H. Res. 962: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. RANGEL.
H. Res. 973: Mr. BACA.
H. Res. 977: Mr. SPACE.
H. Res. 991: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. BOREN, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. ANDREWS, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H. Res. 992: Ms. FALLIN, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CARNAHAN, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H. Res. 1004: Mr. POE and Mr. CALVERT.
H. Res. 1005: Mr. PLATTS, Mr. COOPER, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. SHULER, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. BONNER, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. HAYES, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. COBLE, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. ISSA, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. WHITFIELD of Kentucky, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. WALSH of New York, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. RENZI, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. COLE of Oklahoma.
H. Res. 1021: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. FILNER, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. KIRK, and Ms. TSONGAS.
H. Res. 1022: Ms. FALLIN, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. EDWARDS, Ms. BORDALLO, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H. Res. 1023: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H. Res. 1026: Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee.