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WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2008

No. 111

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 8, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JESSE L. JACKSON, Jr., to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: We praise and bless You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have revealed to those of humble heart Your glorious presence. To all who gaze at the beauty of Your creation and are filled with wonder, You speak volumes and fill them with joy.

Children need no argument to know Your existence, they simply take delight in the world You give them and revel in love. The more mature notice You in the crossroads of their lives and praise You for opening the way before them. Encouraged by Your understanding of their goodness, they are willing to take greater risks because of their belief.

Be with all the seekers of truth and workers for justice; that their dreams for America and their hopes for a better world be realized. Together all believers in this Nation and in Your Providence give You glory 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 his approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BORDALLO 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:

JUNE 27, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
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, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on June 27, 2008, at 10:19 a.m.:

That the Senate concurs in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment H.R. 2642.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 802.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 3986.

That the Senate passed S. 2565.

That the Senate passed S. 3218.

That the Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 379. With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.
DEBORAH M. SPRIGGS,
Deputy Clerk.

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:

JUNE 27, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
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, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on June 27, 2008, at 3:51 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3721.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4185.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5168.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5395.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5479.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5517.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 528.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3564.

That the Senate passed S. 3015.

That the Senate passed S. 3082.

That the Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 377. With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.
DEBORAH M. SPRIGGS,
Deputy Clerk.

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:

JULY 8, 2008.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II

□ 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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H6179

of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 8, 2008, at 9:35 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3891.

That the Senate passed S. Res. 608.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed:

by Speaker pro tempore HOYER on Friday, June 27, 2008:

H.R. 2642, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes

H.R. 5690, to remove the African National Congress from treatment as a terrorist organization for certain acts or events, provide relief for certain members of the African National Congress regarding admissibility, and for other purposes.

NONPROLIFERATION PROGRESS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week was an extraordinary week of success for America in promoting nuclear nonproliferation.

On Friday, the North Koreans destroyed the cooling tower at their Yongbyon nuclear complex. This, plus other recent concessions by that regime, will lead to additional aid for the people of that impoverished nation.

In India, the U.S.-India civilian nuclear agreement appears to be closer to approval. This is an important step to bring clean nuclear energy to the citizens of fast-growing India.

In Iraq, there was the removal of the last remnants of Saddam Hussein's nuclear program when 550 metric tons of yellowcake, the seed material for higher-grade nuclear enrichment, was shipped to Canada.

However, the threat of Iran continues to grow. The Iranian Government has confirmed it will not comply with the U.N. Security Council resolutions requiring it to stop enriching uranium.

It is encouraging to see the people of North Korea, India and Iraq benefit from moral cooperation, but it is sad to see the misguided government of Iran further isolate its civilian population and put them at risk.

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

REPUBLICANS WORK ON MEANINGFUL SOLUTIONS

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, while the Democrat Congress sits on its hands, House Republicans are answering the challenge of \$4 gas, taking our meaningful solutions to produce American-made energy, lower gas prices and promote energy independence directly to the American people.

When the French people were starving, the Queen said, "Let them eat cake." Speaker PELOSI's office says, "Right now our strategy on gas prices is drive small cars and wait for the wind."

The American people can't wait for the Democrats to decide what to do. They want answers now, and Republicans stand ready with solutions. The Republican plan will increase production of American-made energy in an environmentally safe way. It will promote new, clean, and reliable sources of energy while cutting red tape and increasing the supply of American-made fuel and energy. The House Republican plan also encourages greater energy efficiency by offering conservative tax credits to Americans who make their home, car and business more energy efficient.

So while Democrats continue to sit on the sidelines, House Republicans will continue to fight for meaningful solutions to lower gas prices and promote energy independence.

CONSERVATION TAX INCENTIVES

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

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss one of the most pressing issues facing our country today, and that is high gas prices. Soaring energy and gas prices are burdening American families and American businesses. We can encourage greater energy efficiency and offer some relief to families and businesses by offering conservation tax incentives. And we should make home energy efficiency upgrades tax deductible.

At a time when families are choosing between buying gas and buying food, we should make it easier for American families. Congress should provide incentives for home builders and homeowners to make their homes more energy efficient. Having more energy efficient homes will help families by leaving them with more money in their wallet to pay their bills. This is also good for the environment, and also reduces our dependence on foreign oil.

In addition to helping families, we should also offer investment expensing for industrial and commercial building efficiency upgrades. Helping businesses afford to be more energy efficient will help businesses afford to keep their workers employed.

Families cannot afford to wait any longer for relief at the pump. We need to start today to encourage greater energy efficiency by offering these tax incentives by helping families and busi-

nesses to save money and reduce their dependence on foreign oil.

START THE DRILL

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, right now America is drilling for ice on Mars; yet we cannot drill for oil in America. It's insane.

Coach Mark Richt of Georgia Bulldog football fame has three words, a phrase he uses to energize his football team: Finish the drill.

I have three words as a Congressman from Georgia and Representative of this body to energize America: Start the drill. Now.

DEMOCRAT MAJORITY COSTING AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I come to you today to help with some statistics that I thought you might be interested in. The fact is that we have a new majority. We have had a new majority now for about 18 months or so in this body. I wanted to give you some statistics about what has happened since the new majority has taken over.

A gallon of gas has gone from \$2.35 to \$4.11, an increase of \$1.76. A loaf of bread has gone from \$1.14 to \$1.37, a 23-cent increase. A gallon of milk has gone from \$3 to \$3.76 a gallon. Dow Jones has gone from 12,463 to 11,812, losing 651 points.

Mr. Speaker, the American people I think were misled with the new majority. But I think business and Wall Street and the price to consumers is now telling the tale of exactly what high taxes and the threat of high taxes and the willingness to be energy dependent is costing the American people.

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.

SHARK CONSERVATION ACT OF 2008

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5741) to amend the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management

Act to improve the conservation of sharks, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5741

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Shark Conservation Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENT OF HIGH SEAS DRIFTNET FISHING MORATORIUM PROTECTION ACT.

Section 610(a) of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826k(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking so much as precedes paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(a) IDENTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall identify, and list in the report under section 607—

“(1) a nation if—”;

(2) in paragraph (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (3) as subparagraphs (A) through (C), respectively;

(4) by moving subparagraphs (A) through (C) (as so redesignated) 2 ems to the right;

(5) in subparagraph (C) (as so redesignated) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) a nation if—

“(A) fishing vessels of that nation are engaged, or have been engaged during the preceding calendar year, in fishing activities or practices that target or incidentally catch sharks; and

“(B) the nation has not adopted a regulatory program to provide for the conservation of sharks, including measures to prohibit removal of any of the fins of a shark (including the tail) and discarding the carcass of the shark at sea, that is comparable to that of the United States, taking into account different conditions.”.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENT OF MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT.

Section 307(1) of Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1857(1)) is amended—

(1) by amending subparagraph (P) to read as follows:

“(P)(i) to remove any of the fins of a shark (including the tail) at sea;

“(ii) to have custody, control, or possession of any such fin aboard a fishing vessel unless it is naturally attached to the corresponding carcass;

“(iii) to transfer any such fin from one vessel to another vessel at sea, or to receive any such fin in such transfer, without the fin naturally attached to the corresponding carcass; or

“(iv) to land any such fin that is not naturally attached to the corresponding carcass, or to land any shark carcass without such fins naturally attached;” and

(2) by striking the matter following subparagraph (R) and inserting the following:

“For purposes of subparagraph (P), there shall be a rebuttable presumption that if any shark fin (including the tail) is found aboard a vessel, other than a fishing vessel, without being naturally attached to the corresponding carcass, such fin was transferred in violation of subparagraph (P)(iii) and that if, after landing, the total weight of shark fins (including the tail) landed from any vessel exceeds five percent of the total weight of shark carcasses landed, such fins were taken, held, or landed in violation of subparagraph (P).”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1415

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 5741, the Shark Conservation Act of 2008.

Sharks are vital to the health of marine ecosystems, but the practice of shark finning is driving their decline worldwide. Eight years ago, Congress passed the Shark Finning Prohibition Act to protect these critical species. H.R. 5741 reconfirms the original intent of Congress to prevent both shark finning and the transshipment and landing of shark fins without carcasses. It also provides an important new enforcement mechanism requiring that sharks be landed with their fins naturally attached.

Reducing shark finning is imperative to conserving sharks and the marine ecosystems of which they are a part. I am grateful that the bill has the strong support of my colleagues from the Western Pacific, namely Congressman ABERCROMBIE from the State of Hawaii and Congressman FALEOMAVAEGA from American Samoa, as well as the ranking member of the Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans Subcommittee, Mr. BROWN from South Carolina.

I would note that last week, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration raised some concerns with the narrow aspect of the bill as it might relate to shark fishing on the west coast. We are waiting for additional information from the agency and will work with them as the bill proceeds to determine how this concern can be addressed without creating any unintended loopholes in the shark finning ban.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5741 is a timely bill, and it's an important bill, and I ask my colleagues to support its passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5741, the Shark Conservation Act of 2008.

The United States is a leader in international efforts to manage and conserve shark species, and the United States currently has a shark finning ban in place and guidelines under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to rebuild overfished shark populations.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the Virginia Institute of Marine

Science in my district for their leading shark research. As a member of the National Shark Research Consortium, researchers at Virginia Institute of Marine Science have been monitoring shark populations in the mid-Atlantic since 1973. This long-term data set represents the longest running shark monitoring program in the world. This important research has contributed to the body of knowledge about sharks while providing important data for policymakers to better manage and conserve shark species.

H.R. 5741 is necessary because of a mistake in a court ruling opening a loophole in the Shark Finning Prohibition Act of 2000. The ruling allowed fishermen to transfer shark fins at sea to transshipment vessels. This is clearly a violation of that Act, and this bill closes that loophole.

While supporting the bill, some Members do remain concerned that this broad legislation may be viewed as short-circuiting the ability of interested parties to comment on the proposal through the normal Regional Fishery Management Council rule-making process. In addition, this bill may have unintended consequences for at least one State's shark fishery landing law.

While I urge a "yes" vote on H.R. 5741, these concerns require continued attention as this legislation moves forward in the Senate.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, first I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia for his support of this particular piece of legislation.

I have no additional requests for time and would reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from the State of Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND).

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Thank you.

And while I stand to ask the Members to also support this legislation that the gentlelady from Guam has introduced, I think it's interesting, though, that we're here today talking about the carcasses of sharks, Mr. Speaker. We debated the other day on the floor monkey bites, and we have had some quite interesting conversations on the floor about legislation that's important and important to the American people.

But I find that the one subject that we're not talking about on the floor of the House, or at least not being able to debate on the floor of the House and have had any legislation come forward on the floor of the House that we could really debate and get into a debate and talk about statistics and reality is the fact of drilling and becoming more energy independent. That is something, I think, that is concerning most houses and most families right now.

And the fact that, Mr. Speaker, the price of a gallon of gas is \$4.11, \$4.11, that's a sticker shock that we can't seem to get our head around and get

our hands on is that a gallon of gas today is costing \$4.11. And the reason it's costing \$4.11 is because we are still completely dependent on foreign oil.

Now, while I know that there are a lot of people at home sitting around considering what their chances of getting bitten by a monkey might be or their care and real concern about a shark carcass, I think they're more concerned about a gallon of gas, the price of that.

So Mr. Speaker, I would encourage you to encourage the rest of the members of the majority party, those that are in control, to have a good discussion, a good debate on a piece of legislation that would allow drilling on our Outer Continental Shelf in the areas of the West that have shale oil, off the coast of Alaska, and ANWR where we know that there are billions of gallons of gas. And not only that, but we're fixing to be in a natural gas crisis.

Natural gas is about twice what it was, I believe, last year, and if that's the case, people are not going to be able to heat their homes. And so while we think that driving is expensive now with gas at \$4.11 a gallon, imagine having home heating oil or natural gas to heat your house for your family and your bill is going to be twice as high as it was. Well, Mr. Speaker, you won't even be able to drive to a warm place.

And so these are some concerns that we need to be talking about now. Not only are we into the immediate crisis of high prices of gas, but we're in the crisis to come of our home heating oil and natural gas.

So I hope that while we take these things serious about the carcasses of these sharks, chances of getting bit by a monkey, that we would consider our dependence on foreign oil and what we can do to become self-dependent. It's all of the above. It's going to take some conservation, but we cannot conserve our way out of this. It's going to take looking at new technologies for wind and for solar. But we cannot build enough solar panels nor enough windmills to supply this country with its energy needs.

We don't need to be doing away with our coal-fired plants because 85 percent of the power of this country, Mr. Speaker, comes from those coal-fired plants. We need to be looking at new exploration, new ways to increase the oil production of this country so that we might be more energy independent and not so dependent on the people around this world who are mainly and most of the time not our friends, Mr. Speaker.

So I hope you will take that message back—and I know you will—to the majority and hopefully we can bring forth some legislation that we can discuss and see if we can't get gas prices down for the American people.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would just simply say to the gentleman that it is not only

the sharks in the sea who fear being definned, it is also the American people who are being fleeced at the pump by Big Oil. And further, Mr. Speaker, I would say to the gentleman that during this summer as many Americans flock to the beach, they have a greater chance of being bitten by Big Oil than by a shark.

Also, Mr. Speaker, our colleague from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) is attending to official business in his district today and is therefore unable to be here on the floor for this debate. I note, however, for the record his involvement in drafting and advancing this legislation in committee.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5741, recognizing the urgency for the U.S. to maintain its leadership role in conserving sharks and the marine ecosystems of which they are apart.

First and foremost, I want to commend the chief sponsor and good friend, Ms. BORDALLO of Guam, for her initiative in introducing this important legislation. I also want to commend Chairman RAHALL and other members of the Committee on Natural Resources for their strong support of this bipartisan legislation.

As a member of the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans, I want to personally commend my good friend, Chairwoman BORDALLO, for her tireless work on the many issues affecting our oceans. This legislation in particular is an example of the efforts by the subcommittee and the Congress in promoting and preserving our natural resources.

Mr. Speaker, the increased amount of shark finning in the recent decades has taken a devastating toll on our efforts in conserving sharks and the marine ecosystems in which they are apart. The removal of shark fins and dumping of the carcasses at sea is being fueled by the shark-fin trade, which in turn is being driven by the rapid economic growth in Asia. It is our responsibility to further the prohibition of shark finning in order to preserve the conservation of sharks and their corresponding ecosystems. We have already taken steps in alleviating this problem when Congress enacted the Shark Finning Prohibition of 2000, prohibiting U.S. fishermen from removing the fins of sharks and discarding the carcasses at sea, and from landing or transporting shark fins without the corresponding carcasses.

In April, Chairwoman BORDALLO introduced this legislation which includes specific measures that will strengthen the implementation and enforcement of the shark finning prohibition. The bill clarifies that all vessels, not just fishing vessels, are prohibited from having custody, control, or possession of shark fins without the corresponding carcass, thereby eliminating the unexpected loophole related to the transport of shark fins. This legislation removes the 5 percent "fin to carcass" ratio, by requiring that fishermen land all sharks with fins naturally attached which can later be easily removed after such inspection, making it easier for authorities to determine whether a given set of fins belonged to a particular dressed carcass.

Finally, this bill amends the High Seas Driftnet Moratorium Protection Act to allow the Secretary of Commerce to identify and list nations that have not adopted a regulatory program for the conservation of sharks similar to the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, it is necessary that we pass this legislation immediately given the damage that is constantly affecting our national marine ecosystems by the removal of sharks who have an integral part in sustaining life in these ecosystems.

I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 5741. Again, I thank my colleagues for their support of this important bill.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5741, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PRESERVE AMERICA AND SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3981) to authorize the Preserve America Program and Save America's Treasures Program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3981

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the "Preserve America and Save America's Treasures Act".

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—PRESERVE AMERICA PROGRAM

Sec. 101. Purpose.

Sec. 102. Definitions.

Sec. 103. Establishment.

Sec. 104. Designation of Preserve America Communities.

Sec. 105. Regulations.

Sec. 106. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE II—SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES PROGRAM

Sec. 201. Purpose.

Sec. 202. Definitions.

Sec. 203. Establishment.

Sec. 204. Regulations.

Sec. 205. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. Prohibition on funding certain activities.

TITLE I—PRESERVE AMERICA PROGRAM

SEC. 101. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this title is to authorize the Preserve America Program, including—

(1) the Preserve America grant program within the Department of the Interior;

(2) the recognition programs administered by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; and

(3) the related efforts of Federal agencies, working in partnership with State, tribal, and local governments and the private sector, to support and promote the preservation of historic resources.

SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) **COUNCIL.**—The term “Council” means the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

(2) **HERITAGE TOURISM.**—The term “heritage tourism” means the conduct of activities to attract and accommodate visitors to a site or area based on the unique or special aspects of the history, landscape (including trail systems), and culture of the site or area.

(3) **PROGRAM.**—The term “program” means the Preserve America Program established under section 103(a).

(4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 103. ESTABLISHMENT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—There is established in the Department of the Interior the Preserve America Program, under which the Secretary, in partnership with the Council, may provide competitive grants to States, local governments (including local governments in the process of applying for designation as Preserve America Communities under section 104), Indian tribes, communities designated as Preserve America Communities under section 104, State historic preservation offices, and tribal historic preservation offices to support preservation efforts through heritage tourism, education, and historic preservation planning activities.

(b) **ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The following projects shall be eligible for a grant under this title:

(A) A project for the conduct of—

(i) research on, and documentation of, the history of a community; and

(ii) surveys of the historic resources of a community.

(B) An education and interpretation project that conveys the history of a community or site.

(C) A planning project (other than building rehabilitation) that advances economic development using heritage tourism and historic preservation.

(D) A training project that provides opportunities for professional development in areas that would aid a community in using and promoting its historic resources.

(E) A project to support heritage tourism in a Preserve America Community designated under section 104.

(F) Other nonconstruction projects that identify or promote historic properties or provide for the education of the public about historic properties that are consistent with the purposes of this Act.

(2) **LIMITATION.**—In providing grants under this title, the Secretary shall only provide 1 grant to each eligible project selected for a grant.

(c) **PREFERENCE.**—In providing grants under this title, the Secretary may give preference to projects that carry out the purposes of both the program and the Save America’s Treasures Program.

(d) **CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION.**—

(1) **CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary shall consult with the Council in preparing the list of projects to be provided grants for a fiscal year under the program.

(2) **NOTIFICATION.**—Not later than 30 days before the date on which the Secretary provides grants for a fiscal year under the program, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a list of any eligible projects that are to be provided grants under the program for the fiscal year.

(e) **COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The non-Federal share of the cost of carrying out a project provided a grant under this title shall be not less than 50 percent of the total cost of the project.

(2) **FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.**—The non-Federal share required under paragraph (1) shall be in the form of—

(A) cash; or

(B) donated supplies and related services, the value of which shall be determined by the Secretary.

(3) **REQUIREMENT.**—The Secretary shall ensure that each applicant for a grant has the capacity to secure, and a feasible plan for securing, the non-Federal share for an eligible project required under paragraph (1) before a grant is provided to the eligible project under the program.

SEC. 104. DESIGNATION OF PRESERVE AMERICA COMMUNITIES.

(a) **APPLICATION.**—To be considered for designation as a Preserve America Community, a community, tribal area, or neighborhood shall submit to the Council an application containing such information as the Council may require.

(b) **CRITERIA.**—To be designated as a Preserve America Community under the program, a community, tribal area, or neighborhood that submits an application under subsection (a) shall, as determined by the Council, in consultation with the Secretary, meet criteria required by the Council and, in addition, consider—

(1) protection and celebration of the heritage of the community, tribal area, or neighborhood;

(2) use of the historic assets of the community, tribal area, or neighborhood for economic development and community revitalization; and

(3) encouragement of people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs.

(c) **LOCAL GOVERNMENTS PREVIOUSLY CERTIFIED FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES.**—The Council shall establish an expedited process for Preserve America Community designation for local governments previously certified for historic preservation activities under section 101(c)(1) of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470a(c)(1)).

(d) **GUIDELINES.**—The Council, in consultation with the Secretary, shall establish any guidelines that are necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 105. REGULATIONS.

The Secretary shall develop any guidelines and issue any regulations that the Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out this title.

SEC. 106. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013, to remain available until expended.

TITLE II—SAVE AMERICA’S TREASURES PROGRAM

SEC. 201. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this title is to authorize within the Department of the Interior the Save America’s Treasures Program, to be carried out by the Director of the National Park Service, in partnership with—

(1) the National Endowment for the Arts;

(2) the National Endowment for the Humanities;

(3) the Institute of Museum and Library Services;

(4) the National Trust for Historic Preservation;

(5) the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers;

(6) the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers; and

(7) the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

SEC. 202. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) **COLLECTION.**—The term “collection” means a collection of intellectual and cultural

artifacts, including documents, sculpture, and works of art.

(2) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term “eligible entity” means a Federal entity, State, local, or tribal government, educational institution, or non-profit organization.

(3) **HISTORIC PROPERTY.**—The term “historic property” has the meaning given the term in section 301 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470w).

(4) **NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT.**—The term “nationally significant” means a collection or historic property that meets the applicable criteria for national significance, in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary pursuant to section 101(a)(2) of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470a(a)(2)).

(5) **PROGRAM.**—The term “program” means the Save America’s Treasures Program established under section 203(a).

(6) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

SEC. 203. ESTABLISHMENT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—There is established in the Department of the Interior the Save America’s Treasures program, under which the amounts made available to the Secretary under section 205 shall be used by the Secretary, in consultation with the organizations described in section 201, subject to subsection (f)(1)(B), to provide grants to eligible entities for projects to preserve nationally significant collections and historic properties.

(b) **DETERMINATION OF GRANTS.**—Of the amounts made available for grants under section 205, not less than 50 percent shall be made available for grants for projects to preserve collections and historic properties, to be distributed through a competitive grant process administered by the Secretary, subject to the eligibility criteria established under subsection (e).

(c) **APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.**—To be considered for a competitive grant under the program an eligible entity shall submit to the Secretary an application containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(d) **COLLECTIONS AND HISTORIC PROPERTIES ELIGIBLE FOR COMPETITIVE GRANTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A collection or historic property shall be provided a competitive grant under the program only if the Secretary determines that the collection or historic property is—

(A) nationally significant; and

(B) threatened or endangered.

(2) **ELIGIBLE COLLECTIONS.**—A determination by the Secretary regarding the national significance of collections under paragraph (1)(A) shall be made in consultation with the organizations described in section 201, as appropriate.

(3) **ELIGIBLE HISTORIC PROPERTIES.**—To be eligible for a competitive grant under the program, a historic property shall, as of the date of the grant application—

(A) be listed in the National Register of Historic Places at the national level of significance; or

(B) be designated as a National Historic Landmark.

(e) **SELECTION CRITERIA FOR GRANTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall not provide a grant under this title to a project for an eligible collection or historic property unless the project—

(A) eliminates or substantially mitigates the threat of destruction or deterioration of the eligible collection or historic property;

(B) has a clear public benefit; and

(C) is able to be completed on schedule and within the budget described in the grant application.

(2) **PREFERENCE.**—In providing grants under this title, the Secretary may give preference to projects that carry out the purposes of both the program and the Preserve America Program.

(3) **LIMITATION.**—In providing grants under this title, the Secretary shall only provide 1

grant to each eligible project selected for a grant.

(f) **CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION BY SECRETARY.**—

(1) **CONSULTATION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall consult with the organizations described in section 201 in preparing the list of projects to be provided grants for a fiscal year by the Secretary under the program.

(B) **LIMITATION.**—If an entity described in subparagraph (A) has submitted an application for a grant under the program, the entity shall be recused by the Secretary from the consultation requirements under that subparagraph and subsection (a).

(2) **NOTIFICATION.**—Not later than 30 days before the date on which the Secretary provides grants for a fiscal year under the program, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a list of any eligible projects that are to be provided grants under the program for the fiscal year.

(g) **COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The non-Federal share of the cost of carrying out a project provided a grant under this title shall be not less than 50 percent of the total cost of the project.

(2) **FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.**—The non-Federal share required under paragraph (1) shall be in the form of—

(A) cash; or

(B) donated supplies or related services, the value of which shall be determined by the Secretary.

(3) **REQUIREMENT.**—The Secretary shall ensure that each applicant for a grant has the capacity and a feasible plan for securing the non-Federal share for an eligible project required under paragraph (1) before a grant is provided to the eligible project under the program.

SEC. 204. REGULATIONS.

The Secretary shall develop any guidelines and issue any regulations that the Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out this title.

SEC. 205. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$50,000,000 for each fiscal year, to remain available until expended.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. PROHIBITION ON FUNDING CERTAIN ACTIVITIES.

None of the funds provided pursuant to this Act may be used to study or establish a National Heritage Area or fund a National Heritage Area management entity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, both the Preserve America and the Save America's Treasures Programs provide Federal matching grants for important historic preservation projects. Preserve America provides grants for interpreta-

tion and education regarding historic resources, while the Save America's Treasures Program provides grants for rehabilitation in restoration work.

Both programs, Mr. Speaker, are enormously successful because they leverage limited Federal dollars for much larger State, local, and private investment in preserving and interpreting our history and our heritage. These programs were created by executive order, and this legislation simply provides statutory authorization for both of these programs. H.R. 3981 is a top priority for the Bush administration.

I ask my colleagues to support passage of this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, Preserve America has been an administration initiative that encourages and supports community efforts to preserve cultural and natural heritage. Preserve America communities in Virginia's First Congressional District include Prince William County, Spotsylvania County, and Williamsburg, Virginia.

The Save America's Treasures Program provides grants preserving certain historic sites and collections including Kenmore Mansion in Fredericksburg and the restoration of the original military campaign tents used by George Washington that are now currently on display at the Colonial National Historic Park in Yorktown, Virginia.

I would like to acknowledge the positive contributions that have been made to responsible preservation, particularly by Mr. TURNER of Ohio who has long promoted property rights as a key component of these programs. Mr. TURNER's contribution to this legislation has brought us to where we are today by ensuring the constitutional rights of private property owners while promoting historic and cultural preservation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MILLER), the bill's sponsor.

□ 1430

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Preserve America and Save America's Treasures Act, which will, as the two speakers already have said, authorize two programs that are critical to the future of America's historic preservation efforts.

I want to thank Chairman RAHALL and Ranking Member YOUNG of the Natural Resources Committee, as well as Chairman GRIJALVA and Ranking Member BISHOP of the National Parks, Forests and Public Lands Subcommittee, for their work in shepherding this legislation, as well as the historic preservation community for their support for this bill.

The Save America's Treasures Program was started as part of the White

House Millennium Council chaired by then-First Lady Hillary Clinton. The program has provided much-needed bricks and mortar support and has succeeded beyond anyone's expectations, funding America's most threatened cultural treasures for almost 10 years.

The current administration, under the leadership of First Lady Laura Bush, created the Preserve America Program to support community preservation efforts by providing funding for heritage tourism and preservation planning.

The two programs serve different purposes, and together, they provide a comprehensive approach to preservation and community revitalization.

Mr. MIKE TURNER and I announced the Preserve America and Save America's Treasures Act in the Sewall-Belmont House, just a couple of blocks from here. The Sewall-Belmont House was designated a national historic landmark for its significance in American history. It was the headquarters for the National Woman's Party, led by Alice Paul, and their movement to secure women the right to vote.

Despite that obvious historical significance, it was not long ago that the Sewall-Belmont House was threatened by a leaking roof and by significant other structural damage. The Sewall-Belmont House was the first building to receive funding as a Save America's Treasures project.

In my own district, Save America's Treasures funding has helped preserve the F.W. Woolworth Building in downtown Greensboro. Mr. Speaker, as you know well, on February 1, 1960, four African American students from North Carolina A&T University sat down at the "white only" lunch counter and refused to move until they were treated the same as the white customers.

Within 2 months, the sit-ins at Woolworth's inspired similar demonstrations throughout the South involving thousands of protesters. The sit-in at the Woolworth's lunch counter was the moment when the civil rights struggle in this country became a mass movement.

The Woolworth Building and its lunch counter are sacred grounds of the civil rights movement and must be preserved for future generations.

The Preserve America Program has designated more than 500 neighborhoods, cities, and towns throughout the United States as Preserve America Communities and has awarded grants since 2006. Earlier this year, the Department of the Interior made its first round of 2008 grants of \$2.9 million to 43 projects in 25 States. This September they will award an additional \$4.3 million in grants. The projects support heritage tourism, the commercial revitalization of neglected downtowns, and the reuse of historic properties.

Mr. Speaker, America's historic places remind us of who we are. They remind us of our history. We cannot cheat our children of that connection with their past, that understanding of who they are.

The Preserve America Program, through its grant opportunities and community designations, ensures that important communities and neighborhoods will survive for future generations.

Historic preservation helps revitalize cities, towns, and rural areas nationwide where dramatic population shifts, outdated planning, and the loss of manufacturing jobs have made market-driven reinvestment impossible without some assistance.

Rehabilitation of vacant and underused historic structures can attract new investment in growing communities. Whether it is preserving main streets of downtowns, or reusing historic properties as affordable housing, preservation makes history come alive in communities throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the House is now considering these two successful programs. Through passing this bill and authorizing these programs, Congress can affirm our commitment to saving our natural heritage, our historic heritage, and revitalizing our communities.

Once again, I ask my colleagues for their support for the Preserve America and Save America's Treasures Act.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER).

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, today I speak in favor of H.R. 3981, the Save America's Treasures/Preserve America Authorization Act of 2008.

I want to thank Representative MILLER, the co-chair of the Historic Preservation Caucus, for his collaboration on this bill, as well as Senator DOMENICI and Senator CLINTON for their work in moving this bill forward in the Senate.

I also want to thank Chairman RAHALL and Ranking Member YOUNG of the House Natural Resources Committee, as well as Chairman GRIJALVA and Ranking Member BISHOP of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands for their work on this bill.

Finally, I want to commend the work of the national historic preservation advocacy groups, many of which have collaborated with our offices in crafting this bill.

To this date, the Save America's Treasures and Preserve America Programs have been authorized through executive order, and I want to point out that through both First Lady Laura Bush's and former First Lady Hillary Clinton's efforts and commitment to historic preservation, these programs have been a success for many local communities.

H.R. 3981 would ensure that these two important programs continue by codifying them into law.

Both the Save America's Treasures and Preserve America Programs have had an enormous impact on historic

preservation nationally, as well as in Ohio. Ohio is home to nine Preserve America communities, Dayton, my hometown, being one. In fact, Dayton recently received a Preserve America Grant that will help analyze heritage tourism in the area.

Additionally, since 1999, Ohio has been the home of 45 Save America's Treasures Projects. These projects total nearly \$11 million in funding toward bricks and mortar restoration of important Ohio historic assets such as the Paul Lawrence Dunbar House in Dayton; Cincinnati's Union Terminal; the Wright Flyer III in Dayton, Ohio; the Palace Theatre in Columbus; and last, but not least, The National First Ladies Library in Canton, Ohio.

It's certainly interesting to note that the First Ladies Library was a recipient of the two programs started by these two First Ladies.

H.R. 3981 will ensure a stable and continuous funding source is authorized to assist in funding these important projects.

Additionally, the bill ensures that public-private partnerships remain a key aspect to the preservation of important historic assets by requiring non-Federal funds be used in collaboration with these Federal grants.

The authorization of these programs will help highlight the importance of historic preservation as an economic development tool, as well as a core national value.

It is clear that saving our heritage in these buildings and neighborhoods is not just a way to pay homage to our past. It is also an important way to boost our economy in the present, in addition to the future.

This bill enjoys a broad range of support, including many historic preservation organizations and over 55 cosponsors in the House.

Again, I want to thank Congressman MILLER for being the lead sponsor of this legislation, as well as the leadership of the Resources Committee for ushering this bill through the committee process.

This bill is also important because many of the recipients are organizations that are staffed by volunteers. These programs recognize their efforts to preserve the fabric of their community and help tell the story of our Nation's heritage. These programs work.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

JULY 7, 2008.

Hon. NICK RAHALL,
*Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. DON YOUNG,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN RAHALL AND RANKING MEMBER YOUNG: We are writing as representatives of the national preservation community in support of H.R. 3981, a bill that would authorize both the Preserve America (PA) and Save America's Treasures (SAT) programs. Our organizations support this measure and we are grateful to Reps. Miller and Turner for their initiative in authoring this

legislation, as well as their leadership as co-chairs of the House Historic Preservation Caucus. We hope that Congress will pass H.R. 3981, legislation which is critical to the historic preservation community.

Despite all of their success and support, the PA and SAT programs are unauthorized and funded from year-to-year through the annual appropriations process. We would like to see Congress authorize SAT and PA with a long-term programmatic and funding vision that would enable both programs to work in harmony with the other components of the national historic preservation program. Authorization would codify the successful implementation and practices of the ten-year old SAT program along with its newer partner, Preserve America, led by First Ladies Clinton and Bush respectively. While each of these historic preservation initiatives apply to projects of a different nature—SAT for “bricks and mortar” preservation and PA for heritage education and outreach, it is important that they should be authorized and mutually supportive of each other to maximize federal resources and goals in saving the nation's historic assets. We already know that PA and SAT are working together at specific locations throughout the country.

While much has been achieved since SAT was established, the need remains great and we must look to future needs. In just the first eight years of the program, 2,702 grant applications were received, representing requests for more than \$1.17 billion in critical preservation assistance. SAT has provided more than \$264 million in federal challenge grants to 1,024 historic preservation projects through 2007. These funds have helped bring new life to irreplaceable historic treasures—including buildings, documents and works of art—in every state. SAT funds have made a huge difference, but without Congress' ongoing commitment to the program, it would be virtually impossible to stimulate the required dollar-for-dollar non-federal matching contributions and hard to imagine where else the money would come from to preserve our national heritage.

That same ongoing need applies to PA projects as well with grants to support community efforts that demonstrate sustainable uses of historic and cultural sites, and the economic and educational opportunities related to heritage tourism. The first round of Preserve America Grants in 2007 provided 43 applicants with a total of \$2.6 million distributed across the nation. The second round provided \$2.26 million to 29 recipients in 20 states. The importance of resources to support this effort has not diminished since then—in fact, it has grown.

SAT and PA reflect the bipartisan and bicameral commitment that has characterized historic preservation policy in Congress and the White House over the years. SAT was created during a Democratic administration and embraced by the Bush Administration and Congressional Republicans. Likewise, PA was created during a Republican administration and is now supported by Members on both sides of the aisle. This is the strongest signal that authorizing both programs makes sense when bipartisanship is sometimes an elusive quality. We urge you to pass this timely authorization.

Sincerely,

RICHARD MOE,
*President,
National Trust for Historic Preservation.*
HEATHER MACINTOSH,
*President,
Preservation Action.*
MIKE POLK,
*President,
American Cultural Resources Association.*

LU ANN DE CUNZO,
President,
Society for Historical
Archeology.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional requests for time, and I would reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN).

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, we're talking about preserving America, but we need to preserve the economic viability of America, and as long as we're paying \$4.10 a gallon, we're not going to be an economically viable Nation. It's going higher and higher.

In the last bill's debate, we talked about monkey bites, shark bites, and there was an accusation of the energy production companies are biting people. But what's biting people in their pocketbooks and their wallets is this high cost of gasoline, high cost of energy.

Until we start dealing with this issue, we're going to continue to have problems in this country. We're going to continue to have economic problems, and it's absolutely critical that we deal with what's on America's mind, and that is energy costs.

As we head into the fall and winter, not too far off, people are going to have a hard time heating their homes. Poor people and retirees are going to have a hard time buying the heating oil.

The problem is the shortage of energy supplies here in America, and until we start making energy supplies more available to the American public, we're going to continue to have higher and higher costs.

We can't just talk about conservation. We can't just talk about solar and wind. We've got to talk about those things certainly, but that's only a minute part of the answer. We've got to develop nuclear energy.

Just below my district, Plant Vogel in Georgia is having a hard time getting permitting for two nuclear reactors. They're being blocked by the radical environmentalists and through the inane permitting process that's going on today. We need to get those reactors online. We need to get oil, coal, gas, propane, all more available so that people can have an economic future that makes sense.

So, as we talk about preserving things, let's preserve our families. Let's preserve our pocketbooks. Let's have money to spend to create a stronger economy. Not focus on these other things, as important as some feel that they may be. But the most important thing to America today is energy and the high cost of energy.

We need to do something about that. We shouldn't go home until we solve the energy problem of America, and we're not doing the American public justice when we continue talking about all these other things except energy. We need to focus on energy. Let's drill for oil. Let's drill now.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Democrats have been on this floor for weeks watching our colleagues from across the aisle defend multinational oil conglomerates. The fact of the matter is that the energy challenges that our Nation faces demand more than rhetoric and battles on the floor of the House. Certainly, our constituents who are feeling the energy pinch deserve more.

We need to put our energies into finding common ground to achieve real, workable solutions to our energy problems, and toward that end, we need to be working on our energy challenge from two ends at the same time, furthermore, the supply end and the conservation end. By doing so, we can work without partisanship to bring relief to the American people. And that, just like the underlying bill, would preserve America's true treasures and the treasures are our people.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND).

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my friend from Guam and her comments about bipartisan and working together and coming up with a common solution.

Mr. Speaker, I am all for that, but what we've come up with in the past is very limited debate. We've had bills come to the floor with no amendments. We've had bills come to this floor that had no committee hearings. Now, that, to me, is not working together or with bipartisan support.

So, if we want to have this bipartisan discussion, let's have it on the floor. Let's have an open rule on an energy bill, an open rule energy bill. What a great way to preserve what this body was meant to be, a place where representatives of the people came to debate and discuss and to talk about things that were affecting their constituents.

But half the people in America who are represented by Republicans in this body have not had an opportunity to even offer an amendment to some of these energy bills. We've not even had an opportunity to come down and speak on this floor because of the limited debate.

If we want to work out a solution, if we want to hear all the ideas from all 435 Members of this, so all the people in this country can have some input into this process, let's have an open energy bill that went through regular order and went through the subcommittee and the committee process, had a rule that was written where we could all have some input.

□ 1445

I'm for that kind of bipartisan support, and I know you are too because you are a very sweet lady.

Now, let me go on to say one thing: There was a poll that came out today I

thought was very interesting. The percentage of voters who give Congress good or excellent ratings has fallen to single digits for the first time in Rasmussen reporting tracking history.

This month, just 9 percent say Congress is doing a good or excellent job. Mr. Speaker, I think we need to form a committee to go find that 9 percent of the people to find out where they've been because we are not doing a good job, we are not doing an excellent job. We are doing a very poor job of addressing the needs of the American people and what's affecting their pocketbook and the ability for their family to survive today.

We've got gasoline that is up \$1.76 a gallon since the end of 2006. A loaf of bread is up 23 cents, or about 23 percent, than what it was at the end of 2006. A gallon of milk is up almost 30 percent, Mr. Speaker, since the new majority came in. The Dow Jones has lost about 20 percent. The stock market is down \$53 billion in the wealth of the stock market. Real net worth is down \$2.51 trillion. The real per capita gross domestic product is down. Inflation rate is up. Unemployment rate is up. The real average wage is down, Mr. Speaker. We are not doing a good job.

Part of the reason that bread is high, that milk is high, that the stock market is going down, that inflation is up is because of the oil crisis that we're in right now because we are totally dependent on foreign oil. And I would like to close with this, as a quote from the Department of Minerals Management Service that's in the Interior Department. The director says, "The agency estimates that offshore drilling could produce 1.8 billion barrels of oil and 76 trillion cubic feet of natural gas." And we're going to need that natural gas, Mr. Speaker, when these home heating oil and natural gas bills come due for people trying to stay warm this winter. The director would not say how much more oil and gas he thinks the lands could produce, but he said that experience has shown that once companies begin drilling on land, they often find more than expected.

Mr. Speaker, we have about 2.5 billion acres of Federal land and offshore that we could be drilling on; 68 million of that has leases that oil companies have leased. And we certainly—and I say we, I'm talking about the minority—do not think that Big Oil does not play some part in this. But the reality of it is we cannot expect Big Oil to go out and drill on leased land that has no oil or no gas. You do not go grocery shopping at a hardware store.

We need to open up this land that is available, that the Department of Interior, that the Minerals and Management Service says that there is gas and oil there. We need to open up this land to let people drill on, to let people get our natural resources out of the ground rather than us being dependent on going to foreign countries on bended knee with hat in hand asking them to sell us their natural resources when we refuse to use our own.

So Mr. Speaker, I will close with this, that we do want to work. We want a bipartisan solution. Because we think the answer is all of the above, it's more conservation, it's more use of wind and solar, but it's also drilling. It's also using our own natural resources. It's using clean coal. It's using an environmentally sensitive way to get this natural resource out of the ground. And we welcome an open rule bill that comes to the floor that all 435 people and the seven delegates that represent people in our territories and our States in this great country that we live in, to come have an open, honest debate about what we can do to solve our energy policy, to come together, to work together. That's the kind of change that the American people want, not the radical kind of change that has been offered so far in this Congress.

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

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman keeps talking about opening up more land. Well, the fact is 80 percent of the oil available on the Outer Continental Shelf today is already open for leasing, but the oil companies haven't decided it's worth their money to drill there.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support this worthwhile bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3981, 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. WESTMORELAND. Mr. 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.

DOROTHY BUELL MEMORIAL VISITOR CENTER LEASE ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1423) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease a portion of a visitor center to be constructed outside the boundary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in Porter County, Indiana, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1423

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

SECTION 1. DOROTHY BUELL MEMORIAL VISITOR CENTER.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center Partnership Act".

(b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—The Secretary of the Interior may enter into a memorandum of understanding to establish a joint partnership with the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission. The memorandum of understanding shall—

(1) identify the overall goals and purpose of the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center;

(2) establish how management and operational duties will be shared;

(3) determine how exhibits, Signs, and other information are developed;

(4) indicate how various activities will be funded;

(5) identify who is responsible for providing site amenities;

(6) establish procedures for changing or dissolving the joint partnership; and

(7) address any other issues deemed necessary by the Secretary or the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission.

(c) DEVELOPMENT OF EXHIBITS.—The Secretary may plan, design, construct, and install exhibits in the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center related to the use and management of the resources at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, at a cost not to exceed \$1,500,000.

(d) NATIONAL LAKESHORE PRESENCE.—The Secretary may use park staff from Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center to provide visitor information and education.

SEC. 2. INDIANA DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE.

Section 19 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and for other purposes" (16 U.S.C. 460u-19) is amended—

(1) by striking "After notifying" and inserting "(a) After notifying"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) CONTIGUOUS CLARIFIED.—For purposes of subsection (a), lands may be considered contiguous to other lands if the lands touch the other lands, or are separated from the other lands by only a public or private right-of-way, such as a road, railroad, or utility corridor."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1423 would allow the National Park Service to share visitor center facilities for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore with the Porter County Indiana Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission.

The bill also allows the National Park Service to construct exhibits at the visitor center and authorizes National Park Service employees to work

there. Congress must approve the spending and the use of personnel because the visitor center lies outside the established boundaries of the park.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1423 would clarify the definition of "contiguous lands" in the park's original legislation so that the National Park Service could accept donations of contiguous land even if that land is separated by a right-of-way such as a road, a railway line or utility corridor.

I commend the sponsor, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY), for his work on the legislation, and I ask my colleagues to support passage of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, on the southern tip of Lake Michigan, is comprised of 15,000 acres along 15 miles of shoreline. This bill authorizes the Secretary of Interior to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Porter County Commission to lease space for the use of a visitor center. It also permits the Secretary to accept donations of lands that are located along the borders of the lakeshore but are separated by a right-of-way.

And today, as we are dealing with this particular unit of the National Park Service, I think it's fitting to remember that our constituents are dealing with high gasoline prices that are cutting into family vacations this summer, making it increasingly costly to visit our national parks.

Over the Independence Day work period back in my district, I spoke with a number of constituents who are still frustrated about high gasoline prices and also are frustrated with what they perceive as Congress' failure to do anything to adopt a comprehensive energy policy. This Congress needs to take action to put all of our available resources and technologies on the table, including increase American-made energy, conservation and efficiency to bring relief at the pumps.

I thought the best story that I heard was a lady that came to me and I asked her, I said, what do you think we ought to be doing about this energy issue that we're dealing with? And she said, Mr. WITTMAN, do you remember the movie Apollo 13? And I said, yes, I did. And she said, do you remember the scene there where the oxygen tank on the outside of the service capsule blew up and the engineers there had to figure out how they were going to get those astronauts back to Earth? So they moved the astronauts into the command module, but the problem with the command module is it didn't have enough capacity to take CO₂ out of the air, so eventually the astronauts would be asphyxiated if they didn't come up with a solution to that problem and still have enough oxygen to propel the spaceship back to Earth.

So what did they do? They sent the engineers to the duplicate capsule they

had there at Mission Control in Houston. And they sent them in there and they said take everything out of there that's available to these astronauts and put it in a box. So those engineers put those materials in a box and they brought it downstairs to Mission Control and they laid those pieces out on the table. And they told those engineers, solve the problem, make sure we get those astronauts back here. Come up with a CO₂ scrubber that gets that CO₂ out of the air so those astronauts can survive and get back to Earth. And lo and behold, those engineers did just that. But they weren't crippled by saying, well, you can only use this in the box and that in the box. They were there to use everything.

Folks, if we're going to be successful in this effort for our comprehensive energy policy, we need to make sure that we use everything. And that includes looking at the energy that we have available here in the United States, being aggressive with conservation, being aggressive in developing alternative and renewable sources here. And this country has shown to have the engineering and ability and the willingness to get to work on these tough issues and to solve them. Our history has been wrought with just those efforts to make sure that we solve these problems.

The American people are looking at us now to make sure that we solve this problem. And they don't want us to take anything out of that Apollo 13 box to solve this problem. They expect us to put everything there and to make sure that we come up with a solution to this, and I believe that this country can do that.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana, the bill's sponsor, Mr. VISCLOSKEY.

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. I want to thank the gentlelady.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1423, the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center Lease Act, as amended. I am proud to sponsor this legislation, and I thank Mr. DONNELLY for joining me as a cosponsor.

I also do want to thank Chairman RAHALL and Ranking Member DON YOUNG, the chairman of the subcommittee, as well as the ranking member, and especially the exceptional staff of the subcommittee and the full committee of Natural Resources for their consideration and good work on this measure.

This measure will grant the Secretary of the Interior the authority to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a joint partnership with Porter County. This partnership will allow the National Park Service and the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission to develop a plan to maximize the efficiency of the Visitor Center at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and

enhance the visitor experience. The measure also will provide funding to develop exhibits for the center.

Additionally, the bill will help us enhance the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in the most affordable fashion possible. It will permit, but not require, the Secretary of the Interior to accept donations of lands located outside the present boundaries of the Lakeshore if they are contiguous with the park or separated by only a right-of-way. At present, the Secretary of the Interior cannot accept such donations. This provision makes a minor technical correction that has no financial impact, and will allow this natural treasure to expand by the generosity of those wishing to enhance the Lakeshore. It is my sincere hope that this legislation will continue our efforts to protect and enhance the Lakeshore, and to ensure that all Americans can benefit from the park.

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is an incredible natural treasure, as was mentioned, comprised of about 15,000 pristine acres along the southern shore of Lake Michigan in the midst of an urban environment. With its vast array of flora and fauna in northwest Indiana, a short distance from downtown Chicago, the Lakeshore receives over 3 million visitors from that urban area each year.

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore owes a great deal of gratitude to Dorothy Buell, who was instrumental in its establishment and development. Buell devoted much of her life to saving the dunes. In 1952, she founded the Save the Dunes Council to obtain dunes land and to give it to the National State Park so that the unique habitat could be preserved and enjoyed by the general public.

In 1992, Buell's extraordinary contributions to the dunes were recognized when the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Access and Enhancement Act was signed into law, thereby naming the park's visitor center for her and commemorating her vision, dedication and work.

□ 1500

The Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center is an excellent facility for providing environmental education programs and recreational activities. Visitors can enjoy displays and exhibits.

I am very proud of the continued investment in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore by the National Park Service staff, our local communities, and Lakeshore volunteers in Indiana's First Congressional District. They seek to preserve, protect, and restore the Lakeshore and surrounding resources for an enhanced quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again thank the members and the leaders of the committee and subcommittee as well as the staff, and I ask my colleagues to support the measure.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND).

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I thank my friend for yielding again.

Mr. Speaker, I got the whip report today and was looking over some of the bills that we're going to be going over today and this week. And I felt like, Mr. Speaker, it might be good just to remind our colleagues maybe of what all we're going to be doing this week so they can get their staffs down and start looking at this real hard.

I was hoping that we might be talking about some ways to improve our energy management because what has happened so far on this House floor by the majority has simply not worked. We voted, I guess, almost 6 weeks ago now, to stop sending oil into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and so thus far I believe, today is July 8; so at 70,000 barrels of oil a day, that's over half a million barrels of oil that we have kept from our Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and yet gas is at a new record of \$4.11 a gallon. So that's not working.

The energy bill that the majority passed in January of 2007, which we called the "No Energy Policy," has actually turned out to be a no energy policy because gas has gone from \$2.35 a gallon to \$4.11 a gallon. And light bulbs, or the CFLs, was mentioned over 350 times in that bill, and we have now learned that you can't dispose of those things because of the mercury in them, and they are only produced in China.

So we have got a long way to go on correcting our energy situation in this Congress, and for some reason the majority just keeps turning its head.

But I just felt like for some of our colleagues that are listening today they might know that we have already heard today that we amended High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act. We're going to get a chance to vote today to authorize the Preserve America Program and Save America's Treasures. We are now authorizing the Secretary of Interior to lease a portion of the visitor center to be constructed outside the boundary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in Porter County, Indiana. I know that's a big one. You all need to be looking at that, Mr. Speaker.

Number four, to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 to add sites to the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Park, and I know that's an important piece of legislation. We're also going to do the Maritime Pollution Prevention Act. And we're going to name three post offices today.

Now, tomorrow we are going to get into the real meat of some of this stuff. We've got 12 more suspensions, which are bills that really just come to the floor with about 20 minutes of debate, I believe, on either side, no amendments, not structured to any rule. We are going to look at the Pension Protection Technical Corrections Act, and I know, Mr. Speaker, these people at home will be glad to know that we're doing that. And then we have got to

honor the goal of the International Year of Astronomy; celebrating the 25th anniversary of the first American woman in space, Dr. Sally Ride; the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act; commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Space Foundation; commemorating the 50th anniversary of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Homes For Heroes Act; America's Beautiful National Parks Quarter Dollar Coin Act; Community Building Code Amendment Grant Act; Lead-Safe Housing for Kids; and Money Services Business Act.

And then we have got one real bill that's going to be subject to a rule, Mr. Speaker: the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail Designation Act. So any Members listening to this might want to get their amendments ready for that, and I don't know if we can amend that to talk about energy.

But, Mr. Speaker, I just thought it was important that we discuss here among ourselves what we are doing in this Congress this week. People are paying \$4.11 a gallon for gas at the pump. People are having to make decisions about whether they can go to work or go visit a loved one in a hospital. We need to be discussing our energy crisis because this is not something that just happened.

And, look, we are not innocent in this. We had 12 years. We could have led the charge. But I remember back in April of 2006, then minority leader, now Speaker NANCY PELOSI, said, "Elect us. The Democrats have a commonsense plan for lowering the skyrocketing price of gasoline."

Please bring out that plan, Mr. Speaker. Bring out that commonsense plan so that we can see what can lower the skyrocketing prices because since that plan has not been revealed, gas has gone from \$2.35 to \$4.11.

So while we are talking about all these important things today, and I know the American people are sitting on the edge of their seat to see if these things pass or not because of the effect it's going to have on their lives, I think if they could honestly have a good, bipartisan debate with an open rule, a good energy bill that all the people could come that represent the people all over this country to come in and discuss what we can do to give them relief at the pump.

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

First and foremost, I would like to remind my colleagues across the aisle that I feel that all legislation that is heard in the U.S. Congress is important legislation. I want to go on record saying that.

And I would remind my colleagues on the other side of the aisle that in 2005, just 3 years ago, 2005, when you were in the majority, you passed an energy bill that you claimed would produce America's energy independence. It did not work, did it? What were gas prices then in 2005, and what are they today?

So I would again say the blame game is not working and we should truly sit down and get serious, dispense with the rhetoric, and address the issues facing the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND).

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I want to thank my colleague for yielding to me.

Just to my good friend from Guam, I don't have a problem with what you said because it sounds like we have had a bite of the apple, the new majority has had a bite of the apple. People have seen their gas prices continue to go up. So why not come up with a bill that we could put on the floor, to have an open rule, because there is nothing more important in this country right now, not just because the price of gasoline is \$4.11 a gallon. This is a national security issue. We are writing Hugo Chavez a check to the Venezuelans for \$170 million a day. This is a national security issue. This is an economic issue that we are talking about. This is affecting our stock market. This is affecting our gross national product. This is affecting a loaf of bread. This is affecting a gallon of milk. This is something we need to be talking about.

So I'm glad to hear that you've taken notice that our plan of 2005 has not been totally successful because it has not been totally implemented yet. But I am more than willing to have a discussion on this floor, open rule, energy package. Let's write one. Let's let it go through regular order. Let's let it have amendments. Let's let it have discussion. And I think if we could do that, then we maybe could come up with something that could succeed.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues, all of the Members of Congress, to support this very important piece of legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1423, 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. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. 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.

DAYTON AVIATION HERITAGE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK EXPANSION

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4199) to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 to add sites to the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4199

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

TITLE I—ADDITIONAL AREAS INCLUDED IN DAYTON AVIATION HERITAGE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

SEC. 101. ADDITIONAL AREAS INCLUDED IN PARK.

Section 101 of the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 (16 U.S.C. 410ww, et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) ADDITIONAL SITES.—In addition to the sites described in subsection (b), the park shall consist of the following sites, as generally depicted on a map titled 'Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park', numbered 362/80,013 and dated May 2008:

"(1) Hawthorn Hill, Oakwood, Ohio.

"(2) The Wright Company factory and associated land and buildings, Dayton, Ohio."

SEC. 102. PROTECTION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES.

Section 102 of the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 (16 U.S.C. 410ww-1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting "Hawthorn Hill, the Wright Company factory," after "acquire";

(2) in subsection (b), by striking "Such agreements" and inserting:

"(d) CONDITIONS.—Cooperative agreements under this section";

(3) by inserting before subsection (d) (as added by paragraph 2) the following:

"(c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement with a partner or partners, including the Wright Family Foundation, to operate and provide programming for Hawthorn Hill and charge reasonable fees notwithstanding any other provision of law, which may be used to defray the costs of park operation and programming."; and

(4) by striking "Commission" and inserting "Aviation Heritage Foundation".

TITLE II—WRIGHT BROTHERS-DUNBAR NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK DESIGNATION

SEC. 201. REDESIGNATION OF DAYTON AVIATION HERITAGE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992, is amended—

(1) by striking "Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park" each place it appears and inserting "Wright Brothers-Dunbar National Historical Park";

(2) by redesignating subsection (b) of section 108 as subsection (c); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) of section 108 the following new subsection:

"(b) GRANT ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary is authorized to make grants to the parks' partners, including the Aviation Trail, Inc., the Ohio Historical Society, and Dayton History, for projects not requiring Federal involvement other than providing financial assistance, subject to the availability of appropriations in advance identifying the specific partner grantee and the specific project. Projects funded through these grants shall be limited to construction and development on non-Federal property within the

boundaries of the park. Any project funded by such a grant shall support the purposes of the park, shall be consistent with the park's general management plan, and shall enhance public use and enjoyment of the park."

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law (other than this title), map, regulation, document, record, or other official paper of the United States to the "Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park" shall be considered to be a reference to the "Wright Brothers-Dunbar National Historical Park".

SEC. 202. NATIONAL AVIATION HERITAGE AREA.

Title V of division J of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (16 U.S.C. 461 note; Public Law 108-447), is amended—

(1) in section 503(3), by striking "104" and inserting "504";

(2) in section 503(4), by striking "106" and inserting "506";

(3) in section 504, by striking subsection (b)(2) and by redesignating subsection (b)(3) as subsection (b)(2); and

(4) in section 505(b)(1), by striking "106" and inserting "506".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 4199 adds two sites to the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. The bill also renames the park as the Wright Brothers-Dunbar National Historical Park.

Mr. Speaker, the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park was established to preserve sites associated with Wilbur and Orville Wright and the early history of aviation. The park also honors the life and work of African American poet Paul Laurence Dunbar, a business associate and a friend of Orville Wright.

H.R. 4199 would add Hawthorn Hill, the mansion designed by the Wright Brothers, and the Wright Company factory to the park. The factory, completed in 1910, is the site of the first American facilities specifically designed and built for the manufacture of airplanes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support passage of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4199 has been adequately explained by the majority, and I would like to thank Congressman TURNER from Ohio for his diligent work to advance this legislation on behalf of his constituents and for the benefit of park visitors around the country.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the

gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER), author of the bill.

□ 1515

Mr. TURNER. I speak today in favor of H.R. 4199, which will add two important historic sites into the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Park. I want to thank Natural Resources Chairman RAHALL and Ranking Member YOUNG, as well as Subcommittee Chairman GRIJALVA and Ranking Member BISHOP for ushering this bill through the Resources Committee process, as well as bringing it to the floor today. I also want to thank the members of the Ohio delegation, many of whom have cosponsored this legislation.

Mr. Chairman, Ohio is the birthplace of aviation, and Dayton is the home of Orville and Wilbur Wright, the two men that invented the airplane. Some consider their invention to be the most important innovation in modern history. When the Wright brothers took flight in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, our world became connected in a dramatic way, transforming travel, commerce, and communication.

Dayton is also the home of Paul Laurence Dunbar. Dunbar was a classmate of Orville Wright, and was a contemporary of the Wrights. Throughout his life, he was known as the poet laureate of African Americans, and achieved national success after his second collection of poems was reviewed in Harper's Weekly in 1896.

The Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historic Park is a celebration of the legacies of the Wright brothers, as well as Paul Laurence Dunbar. Currently, many people enjoy our National Historic Park. The park includes the Wright's Cycle Shop, the Wright Flyer Airplane, and the Huffman Prairie, where the Wrights perfected fixed-wing flight, among other sites.

However, the Wright's history within the park remains incomplete. Currently, the Wright Company factory buildings and their home, Hawthorn Hill, are not included among the sites at the park. That is why I have introduced H.R. 4199, which will complete the Wright's story told at the park, by adding these two critical sites.

The Wright Company factory buildings in west Dayton are the first American facilities specifically designed and built for the manufacture of airplanes. These buildings had a production capability that was greater than any other airplane manufacturing facility at the time.

The Wright Company operated at the site from 1910 to 1916, and produced 13 different models of airplanes. This site is currently owned and controlled by the Delphi Corporation, who will operate at this site until later this year.

Hawthorn Hill was designed by Wilbur and Orville Wright and was the home of the Wright family until 1948. This historic architectural landmark tells the story of the Wright brothers as inventors. Amanda Wright-Lane, the

great-grandniece of the Wright brothers, testified before the Resources Subcommittee on National Parks earlier this year, discussing the Wright's incredible history and the importance of Hawthorn Hill to the Wright's story.

Mr. Speaker, the addition of these sites to the existing park is critical to the park's purpose, which was outlined in the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992. The purpose is "to create partnerships among Federal, State and local governments and the private sector to preserve, enhance, and interpret for the present and future generations the historic and cultural structures, districts, and artifacts in Dayton and the Miami Valley in the State of Ohio associated with the Wright brothers, the invention and the development of aviation, or the life and works of Paul Laurence Dunbar." Put plainly, the addition of these sites completes the Wright's story at the park.

Mr. Speaker, adding these sites to the national park enjoys a wide range of support from both local and national organizations, including the City of Dayton; Montgomery County; the State of Ohio; the Wright family; the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce; the Dayton Development Coalition; the Ohio Historical Society; the Dayton Historical Society; Sinclair Community College; The University of Dayton; the Dayton Foundation, the National Cash Register Corporation; the Delphi Corporation; the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers; and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

H.R. 4199 also includes the exact language from H.R. 4191, which passed the House by a voice vote earlier this year. This language would change the name of the Dayton Aviation National Historic Park to the Wright Brothers-Dunbar National Historic Park.

Changing the name of the park has been the result of a community-wide process, led by Federal Judge Walter Rice and the Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission. I want to thank Judge Walter Rice and the other commissioners for their time and dedication to making the name of our park a fitting salute to those for whom it is a tribute.

It is clear that this bill is an important priority to the Dayton region. It is also important to the Paul Laurence Dunbar and the Wright brothers' legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you again for this opportunity, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4199.

Ms. BORDALLO. I yield such time as he may consume to my colleague from North Carolina (Mr. MILLER).

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. I want to applaud Mr. TURNER for bucking his party in introducing a bill on something other than gas prices. I have frequently worked with Mr. TURNER on historic preservation issues. It has never been difficult to work across partisan lines. But rising to support this bill is somewhat more difficult for me.

Mr. TURNER described Dayton, Ohio, as the birthplace of aviation in his remarks a minute ago. Mr. Speaker, that is stretching the truth a bit. But after sitting on the floor for about an hour and hearing our energy problems blamed on environmentalists, not the fact that ExxonMobil made \$40 billion in profits in the fourth quarter of 2007, it seems like a fairly minor stretching of the truth.

As every school child in America knows, with the exception of school children in Dayton, Ohio, the first powered flight was in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, in December, 1903, or at least it was the first photographed, the first documented powered flight. There is still some dispute about where the actual first powered flight was. But the photograph of the Wright brothers plane above the dunes, just a few feet above the dunes at Kitty Hawk, was probably the most important photograph in history to that point, and remains one of the most famous photographs in all of history. That photograph, Mr. Speaker, was taken by a North Carolinian.

After that first flight, which lasted just 12 seconds, and even with the soft sands of Kitty Hawk to land in, the landing almost destroyed or badly damaged the balsa wood plane. Progress was very rapid. Within just a decade, the airplane proved to be a very effective weapon of war in the First World War, and in another decade, just another decade after that, Charles Lindbergh flew the Atlantic alone.

Mr. TURNER is correct, flight has been an important transformational invention in human history. We are now a connected world, largely because of flight. The Wright brothers and Dayton, Ohio, did have a role in that, Mr. Speaker. So I do rise to support adding Hawthorn Hill, the Wright family home, and the Wright Airplane Factory to the national park in Dayton, Ohio highly.

I do this, taking the lead of my party's nominee for President, who has urged that we put aside all the old animosities, that we reach across all divisions of society. In that spirit, Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill.

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4199, which would expand the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park to include additional sites associated with the lives and work of Wilbur and Orville Wright.

Few technological advances have transformed the world or our nation's economy, society, culture, and national character as the development of powered flight. Therefore, it is important to preserve the historical sites associated the Wright brothers' achievements in the field of aviation. That is what this bill will do.

Over the years, the Ohio congressional delegation has worked together to preserve and promote Ohio's rich aviation history. A few years ago, I, along with Congressman Tony Hall, had the privilege of introducing the bill that later became law to designate eight Miami

Valley counties and the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park as part of a National Aviation Heritage Area. Today, I commend my colleague, Congressman MIKE TURNER, for his leadership in sponsoring this bill to add two additional sites to the aviation park.

Specifically, H.R. 4199 will add Hawthorne Hill, which was Orville Wright's home in Oakwood, and several Wright Factory buildings in Dayton, where the brothers conducted research and testing. These sites would be part of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, which already includes such historic sites as: Huffman Prairie Flying Field, the Wright Cycle Company Complex, and the Paul Laurence Dunbar House. Together, these sites are an important part to nation's history, and Ohio's cultural heritage.

Again, I commend Congressman TURNER for his leadership to preserve and promote Ohio's aviation heritage with this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4419.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4199, 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.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. 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.

MARITIME POLLUTION PREVENTION ACT OF 2008

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 802) to amend the Act to Prevent Pollution from ships to implement MARPOL Annex VI.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Maritime Pollution Prevention Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Wherever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to or a repeal of a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.).

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

Section 2(a) (33 U.S.C. 1901(a)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating the paragraphs (1) through (12) as paragraphs (2) through (13), respectively;

(2) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as so redesignated) the following:

"(1) 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;";

(3) in paragraph (5) (as so redesignated) by striking "and V" and inserting "V, and VI";

(4) in paragraph (6) (as so redesignated) by striking "discharge" and "garbage" and "harmful substance" and "incident" and inserting "discharge", "emission", "garbage", "harmful substance", and "incident";"; and

(5) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through (13) (as redesignated) as paragraphs (8) through (14), respectively, and inserting after paragraph (6) (as redesignated) the following:

"(7) 'navigable waters' includes the territorial sea of the United States (as defined in Presidential Proclamation 5928 of December 27, 1988) and the internal waters of the United States;";

SEC. 4. APPLICABILITY.

Section 3 (33 U.S.C. 1902) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (3);

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(5) with respect to Annex VI to the Convention, and other than with respect to a ship referred to in paragraph (1)—

"(A) to a ship that is in a port, shipyard, offshore terminal, or the internal waters of the United States;

"(B) to a ship that is bound for, or departing from, a port, shipyard, offshore terminal, or the internal waters of the United States, and is in—

"(i) the navigable waters or the exclusive economic zone of the United States;

"(ii) an emission control area designated pursuant to section 4; or

"(iii) any other area that the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary and each State in which any part of the area is located, has designated by order as being an area from which emissions from ships are of concern with respect to protection of public health, welfare, or the environment;

"(C) to a ship that is entitled to fly the flag of, or operating under the authority of, a party to Annex VI, and is in—

"(i) the navigable waters or the exclusive economic zone of the United States;

"(ii) an emission control area designated under section 4; or

"(iii) any other area that the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary and each State in which any part of the area is located, has designated by order as being an area from which emissions from ships are of concern with respect to protection of public health, welfare, or the environment; and

"(D) to any other ship, to the extent that, and in the same manner as, such ship may be boarded by the Secretary to implement or enforce any other law of the United States or Annex I, II, or V of the Convention, and is in—

"(i) the exclusive economic zone of the United States;

"(ii) the navigable waters of the United States;

"(iii) an emission control area designated under section 4; or

"(iv) any other area that the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary and each State in which any part of the area is located, has designated by order as being an area from which emissions from ships are of concern with respect to protection of public health, welfare, or the environment.";

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking "paragraph (2)," and inserting "paragraphs (2) and (3),"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) With respect to Annex VI the Administrator, or the Secretary, as relevant to their authorities pursuant to this Act, may determine

that some or all of the requirements under this Act shall apply to one or more classes of public vessels, except that such a determination by the Administrator shall have no effect unless the head of the Department or agency under which the vessels operate concurs in the determination. This paragraph does not apply during time of war or during a declared national emergency.”;

(3) by redesignating subsections (c) through (g) as subsections (d) through (h), respectively, and inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) APPLICATION TO OTHER PERSONS.—This Act shall apply to all persons to the extent necessary to ensure compliance with Annex VI to the Convention.”;

(4) in subsection (e), as redesignated—

(A) by inserting “or the Administrator, consistent with section 4 of this Act,” after “Secretary”;

(B) by striking “of section (3),” and inserting “of this section,”; and

(C) by striking “Protocol, including regulations conforming to and giving effect to the requirements of Annex V” and inserting “Protocol (or the applicable Annex), including regulations conforming to and giving effect to the requirements of Annex V and Annex VI”;

(5) by adding at the end thereof the following:

“(i) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to restrict in a manner inconsistent with international law navigational rights and freedoms as defined by United States law, treaty, convention, or customary international law.”.

SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.

Section 4 (33 U.S.C. 1903) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively, and inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) DUTY OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.—In addition to other duties specified in this Act, the Administrator and the Secretary, respectively, shall have the following duties and authorities:

“(1) The Administrator shall, and no other person may, issue Engine International Air Pollution Prevention certificates in accordance with Annex VI and the International Maritime Organization’s Technical Code on Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides from Marine Diesel Engines, on behalf of the United States for a vessel of the United States as that term is defined in section 116 of title 46, United States Code. The issuance of Engine International Air Pollution Prevention certificates shall be consistent with any applicable requirements of the Clean Air Act or regulations prescribed under that Act.

“(2) The Administrator shall have authority to administer regulations 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of Annex VI to the Convention.

“(3) The Administrator shall, only as specified in section 8(f), have authority to enforce Annex VI of the Convention.”;

(2) in subsection (c), as redesignated, by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4), and inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) In addition to the authority the Secretary has to prescribe regulations under this Act, the Administrator shall also prescribe any necessary or desired regulations to carry out the provisions of regulations 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of Annex VI to the Convention.

“(3) In prescribing any regulations under this section, the Secretary and the Administrator shall consult with each other, and with respect to regulation 19, with the Secretary of the Interior.”; and

(3) by adding at the end of subsection (c), as redesignated, the following:

“(5) No standard issued by any person or Federal authority, with respect to emissions from tank vessels subject to regulation 15 of Annex VI to the Convention, shall be effective until 6 months after the required notification to the International Maritime Organization by the Secretary.”.

SEC. 6. CERTIFICATES.

Section 5 (33 U.S.C. 1904) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting “Except as provided in section 4(b)(1), the Secretary”;

(2) in subsection (b) by striking “Secretary under the authority of the MARPOL protocol.” and inserting “Secretary or the Administrator under the authority of this Act.”; and

(3) in subsection (e) by striking “environment.” and inserting “environment or the public health and welfare.”.

SEC. 7. RECEPTION FACILITIES.

Section 6 (33 U.S.C. 1905) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) The Secretary and the Administrator, after consulting with appropriate Federal agencies, shall jointly prescribe regulations setting criteria for determining the adequacy of reception facilities for receiving ozone depleting substances, equipment containing such substances, and exhaust gas cleaning residues at a port or terminal, and stating any additional measures and requirements as are appropriate to ensure such adequacy. Persons in charge of ports and terminals shall provide reception facilities, or ensure that reception facilities are available, in accordance with those regulations. The Secretary and the Administrator may jointly prescribe regulations to certify, and may issue certificates to the effect, that a port’s or terminal’s facilities for receiving ozone depleting substances, equipment containing such substances, and exhaust gas cleaning residues from ships are adequate.”;

(2) in subsection (b) by inserting “or the Administrator” after “Secretary”;

(3) in subsection (e) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) The Secretary may deny the entry of a ship to a port or terminal required by the MARPOL Protocol, this Act, or regulations prescribed under this section relating to the provision of adequate reception facilities for garbage, ozone depleting substances, equipment containing those substances, or exhaust gas cleaning residues, if the port or terminal is not in compliance with the MARPOL Protocol, this Act, or those regulations.”;

(4) in subsection (f)(1) by striking “Secretary is” and inserting “Secretary and the Administrator are”;

(5) in subsection (f)(2) by striking “(A)”.

SEC. 8. INSPECTIONS.

Section 8(f) (33 U.S.C. 1907(f)) is amended to read as follows:

“(f)(1) The Secretary may inspect a ship to which this Act applies as provided under section 3(a)(5), to verify whether the ship is in compliance with Annex VI to the Convention and this Act.

“(2) If an inspection under this subsection or any other information indicates that a violation has occurred, the Secretary, or the Administrator in a matter referred by the Secretary, may undertake enforcement action under this section.

“(3) Notwithstanding subsection (b) and paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Administrator shall have all of the authorities of the Secretary, as specified in subsection (b) of this section, for the purposes of enforcing regulations 17 and 18 of Annex VI to the Convention to the extent that shoreside violations are the subject of the action and in any other matter referred to the Administrator by the Secretary.”.

SEC. 9. AMENDMENTS TO THE PROTOCOL.

Section 10(b) (33 U.S.C. 1909(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking “Annex I, II, or V” and inserting “Annex I, II, V, or VI”;

(2) by inserting “or the Administrator as provided for in this Act,” after “Secretary.”.

SEC. 10. PENALTIES.

Section 9 (33 U.S.C. 1908) is amended—

(1) by striking “Protocol,” each place it appears and inserting “Protocol,”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by inserting “or the Administrator as provided for in this Act,” after “Secretary,” the first place it appears;

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, or the Administrator as provided for in this Act,” after “Secretary”; and

(C) in the matter after paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting “or the Administrator as provided for in this Act,” after “Secretary,” the first place it appears; and

(ii) by inserting “, or the Administrator as provided for in this Act,” after “Secretary” the second and third places it appears;

(3) in subsection (c), by inserting “, or the Administrator as provided for in this Act,” after “Secretary” each place it appears; and

(4) in subsection (f), by inserting “or the Administrator as provided for in this Act” after “Secretary,” the first place appears.

SEC. 11. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.

Section 15 (33 U.S.C. 1911) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 15. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.

“Authorities, requirements, and remedies of this Act supplement and neither amend nor repeal any other authorities, requirements, or remedies conferred by any other provision of law. Nothing in this Act shall limit, deny, amend, modify, or repeal any other authority, requirement, or remedy available to the United States or any other person, except as expressly provided in this Act.”.

SEC. 12. LEGAL ACTIONS.

Section 11 (33 U.S.C. 1910) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) of subsection (a) as paragraph (4), and inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) against the Administrator where there is alleged a failure of the Administrator to perform any act or duty under this Act which is not discretionary; or”;

(2) by striking “concerned,” in subsection (b)(1) and inserting “concerned or the Administrator.”; and

(3) by inserting “or the Administrator” after “Secretary” in subsection (b)(2).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill, H.R. 802.

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

There was no objection.

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

I smile because it’s a delight to call the gentleman Mr. Speaker.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 802, as amended, the Maritime Pollution Prevention Act of 2008. The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) and I introduced this legislation at the outset of the 110th Congress to provide the Coast Guard and the Environmental Protection Agency with the legal authority they need to implement Annex VI of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships.

The House passed H.R. 802 on March 26, 2007, by a vote of 359-48. Notwithstanding that overwhelming vote of approval, the bill languished in the place we affectionately call the other body

for more than a year. But recently they have passed, with minor changes, that legislation. With House passage today, the bill can go to the President for consideration and for his signature.

Global warming is a critical issue, not just for the United States, but for every Nation, for every person on the planet. The international maritime community has recognized their contribution to global warming and to ocean pollution and have developed an international convention to address air pollutants from diesel ships.

For many years, the International Maritime Organization of the United Nations has been developing international standards to prevent pollution from ships that traverse the oceans. Those standards are now embodied in the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships of 1973. The U.S. has implemented these environmental laws by enacting and amending the legislation known as the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, and when I served on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, much of whose jurisdiction has now been absorbed by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, we worked on early versions of those amendments and environmental laws to implement and amend the APPS.

Annex VI of the Convention for Prevention of Pollution from Ships limits the discharge of nitrogen oxides from large marine diesel engines; it governs the sulfur content of marine diesel fuel; prohibits the emission of ozone-depleting substances; it regulates the emission of volatile organic compounds in the transfer of cargoes between tankers and terminals. It sets standards for shipboard incinerators and fuel oil quality; and it establishes requirements for platforms and drill rigs at sea.

The Senate ratified this treaty by unanimous consent in April, 2006. But it doesn't go into effect until we enact implementing legislation. The bill we consider today will implement Annex VI of the convention. It will provide the Coast Guard and the Environmental Protection Agency the authority necessary to develop U.S. standards and to enforce those standards on the thousands of U.S. and foreign-flagged vessels that enter U.S. waters.

Recognizing the challenge that the world faces in combating worldwide climate change and global warming, we have to take every measure possible to contain and then reduce rising temperatures on this planet, and particularly the oceans that are deep reservoirs of oxygen but also reservoirs of carbon and of the acid that we are pouring into the atmosphere. And that combination of absorbing heat, acid, and carbon is having deleterious effects on the Nation's world coral reefs. There was a very enlightening program on this devastation of the coral reefs on the Science Channel just the other evening.

□ 1530

It is something that I witnessed myself when I lived in Haiti and did snorkeling and exploring of the coral reefs. This was in the 1950s. You could see the dead reefs on the one side, and the vibrant, growing coral reefs and the abundance of life on those coral reefs, filtering out deleterious elements in the ocean water. But on the other side, the dead reef and a testament to the effects of pollution in our waters. And that was 50 years ago.

So the Senate amendments do not affect the application of MARPOL VI to the thousands of vessels that enter our ports. Their amendment clarifies that the United States can enforce MARPOL VI on vessels that are registered in countries which are not party to the convention when those vessels are in our 200 mile economic zone if the Coast Guard is on board of the vessel to enforce other annexes to the convention and to the extent that this enforcement does not violate international law.

In addition, the Senate amendment clarifies that an individual, a person, may bring a civil action if the Administrator of EPA has failed to perform any act or duty not discretionary under the act, and that is similar to civil action that may be brought under other provisions of law on application of other annexes to the convention.

The delay by the Senate, I regret, may have near term unfortunate consequences for the United States in the IMO negotiations that will take place this coming October to reduce emissions from ships. Under the terms of the convention, only parties to the convention may vote on those reduction measures, and a nation is not party to the convention until 90 days after its instruments of ratification have been deposited with the IMO. The Senate delay means we may not meet that deadline and the U.S. may not be able to vote to improve increased standards, even though delegates representing the United States chaired the working group that met over many sessions to negotiate these new, more rigorous standards.

So, given the importance of completing action on this legislation, I asked our majority leader, Mr. HOYER, to schedule this bill as quickly as possible immediately upon the House's return to session today. I thank the majority leader for his consideration, and I am hopeful we get the bill to the President's desk without delay.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank our chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, Mr. CUMMINGS, who has devoted a great deal of energy to the work of the subcommittee and to this particular issue in developing this legislation, and to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA), the ranking member of our committee, for his cooperation and support in moving the bill last year and expediting today's action considering the bill, and

to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), ever the thoughtful, considerate, legal expert of the committee. I am grateful for his contribution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to rise in support today of the Senate amendment to H.R. 802, the Maritime Prevention Pollution Act of 2008. I want to give credit and pay tribute to the chairman of the full committee, Mr. OBERSTAR, and the chairman of the subcommittee, Mr. CUMMINGS of Maryland, for their diligence in working this bill and working the will of the committee and today the will of the House. I join Mr. OBERSTAR in expressing my regret that the other body has not acted in as prompt a fashion, and therefore we may be too late with this legislation. Hopefully that isn't the case.

This type of legislation is exactly what our committee should be about. Those of us, as the current occupant of the chair who hails from the Great Lakes region, as does the chairman of the full committee, know the great work that has gone into the restoration of the Great Lakes over many, many years. I am reminded as I listened to the chairman talk about the action or inaction of the other body that Johnny Carson, before the restoration of Lake Erie in particular was in full swing, used to joke that Lake Erie was a place where fish went to die. I think it is appropriate to say that at this moment in time, the Senate, regardless of who is in charge, is a place where bills go to die.

This bill will implement international requirements to reduce air emissions from ships for purposes of U.S. law and will establish more stringent standards for the emissions of airborne pollutants from ships as well as the sulfur content of fuel oil used in United States waters.

As Members may remember, the House first passed this bill in March of 2007, again thanks to the splendid leadership of Chairman OBERSTAR and Chairman CUMMINGS, with a broad bipartisan majority. Since that time, the bill has languished in the other body, to the point where we may well be prevented from voting on proposed amendments to the underlying convention at the next meeting of the International Maritime Organization. As a result, our abilities to push for strengthened measures have been significantly weakened.

Nonetheless, this is important legislation. I am pleased we will be sending it to the President as a first step to improve environmental conditions in our ports and along our coasts. I urge all Members to join me in supporting this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the Chair of the Coast Guard and Maritime

Affairs Subcommittee, my good friend, the very distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS).

Mr. CUMMINGS. I want to thank Chairman OBERSTAR for yielding and for his tremendous leadership of our Transportation Committee and getting this bill to the floor and his cosponsorship. I also want to thank Mr. LATOURETTE for his leadership, and certainly our ranking member of our overall committee, Mr. MICA.

At the beginning of the 110th Congress, Mr. Speaker, Chairman OBERSTAR laid out an agenda for the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee focusing on three critical objectives: Ensuring the safety and security of transportation and infrastructure; supporting expanded investment; and combating global warming.

The measure before us today, the Maritime Pollution Prevention Act of 2008, H.R. 802, represents yet another step towards the achievement of this agenda, and I applaud Chairman OBERSTAR for his focused leadership on one of the most urgent transportation issues confronting our Nation.

As the chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, I rise in strong support of H.R. 802, which would institute the legal changes needed to bring the United States into compliance with Annex VI of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships, known as MARPOL.

This legislation passed the House of Representatives on March 26, 2007, by a vote of 359-48. The bill finally passed the Senate with a minor amendment at the end of last month, and that amended bill now returns to the House for our consideration.

MARPOL is a treaty negotiated by the members of the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations body responsible for developing the treaties that are essentially the sole international regulations for ocean shipping.

The MARPOL convention currently has six annexes limiting various forms of pollution from ships. Annex VI was negotiated to control air pollution and has been in force internationally since 2005. With the enactment of H.R. 802, the United States would finally align our Nation's laws to comply with this annex. Among other measures, Annex VI imposes limits on the sulfur content of the fuel utilized by ships, limits the emission of nitrogen oxides from ships' engines, and prohibits the deliberate release of substances that deplete atmospheric ozone.

In the United States, ships are essentially the last major non-regulated source of ozone depleting emissions and they are a growing threat to the world's air quality. In fact, some estimates suggest that the emissions of sulfur oxide from ships may now exceed the combined output from all the cars, trucks and buses in the world.

Unfortunately, the missions standards imposed by Annex VI are still very

moderate. As a result, the United States has been actively working with our international partners to strengthen the annex's emissions controls through the development of new amendments. Among other changes, these proposed amendments which are now under consideration by the IMO would reduce allowable sulfur content in fuel from the current 4.5 percent to 3.5 percent in 2012, and require subsequent reductions through 2020.

A vote is scheduled on these new amendments by the current parties to Annex VI in October of this year. Critically, if the United States has not deposited with IMO its instrument of ratification of Annex VI at least 3 months prior to that vote, the United States will not be allowed to vote for the strengthened emission controls that we have worked to craft.

Mr. Speaker, implementation of the United States MARPOL Annex VI offers us the first opportunity to limit emissions from ships. Further, by joining this treaty now, we ensure that the United States can continue to lead the effort to achieve additional reductions in polluting emissions from oceangoing vessels.

I urge my colleagues to adopt H.R. 802 today, and I urge the President to sign this measure as quickly as possible.

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

Mr. Speaker, I know that it will come as a surprise to the Speaker that I spend just a couple of minutes talking about energy today, and I want to talk about it in the context of our committee.

I think the chairman of the full committee, Mr. OBERSTAR, can probably cite the statistic, but every year I have been here, and this is my 14th year in the United States Congress, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I think under both Republican and Democratic leadership, has distinguished itself in the bipartisan and efficient way in which we craft our legislation and actually get something done, when the other body is willing and when the chief executive is willing to sign it.

I thought I heard before our July 4th recess Mr. OBERSTAR talk about the many numbers of bills that we have actually moved through the House, through the Senate, that have been signed into law, and it far exceeds a lot of the work that some of the other more contentious committees in this body, by their nature, no criticism intended, can compile, and I think it is in direct correlation to and as a direct result of the respect that we have for each other on both sides of the aisle on that committee, and now the stern but fair leadership of the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR).

That brings me to a frustration that I found and encountered over the Fourth of July recess. I was talking to Mr. OBERSTAR. I didn't quite have the

adulation poured upon me at parades that he had in his district in Minnesota. There were some people that thought that \$4.10 was a little bit much to be paying at the pump.

But the message that I got pretty loud and clear is that they want us to resolve it. When you pull into the gas station, there isn't a Republican pump and there isn't a Democratic pump and there isn't an independent pump, there is just gas that costs a lot of money today, and someone making \$8 an hour in Ohio for a \$320 per week gross paycheck is struggling, with \$60, \$70 filling up the tank to go to and from work.

There are a lot of opinions, and I will get into those in just a second, but I was reminded for the 12 years we were in the majority I happened to be supportive of something known as Davis-Bacon, which is the Federal prevailing wage law, and our committee is responsible for producing the Water Resources Development Act.

We were stymied for years in getting necessary water infrastructure projects out to our communities because of the sort of Davis-Bacon problem, and that is the then majority leader believed that if it came to a vote on an amendment, at that time by one of our colleagues who is not with us anymore, Mrs. Kelly of New York, that that issue would prevail, and much to the dismay of Members in the then majority party, who happened to be a majority of the majority but were a minority of the House, if that vote were permitted to have taken place. That was a frustrating thing, and, sadly, I think we find ourselves there again on this energy question.

There are Members in this House who advocate additional exploration and drilling in the United States, both on and offshore, in the West, in Alaska, off the east coast and the west coast. There are some who say no. There are some who advocate a replenishment and an increased investment in renewable, wind and solar. The gentleman from Minnesota is an expert on photovoltaic electricity, and certainly he has passed legislation that would be supportive of increased research and development of that type of energy generation.

There are those who believe like the French we should add nuclear power back into our portfolio. France, I believe, generates about 80 percent of its power through nuclear power. We haven't had a nuclear power program in this country for a number of years. There are those in this House that object to that and don't think that that is a good idea as well.

But the point is that I think that at \$4, \$4.10, \$4.11, we have reached the price point where the American public, who has to get up and buy food, send their kids to school, pay their bills, pay their taxes and fill up their gas tanks, don't really want to hear why we disagree and what we can't agree on.

□ 1545

I think that they are looking for a solution. And there are a lot of people in both parties who are bellicose on this issue, and I don't intend to do that. But I think I would say that the time to have this national debate is now. We need to determine what direction the country is going to go in. And like most issues, the Democrats aren't 100 percent correct, the Republicans aren't 100 percent correct. But we are expected to be the leaders of the Nation and we are expected to come up with solutions.

So I would hope, not in the spirit of the old Water Resources Development Act where we were not permitted to have the House work its will, that the current leadership of the House would let the Members of the House work their will on what the energy policy of this country should be to give some relief to our citizens.

And since I am in a commending mood, Mr. Speaker, I would nominate the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, to be the designee of Speaker PELOSI to head up this effort and use the same bipartisan manner he uses on all other issues to get us out of this mess.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBERSTAR. I yield myself 2 minutes.

I thank the gentleman for that promotion, I think. But I most sincerely thank him for his comments on the work of our committee and for his partnership in shaping that success story that we have enjoyed and in partnership with Mr. MICA as well. It is representative of the historical tradition of the committee to work in a bipartisan spirit. Perhaps it is so because of the nature of our committee jurisdiction, as the gentleman has suggested in his comments.

Indeed, as of the recess for Fourth of July, we had passed the 110th bill on that Thursday of the 110th Congress, the 110th bill from our committee, 64 of which have become public law or concurrent resolutions or House resolutions that were self-implementing; and that last measure, the 110th, was indeed to address the energy issue, to provide funding for transit and flexibility for transit authorities. And another bill that we passed by 311-104 was for the future of Amtrak, a bill that is now in House-Senate conference, and which I am confident we will bring to the House floor before the August recess to give Amtrak a new breath of life, incorporating some very significant Republican concepts and contributions that I think are important for the future of Amtrak. We did not operate in the committee on the principle of a majority of the majority, but rather on the principle of the best ideas that we could marshal and muster together and shape legislation that is beneficial for the future.

I now yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mrs. CAPPs).

Mrs. CAPPs. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 802, the Marine Pollution Prevention Act of 2008. I also echo the comments of the ranking member in praise of the bipartisan nature of this legislation. I want to thank Chairman OBERSTAR and Mr. CUMMINGS for their leadership in bringing this very important bill to the floor of the House.

H.R. 802 authorizes the EPA and the Coast Guard to issue enforcement regulations for the MARPOL Treaty Annex VI, which was approved by the Senate 2 years ago, with the goal to reduce harmful emissions from large oceangoing ships.

Implementation of this treaty amendment is an important first step for the protection of the health of our citizens in coastal areas of the United States. We know, for example, that large oceangoing ships are a major source of soot, sulfur dioxide, and smog-forming pollution, strongly associated with premature deaths, hospital visits, and asthma attacks. The emission from these ships can cause serious heart and lung problems, and can contribute to an increased risk of lung cancer.

This is clearly important in my congressional district along California's South Central Coast. In 2005, more than 7,000 oceangoing transits were made along our coastline. As these ships come through the Santa Barbara channel, heading to the ports of Hueneme, Los Angeles, and Long Beach, it is the case that the prevailing wind conditions blow most of the air pollution onshore.

Currently, these vessels emit over 45 percent of all the emissions of nitrogen oxides in Santa Barbara County, more than all the road vehicles combined. If left unregulated, these ships will contribute almost 75 percent of the county's nitrogen oxide pollution by 2020. This forecasted increase in air pollution from large ships could wipe out the hard won air quality improvements achieved in the last 30 years on California's central coast.

It is very clear that action must be taken to reduce these emissions which are impacting the lives of thousands of people living in my district every single day. And as I address this situation so harmful to this particular part of the coastline, I am aware that every coastal district in this Nation, the Pacific Coast, Atlantic, Gulf, and the Great Lakes would be affected perhaps in similar ways. So would the people who wish to visit these beautiful coastal areas.

The IMO, Mr. Speaker, is considering adopting new, more effective emission standards for large ships, but the U.S. will only have influence on these new standards if our country completes ratification of the MARPOL Annex VI Treaty via this implementing legislation. So I certainly hope we can seize this unique opportunity where industry, ports, environmental organizations, and regulatory agencies are

aligned in moving forward to reduce emissions from this very large source of air pollution.

Again, I want to thank the chairman for bringing this legislation to the floor of the House today which means so much to my constituents. I urge its immediate passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) has 3 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) has 13 minutes remaining.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, the reason that I nominated the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) as sort of the energy czar of the United States Congress is exactly the reasons that he indicated. If you look at the legislation that has effectively dealt in part with the difficulties we find ourselves in, the gentleman's transit legislation certainly gets people into mass transit and out of their automobiles and saves fuel.

The gentleman's Amtrak legislation is historic, and in the short run a robust Amtrak means good things for America in terms of jobs and moving people to and from work. I think I saw something on the news where they were tracking what has happened to people's behaviors since the price of gas has gone up, and I believe Amtrak has seen a 13 percent ridership increase since gas has increased, a testament to Amtrak, and also a testament to the gentleman's bill that made sure that Amtrak isn't operating hand to mouth as we move through this process.

Similarly, the gentleman's vision for intercity rail in this country is again something where we lag far behind our friends in Asia and Europe, and he has for the first time, at least since I have been here, put real money, \$350 million a year for 5 years, into the notion of high-speed intercity rail connections principally in the Midwest of the United States. But all of us recognize that that piece at least is some years away in terms of it being a viable alternative and impacting the cost of gasoline.

So, again, I would make the suggestion that there are good ideas on both sides of this aisle. There are many gifted Members of Congress, both Republicans and Democrats. We should have a national debate. And, for the sake of the people that I represent and others represent, we should get something done and we should get them some relief today.

But, Mr. Speaker, I was talking to Mr. Rayfield and we were trying to remember whether it was General William Tecumseh Sherman who said: If asked, I will not run. If nominated, I will not serve. If elected, I will not serve.

I think that is what the gentleman from Minnesota said to my suggestion and I hope he in fact reconsiders that, because of all of the people in this body, he commands tremendous respect

on both sides of the aisle. He has demonstrated again and again not only as the ranking member in previous Congresses of our committee but now as the chairman that he can put together the best ideas of both sides, and not only move forward ideas that he firmly believes in but find consensus and actually get bills done and signed into law. So I hope the gentleman, unlike my fellow Ohioan, General Sherman, reconsiders.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized for 3 minutes.

Mr. OBERSTAR. And I thank the gentleman again for his ever thoughtful remarks, Mr. Speaker. If handed such a challenge, I would undertake it with vigor and with resolute purpose. But it hasn't been handed to me, although I appreciate the gentleman's offer.

I think our committee has been able very successfully to attack these issues of short-term as well as long-term importance to the Nation, and we intend to continue pursuing the best interests of the country in the legislation we move from this committee, and to incorporate the good ideas from all members of the committee regardless of their political stature or standing.

I recall so well during T-21, the shaping of the surface transportation legislation, Mr. SHUSTER, then the chairman, and I traveled the country to major points of congestion throughout America to advocate for more robust investment in surface transportation. And at one point, I believe it was in Atlanta at a news conference, the last question was, well, Mr. OBERSTAR, why are you traveling and participating in this news conference, you a Democrat, with Mr. SHUSTER, a Republican? And I said: Because I have never seen a Democratic bridge or a Republican road; but if we work together, we can build all-American roads and all-American bridges.

The reporter then turned to Chairman Shuster and said: Why are you travelling with Mr. Oberstar? And he said, Because JIM OBERSTAR and I are joined at the hip.

And I think if we could carry that spirit with vigor and honesty and with resoluteness of purpose, we can accomplish great things for this country and for this Congress. And I for that reason enjoy the participation of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA), and in the current context Mr. CUMMINGS of Maryland, because there is a real sense of doing what is good for America and putting the country first and not our own personal agendas.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 802.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CPL. JOHN P. SIGSBEE POST OFFICE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5975) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Main Street in Waterville, New York, as the "Cpl. John P. Sigsbee Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5975

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

SECTION 1. CPL. JOHN P. SIGSBEE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Main Street in Waterville, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Cpl. John P. Sigsbee Post Office".

(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 "Cpl. John P. Sigsbee Post Office".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within 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. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he might consume to the author of this legislation, Representative ARCURI of New York.

Mr. ARCURI. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5975, to rename the post office in Waterville, New York in memory of Corporal John P. Sigsbee.

Mr. Speaker, it is with both incredible pride and sadness that I address the House today to speak on this bill that pays tribute to the life and sacrifice of one of this Nation's fallen soldiers, U.S. Army Corporal John Sigsbee.

On January 16, 2008, Corporal Sigsbee of Waterville, New York was killed in action 50 miles north of Baghdad during his second tour of duty in Iraq.

□ 1600

The family he left behind while in the line of duty will soon receive his second Military Purple Heart on his behalf. Corporal Sigsbee was only 21

years old when his life was taken in service of our country.

John Sigsbee graduated from Waterville Central School in 2004 and attended Mohawk Valley Community College. Upon completing his first year of college, John decided to join the U.S. Army to further finance his higher education and became wounded one month to the day during his first tour of duty in Iraq.

John was sent home to recover at the Brooke Army Medical Center, where he was visited by Army personnel who awarded him for his bravery. These officers told John that he needed time to heal properly from the burns he suffered when his tank drove over two IEDs, and that he needed time to consider his decision to return to service. However, John replied, with his mother at his side, "Give me one year and I'll be back." John did just that, and it was then that his mother started to know what "sacrifice" truly means.

John went back and gave all that he had to give. In his mind, there was no question that his place was back with his fellow troops in Iraq to fulfill his responsibilities as a young American soldier.

Corporal Sigsbee valiantly served as a member of the 32nd Cavalry Unit in the 101st Airborne Division, a dedicated young man who every day honored his responsibility to his country and his mission. Corporal Sigsbee's purpose and sacrifices will be remembered by the entire village of Waterville, county of Oneida and now, with passage of this bill, by the whole Nation.

During calling hours and funeral arrangements for Corporal Sigsbee, his family and loved ones received an outpouring of gratitude and support by the village of Waterville. Over 2,000 citizens attended calling hours to pay their respects for this young American, and 300 members from local veterans' organizations came to the local high school as a show of strength and unity for their fellow soldier. Additionally, a 50-car procession escorted his body from the Griffiss Airfield to Saratoga National Cemetery where he was laid to rest.

On that day, January 25, 2008, Corporal Sigsbee received a true hero's welcome from not only his family and friends, but from people who did not know him yet wanted to give their thanks, thanks to a man who paid the ultimate price for their safety and their freedom. The renaming of this post office may be considered by some as a simple act by Congress. But it will forever symbolize to the village of Waterville and the citizens of Oneida County, and to future generations, the deep appreciation that this legislative body has for this man's life and contributions, and for the actions of each and every member of our Armed Services.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to support this legislation renaming the Waterville, New York, Post Office after and in honor of Corporal

John P. Sigsbee and to forever honor the life of this soldier, son, brother and American hero.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 5975, designating the post office in Waterville, New York, as the Corporal John P. Sigsbee Post Office.

In October 2005, Corporal Sigsbee joined the 101st Airborne Division 32nd Cavalry Unit, based in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, famously known as the home of the Screaming Eagles. After being deployed to Iraq, he was injured by a roadside bomb in July 2006. For his action, he was honored with the Purple Heart. After recovering at Brooke Army Medical Center, he insisted on returning to Iraq. Steve English, one of Corporal Sigsbee's high school teachers, said, "John was doing something he knew was important. After being injured, he could have chosen to be assigned anywhere. He chose Iraq." English noted that it was indeed Corporal Sigsbee's commitment to his fellow soldiers that drove him to return to Iraq.

Sadly, during his second deployment, Corporal Sigsbee was killed in action on January 16, 2008, along with two other American soldiers when they came under small arms fire and grenade attack in Balad. He was posthumously honored with a bronze star for his service and a promotion to the rank of corporal.

Corporal John Patrick Sigsbee's life and tragic death have served as a rallying point for his community of Waterville, New York. By naming the new post office in his hometown after this brave young American, we will establish not only a permanent monument for this fallen soldier, but a permanent reminder of his example.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I rise to join my colleagues in the consideration and support of H.R. 5975, which renames a postal facility in Waterville, New York, after Corporal John P. Sigsbee.

The measure being considered was first introduced by Congressman MICHAEL ARCURI of New York on May 6, 2008, and is cosponsored by all members of the Empire State, the New York delegation. Upon introduction the measure was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and on June 12, 2008, our committee approved the bill by voice vote.

H.R. 5975 allows us to pay homage to the service of Corporal John P. Sigsbee who was tragically killed on January 16 while serving in Balad, Iraq. Corporal Sigsbee died as a result of wounds sustained from grenade and small-arms fire during combat operations.

Assigned to the 1st Squadron, 32nd Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat

Team, 101st Airborne Division out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Corporal Sigsbee joined the Army in October, 2005, and served his country valiantly up until the time of his death. For making the ultimate sacrifice of life, Corporal Sigsbee was awarded the Purple Heart which now rests with his parents, James and Susan Sigsbee, of Waterville, New York.

Mr. Speaker, as we pay tribute to this heroic American citizen, let us also take a moment and recollect on the thousands of men and women in uniform currently serving abroad in order to protect us here in the homeland. I ask that we all proudly commemorate both the life and the unfortunate death of Corporal John P. Sigsbee by passing H.R. 5975.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this legislation, and 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. 5975.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SERGEANT PAUL SAYLOR POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6092) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 Tallapoosa Street in Bremen, Georgia, as the "Sergeant Paul Saylor Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6092

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

SECTION 1. SERGEANT PAUL SAYLOR POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 Tallapoosa Street in Bremen, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "Sergeant Paul Saylor 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 "Sergeant Paul Saylor Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleagues, particularly the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY), in the consideration of H.R. 6092 which names the postal facility in Bremen, Georgia, after a fallen hero, Sergeant Paul Saylor.

Introduced on May 20, 2008, H.R. 6092 is sponsored by Congressman PHIL GINGREY, representative of Georgia's 11th Congressional District and cosponsored by the entire Georgia delegation and a total of 43 Members of Congress. H.R. 6092 was reported from the Oversight Committee on June 12, 2008, by voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, a native of Norcross, Georgia, Sergeant Paul Saylor lost his life while serving in Iraq. According to military records, Sergeant Saylor was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 108th Armor Regiment from the Georgia Army National Guard out of Calhoun, Georgia, when he was killed on August 15 as a result of his Humvee accidentally rolling over into a canal in Mahmudiyah, Iraq.

Described as a good-hearted, very dedicated and hardworking gentleman, Sergeant Saylor served his country proudly and with distinction. In honor of sacrifice, Mr. Speaker, let us also pay tribute to the life of Sergeant Saylor and pass H.R. 6092 and designate the Tallapoosa Street post office building in Bremen, Georgia, after this fine American soldier.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY), the author of H.R. 6092.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Ohio (Mr. TURNER), the ranking member of the subcommittee, for yielding. I also, Mr. Speaker, want to thank my good friend from Illinois, Representative DAVIS, for the kind words that he just expressed toward Sergeant Paul Saylor and for allowing this bill to come forward today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6092, a bill that I introduced to honor the life of Paul Anthony Saylor by designating the post office in Bremen, Georgia, in Haralson County, as the Sergeant Paul Saylor Post Office.

Mr. Speaker, thankfully we are at a point today where the Iraqi Government is proving to be more and more capable of securing its country and where al Qaeda terrorists are on the verge of being completely routed. But we can all agree that the road on which we have traveled has been anything but smooth. Indeed, we have lost 4,166 of our Nation's greatest treasures in Iraq, the lives of the patriotic, heroic men and women who have served there.

They are not just statistics, Mr. Speaker. There is a story behind each and every one of the brave men and women who have died serving our country in this global war on terror. I have come to know Paul's story very well over the last 3 years. You have heard the stories of other fallen heroes today who are being honored in the same way.

Paul Saylor's story is indeed one of courage, kindness, generosity, and devotion to his family and to his great country. Paul was a beloved son to his parents, Jamie and Patti; a beloved brother to Little Jamie, his big brother; and a beloved nephew to Linda Kirkland. He enjoyed playing high school football with his older brother, and was known for his smile and his caring heart. My colleagues, I want you to look at Paul Saylor in this poster. He is, indeed, a kind young man.

Since Paul's death, many have spoken of his penchant for standing up for others who were being bullied, for picking people up when they were down. It is a testament to the affection that others had for Paul that of the 5,000 citizens of Bremen, Georgia, his hometown, over 1,500 attended his funeral.

Mr. Speaker, it was Paul's sense of duty that led him to join the Georgia National Guard following his attendance at North Georgia College and State University. Upon joining, Paul probably had no idea he would be called upon to defend his country and our freedom in Iraq, but when he was, he bravely answered that call.

He served our Nation in Iraq as a member of the Georgia National Guard's 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. Paul lost his life on August 15, 2005, almost 3 years ago, while on patrol in Al Mahmudiyah, Iraq, when the vehicle in which he was traveling rolled down an embankment into a canal. He and two of his fellow scout team members died that day. Paul was 21 years old.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, upon being returned to his family, Paul's remains were in a state of advanced decomposition and they were not able to see him that one last time for the final goodbye.

□ 1615

His family has worked tirelessly since then to assure that the improved treatment of the remains of all fallen soldiers would ensure that no family, no family would ever have to experience a similar fate of not being able to view their son or daughter one last time.

As I worked with Paul's family to address any potential shortfalls in our mortuary process, I have visited the mortuary facility at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, as well as Mortuary Affairs Collection Point in Iraq, exactly where Paul fell, to try to evaluate the current processes and the procedures and identify any areas where improvements could be made. And those efforts led eventually to the in-

clusion of a provision last year in the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007 requiring that all medical personnel be thoroughly trained not only in saving lives but also in remains preservation before they are deployed into the theater.

This training is currently being carried out in the medical training facilities at Fort Sam Houston and the Brook Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. On a recent visit last month, I was able to determine that the Army is solemnly carrying out this duty, and I am proud to report that to my colleagues.

While we could never do enough to support and honor Paul's sacrifice, it is the least we can do to ensure that we honor the remains of our fallen heroes with the dignity and respect that they deserve. Our Nation will be forever indebted to Sergeant Paul Saylor. I know he is here with us today, and I would like to say to him, Thank you, Paul. Thank you for your service. And I want to thank his family. Paul, your spirit lives on, and you will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me today in honoring Sergeant Paul Saylor. Vote "yes" on H.R. 6092.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 Tallapoosa Street in Bremen, Georgia, as the "Sergeant Paul Saylor Post Office Building."

Friendly. Dedicated. Hardworking. These are but a few of the magnificent words of praise that arise when friends and family speak of the memory of Sergeant Paul Saylor.

A native of Bremen, Georgia, Paul was a shining star in his community. A starter on the football team and committed thespian, Paul was voted "best personality" by his graduating class of 2002. After graduation, Paul attended North Georgia College and State University, a military college.

Tragically, on August 15, 2005, Sergeant Saylor lost his life while serving as part of the National Guard's 48th Infantry in Al Mahmudiyah, Iraq.

Described by his brother, Jamie, as the "... type who would help you, but he wouldn't let you know it," Sergeant Saylor served his family, community, and country with selfless devotion.

I rise today in honor of not only a tremendous patriot, but an outstanding citizen. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution in honor of a valiant life that should not, and will not, soon be forgotten by a grateful Nation.

I yield back the balance of our time. Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, 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 pass the bill, H.R. 6092.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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 4 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. BERKLEY) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1286, WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL DESIGNATION ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-744) on the resolution (H. Res. 1317) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1286) to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5811, ELECTRONIC MESSAGE PRESERVATION ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-745) on the resolution (H. Res. 1318) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5811) to amend title 44, United States Code, to require preservation of certain electronic records by Federal agencies, to require a certification and reports relating to Presidential records, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 3981, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 1423, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 4199, by the yeas and nays.

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

PRESERVE AMERICA AND SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3981, as amended, 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 gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3981, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 360, nays 23, not voting 51, as follows:

[Roll No. 471]

YEAS—360

Ackerman	Cuellar	Hobson
Aderholt	Culberson	Hodes
Akin	Cummings	Holden
Allen	Davis (AL)	Holt
Altmire	Davis (CA)	Honda
Arcuri	Davis (IL)	Hooley
Baca	Davis (KY)	Hoyer
Bachmann	Davis, David	Hunter
Baird	Davis, Lincoln	Inglis (SC)
Baldwin	Davis, Tom	Insliee
Barrett (SC)	Deal (GA)	Israel
Barrow	DeFazio	Issa
Bartlett (MD)	DeGette	Jackson (IL)
Bean	DeLauro	Jackson-Lee
Becerra	Dent	(TX)
Berkley	Diaz-Balart, L.	Jefferson
Berman	Diaz-Balart, M.	Johnson (GA)
Berry	Dicks	Johnson, E. B.
Biggert	Doggett	Johnson, Sam
Bilbray	Donnelly	Jones (NC)
Bishop (GA)	Doyle	Jones (OH)
Bishop (NY)	Drake	Jordan
Blackburn	Dreier	Kagen
Blumenauer	Edwards (MD)	Kanjorski
Blunt	Edwards (TX)	Keller
Boehner	Ehlers	Kennedy
Bonner	Ellison	Kildee
Bono Mack	Ellsworth	Kilpatrick
Boozman	Emanuel	Kind
Boren	Emerson	King (NY)
Boswell	Engel	Kirk
Boucher	Eshoo	Klein (FL)
Boustany	Etheridge	Kline (MN)
Boyd (FL)	Everett	Knollenberg
Boyd (KS)	Fallin	Kucinich
Brady (PA)	Farr	Kuhl (NY)
Brady (TX)	Fattah	LaHood
Braley (IA)	Feeney	Langevin
Brown (SC)	Filmer	Larsen (WA)
Brown, Corrine	Fortenberry	Larson (CT)
Buchanan	Foster	Latham
Burton (IN)	Frank (MA)	LaTourette
Butterfield	Frelinghuysen	Latta
Buyer	Gallely	Lee
Camp (MI)	Garrett (NJ)	Lewis (CA)
Cantor	Gerlach	Lewis (GA)
Capito	Giffords	Lewis (KY)
Capps	Gillibrand	Linder
Capuano	Gohmert	Lipinski
Cardoza	Gonzalez	LoBiondo
Carnahan	Goode	Loebsack
Carney	Goodlatte	Lofgren, Zoe
Carson	Gordon	Lowe
Castle	Granger	Lucas
Castor	Graves	Lungren, Daniel
Cazayoux	Green, Al	E.
Chabot	Green, Gene	Lynch
Chandler	Grijalva	Mack
Childers	Gutierrez	Mahoney (FL)
Clarke	Hall (NY)	Mahoney (NY)
Clay	Hall (TX)	Markey
Cleaver	Hare	Marshall
Clyburn	Harman	Matheson
Coble	Hastings (FL)	Matsui
Cole (OK)	Hastings (WA)	McCarthy (CA)
Conaway	Hayes	McCarthy (NY)
Conyers	Heller	McCaul (TX)
Cooper	Herger	McCollum (MN)
Costa	Herseht Sandlin	McCotter
Costello	Higgins	McCreery
Courtney	Hill	McDermott
Cramer	Hinche	McGovern
Crenshaw	Hinojosa	McHenry
Crowley	Hirono	McHugh

McIntyre	Radanovich	Solis
McKeon	Rahall	Space
McNerney	Ramstad	Speier
McNulty	Rangel	Spratt
Meek (FL)	Regula	Stark
Mica	Rehberg	Stearns
Michaud	Reichert	Stupak
Miller (FL)	Renzi	Sullivan
Miller (MI)	Reyes	Sutton
Miller (NC)	Richardson	Tanner
Miller, Gary	Rodriguez	Tauscher
Miller, George	Rogers (AL)	Terry
Mitchell	Rogers (KY)	Thompson (CA)
Mollohan	Rogers (MI)	Thompson (MS)
Moore (KS)	Ros-Lehtinen	Thornberry
Moore (WI)	Roskam	Tiahrt
Moran (KS)	Ross	Tiberi
Moran (VA)	Rothman	Tierney
Murphy (CT)	Roybal-Allard	Tsongas
Murphy, Patrick	Ruppersberger	Turner
Murphy, Tim	Ryan (OH)	Upton
Musgrave	Ryan (WI)	Van Hollen
Myrick	Salazar	Velázquez
Nadler	Sanchez, Loretta	Visclosky
Napolitano	Sarbanes	Walberg
Neal (MA)	Scalise	Walden (OR)
Neugebauer	Schakowsky	Walsh (NY)
Nunes	Schmidt	Walz (MN)
Oberstar	Schwartz	Wamp
Obey	Scott (GA)	Wasserman
Olver	Scott (VA)	Schultz
Ortiz	Sensenbrenner	Waters
Pallone	Serrano	Watson
Pascarell	Sessions	Watt
Pastor	Sestak	Waxman
Payne	Shays	Weiner
Pence	Shea-Porter	Welch (VT)
Perlmutter	Sherman	Wexler
Peterson (MN)	Shimkus	Whitfield (KY)
Petri	Shuster	Wilson (NM)
Pitts	Sires	Wilson (SC)
Platts	Skelton	Wittman (VA)
Pomeroy	Slaughter	Wolf
Porter	Smith (NE)	Woolsey
Price (GA)	Smith (NJ)	Wu
Price (NC)	Smith (WA)	Yarmuth
Putnam	Snyder	Young (AK)

NAYS—23

Barton (TX)	Franks (AZ)	Marchant
Bishop (UT)	Gingrey	Paul
Broun (GA)	Hensarling	Royce
Burgess	Hoekstra	Sali
Campbell (CA)	King (IA)	Shadegg
Duncan	Kingston	Tancredo
Flake	Lamborn	Westmoreland
Foxx	Manzullo	

NOT VOTING—51

Abercrombie	Fossella	Rohrabacher
Alexander	Gilchrest	Rush
Andrews	Hulshof	Sánchez, Linda
Bachus	Johnson (IL)	T.
Bilirakis	Kaptur	Saxton
Brown-Waite,	Lampson	Schiff
Ginny	Levin	Shuler
Calvert	McMorris	Simpson
Cannon	Rodgers	Smith (TX)
Carter	Meeks (NY)	Souder
Cohen	Melancon	Taylor
Cubin	Murtha	Towns
Delahunt	Pearce	Udall (CO)
Dingell	Peterson (PA)	Udall (NM)
Doolittle	Pickering	Weldon (FL)
English (PA)	Poe	Weller
Ferguson	Pryce (OH)	Wilson (OH)
Forbes	Reynolds	Young (FL)

□ 1856

Messrs. LAMBORN, BURGESS and HOEKSTRA changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. HOBSON changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CLEM McSPADDEN

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

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a true Oklahoma statesman.

Clem Rogers McSpadden passed away on Monday, July 7, 2008, after a lengthy battle with cancer. Clem was the great nephew of Will Rogers and served as a Member of the U.S. House from 1973 until 1975.

If you ask Oklahomans about Clem, they will tell you about how he helped them during his time in elected office, how they remember him announcing rodeo championships, or how he gave them some great advice about life.

Clem was also a highly respected Member of this Chamber. He was honored with being the first freshman Member ever to be appointed to the Rules Committee. He also helped create the Rural Caucus, which I am honored to be a member of today.

Clem will not just be remembered as a former Congressman or President pro tem of the State Senate. As those of us from Oklahoma know, Clem had a positive impact on his community, his State, and the Nation in many ways, ranging from family, to military service, to rodeo, to business, and to ranching.

In keeping with a proud family legacy, Clem represented Oklahoma values on a daily basis: Hard work and personal responsibility. This is truly what helped make him one of Oklahoma's favorite sons, just like his great uncle, Will Rogers. There are very few people who have been such a great role model to us all.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Donna and the entire McSpadden family. Thousands of Oklahomans and rodeo fans across the Nation share the sadness of their loss.

I would like to yield at this time to the dean of our Oklahoma House delegation, FRANK LUCAS.

Mr. LUCAS. Thank you, Congressman BOREN.

Clem McSpadden was a child of the Great Depression. He was a veteran of the Second World War, a 1948 graduate of Oklahoma State University, an 18-year veteran of the State Senate of Oklahoma, and 2 years in this body. The tales, the stories, the insight, the history of all those institutions that he was a part of, he was a walking, living legacy.

Maybe I should put it this way: This Chamber was graced that Clem was a Member of this body for 2 years. We in Oklahoma are graced that Clem was a member of our State for 82 years. He will be missed. He will be missed.

With that I yield back to his successor in the Second District of Oklahoma, Congressman BOREN.

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, I respectfully request Members to join me in a moment of silence to remember Clem's legacy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members will please stand and observe a moment of silence.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

DOROTHY BUELL MEMORIAL VISITOR CENTER LEASE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1423, as amended, 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 gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1423, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 376, nays 11, not voting 47, as follows:

[Roll No. 472]

YEAS—376

Abercrombie Carney English (PA)
 Ackerman Carson Eshoo
 Aderholt Castle Etheridge
 Akin Castor Everrett
 Allen Cazayoux Fallin
 Altmire Chabot Farr
 Arcuri Chandler Fattah
 Baca Childers Feeney
 Bachmann Clarke Filner
 Bachus Clay Fortenberry
 Baird Cleaver Foster
 Baldwin Clyburn Frank (MA)
 Barrett (SC) Cohen Franks (AZ)
 Barrow Cole (OK) Frelinghuysen
 Bartlett (MD) Conaway Gallegly
 Barton (TX) Conyers Garrett (NJ)
 Bean Cooper Gerlach
 Becerra Costa Giffords
 Berkley Costello Gillibrand
 Berman Courtney Gingrey
 Berry Cramer Gonzalez
 Biggert Crenshaw Goode
 Bilbray Crowley Goodlatte
 Bishop (GA) Cuellar Gordon
 Bishop (NY) Culberson Granger
 Bishop (UT) Cummings Graves
 Blackburn Davis (AL) Green, Al
 Blumenauer Davis (CA) Green, Gene
 Blunt Davis (IL) Grijalva
 Boehner Davis (KY) Gutierrez
 Bonner Davis, David Hall (NY)
 Bono Mack Davis, Lincoln Hall (TX)
 Boozman Davis, Tom Hare
 Boren Deal (GA) Harman
 Boswell DeFazio Hastings (FL)
 Boucher DeGette Hastings (WA)
 Boustany DeLauro Hayes
 Boyd (FL) Dent Heller
 Boyda (KS) Diaz-Balart, L. Hergert
 Brady (PA) Diaz-Balart, M. Herseth Sandlin
 Brady (TX) Dicks Higgins
 Braley (IA) Dingell Hill
 Brown (SC) Doggett Hinchey
 Brown, Corrine Donnelly Hinojosa
 Buchanan Doyle Hirono
 Burgess Drake Hobson
 Burton (IN) Dreier Hodes
 Butterfield Duncan Hoekstra
 Buyer Edwards (MD) Holden
 Camp (MI) Edwards (TX) Holt
 Cantor Ehlers Honda
 Capito Ellison Hooley
 Capps Ellsworth Hoyer
 Capuano Emanuel Hunter
 Cardoza Emerson Inglis (SC)
 Carnahan Engel Inslee

Israel
 Issa
 Jackson (IL)
 Jackson-Lee (TX)
 Jefferson
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson, E. B.
 Johnson, Sam
 Jones (NC)
 Jones (OH)
 Jordan
 Kagen
 Kanjorski
 Keller
 Kennedy
 Kildee
 Kilpatrick
 Kind
 King (NY)
 Kingston
 Kirk
 Klein (FL)
 Kline (MN)
 Knollenberg
 Kucinich
 Kuhl (NY)
 LaHood
 Lamborn
 Lampson
 Langevin
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latham
 LaTourette
 Latta
 Lee
 Lewis (CA)
 Lewis (GA)
 Lewis (KY)
 Linder
 Lipinski
 LoBiondo
 Loeb sack
 Lofgren, Zoe
 Lowey
 Lucas
 Lungren, Daniel E.
 Lynch
 Mack
 Mahoney (FL)
 Maloney (NY)
 Manzullo
 Marchant
 Markey
 Marshall
 Matheson
 Matsui
 McCarthy (CA)
 McCarthy (NY)
 McCaul (TX)
 McCollum (MN)
 McCotter
 McCrery
 McDermott
 McGovern
 McHenry
 McHugh
 McIntyre
 McKeon

Broun (GA)
 Campbell (CA)
 Flake
 Foxx

Alexander
 Andrews
 Bilirakis
 Hill
 Brown-Waite, Ginny
 Calvert
 Cannon
 Carter
 Coble
 Cubin
 Delahunt
 Doolittle
 Ferguson
 Forbes
 Fossella
 Gilchrest
 Hulshof

McNerney
 McNulty
 Meek (FL)
 Mica
 Michaud
 Miller (FL)
 Miller (MI)
 Miller (NC)
 Miller, Gary
 Miller, George
 Mitchell
 Mollohan
 Moore (KS)
 Moore (WI)
 Moran (KS)
 Moran (VA)
 Murphy (CT)
 Murphy, Patrick
 Murphy, Tim
 Musgrave
 Myrick
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal (MA)
 Nunes
 Oberstar
 Obey
 Olver
 Ortiz
 Pallone
 Pascrell
 Pastor
 Payne
 Pence
 Perlmutter
 Peterson (MN)
 Petri
 Pitts
 Platts
 Pomeroy
 Porter
 Price (GA)
 Price (NC)
 Putnam
 Radanovich
 Rahall
 Ramstad
 Rangel
 Regula
 Rehberg
 Reichert
 Renzi
 Reyes
 Richardson
 Rodriguez
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rogers (MI)
 Roskam
 Ross
 Rothman
 Roybal-Allard
 Ruppertsberger
 Ryan (OH)
 Ryan (WI)
 Salazar
 Sanchez, Loretta
 Sarbanes
 Scalise
 Schakowsky
 Schmidt

NAYS—11

NOT VOTING—47

Gohmert
 Hensarling
 Neugebauer
 Paul
 Johnson (IL)
 Kaptur
 King (IA)
 Levin
 McMorris
 Rodgers
 Meeke (NY)
 Melancon
 Murtha
 Souder
 Towns
 Udall (CO)
 Udall (NM)
 Weldon (FL)
 Weller
 Wilson (OH)
 Young (FL)

Schwartz
 Scott (GA)
 Scott (VA)
 Sensenbrenner
 Serrano
 Sessions
 Sestak
 Shadegg
 Shays
 Shea-Porter
 Sherman
 Shimkus
 Shuster
 Sires
 Skelton
 Slaughter
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Snyder
 Solis
 Space
 Speier
 Spratt
 Stark
 Stupak
 Sullivan
 Sutton
 Tancredo
 Tanner
 Tauscher
 Taylor
 Terry
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thornberry
 Tiahrt
 Tiberi
 Tierney
 Tsongas
 Turner
 Upton
 Van Hollen
 Velázquez
 Visclosky
 Walberg
 Walden (OR)
 Walsh (NY)
 Walz (MN)
 Wamp
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson
 Watt
 Waxman
 Weiner
 Welch (VT)
 Westmoreland
 Wexler
 Whitfield (KY)
 Wilson (NM)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman (VA)
 Wolf
 Woolsey
 Wu
 Yarmuth
 Young (AK)

Royce
 Sali
 Stearns
 Rush
 Sánchez, Linda T.
 Saxton
 Schiff
 Shuler
 Simpson
 Smith (TX)
 Souder
 Towns
 Udall (CO)
 Udall (NM)
 Weldon (FL)
 Weller
 Wilson (OH)
 Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1908

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a partnership with the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission regarding the use of the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center as a visitor center for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DAYTON AVIATION HERITAGE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK EXPANSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4199, as amended, 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 gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4199, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 368, nays 18, not voting 48, as follows:

[Roll No. 473]

YEAS—368

Abercrombie Braley (IA) Davis (CA)
 Ackerman Brown (SC) Davis (IL)
 Aderholt Brown, Corrine Davis (KY)
 Akin Buchanan Davis, David
 Allen Burgess Davis, Lincoln
 Altmire Burton (IN) Davis, Tom
 Arcuri Butterfield Deal (GA)
 Baca Buyer DeFazio
 Bachmann Camp (MI) DeGette
 Bachus Cantor DeLauro
 Baird Capito Dent
 Baldwin Capps Diaz-Balart, L.
 Barrett (SC) Capuano Diaz-Balart, M.
 Barrow Cardoza Dicks
 Bartlett (MD) Carnahan Dingell
 Barton (TX) Carney Doggett
 Bean Carson Donnelly
 Becerra Castle Doyle
 Berkley Castor Drake
 Berman Cazayoux Dreier
 Berry Chabot Edwards (MD)
 Biggert Chandler Edwards (TX)
 Bilbray Childers Ehlers
 Bishop (GA) Clarke Ellison
 Bishop (NY) Clay Ellsworth
 Bishop (UT) Cleaver Emanuel
 Blackburn Clyburn Emerson
 Blumenauer Cohen Engel
 Blunt Cole (OK) English (PA)
 Boehner Conaway Eshoo
 Bonner Cooper Etheridge
 Bono Mack Costa Everrett
 Boozman Costello Fallin
 Boren Courtney Farr
 Boswell Cramer Fattah
 Boucher Crenshaw Feeney
 Boustany Filner Fortenberry
 Boyd (FL) Cuellar
 Boyda (KS) Culberson
 Brady (PA) Cummings
 Brady (TX) Davis (AL) Frank (MA)

Frelinghuysen	Loeb sack	Ross
Gallegly	Lofgren, Zoe	Rothman
Garrett (NJ)	Lowey	Roybal-Allard
Gerlach	Lucas	Ruppersberger
Giffords	Lungren, Daniel	Ryan (OH)
Gillibrand	E.	Ryan (WI)
Gingrey	Lynch	Salazar
Gohmert	Mack	Sali
Gonzalez	Mahoney (FL)	Sánchez, Linda
Goode	Maloney (NY)	T.
Gordon	Markey	Sanchez, Loretta
Granger	Marshall	Sarbanes
Graves	Matheson	Scalise
Green, Al	Matsui	Schakowsky
Green, Gene	McCarthy (CA)	Schmidt
Grijalva	McCarthy (NY)	Schwartz
Hall (NY)	McCaul (TX)	Scott (GA)
Hall (TX)	McCollum (MN)	Scott (VA)
Hare	McCotter	Sensenbrenner
Harman	McCrery	Serrano
Hastings (FL)	McDermott	Sessions
Hastings (WA)	McGovern	Sestak
Hayes	McHenry	Shadegg
Heller	McHugh	Shays
Herger	McIntyre	Shea-Porter
Herseth Sandlin	McKeon	Sherman
Higgins	McNerney	Shimkus
Hill	McNulty	Shuster
Hinchey	Meek (FL)	Sires
Hinojosa	Mica	Skelton
Hirono	Michaud	Slaughter
Hobson	Miller (FL)	Smith (NE)
Hodes	Miller (MI)	Smith (NJ)
Hoekstra	Miller, Gary	Smith (WA)
Holden	Miller, George	Snyder
Holt	Mitchell	Solis
Honda	Mollohan	Space
Hooley	Moore (KS)	Speier
Hoyer	Moore (WI)	Spratt
Hunter	Moran (VA)	Stark
Inglis (SC)	Murphy (CT)	Stupak
Inslee	Murphy, Patrick	Sullivan
Israel	Murphy, Tim	Sutton
Issa	Musgrave	Tanner
Jackson (IL)	Myrick	Tauscher
Jackson-Lee	Nadler	Taylor
(TX)	Napolitano	Terry
Jefferson	Neal (MA)	Thompson (CA)
Johnson (GA)	Nunes	Thompson (MS)
Johnson, E. B.	Oberstar	Thornberry
Jones (NC)	Obey	Tiahrt
Jones (OH)	Olver	Tiberi
Jordan	Ortiz	Tierney
Kagen	Pallone	Tsongas
Kanjorski	Pascrell	Turner
Kaptur	Pastor	Upton
Keller	Payne	Van Hollen
Kennedy	Pence	Velázquez
Kildee	Perlmutter	Visclosky
Kilpatrick	Peterson (MN)	Walberg
Kind	Petri	Walden (OR)
King (NY)	Pitts	Walsh (NY)
Kirk	Platts	Walz (MN)
Klein (FL)	Pomeroy	Wamp
Kline (MN)	Porter	Wasserman
Knollenberg	Price (GA)	Schultz
Kucinich	Price (NC)	Waters
Kuhl (NY)	Putnam	Watson
LaHood	Radanovich	Watt
Lampson	Rahall	Waxman
Langevin	Ramstad	Weiner
Larsen (WA)	Rangel	Welch (VT)
Larson (CT)	Regula	Westmoreland
Latham	Rehberg	Wexler
LaTourette	Reichert	Whitfield (KY)
Latta	Renzi	Wilson (NM)
Lee	Reyes	Wilson (SC)
Lewis (CA)	Richardson	Wittman (VA)
Lewis (GA)	Rodriguez	Wolf
Lewis (KY)	Rogers (AL)	Woolsey
Linder	Rogers (KY)	Wu
Lipinski	Rogers (MI)	Yarmuth
LoBiondo	Roskam	Young (AK)

NAYS—18

Campbell (CA)	Johnson, Sam	Moran (KS)
Duncan	King (IA)	Neugebauer
Flake	Kingston	Paul
Franks (AZ)	Lamborn	Royce
Goodlatte	Manzullo	Stearns
Hensarling	Marchant	Tancredo

NOT VOTING—48

Alexander	Calvert	Delahunt
Andrews	Cannon	Doolittle
Bilirakis	Carter	Ferguson
Broun (GA)	Coble	Forbes
Brown-Waite,	Conyers	Fossella
Ginny	Cubin	Gilchrest

Gutierrez	Peterson (PA)	Simpson
Hulshof	Pickering	Smith (TX)
Johnson (IL)	Poe	Souder
Levin	Pryce (OH)	Towns
McMorris	Reynolds	Udall (CO)
Rodgers	Rohrabacher	Udall (NM)
Salazar	Ros-Lehtinen	Weldon (FL)
Melancon	Rush	Weller
Miller (NC)	Saxton	Wilson (OH)
Murtha	Schiff	Young (FL)
Pearce	Shuler	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1916

Mr. KINGSTON changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I missed three recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way:

H.R. 3981—To authorize the Preserve America Program and Save America’s Treasures Program, and for other purposes, “yea.”

H.R. 1423—To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease a portion of a visitor center to be constructed outside the boundary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in Porter County, Indiana, and for other purposes, “yea.”

H.R. 4199—To amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 to add sites to the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, and for other purposes, “yea.”

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.

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

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

HONORING THE SECTION 60 MOTHERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, Section 60 at Arlington National Cemetery is a very special place. It holds the graves of soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Section 60 also is the place where a group of remarkable women come together on a regular basis. They are the Section 60 mothers, the mothers of the soldiers buried in that halloved ground.

The Section 60 mothers come to mourn their heroic children, and to honor their sacrifice. They also come to give each other support in their time of grief. They look to each other for comfort because the only person who can really understand a mother who has lost a child in war is another mother who has suffered the same loss.

Recently, National Public Radio broadcast two stories about the Section 60 mothers. In those stories, the Section 60 mothers talked about their children. They also described how they found each other and created a circle of support to help each other, to help each other make it through another day.

Their words are heartbreaking, yet also inspiring, because these mothers are American heroes, just like their children. I’d like to share some of their words with you today.

One mother placed flowers, balloons, and cards on her son’s tombstone because it was his birthday. She said, “These are our babies. When they have a birthday, this is what you do for them, and this is what we still do for them.”

Another Section 60 mother, whose son died 2 years ago, said, “This is my son, and I just cannot believe that he’s gone. I don’t want him to ever be forgotten. It’s just in the last couple of months in fact that I have been able to say, ‘My son’s death,’ and even that sends a chill through me.”

Another mother described the impact of her son’s death on her family. She said, “I look at my surviving children, and it’s such heartache for me because they’re in so much pain, and I can’t do anything about it except just love them. I can’t take their pain away. It’s excruciating.” This mother’s son was killed on May 8, 2005. It was Mother’s Day.

Another grieving mother said, “Our job is to protect our kids, and we would do anything to do that. I feel like I should have just jumped across the ocean and known that he was in trouble. It’s irrational, but it’s a mom.”

A mother whose marine son was killed in Iraq in 2005 talked about how the mothers are supporting each other. She said, “We talk and we cry about the heartache. Our friendship has just been so incredible and different than any other friendship that I have ever known because our sons are side by side in that same soil.”

Another mother whose son was killed in Iraq in 2005 said, “When we go to Arlington, sometimes we are holding the crying mother. And sometimes we are the crying mother. You never cry alone at Arlington. It’s a refuge for me. You cannot be strong all the time.”

Another mother described the first time she saw another mother in Section 60. She said, “She was just crying and saying, ‘Our beautiful boys.’ We just started walking toward each other and we were crying so hard.”

A cousin of one of the soldiers told this story about her fallen hero. “He

always wore a St. Christopher's medal around his neck. When he died, they couldn't find it. But on the day of the funeral, the colonel came up to my aunt and said that they had found the St. Christopher's medal. When his body was thrown back by the blast, the St. Christopher's and his dog tags were in the hole that the bomb was in."

Finally, one of the new mothers asked another mother if the pain of losing a child in war ever goes away. This mother had to say, "No."

Madam Speaker, we owe the Section 60 mothers our deepest respect and gratitude. They remind us that the war isn't something that takes place thousands of miles away. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are happening to our mothers and families right here in our own communities in America every single day.

So let us resolve to go to war only as a very last resort. Every possible alternative to war should always be completely exhausted before we send our great men and women into battle. That is the least we can do for them and the mothers they leave behind.

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.)

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO HONOR FALLEN HEROES

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, in May of this year I introduced H. Res. 1183, a resolution calling for the House to observe a moment of silence on the first legislative day of each month for those killed or wounded in the United States engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan. I am very grateful that last month the Speaker of the House initiated this moment of silence to honor America's fallen heroes. It is my understanding that the Speaker will continue this monthly observance during votes tomorrow.

I again thank Speaker PELOSI for making this tribute a part of the regular order of the House. This moment of silence will serve as a solemn reminder of the more than 4,000 killed and more than 30,000 wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan, and a thank-you from a grateful Nation. During the month of June, 56 United States servicemembers were killed; 27 in Afghanistan and 29 in Iraq.

Madam Speaker, I am sure every American shares my heart, which is heavy for the sacrifice of these fallen heroes. We are grateful to all of our men and women in uniform for their

courage and for their selfless commitment to duty.

Again, I want to thank Speaker PELOSI and her staff for continuing to make this remembrance a reality for those who have sacrificed for our Nation and for their families. We, the House of Representatives, the People's House, should never forget those who have given their life for this great Nation.

May God continue to bless our men and women in uniform, and may God continue to bless the families of our men and women in uniform. And I ask God to continue to bless America.

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

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

□ 1930

LEGISLATION TO REPEAL SECTION 14(b) OF THE TAFT-HARTLEY ACT

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

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, in about a week, I will introduce legislation to repeal the infamous section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act and to rid this country once and for all of the so-called Right To Work statutes in 21 or 22 of our States.

Now, section 14(b) of the 1947 Taft-Hartley Act allows States to pass the so-called Right To Work laws, which strip unions of the right to charge fees even when they negotiate the contract that the employee works under.

Section 14(b) has been controversial from its inception. It was vetoed by President Truman. It became law only overriding that veto. What we have now is a network of different labor laws in different States that pits the workers in one State against another, that pits businesses in one State against another, that creates an unlevel playing field for businesses in one State as opposed to businesses in another State.

So-called Right to Work is union busting. It is that simple. Right to Work strips unions of their ability to require payment for the contract negotiation that they do. It is designed to encourage free riders and to weaken and destroy unions.

Every worker benefits from the union contract, but under so-called Right to Work laws, some pay absolutely nothing to the union that negotiates that contract. That encourages others to choose to pay nothing, and eventually the union unravels. That is exactly what has happened in the 22 so-called right-to-work States.

Now, Right to Work States have significantly lower unionization rates than do other States. The unionization

rate in my State of California is 18 percent; in New York, 26 percent; in Washington State, 21 percent; in Wisconsin, 16 percent; in New Jersey and Michigan, 21 percent. None of those States have so-called Right to Work statutes. In contrast, such right-to-work States such as Texas, Arkansas, Utah and Georgia, have only 6 percent unionization rates, and North Carolina, with its Right to Work laws, has an only 4 percent unionization rate.

Now, it can be alleged that those who are in right-to-work States don't need unions. They enjoy great pay and great working conditions. Well, let's look at the facts. The average worker in a so-called Right to Work State makes \$5,333 less per year than a worker in a free bargaining State. That is a comparison of \$35,500 on the one hand, with \$30,167 on the other. Some 21 percent more people lack health insurance in Right to Work States as compared with free bargaining States. And as for workplace and safety, workplace deaths are 51 percent higher in States with so-called Right to Work laws.

It is time that we repeal section 14(b). It is time that we let unions organize and time that we allow workers who want to have a union, to enjoy that right.

I serve as the Chair of the subcommittee of Foreign Affairs Committee with jurisdiction over trade issues, including the International Labor Organization. The ILO is the official international organization affiliated with the United Nations that sets labor standards. It is clear that our Right to Work laws violate international labor standards. The National Organization of Manufacturers acknowledged this just a few days ago when they pointed out that while Right to Work laws probably violate the ILO core conventions, we as a country have not ratified those core conventions. So a country that should be in the forefront of the world, in the forefront of human rights, civil rights and labor rights, has in 22 of its States laws that violate the ILO core convention.

It is time for America to stand in the forefront of human rights, civil rights and labor rights. It is time to end so-called Right to Work.

I urge my colleagues to contact me if they are interested in being original cosponsors of this legislation.

SAVE OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

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

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, it is easy to be in Washington, DC, making bold predictions and promises and then ignore the realities right in front of our noses. Congress' failure to meet the July 1 deadline to prevent the scheduled fee reductions for Medicare providers is shameful and our failure to act has real consequences.

Seventeen percent of the people I represent are on Medicare, roughly 114,000 people. Many of these citizens live in communities where there are few doctors and few health care options. If the available doctors stop seeing Medicare patients, the health care access for all Kansans will be severely damaged. We must prevent the scheduled physician fee reductions from going into effect, and I encourage the Senate to take up necessary legislation now.

Just this week, I received a letter from a family physician back home. He, of course, expressed his frustration with our current Medicare system. Here are his words:

"It is with mixed emotion that I am writing to inform you of my intent to leave my family medicine practice. I have reached the point where I am no longer willing to expose myself or my family to the risk of having to rely upon an increasingly unreliable and poor source of income, Medicare. As a small business with 12 employees, I don't have the margin to absorb others' incompetence or our government's capricious reimbursement. I am not willing to be a pawn in an ideological chess match in Washington, and therefore as of today I will no longer accept Medicare patients.

"I am considering a position in an economically booming region in another State that is nearly 95 percent private pay. What physician worth their salt will continue in a system that undervalues the work they do for a patient population that is the most complex and the most time demanding?

"Congress and the Medicare system are taking advantage of good-intentioned physicians who are more interested in caring for patients and upholding and honoring the Hippocratic Oath than lining their pockets. Even now, writing this letter to you, I feel a sense of guilt as though I am betraying my Medicare patients. I have realized, however, that it is not I that have betrayed the elderly, rather Congress."

When doctors close their practices, it creates a gap that is almost impossible for us in rural communities to fill. Congress must understand that we have a responsibility in making physicians want to continue to practice medicine, to not give them the reason to walk out their clinic or hospital doors and never look back. Congress needs to look closely at our role in these trends and make sure we are not encouraging this situation by playing politics with people's health care and their lives.

I hope that the Senate will pass legislation this week that can keep our vital health care system in place and protect our most vulnerable citizens.

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.)

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF SENATOR JESSE HELMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Senator Jesse Helms. Senator Helms, who passed away this past 4th of July at the age of 86, was renowned for his considerable personal warmth and his commitment to the good of his constituents. So it is no surprise that in the days after his passing, tales from his constituents across the State of North Carolina paid tribute to his decades-long track record of thoughtful constituent service.

But Senator Helms was so much more than a good public servant. He was a man of integrity, and over the course of his 30 years of service in the United States Senate, you could always count on one thing: You knew where Jesse Helms stood on the issue. An outspoken conservative who was never bashful about defending the conservative principles of small government and individual freedom, he was a man who refused to compromise on his principles.

Senator Helms knew a conservative when he saw one. This is why he helped propel Ronald Reagan to the national stage by orchestrating Reagan's North Carolina primary victory in 1976. In so doing, he helped prepare the groundwork for the eventual Reagan Revolution of the 1980s.

As we remember the life of Senator Helms, we know we have lost one of the finest conservative statesmen of a generation. Senator Helms believed that America was the greatest nation in the world, and that belief informed his principles and the policies that he ultimately pursued. For instance, he knew that a strong America would be a signpost of hope for millions during the uncertain times of global communist influence in the seventies and eighties. As a strident anti-communist, he fought to ensure America would be a bulwark against the forces of oppression and tyranny in the communist corners of the globe.

Senator Helms was also an indomitable champion of life. He believed in the dignity of the lives of the unborn and fought with heroic energy to see to it that they might receive the protection they deserve. His pro-life legacy is still with us today. In fact, Senator Helms successfully amended legislation 35 years ago to include what is today known as the "Helms amendment." This amendment, which is still in effect, mandates that no U.S. foreign aid money may be used to pay for or promote abortions.

Yes, Senator Helms fought for the innocent unborn, he condemned wide-

spread corruption in the United Nations before it was popular to do so, and he staked out clear conservative positions without having to consult a pollster. He was a one-of-a-kind leader who passed on conservative principles to many, including me. But his crusades were never just about him. Rather, he fought for his country and the ideas that he knew made America great.

He said it best in his farewell address to the Senate: "Being remembered isn't important. What is important is standing up for what you believe to be right, hoping that you have done everything you can to preserve the moral and spiritual principles that made America great in the first place."

Senator Helms' death last Friday was a profound loss for America and for the State of North Carolina. He served his country well, dispatching his duty to stand up for what is right with unrivaled moral clarity. He will be missed, and today my thoughts and my prayers are with his family and loved ones as they grieve this loss and remember a life well-lived.

DECLARING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

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. Madam Speaker, I would like to say to the gentlewoman who just spoke that I sure share her admiration for Jesse Helms. I had the honor to work with him on legislation known as the Helms-Burton law, and I want you to know he was a wonderful man, a titan and a real conservative, and the kind of man that everybody in America could be proud to say that he was a Senator in the august body on the other side of the building.

Let me just say briefly today that we just celebrated the 4th of July, known as Independence Day, and we celebrate that because we became an independent Nation after the Revolutionary War by winning that war and becoming not a colony of Great Britain, but a United States of America, an independent country. Our Declaration of Independence.

Now we are faced with another problem. It is called energy dependence. We are dependent on Saudi Arabia, we are dependent on other countries in the Middle East, we are dependent on countries in South America like Venezuela that are not friends of ours, and we ought to be moving toward energy independence.

Any of my colleagues who were out marching in parades during the 4th of July recess ought to know that the people they were talking to on those parade routes were saying, hey, we don't want gasoline at \$4 or \$5 a gallon. We don't need to have gasoline at \$4 or \$5 a gallon, because we can drill right here in the United States and get

enough oil or gas or other energy products so we can be energy independent. All we have to do is start.

The problem is in this body and the other body on the other side of the building, they will not move, the majority will not move on drilling here in the United States. We could drill in the ANWR in Alaska and get 1 to 2 million barrels of oil a day. We could drill off the continental shelf and get 1 or 2 million barrels of oil a day. We have about a 400 or 500 year supply of natural gas. And we are not doing anything. We are not drilling.

We are sending \$400 or \$500 million a day over to Saudi Arabia and to Venezuela and South America for oil that we could produce right here in America. It is costing us jobs, it is costing us energy, it is causing food price hikes, the price of anything else that you buy that is transported by truck in this country, and the people going to and from work or paying \$4 or \$5 a gallon or \$70 or \$80 or \$90 for one tankful.

□ 1945

They can't survive. The economy will continue to go down if we don't do something about these energy prices. And we are not going to do it until we allow this country to drill, this government to drill in places like the ANWR and off the Continental Shelf, and use the coal shale that we have here in abundance to produce our own energy. We can do it. The people of America by about an 80 percent margin say drill now, drill in America, lower those gas prices. And we are not doing it.

We just celebrated our declaration of independence from Great Britain. It is high time we had a declaration of independence regarding our energy. We need to drill here in America, we need to drill in the ANWR, we need to drill offshore and become energy independent. It is time. And I hope all of my colleagues will sign my good friend, Mr. WESTMORELAND from Georgia's petition over here that will let everybody know in this country, all of their constituents know that they are committed to drilling in America to get energy prices down.

He is going to take a one-hour special order here pretty quick telling everybody why we should be drilling here in America. So if I were talking to people across this country, Madam Speaker, I would say call your Congressman, call your Senator, and tell them to sign Mr. WESTMORELAND's petition so we can move toward energy independence. It is high time. We should do it now.

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

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

IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, in the last 2 days there have been two major stories about comments made by the prime minister of Iraq. In the first, he said that terrorism in Iraq has been defeated. In the second, the Iraqi prime minister said he wants to negotiate a departure date for U.S. troops.

Yet, because the Defense Department has requested more money for Iraq this year than any year of the war so far, you can rest assured that we will not be leaving any time soon. This war has always been more about money and power than about any real threat to the U.S. Saddam Hussein's total military budget was only a little over 2/10 of 1 percent of ours.

As the conservative columnist Charley Reese wrote a few years ago: We attacked a country that had not attacked us, that had not even threatened to attack us, and was not even capable of attacking us."

Now some are gloating about the success of the surge as if this somehow justifies all the deaths, all the injuries, and all the waste, fraud, and abuse of previous years. Well, surely with the expenditure of hundreds of billions of dollars, there would be a few successes along the way.

It is not criticism of the troops to say that this was a very unnecessary war that we should never have been in, in the first place. This war has meant massive foreign aid, huge deficit spending, and has put almost the entire burden of enforcing U.N. resolutions on our taxpayers and on our military. It has gone against every traditional conservative position I have ever known.

The Democrats recently passed a budget raising our national debt limit to \$10.5 trillion. We are still borrowing staggering amounts of money, and this war has been our largest single expense. The Defense Department, like any giant bureaucracy, always wants more money, yet we simply cannot afford to keep spending at the rate our military leaders want.

Georgie Anne Geyer, the conservative foreign policy columnist, wrote a few months after the Iraqi war started that, "Americans will inevitably come to a point where they have to choose between a government that provides services at home or one that seeks empire across the globe."

This war has already become the most expensive and wasteful war in American history. There has not been anything fiscally conservative about the war in Iraq. In fact, there has been so much waste of money, so much fraud, so much excessive and lavish spending that fiscal conservatives should be the ones most upset about all this.

According to the Government Accountability Office, we already have \$53 trillion to \$54 trillion in unfunded future pension liabilities on top of our national debt, and this figure is going up every day. We are now spending at

the rate of \$500 million a day, every day, for our military ventures in Iraq and Afghanistan. In just a few short years we will not be able to pay our Social Security and veterans pensions and all the other things we have promised our own people with money that will buy very much.

Evan Thomas in the June 23 issue of Newsweek wrote, "American politicians have gone to extraordinary lengths to be seen as Churchill, not Chamberlain, with results that have not always been in America's best interest."

He wrote that Saddam Hussein and Slobodan Milosevic were frequently compared to Hitler. "But," Thomas wrote, "the only real Hitler was Hitler. Saddam and Milosevic were murderers, but at most local menaces."

Both parties are falling all over themselves trying to prove their patriotism, and thus are afraid to question any Pentagon expenditure. And the Defense Department seems to know that no matter how wasteful or inefficient it becomes, that Congress will keep on giving it huge increases.

Where are the fiscal conservatives? Where are those who will say that, since the surge has been successful, we need to spend less money in Iraq, not more? Where are those who supported this war who will not back up the Iraqi prime minister and say it is time to start bringing our troops home?

Surely conservatives, who have always been the biggest opponents of world government, are not going to say we should keep on running Iraq and simply stay there forever regardless of how the Iraqis themselves feel.

At some point we need to start putting our own people first once again. At some point, Madam Speaker, we need to stop borrowing hundreds of billions to spend in other countries, and take care of our own people.

BLUE DOG COALITION

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

Mr. MATHESON. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to be able to organize a special order this hour on the part of the Blue Dog Coalition. The Blue Dogs wanted to take advantage of this opportunity tonight to speak about energy policy issues.

I think that there is no doubt that when it comes to domestic policy issues that this country faces, that energy policy is right at the top of the list. I think it is clear that this country should be looking for a comprehensive balanced energy policy, and I think that represents the type of politics the Blue Dogs in the House of Representatives have often supported.

We have a number of issues that we really want to work through tonight, and I have a number of my fellow Blue

Dog colleagues who are going to join me during this hour to talk about various energy policy issues. And I would like to start right now by recognizing my colleague from the State of Louisiana, one of the newest Members of the House, and someone who is prepared to really contribute on this issue, Representative CAZAYOUX from Louisiana.

Mr. CAZAYOUX. Madam Speaker, I gladly join Congressman MATHESON in our discussion regarding a balanced comprehensive energy policy that the Blue Dogs such as Congressman MATHESON and others support.

I believe that the high price of gasoline is an immediate problem that requires both swift action and long-term planning. It is the number one issue facing America today. It is one that hits home every time that we fill up our vehicles to go to work, when we attempt to go on summer vacation, and even when we go to the store to buy food.

I support expanding domestic drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf and in ANWR. This will not only reduce our dependence on foreign oil and lower gas prices, it will help our economy and create jobs. In fact, in Louisiana it was recently announced that a new oil lease in the Gulf of Mexico would generate \$78 million for Louisiana to restore its coast.

I believe that one of the root problems of the high price of gasoline is our outdated refining capacity. That is why I support building new and improved refineries and updating old ones. We haven't had a new refinery built since 1972. We have to do a better job at allowing companies to build these refineries and incentivizing companies to build refineries so that we can expand our refinery capacity and stop importing refined gas and refined oil.

In addition to the issue of supplying gas prices, a strengthening economy and subsequently a strengthened dollar will also go a long way to improving fuel prices. I believe, and the experts support this, deficit spending is one of the root causes of our reduced dollar, and that is playing a huge role, I believe, in the price of oil and the subsequent price of gas in our economy. If we can start spending within our means in Congress, we believe that the dollar will become a stronger dollar, we can buy more foreign oil, because we are now importing 60 percent of our oil, we can do that in a more effective way and, therefore, the price of gas should go down.

But the talk of drilling, we should not stop there. That approach is a narrow approach. It is an approach I support, but it is not the end all. We have to have a multi-pronged approach to reach energy independence and security in the long term as well as the short term. That is why we voted to increase the oil supply by temporarily diverting oil shipments from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. Experts esti-

mate this will lower gas prices anywhere from 5 cents to 24 cents, and this just went into effect this past week and hopefully we will see some real lowered costs at the pump very shortly.

Also, I personally voted for an amendment to the Congressional Budget Resolution that would open up drilling in ANWR and the Outer Continental Shelf.

We as a body passed the Gas Price Relief for Consumers Act, and that allows the Justice Department to investigate foreign oil companies who conspire to drive up prices for American consumers.

We passed the Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act of 2008, which will help reduce our dependence on foreign oil by providing tax credits for renewable energy, including solar, biomass, geothermal, hydropower, and wind. We need to be aggressive in making sure that we harness the technological energy of our Nation, and this bill goes a long way in doing that.

We passed the Energy Markets Emergency Act, which directs the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to use all its powers, including emergency powers, to determine whether excessive speculation in energy futures markets is driving the price of oil up.

We passed the farm bill, which included a strong provision for biofuel production. And we know, the experts suggest that, without the use of biofuels, we would see gas prices 15 percent higher than they are now.

The bottom line is we need to work hard to create energy independence. That work must start today. In the words of one of my constituents: These cars just won't run on hope.

So we need to act to continue to increase domestic drilling, to increase our ability to harness our technological energy that America has succeeded in solving most of our problems and all of our problems in the past. And so we need to bring relief to hard-working Americans by reducing gas prices now.

Mr. MATHESON. I thank my colleague. And I appreciate the fact that my colleague from Louisiana highlighted the notion that there is not a single action that we need to take; that in fact we need a comprehensive effort, we need to look at a series of different opportunities to try to address both the supply and the demand side. And I appreciate his leadership on the issue and want to thank him for joining us in the Blue Dog hour.

Right now I recognize my colleague from Kansas, a long-time Blue Dog, Congressman MOORE.

(Mr. MOORE of Kansas asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah, thank you for presiding here. I want to talk for just a few moments about this energy crisis that our country faces.

Madam Speaker, I am the policy co-chair for a group called the Blue Dog

Coalition, which is using some of the time tonight, and I appreciate my colleagues being here to discuss the energy situation in our country.

Shortly after the last election when in fact there was a change in the majority in the House and the Democrats took control, the cochairs of the Blue Dog group and a group called the New Democratic Coalition, which I also belong to; I am not in the leadership there, but I have belonged to that since I have been in Congress for my tenth year now, we were invited over to speak to the President about policy. And this was the first time that we had been invited over to speak about policy. We had been invited for several other ceremonial things, but not about policy. So I really appreciated the opportunity to talk with the President.

In fact, the four leaders of the Blue Dog group met up in my office to talk about some ground rules since we only had a 45-minute meeting with the President. So we talked about how long we would take each if we had a chance to talk at all, and we decided we would each take about 2 minutes. And we talked and went through our items there.

But when we were leaving after this 45-minute meeting, the President was walking beside me. We were walking out the front door of the White House, and I said, "Mr. President, you have an opportunity to be a hero to people in this country and maybe a few people around the world." And he said, "Well, how is that?"

I said, "Mr. President, do you remember, a little more than 30 years ago there was a man on television one night talking to the American people about the long lines at the gas pumps. He had a cardigan sweater on sitting in front of the fireplace. His name was Jimmy Carter." And the President said, "I remember that." I said, "Mr. President, President Carter said what we need is a comprehensive energy policy."

And, you know, President Carter was right then, and I have faulted every Democratic and Republican President since President Carter for not doing what he said we needed to do back then, because that was the right thing. And what happened was President Carter made a few recommendations to Congress, and Congress passed a couple little things like the solar panels tax credit and a few other things. But a few months after President Carter talked to the American people, the long lines at the gas pumps went down, and I have said that every American adult in this country got attention deficit disorder and forgot about what he said.

□ 2000

And I wish we had done that back then, and I wish we had done that and had concentrated on that every year since then because we'd be in a whole different position as a Nation on the energy issue right now in this world.

I said, Mr. President, if you would do what President Carter said and appoint, I suggested to him, a commission, a bipartisan group of House Members, a bipartisan group of Senators and some experts on energy production and challenge them, Mr. President, to submit to you within 6 to 8 months a written recommendation of a comprehensive policy for developing energy to make us maybe not totally energy independent but to reduce by 60 percent, say, within 8 to 10 years our dependence on foreign oil, Mr. President, that would improve our national security. Right now, we are so dependent on nations in the Middle East to provide our security, our energy interests to us, that that is a security issue.

I said, Mr. President, I think drilling is an important part of this, but we cannot drill our way out of this problem. We have got to come at this from 40 different directions. I said, Mr. President, Kansas is in the top five States in the Nation in terms of potential for wind energy. We're not going to solve our energy problem by wind energy alone, but it can be a small part of a big solution to this problem. If we come at this from 40 different directions, including conservation, including just all kinds of different productions of energy, we could address this for the American people, and you would be a hero to people in this country.

He said that's a good idea. I'll think about that.

Well, unfortunately, he has got about 4, 5, 6 months left in his administration. I doubt seriously that anything is going to happen there now. He and the Vice President have been good friends, frankly, to oil companies, so I doubt anything is going to happen there now, but after this next Presidential election, whoever is elected, whether it's OBAMA or MCCAIN, we need to ask him to do what President Carter talked about 34, 35 years ago. That is to appoint a commission. Come back with a national plan for reducing our dependence on foreign oil.

We can drill, but that's not going to solve the problem in itself. If we do what I'm talking about here, what President Carter talked about, I think that would be the right thing for our Nation and the right thing for our world.

Mr. MATHESON. Well, I thank the gentleman from Kansas for his thoughts, and I appreciate again the introduction of the notion that we need a comprehensive approach.

There is just not one silver bullet that's going to solve this circumstance. It really is consistent with what the Blue Dog energy principles that were adopted at the start of the 110th Congress say about fuel diversity, the recognition that long-term U.S. energy independence is going to come from putting everything on the table, everything from conventional oil and gas and from alternative sources such as oil shale and tar sands, nuclear, hydro-

electric, geothermal, coal, and biofuels. If we're really going to take this issue on, we've got to look at it in that comprehensive manner.

Again, the Blue Dogs have adopted a set of principles that recognize the value of a diverse fuel mix within this country as a long-term solution of creating energy security for this country.

With that, I now would like to welcome another fellow Blue Dog to speak, who is a fellow member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and who is cochair for communications for the Blue Dogs in this Congress—Congressman ROSS from Arkansas—who has in his years in Congress been a real leader on trying to address energy issues in this country. I welcome him to participate in this discussion.

With that, I will yield to him as much time as he would like to consume.

Mr. ROSS. I'd like to thank the gentleman from Utah for leading this discussion this evening on energy.

As the gentleman mentioned, I'm fortunate to serve on the House Energy and Commerce Committee and on the Energy and Air Quality Subcommittee. Through my work there, I've been working on ways to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and to address this energy crisis facing America and, quite frankly, facing the world, and I think there are several ways to do it.

There is no silver bullet. It's going to take a multifaceted approach. As Congress, we can't control the demand for oil in the world, but as a Congress, we can make an impact on the supply, and that's what I believe that this Congress needs to do.

Here is what we do know: In the next 8 years, there will be 100 million new cars on the road, 100 million new cars on the road in the next 8 years, not here but in China and in India.

Here is the other thing we know: If we do not change our current energy policy in this country, sometime in the next 12 to 20 years, depending on whose numbers you want to believe, we will go from being 60 percent dependent on foreign oil to being 100 percent dependent on foreign oil.

I've got a plan that, I believe, can go a long way toward fixing that. While we have a gasoline crisis today, in the next 35 years, it will be an electricity crisis. I've got a bill, H.R. 5437. It's called the American-Made Energy Act. It's 155 pages long. It's a multifaceted bill that takes a multifaceted approach to this energy crisis. Again, there is no silver bullet. Quite simply, my bill does this:

I propose that we drill in ANWR. There are 19 million acres in ANWR. My bill proposes to drill on 2,000 of them—one-sixth the size of the Dulles Airport. We've already got a pipeline going to Alaska, to ANWR, that can handle 2 million barrels a day; we're only putting 1 million in it. Let's fill it up and put the other 1 million barrels in it.

Additionally, we can drill off the coast. In fact, it was by executive order

that Bush One chose to shut down drilling near the coast of Florida. That was a mistake. They're drilling much closer to the coast in Alabama than they are in Florida today because of an executive order issued by former President Bush, often referred to as Bush 41, I believe.

So this is not a Democrat or a Republican problem. I think both parties, quite frankly, have some blame to share here, but we don't have a Democratic energy problem or a Republican energy problem; we've got an American energy problem, and we need to fix it as a Congress. I think it would be most helpful if we did it, quite frankly, in a bipartisan way.

I'm not talking about drilling off the coast or in ANWR and utilizing 1940 or 1950 technology, not even utilizing 1990 technology. I'm talking about doing it while utilizing 21st century technology that can allow us to do it, to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and yet remain good stewards of this environment, of this land that God has given us to care after.

Then there are the lease and royalty payments from drilling in those areas. By drilling in those areas, we meet our short-term oil needs. We've got some great ideas. I've actually test-driven a hydrogen fuel cell car. You can drive it. It sounds like an electric golf cart, and it runs like a regular car, and when you stop, if you jump out and run to the tailpipe with a clean glass, in time, it'll pour you a half a cup of water. They tell me you can drink it. I didn't try, Madam Speaker, but they say you can.

I mean these are not Star Wars-ish ideas. These are not ideas of the next century or of the next generation. They're here, but we need an energy policy that embraces them and that moves them from the science lab to every street corner in America where you see a gas pump today.

So my bill does this: It says drill in ANWR, utilizing new environmental technology. Drill off the coast, utilizing new environmental technology. Then the revenue from the lease and royalty payments, it's estimated, will total \$80 billion. I want to take that \$80 billion and put every dime of it into alternative and renewable fuels to move these ideas from the science lab to the marketplace.

This year, this administration will spend less than \$4 billion on alternative and renewable fuels. Now, for a country boy from Hope, Arkansas, \$4 billion sounds like a lot of money, but to put it in perspective, we will spend that amount in Iraq in the next 10 days. Bill Gates will spend twice that amount on research and development for Microsoft Corporation alone this year. When President Kennedy said he was going to put a man on the Moon, he didn't just say it; we invested in it. In today's dollars, it was \$90 billion, and we did so much more than put a man on the Moon. We grew a new generation of innovators in this country

who have created and who have invented a lot of the technologies that we're now beginning to take for granted.

It's time for another President Kennedy "let's go to the Moon"-sized investment and, this time, with alternative and renewable fuels so we can reduce our dependence on foreign oil. That's exactly what I try to accomplish with the American-Made Energy Act, H.R. 5437.

I'd like to thank the gentleman from Utah for allowing me to come and to speak on my bill for a few minutes this evening, and I appreciate his leadership on these energy issues.

With that, I yield back to him.

Mr. MATHESON. Well, I thank my colleague from Arkansas for spending time with us this evening but also for trying to take a thoughtful and comprehensive approach. That's really what Blue Dogs are about. I think we really try to discuss items in the context of policy.

I'd just like to introduce one other factor into this discussion about the high gas prices that we face today and what we can do in terms of the price of oil, and it's consistent with what Blue Dogs talk about a lot. People probably didn't think I'd raise the issue of fiscal responsibility relative to oil prices, but it turns out that there is a significant relationship here. It has to do with the fact that, during the current administration, so much more money has been borrowed.

When our current President took office, the national debt was around \$6 trillion. We're approaching \$10 trillion now. \$4 trillion just in the last 7½ years. Do you know what that has done among many other things? It has created a weaker dollar. Now, oil is a global commodity. It's traded all over the world, and it's traded under one currency, and that's the U.S. dollar. That weaker dollar means that oil costs even more for us in this country than it does for other countries with stronger currencies.

I've brought with me tonight this chart to graphically demonstrate the relationship, according to the Energy Information Administration, between the lower dollar—the weaker dollar—and how much the price has gone up in terms of dollars per barrel. It's pretty self-evident that we had a strong dollar for a number of years. Then in the early part of this decade, as the debt started to increase, the value of the dollar dropped precipitously, and the price of oil went up at the same time.

It's not the only factor associated with how expensive oil is in the world today, but clearly, in all of the discussion that we've been having about why the oil price is so high in the world, in my opinion, this particular issue has not received much attention.

The Blue Dog Coalition has this fundamental principle about balancing budgets and about living within our means. We tell people that you may not see the impact of this debt right

away, but here is an impact because, with all of that increased debt, we've had to borrow so much money as a country that we've weakened our currency relative to the rest of the world. Therefore, because that's how it's traded all over the world, the price of oil on a dollar-per-barrel basis has gone up a lot.

So I wanted to introduce this concept, which is very appropriate within a Blue Dog Special Order hour here on the floor of the House of Representatives, to talk about the linkage between the need for fiscal responsibility and how it affects energy prices, which is something that, I think, ought to be part of this debate as well.

With that, I'd like to yield time to another one of my fellow Blue Dogs, another individual who is very thoughtful and measured in his approach, and that's the type of approach we need for a comprehensive energy policy. He is my colleague Mr. SCOTT from the State of Georgia.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Thank you very much, Mr. MATHESON. I certainly want to thank the gentleman from Utah for allowing me to share a few thoughts on what, I think, is the most urgent issue facing, really, the survival of the world, not just that of our country. I'd like to talk about this from an additional perspective.

This issue is rolling along on about four or five major legs. One is supply. Another is the weakened dollar, of which you spoke. Another is do we do more drilling. Then this other of which we have not dealt as we should, of which I believe is that leg of which we have to deal if we are going to really address the issue facing the American people, is the high price of gasoline. That leg is called demand. We've got speculators who certainly need to be reined in, and we're doing that.

I serve on the Agriculture Committee. We've had the Commodity Futures Trading Commission under Chairman Lukken to come before our committee. We want to make sure that we give him the resources and all that he needs to bring title regulation and transparency. We need to look at issues like swapping where these traders use others' pension funds to trade among themselves with little oversight. We need to close the Enron loophole. We need to make sure that everything trading with oil is done in the light and not in foreign exchanges that have very little regulation. All of that needs to be done.

□ 2015

Speculation and speculators play a vital role as well. So that we have to make sure that whatever approach we take there, that's a part of the infrastructure. And still we're not addressing the issue facing the American people until we address the issue of demand.

The only way we're going to bring down the price of oil, and subsequently the price of gasoline, is to reduce our

demand and our dependency on oil. Oil's not in our future if we're going to have one. If we continue with oil, this earth is going to eventually burn up. We're getting to that point now. It is the oil and other matters that are causing global warming at such an epidemic rate that even if you drill for more, that creates more demand. And drilling is where we are now. That is not where we need to go for the future.

We have got to erase the high demand or else we're going to be in a footrace with China and India. If we continue at our pace on our current demand for oil, it will go up 22 percent in the next 10 years, China's will go up 160 percent, India 110, and developing countries in the Middle East will go up 125. Increase. The more oil you drill for, the more the demand, the higher the price.

Let me tell you something that happened. Just before we left, in Jidda in Saudi Arabia they had a conference. And at that conference, Saudi Arabia said, Okay. I tell you what. We're going to increase during the month of May by 300,000 barrels per day. Then in July and June, last month, they added another 200,000 barrels a day, increase, because we felt the more the supply, then we'd lower the price. No, no, no. Less than 24 hours. That happened on a Sunday. That very Monday, when the first market opened in Singapore, the price went up from \$134 a barrel to \$137, and now it's rolling along at \$145. Does more oil, does more production, does it drive it up? It creates the demand.

So what do we do? We've got to move forthrightly on getting off of oil, getting off of dependency on it. We've got a great chance to do that. We have the means to do it. There is no country that has the technology, that has the smarts to be able to get alternative sources of energy to survival.

If Brazil can do it, why can't we? I went down to Brazil last year, spent a week down there going into the factories, into the production plants, and 85 percent of their automobiles are running on what is called flex fuel. In other words, ethanol made from sugarcane. Why can't we do that? No. We blindly want to go with ethanol, but we want to go make it on corn.

For every unit of energy that it takes to produce a unit of ethanol from sugarcane, they can only yield less—they yield 8 units of energy. That's a great yield. With corn, for every energy it takes to produce it they can only produce less than 2 units of energy. It's not efficient. Plus, it drives up the price on food because corn is the basic for livestock. So corn ethanol is not the future. Nor should it be on any basic food.

But now our technologies say we can make ethanol from kudzu, from pine straw, from pinecones, and yes, sugarcane.

Now I ask you, here is a question that we need to ask and the American people need to ask Congress. Why can't

we begin to offset our demand for gasoline to run our automobiles, offset, removing our demand bit by bit from importing oil from the Middle East and on oil to making up for that by pouring in ethanol? And why is it that we have a 54 cents-per-gallon tariff on every gallon of ethanol we would import from Brazil? It doesn't make sense. Why would we not want to import ethanol made from sugarcane, the most energetic, the most productive kind of ethanol, into this country from Brazil to offset the loss from importing oil from there as we build up our own capacity for ethanol?

And let me just share with you what we're doing in my great State of Georgia. Georgia is at the leadership—and I would like to say, Mr. MATHESON, in my own district in Clayton County, for example, we have in Clayton County in Ellenwood, a plant that makes biodiesel fuel. And you know what they make it from? Not oil, not petroleum. They're making it from the fatty parts that you throw away from the chickens and from pork. And they're taking it. And this year, this plant, it's called the BullDog BioDiesel—you can tell we're from Georgia because it's the "Bull Dog"—but it's the BullDog BioDiesel plant in Ellenwood. They will produce 18 million gallons of biodiesel fuel.

And it is not going to have to go on the world market like oil would. That's another thing we need to clarify because people think if we were to drill and get oil, that that oil will come straight on back here and it stays in this country. No. That goes to the world oil market and comes out at \$145 a barrel if it was today. The price is there.

So my point is this: We need to understand that we are at a critical point in our history, quite honestly, as a civilization, and America must lead in this direction, and that leadership means cutting this demand and dependency on oil and moving to renewable areas. We're already moving with the battery cell automobile. Why can't we put greater emphasis on those things and those items?

And as I said, we certainly have to look at ethanol as a future because it would make up for the shortfall we would get once we are able to cut our dependency on oil, especially from the Middle East.

So I think that among all of the other things that we've got to do, and there are many things we've got to do, but essentially it comes down to the bottom line: You want the price of gasoline to go down? You want the future of the world to go up? Then what you do is you've got to cut the demand on that petroleum as a base of energy and move to another base of energy that does not threaten our economy or our environment.

Mr. MATHESON. Well, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for his thoughtful comments tonight. And it is no surprise. He's always been someone who tries to understand issues well. His

comments really reflect a couple of the basic principles. You know, as I mentioned earlier in my remarks, the Blue Dog Coalition published a set of energy principles at the start of this Congress, and I think my colleague, Mr. SCOTT, really touched on two of the important components of those principles.

The first is that the Blue Dogs believe in the value of technology development, and energy policy should build on American strengths. One of the great things about this country is its ability to innovate. Research and development capability of this country surpasses any place in the world. Whenever this country has applied itself to solve a problem, it succeeds so well. And that type of innovation is what is going to allow technology to take us to a different place than we are today.

And I think Mr. SCOTT discussed some of those potential technologies in which he's familiar, and there is no question in the long run, if we are going to get to a position where this country is not as dependent on foreign oil, we need technology to take us to a new place in terms of particularly how our transportation and infrastructure are going to operate.

And the second Blue Dog energy principle I think Mr. SCOTT touched on very well is this notion of efficiency. You know, if you can do more with less, we all win. We use less energy, we save money, it's good for the environment. Energy-efficient technologies and energy conservation are other pieces to this puzzle.

I think an overriding thing we've said throughout this discussion tonight is that there is no single option here. There is no silver bullet. We, as Blue Dogs, support the furtherance of energy-efficient technologies. We think that we can continue to make progress and push the envelope and that, again, as a country that leads the world in innovation, we can also lead in terms of continuing to be more efficient in how we use energy.

Again, I thank Mr. SCOTT for his comments. As usual, very consistent with Blue Dog principles, and again, it helps further this debate about how we ought to move ahead in our national energy policy.

With that, I would like to recognize another of my fellow Blue Dogs, someone who has invested a lot of time and effort to develop an understanding of the energy issues and is a real substantive contributor to the policy debate, and that is my colleague from South Dakota, Representative HERSETH SANDLIN.

I will yield her as much time as she may consume.

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for his leadership on the Energy and Commerce Committee and in other capacities and with the Blue Dog Coalition on energy issues.

And in citing our energy principles that the Blue Dogs stand by, we have a

number of those that have been addressed already this evening, but fuel diversity is certainly one that I think deserves emphasis.

The representative from the State of South Dakota, an at-large district, a very rural district, as many of the Blue Dogs represent rural districts, the impact of these high gas and oil prices are having a disproportionate effect in many respects on my constituents who have to drive great distances to work, who have to drive great distances to get children to school, who have to put nitrogen fertilizer on crops, and who have to use great amounts of diesel and gasoline to plant and harvest those crops to maintain a safe, abundant cheap food supply.

So much has been made in recent weeks of high commodity prices. We just recently passed the farm bill. Overrode the President's veto twice to pass a farm bill that preserves the safety net. And as people point to those high commodity prices and think that farmers and ranchers have never had it better, one thing that I would hope that my colleagues, Madam Speaker, would keep in mind is that nitrogen fertilizer, which depends on natural gas, is an essential ingredient, and the high cost of gas and diesel are the input costs that are dramatically higher than they've ever been, that cuts into any profits, dramatically, that farmers and ranchers may be experiencing now that they're finally getting decent commodity prices that are saving taxpayers dollars because those are higher than the target prices and loan rates that we've set into law. And therefore we aren't making counter-cyclical payments and loan deficiency payments to farmers across the country because they have another buyer for that grain rather than just one buyer putting it on the export market at a lot less than the cost of production.

That other buyer is the local ethanol plant. And as my colleague from Georgia pointed out, we know that we're just maybe less than 2, 3 years away from the technology available to make commercially available not just corn ethanol and the dramatic increases we've seen in the improvements and the production process to make the efficiencies in the production process even better, but cellulosic ethanol. Cellulosic ethanol that can be developed in every region of the country given biomass sources, given other nonfood and feed crops that can be grown in every region of the country. And it's the importance of those technologies that can only be facilitated by the financing and some of the loan guarantees that we've recently passed, but the financing and the private market that are essential.

Which is why I strongly argue that, Madam Speaker, that it's not corn ethanol that should be blamed for high

food prices; it is the high cost of energy, which is the focus of our discussion here tonight, and the transportation and the production and the marketing of the food to Americans across the country. We need corn ethanol as a bridge to cellulosic ethanol. And that is where the financing will follow, that's where the capital will follow to get us to second-generation ethanol production.

And we also have to look at other sources that currently aren't available. For example, woody biomass off the national forests which, in my opinion, should be able to be used for cellulosic ethanol production. It not only reduces the wildfire hazard based on the hazardous fuels that are lining the bottoms of our forests, but it is a proven technology for a use for cellulosic ethanol. If we don't use it, it sits there and rots and releases methane into the atmosphere, which is worse than carbon, or it burns and releases carbon into the atmosphere.

□ 2030

So the bottom line—and I think this is back to the Blue Dog principle of diversity of fuels—we shouldn't be so quick to take energy sources available domestically off the table. We shouldn't be reluctant to reevaluate long-held positions on a particular energy source in light of new technologies that can help us extract resources in an environmentally sound way; new technologies that can facilitate wind energy development, biofuels development, a whole host of other technologies on the electricity side, whether it's clean burning coal, hydroelectric power, solar power; and of course, in the transportation side, with vehicle technology and engine technology for flex-fuel vehicles and hybrid vehicles.

Already this Congress we've taken a number of important steps, not the least of which is the renewable fuel standard that we passed in December that, by many analyses, shows that is moderating the price of gasoline at 15 percent less than it would be otherwise without that increased biofuels production. So biofuels production is saving consumers money at the pump.

But obviously, we know that consumers are suffering with \$4 gasoline, higher in some areas. We know that there are ways that we need to get at speculation that may exist in the marketplace for oil and other commodities, that we have the weak dollar that my colleague from Utah pointed out at the top of the hour that is affecting the increased costs per barrel of oil.

We, in addition to the renewable fuel standard, passed CAFE standards that go to the heart of conservation energy efficiency and the additional technologies that we know exist to help maximize those efforts.

We have passed legislation to ensure that the President no longer adds oil to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and we know that that Strategic Petro-

leum Reserve is yet another tool that we need to consider using as we move forward to give some relief to consumers at the pump.

We passed a bill that looks at the issue of how many leases are currently outstanding and how many millions of acres perhaps where there is natural gas and oil where we can facilitate production of those sources on public lands.

But we also know, as I stated, that we can't be taking energy sources off the table, and we have to be looking at where else, whether it's in the deep-water gulf or other parts of the Outer Continental Shelf, elsewhere on public lands, where it can make sense both economically and from an environmental perspective to be able to extract those resources, particularly natural gas, which does not pose the same types of environmental problems in drilling on the OCS. Although I think that technology, again, has brought us to a point that can minimize those types of spills. The oil shales that we know exist in a number of States, whether it's in Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, and of course, the other States, working with our trading partners and allies to our north in Canada as it relates to a natural gas pipeline, as it relates to oil pipelines that are being sited and under construction across South Dakota, to be able to get more oil into the Midwest where we oftentimes are at a disadvantage in being at the end of the line.

So I think that it's important tonight that we focus on not only what we've already done but what more we are prepared to do to enhance the diversity of fuels, to enhance the diversity of options both in the transportation sector and the electricity sector to make us less dependent on foreign oil, to create jobs, to enhance technologies that create the jobs for the future, for the young men and women that are looking into careers in science and environmental engineering and mechanical engineering and a whole host of opportunities it affords to every region of the country, if we take the steps that we need to take, reevaluate those long-held positions, look at information with a fresh look and glance, and be willing to take some risks because that's what it's going to require to do right by our constituents.

And I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. MATHESON. Well, I want to thank my colleague from South Dakota who is always a very substantive participant in any public policy discussion we have here in Congress, and I know she's invested a lot of time and effort when it comes to the energy issue. I really appreciate her participating in this Blue Dog discussion.

There are a couple of points that were raised by my colleague from South Dakota that I think merit one more mention. The discussion of what we've done in this Congress, there have been some actions that have been

taken, and one of them is going to bear fruit in the long run. We're not going to see a result right now. It's a process that came out of the Science Committee, of which I'm a member.

The chairman of that committee, Mr. GORDON, another Blue Dog, pursued a really aggressive effort to invest in basic research, in R&D, tried to put Federal funding out there to really get things going in a more aggressive way than it has in the past. He created a program called ARPA-E. It's designed after a previously created program within the Defense Department that's called DARPA, which created a lot of research that's helped us with technology advancements in the defense arena. And this legislation created a comparable effort in the energy policy arena, and our Blue Dog colleague, Mr. GORDON, has been a real leader on that. And that is another action this Congress has taken that is an important step to take. And I know we're frustrated by \$4 gas today, and that program, the ARPA-E program, is not going to reduce the price of gas next month. I understand that.

But the point is there are a series of steps we need to take. There's some short-term, some mid-term, some long-term strategies, but we need to put them all on the table now. We need to do what we can do to make progress on this issue.

The second point that my colleague from South Dakota said—and I just want to emphasize—is she talked about opportunities and activities that we can work with our partners, including in Canada. When she mentioned Canada, it reminded me of the fact that as a country Canada has placed a tremendous emphasis on developing their tar sands resources.

Now, I represent the State of Utah and a significant amount of the oil that is refined in refineries located right in the Salt Lake City area comes from Canada. It comes from the tar sand resource in Canada, and it is piped to the United States.

Now, we can do that here, too. We can maybe take a page out of the Canadian book on how they, as a country, made efforts to develop that resource. It's an unconventional resource, and they took the steps and they made a significant commitment. It has not been without costs. It has not been without setbacks. There are lessons to be learned there, too, which we as a country should do.

And I understand that the tar sand resource we have in the United States—and we have it in my own State of Utah—is a little bit different composition than the Canadian tar sands. I understand that there are differences, but there's so much that we can learn from that, and it's a viable source of production today in Canada.

And so I appreciate the mention of how we can learn from others and learn from our partners, and I don't know if you had something you wanted to add to that point.

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Well, not specifically to that point, but I did want to mention—and I know you have the gentleman from Georgia who wants to make another point, too, so I will be quick.

The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) and I are both on the Agriculture Committee, and you may have mentioned this. One of the bills that we'll be taking up tomorrow is a bill that you have introduced, and so I think it's important for our constituents who, understandably, don't feel like they're getting a fair shake every time they go up and fill up their vehicle, that they understand that we are doing something here in Washington.

We are having a set of three different hearings in the Agriculture Committee this week. There are other committees having hearings. This is a complicated issue, and we are determined to get it right and to do what we can to get the speculation out of the market and to give the Commodities Futures Trading Commission the authority it needs and to understand this problem, whether it's over-the-counter, whether it's swaps, whether it's what's going on with the foreign exchanges, the issue of transparency, and your bill is one of those that we'll be taking a look at which we think makes an important step in addressing that issue.

Mr. MATHESON. I appreciate that. I'd like to hear from Mr. SCOTT.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Absolutely. And I just wanted to complement what my colleague from South Dakota, Ms. HERSETH, has said because I serve on the Agriculture Committee with Ms. HERSETH.

And this agricultural farm bill, in my estimation, in my 6 years here I've dealt with many bills, but as far as our future and our domestic and international needs, this farm bill is by far one of the absolute, most impactful bills we've had that touches on this. And I think we would do well to share with the American people—and you have alluded to so much of that already, very eloquently I might add—but let me just also point out that what's in this bill because this is so important.

We've mentioned ethanol, but it's so important that the people of America know that we have \$4.2 billion in loan guarantees in this bill for the construction of ethanol plants, and we are putting the emphasis, as you said, on cellulosic. This is why it's particularly, in my part of the Nation, in Georgia, we are so excited about this bill. We not only have the biodiesel plant in Ellenwood in Clayton County, but over in south Georgia, in Soperton we have a cellulosic ethanol plant that is producing energy off of wood chips, just what you talked about.

We have scientists and engineers and chemists working right now at the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech fine-tuning how we extract cellulosic ethanol from pine straw and pine trees. I mean, these are renewable areas, and we're putting the incentives in.

Also in the farm bill what we've done, we recognize, as she spoke so eloquent, too, about the corn pressure, that we wanted to also give some emphasis to the cellulosic ethanol. So we have increased the tax credits for ethanol made from cellulosic means, while we slightly decreased it from corn to take some of that pressure off.

So I did want to talk for a moment about the leadership of the Agriculture Committee in the future of our energy needs, particularly when it comes down to our renewable fuels, but I also wanted to talk for a moment about this is a world issue, and it's a complex issue.

The question that I'm pondering with and I think we all should is this one. Fifteen years ago, just 15 years ago, the price of oil was less than \$15 a barrel. Now here we are, 15 years later, and it's busting at about \$150 a barrel. Somewhere, somehow we need to ask the question, how and why, because clearly if we're going to find our way out of this mess we have got to examine how we got into this mess.

Well, I did a little bit of examining, and it comes down to this. Right now, the world uses 85.4 million barrels of oil per day. Now, I ask Mr. MATHESON, you might want to know, that's good, well, how much does the world produce? They produce 85.6 million barrels per day. And as I mentioned earlier, Saudi Arabia just like that said we can increase production just like that, 500 barrels a day.

Now, what I'm talking about here is that a lot has happened, but one of the most significant things that has happened has been China and India and the underdeveloped world that is putting tremendous pressure here and an OPEC cartel that tends to want to play like Russian roulette with us.

So this is why I am saying and I am concerned that if we move towards drilling, wherever it may be, I am just one voice here. There are all areas of leadership, and my leadership is going to be in trying to get alternative energies on the market, trying to bring down the 54-cent tariff that we have for keeping ethanol out so that we can have some competition.

Even as we're speaking, I believe the world is listening, and they're listening to what America is saying. And if America is saying we're making moves to get you out of the back pockets of the American people and we're going to move into a situation where we don't need you, we're going to bring that price down. You watch what we say. If it takes drilling, if it takes a threat of drilling, if it takes moving it and getting the oil companies finally to move on the 68 million acres that we've already leased to drill on—and that is the other question, Mr. MATHESON. Not only the other question about what happened in the 15 years, but why is it that we've given the oil companies 68 million acres to drill on and everybody is saying drill, drill, and not one drill has hit the ground in those 68 million acres?

□ 2045

The American people ought to get an answer to that. If they want more drilling, why haven't the oil companies drilled on the 68 million acres that's there to drill? Those are some very serious questions that I think we need to ask and examine thoroughly.

But I will say this, this Congress is speaking with a loud, precise voice. And I believe the more energetic we speak with this voice, the more precise we speak with it, the more action-oriented we speak with it, both Democrats and Republicans, all of us speak in a loud voice together, saying enough of this, we're not going to take it anymore and move forward with some alternatives, that will get these oil folks out of our back pockets. That's what the American people want. And that's what is going to bring down these oil prices, shaking the demand.

Mr. MATHESON. I again thank my colleague for his comments. I think that he has helped describe the global picture. We haven't discussed that enough about we're part of a global market. And it's important for us to take the lead and develop fuel diversity and try to develop some level of greater independence, because outside of that, in some respects our actions are the tail wagging the dog. And we need to get beyond that as a country. That's not a comfortable position for this country to be in.

The first sentence of the Energy Principles Document that the Blue Dogs created at the start of this Congress is that energy independence is a matter of national security and economic security. This country faces so many great opportunities if technology does take us to a new place. We will be in such a better position in terms of our economy, in terms of our foreign policy, in terms of our position in the world. And we can make the world a better place with that technology development, too. That's the exciting opportunity for beyond our borders as well.

Blue Dogs supports promotion of a forward-looking, market-based comprehensive national energy strategy. As we've discussed many times tonight, there are short-term, mid-term and long-term issues. It's a complicated issue. In fact, each of the sub-issues on their own are complicated in their nature. And sometimes in the world of politics the rhetoric gets really simple. But on this one, it's time for us to roll up our sleeves and act in a way this body is supposed to act, in a deliberative, thoughtful way to generate comprehensive legislation that truly tries to solve problems and achieve progress. That's what we're elected to do. I think the Blue Dog Coalition approaches most issues in that way. I think we really don't care about if it's a Democratic idea or a Republican idea, we're trying to make progress.

And so as I close this hour and this discussion of energy issues, I suspect

that we will be back talking about this again. This issue is not going away. It's something that we all need to learn more about and we all need to work together. None of us have all the answers, but we need to work together as a Congress to try to find solutions as best we can.

With that, I thank all of my Blue Dog colleagues for joining me tonight.

ENERGY CRISIS

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, Lord, I don't even know where to start. I've sat here for the last 45 minutes and listened to the Blue Dogs. And I appreciate them very much because there's about 40 or so of them, I think, and they could do a lot to help us, Madam Speaker, with the energy problem. I just hope that they will stand fast.

I listened to my colleague from Arkansas (Mr. ROSS). And I'm on his bill because it brings about more energy independence for this country, Madam Speaker. And it's interesting that the Blue Dogs talked a lot about all the things that we have done thus far, at least that the Democrats have done thus far, the majority, Madam Speaker. And I don't even know how to start to unravel some of the facts that have been laid out here tonight. There were some facts that I agree with, but there are some facts that are very, very misunderstood, and hopefully during this hour sometime, Madam Speaker, we can put some truth into it.

It's interesting that I heard some of the Blue Dogs talking about increasing oil production. And I know that in May of 2007 there was an amendment that we passed that prohibits us from drilling shale oil, where there's two trillion barrels of oil. Two of the speakers here tonight voted for that amendment to keep us locked out of that acreage out west where the shale oil is.

And Madam Speaker, if people could see this chart, May of 2007 is when the biggest spike in the oil prices happened. And I think that's a time when the speculators saw that this Congress was not going to do anything about our own oil production. We refused to do it. And I think the speculators took great advantage of this and said this is a country that's not going to look to their own resources, they're going to be totally dependent on foreign oil, so we'll do with them as we wish.

What has happened over the past, I guess, 3 or 4 weeks is people have been calling our office and calling me, Madam Speaker, and asking me if I had signed a petition; there have been several of them on the web page about "drill here, drill now, lower prices." There's petitions on there from the Sierra Club and other environmental

groups about not allowing people to drill. And as I got these petitions, and especially when I was at home, Madam Speaker, one day and I saw a petition on the counter of a gas station, and I guess the owner of the station had it there to give people something to do rather than talk bad to him about the price of gas, but it was a petition that said, "Sign here if you want to lower gas prices." And so I came up with an idea that what I would do is start a petition, Madam Speaker, in this House where the American people could know how their Congress person felt about increasing the oil production in this country to lower their price that they were paying for gas at the pump. And so we came up with this very simple thing. In fact, there is no legislation attached to this, there is no discharge petition, there is just a simple statement where Members of Congress can make a statement to their constituents, Madam Speaker, much like our constituents have been making their thoughts known to us by signing these petitions online and at local convenience stores. This simply says, "American energy solutions for lower gas prices. Bring onshore oil online. Bring deep water oil online. And bring new refineries online."

And I put everybody's district, all 435 and the seven delegates that we have that represent territories of the United States. It gave people the opportunity to sign. And it simply says, "I will vote to increase U.S. oil production to lower gas prices for Americans." And I don't care if it's the production of biodiesel fuel, biomass, oil, whatever it is, to make us less dependent on foreign oil.

And we've listened to a lot of the Blue Dogs tonight, but none of those Blue Dogs have signed this petition. And Madam Speaker, I have often learned in life that your walk has to match your talk. And some people say, well, this is just a political statement. It's not a political statement at all. We've had some Republicans sign it, we've had some not sign it. We've had some Democrats sign it, we've had some Democrats not sign it.

If you want to know if your Member has signed it, you can go to House.gov/westmoreland. And on that page we have those that have signed it and those that have refused to sign it. If you don't see their name in either spot, then we're going to take it that they did want to sign it, we've just not had a chance to talk to them personally, Madam Speaker.

But we believe that your walk should match your talk. And so we do have some Democrats on there, some people—NEIL ABERCROMBIE from Hawaii, a great leader, we have Mr. CAZAYOUX from Louisiana, Mr. MELANCON from Louisiana, some from Texas—that are on here because they believe that we need to increase our oil production to lower the gas prices, and we do. That's just a fact. We heard about all these biodiesel plants, and those are great. But you know what? Until we start

using our own natural resources—we see what the speculators did when we voted not to.

Now, oil came down \$4 a barrel. It came down, and I understand one of the reasons it came down is because Ms. PELOSI, the Speaker of the House, Madam Speaker, sent a letter to the President saying we need to get into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The Strategic Petroleum Reserve is a reserve of our petroleum that we have, millions of barrels of oil that we would have in an emergency, in a crisis, in a disaster. She wants to release that, which means to me, Madam Speaker, that she realizes that we need more oil, we need more production. But because of the radical environmentalists that have controlled the majority, or at least influenced the majority greatly, they cannot afford to do what we need to do politically; it's not politically correct for them.

I think that the American people, Madam Speaker, are tired of us in this body being politically correct. They just simply want us to do what's right, the things that we swore, took an oath that we would do, and that is to protect the American people.

And as the Blue Dogs said tonight, this is not just an economic policy, this is a national security interest that we have. And we've got to own up to our responsibility and make sure that we live up to the challenges that our constituents have given us by electing us to this body. We have got to act. We've got to get out of the fetal position, and we've got to act and do some things that will bring about some relief at the pump.

A lot of them in the past 45 minutes or the last hour or so have talked about all the great things we've done. Well, with all the bills that have been passed, I haven't noticed the price of gas coming down one dime. It's almost like putting lipstick on a pig. You can make it look good, but it's only going to be a pig. So we can make things look good, we can make things look like we're doing something, but all we're doing is just making a nice window for people to view at. It's time that we got down to some hard decisions. And there are some hard decisions that have got to be made.

And there are things that we are doing. We have put up discharge petitions—and I say "we," I'm talking about the minority party—but they're there for everybody to sign. The week of June 9, we put a discharge petition, "No More Excuse Energy Act of 2007." What that would do is it would reduce the price of gasoline by opening new American oil refineries, investing in clean energy sources such as wind, nuclear, capturing carbon dioxide, and making available more home-grown energy through environmentally sensitive exploration of the Arctic Energy Slope and America's deep-sea energy reserves. Now, what that takes is 218 Members to sign that discharge petition. We hear a lot of talk, but we don't see a walk.

The week of June 16, H.R. 2279, Madam Speaker, Expand American Refining Capability of Closed Military Installations. It would reduce the price of gasoline by streamlining the refinery application process—which in 2005 was passed by a Republican Congress and later stripped out by the new majority—and by requiring the President to open at least three closed military installations for the purpose of siting new and reliable American refineries. A lot of people, Madam Speaker, might not realize that we import refined gasoline of almost seven billion gallons a year, almost the same amount of diesel fuel, Madam Speaker, that we bring into this country because we do not have the refining capabilities. Not a refinery has been built since 1978.

The week of June 23 it was H.R. 5656, the Repeal of the Ban on Acquiring Alternative Fuels; reduce the price of gasoline by allowing the Federal Government to procure advanced alternative fuels derived from diverse sources like shale oil, tar sands, and coal-to-liquid technology.

Do you realize in the energy bill, Madam Speaker, that was passed by this majority, that Federal agencies cannot use these alternative fuels? We heard a lot tonight from the Blue Dogs about using alternative fuels, increasing alternative fuels, but yet we will not let our agencies use it.

The week of July 7, this week, H.R. 2208, Coal-to-Liquid Fuel Act, which, Madam Speaker, happens to be authored by a Democrat, reduces the price of gasoline by encouraging the use of clean coal-to-liquid technology, authorizing the Secretary of Energy to enter into loan agreements with coal-to-liquid projects that produce innovative transportation fuel.

□ 2100

There shouldn't be one Member of this body not on that discharge petition to say let our oil go.

The week of July 14, we are going to have H.R. 2493, Fuel Mandate Reduction Act of 2007. It will reduce the price of gasoline by removing fuel blend requirements and onerous government mandates if they contribute to unfavorable gas prices. Right now part of the problem that we have with the high gas prices in areas in California and other cities that don't meet the attainment is the boutique fuels that we have.

The week of July 21 brings H.R. 6107, the American Energy Independence and Price Reduction Act. It will reduce the price of gasoline by opening the Arctic energy slope to environmentally sensitive American energy exploration. The development footprint will be limited to 1/100 of 1 percent of the refuge, and revenue received from the new leases would be invested in a long-term alternative energy trust fund.

The week of July 28, right before we go on the August recess, H.R. 6108, Deep Ocean Energy Resources Act of 2008, reduces the price of gasoline by

enabling the United States to responsibly explore its own deep ocean to produce American energy. The bill would grant coastal States the authority to keep exploration 100 miles from their coastlines, and it would also allow States to share in the revenues received. As Mr. CAZAYOUX said today, it helps Louisiana protect their vital coastline and all the great natural resources that they have there.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to now yield to my friend Mr. ROSKAM to hear his comments.

Mr. ROSKAM. I thank the gentleman for yielding. Thank you for the time.

I am absolutely convinced, Mr. Speaker, that this is a pivotal time in our public life and it's a pivotal time that doesn't come along very often, the sense of clarity that has emerged across the country when gasoline is now knocking on the door of \$4.50 a gallon all across the country. Today as I left Wheaton, Illinois, \$4.17 a gallon. As I'm out in town hall meetings, as I'm literally walking in the parades over the 4th of July, everybody is coming together and saying, look, let's do something about this. And rather than having this whole opportunity just be squandered away, we have got an opportunity to move forward. And, unfortunately, the orthodoxy that is developed on the other side of the aisle is what my predecessor, Henry Hyde, used to call "government by bumper sticker." "Government by bumper sticker" says put cute little phrases on the backs of cars and that's the policy that is going to drive our country. Well, that's great. Bumper stickers are nice and cute when it's at \$2.50 a gallon. But in my district you know what people are saying? Rip the bumper stickers off and let's get serious about bringing a national policy as it relates to energy independence for the United States of America so that we're not creating the same elements of great risk where right now, as you know, we are funding both sides of the war on terror. When we go to the gas pump and the money that we are putting in and the taxes that we are paying, yes, we're protecting ourselves from terrorism. We are protecting ourselves with homeland security and domestic security efforts and our whole military infrastructure. But we are also putting money in the hands of regimes that are hostile, that are exporting terrorism and are being very provocative on the world stage.

So, Mr. Speaker, we have got a chance today in this Congress to bring together a wide-ranging coalition that has an interest and a desire to move forward on energy independence, and I think that the time is now. Part of it has to be exploring and continuing to unlock American resources. Part of it has to be that. You can't do the math. You can't ultimately come up with the types of solutions that are going to satisfy our energy needs and simply ignore the resources that are available in the Arctic, the resources that are available in the Outer Continental Shelf. So that has got to be part of it.

Part of it is we have got to put nuclear power back into this mix. We have had great obstacles in the past as it relates to nuclear energy. Look at France. They have done a tremendous job harnessing that energy, moving it in ways that don't have the same types of emissions problems that other elements do. Nuclear energy has to be a part of it.

The types of funding resources that would be available if we were to unlock those American resources that I talked about a minute ago could fund many of the R and D types of projects. Let me tell you about one in my district. I represent an institution called the Gas Technology Institute, GTI, in Des Plaines, Illinois. It's a wonderful program, a public/private partnership. They are the types of folks that are doing the R and D that looks into emerging technologies, and then they help hand that off to industry and applied science. They have got a technology that they are on the verge of that is an anti-idling technology. So here's what happens: If you're a commercial truck, if you're a commercial bus, they waste tremendous energy as they are idling, as they are at stoplights and moving and not moving in traffic. Well, the technology that GTI is developing moves this so that in a nutshell it's a solid-fuel oxide that literally saves us in terms of the amount of energy that's used, the emissions that are emitted. It's that type of R and D that can undergird the types of things that the gentleman from Georgia has been talking about, Mr. Speaker.

There is a whole host of opportunities here, and it's dynamic. The public knows it. The public is crying out for what? The public is crying out for this body to act, for this body to get over the nonsense of "government by bumper sticker," and to say, look, we can all come together. And we can get 218 Members, a majority of this House, to come together around commonsense ideas that strive for American energy independence. The gentleman from Illinois my colleague Mr. SHIMKUS has been a table pounder for clean coal technology. That can transform not only our region of the country in being an exporter, but it can literally transform how the United States begins to look in the future. So the opportunities are there.

I thank the gentleman for yielding. I'm very hopeful about what can come out of this. But it only comes out if there is a political will that develops that says we are going to put 218 votes up on that board and we're going to move the ball for the American public.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I thank you for your comments. And just a couple of points that you made about the amount of money that we give to some of the people who are not friendly to us, even in our own hemisphere, we give Hugo Chavez \$170 million a day.

I hear the other side complain about what Big Oil makes, and I don't know.

Big Oil, according to the records and stuff I read, make about a 10 percent profit, and I am not saying if that's good or bad for their business. But what do they think Mr. Chavez is making off of \$170 million of U.S. dollars every day? And, listen, he is not our friend.

And the other thing that the gentleman has brought up is a great point, and we heard it today and I heard it on the floor earlier today that we need to all work together. Well, I agree we do need to all work together. But when the majority party brings the energy bills to the floor, some under suspension, when there's only 20 percent of debate on each side, no amendments, no committee hearings, no subcommittee hearing, no regular process, how are we all working together, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker, you know if we are going to all work together, if we're going to all be part of the process, if all the people in this country—this is a republic. It is a representative form of government. And if I don't have an opportunity to amend or give input into the process, my people are shut out of the process. If there are no amendments, nobody on this side of the aisle and many people on this side of the aisle, the people they represent are shut out of the process.

So let's do all come together. Let's have an energy bill on the floor that can work, this open rule. We can have 435 plus the 7 delegates offer changes, offer solutions, as Mr. ROSKAM just did, about the people that have come up with solutions in his district; as Mr. SCOTT did previously about the biofuel in his district. We all have good ideas, but when we are shut out of the system, you can't work together. And I don't know what part of that the majority doesn't understand.

I would like to now yield to my colleague from Georgia, Dr. GINGREY.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much my good friend and colleague from Georgia yielding, and I appreciate his taking the time and leading the time tonight to continue to talk about what I consider and what my constituents in the 11th district of Georgia, Northwest Georgia, feel is the most important, the single most important issue facing our Nation and, for that matter, political issue as well as we move toward these November elections.

People in my district told me on Monday, just yesterday, at a town hall meeting in Bartow County, Cartersville, Georgia, a great part of my district—a town hall meeting, Mr. Speaker, as you know, they are not partisan. You don't just invite Democrats or Republicans. You invite your constituents. And we probably had 50 people there. And I don't know if it was an equal mix. I guess since I won my election last time with 71 percent of the vote, it probably wasn't an equal mix, but there were some very bright young Democratic folks there who

probably in November won't vote for me. But we had a great discussion about this issue and just what Congressman WESTMORELAND is talking about in regard to the need to come up with a solution and not continue to play politics over this.

I have a couple of posters, if my colleagues will bear with me. I want you to take a test, one of these tests that I always loved taking in high school and college and even medical school, a multiple choice question. Sometimes you can guess. But I'm going to hold up this slide for my colleagues and ask them this question. And I appreciate my good friend from Illinois for helping me do this.

Question: How do we bring down the price of oil? A pretty simple, straightforward question. Well, it's multiple choice.

A, open up oil exploration in ANWR and the Outer Continental Shelf. ANWR, of course, the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve. That would be one of the choices.

B, build new oil refineries. That might be a pretty good choice. We haven't made it in the last 25 years, unfortunately. All the oil refineries in the United States, unfortunately, are down along the gulf coast, and we know all too well how dangerous a situation that is, especially as we are coming into what could be a rather horrific hurricane season.

Maybe choice C, commercially develop renewable energy. Now, we are talking about wind and solar, two perfect examples of renewable energy. In this country our electricity grid, we generate about 1 to 2 percent of our power from those renewable sources. We can do better. I absolutely think we can do better when countries like Germany probably are producing 30 percent of their energy from renewables.

Well, maybe you would pick, let's see, D, if my colleagues could again refer to this slide, commission new nuclear power plants. I think since the mid 1970s, we have not commissioned a new nuclear power plant. I used to work in one as a co-op student in Barnwell, South Carolina, when I was attending Georgia Tech. Clean, efficient, safe, a great source of energy. Maybe when the price of gasoline was \$1.50 a gallon, you might say, well, it's too expensive to start a nuclear power plant; but when it's \$4.10 a gallon, I think it's time to consider strongly nuclear power. That could be a good choice as the perfect answer to this question. How do we bring down the price of oil? France, I believe, if I am not mistaken, and my colleagues can correct me if I'm wrong, I think, produces about 80 percent of their energy from nuclear power, as do some of the Scandinavian countries, and I have been there and I have visited.

□ 2115

Let's see. How about choice number E, promote conservation? I think a lot of our colleagues on both sides of the

aisle and the American people would agree we ought to conserve. We are 300 million people, and a world population of 6 billion. If my math is correct, and I took six quarters of calculus at Georgia Tech, that is not 25 percent of the world population, but we are using 25 percent of the world production of fossil fuel. That is too much. And we need to bring it down, and we can do that. I think maybe that would be a good choice.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, choice number F. That says: All of the above. I won't keep you in suspense too much longer as we move to my second and last slide. The answer clearly is F, all of the above. We have got a few pictures here kind of pointing that out. Oil and natural gas off of the Outer Continental Shelf, including the Gulf of Mexico, the eastern part of the Gulf of Mexico, where we are prohibited from drilling, where there are literally trillions of barrels, trillions of cubic feet of natural gas and billions of barrels of oil when you add that eastern Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific and Atlantic coasts of our country.

But the picture shows it all; nuclear power, wind and solar, drilling, of course, in the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve, which is a tiny portion, 2,000 acres out of 19 million, as depicted here in this corner of Alaska.

So this is basically, Mr. Speaker, and I appreciate very much Mr. WESTMORELAND letting me develop this point of argument that people in my district clearly yesterday let me know that this is what they want. They want a balanced approach, and all of the above is what we need to do. That is exactly what Mr. WESTMORELAND has been saying, and my colleagues, repeatedly.

We are ready, Mr. Speaker, and I turn to my colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle, the majority, who has the ability, the power. They can control everything that comes to this floor. And it's time to worry less about monkey bites and more about the people of this country suffering.

I think Mr. WESTMORELAND earlier used the expression: Let my oil and gas flow. It made me think a little bit biblical. I don't want to get too biblical because I will get out of my lane in a hurry, Mr. Speaker. But it's like Moses said to Pharaoh: Let my people go. Moses wouldn't do it, he wouldn't do it. He promised time after time. He kept reneging, even though his own people were suffering tremendously. I don't know what he was betting on back there many thousands of years ago, but he was wrong. He finally did let the people go.

I don't know what game, Mr. Speaker, the Democratic majority is playing. I don't understand it. If they look at the polls, if that is the way they are making their decisions on legislation, people, Democrats, Republicans, independents by a wide majority want a solution. They want a comprehensive approach. We are ready. We are reaching out. We are literally begging. That is

why we are here tonight, saying to our colleagues on both sides of the aisles, Let's get this done. Let's get it done ASAP, and that means as soon as possible, before we leave this town at the end of July and walk away from here for a month's break. Shame on us if we don't get this done.

I yield back to my colleague.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I want to thank my colleague from Georgia. That was a great test. I think anybody, anybody in the United States should be able to pass that test, Dr. GINGREY. I am glad you put it up, because that simplified it.

This is something, this little simple petition, I will vote to increase U.S. oil production to lower gas prices for Americans; 435 lines. So far, we have 191 signatures. This is just telling the American people we are ready to do all of the above. If you want to find out if your Member has signed this simple petition, much like the petitions that many of these people have signed, Mr. Speaker, that are listening to us, have gone on the Internet and signed petitions saying, Hey, drill here, drill now, lower our prices, and bring the U.S. back to being dependent—back from being dependent on foreign oil, go to House.gov/westmoreland and you will find out if your Member has signed, refused to sign, or is in the category of not making a decision because, Mr. Speaker, I feel like the American people are going to have to make the majority party understand that they want some change.

See, in April of 2006, then minority leader, now Speaker PELOSI made a statement that the Democrats had a plan. They had a commonsense solution to the skyrocketing price of gas. Of course, gas was about \$2.05 then. So we are still waiting on that solution. We are still waiting on that commonsense plan. It hasn't been unveiled yet.

Although, in January of 2007, H.R. 6, the Energy Independence and Security Act, Dr. GINGREY, was passed in this House. The Republicans called it the "no energy" policy. I will read you some of the key words. This was a 300-something page bill. Crude oil was mentioned five times in that bill. Mr. Speaker, gasoline was mentioned 12 times. Exploratory drilling was mentioned twice in a 316-page bill about energy independence.

Offshore drilling was mentioned zero; domestic drilling, zero; domestic oil, zero; domestic gas, zero; domestic fuel, zero; domestic petroleum, zero. Gas price or gas prices, zero. Commonsense, zero.

Now what was mentioned was greenhouse, 103 times. Green building was mentioned 101 times; ecosystem, 24 times; climate change, 18 times; regulation, 98 times; environmental, 160 times; geothermal, 94 times; renewable, 333 times; swimming pool, 47 times, because there was a swimming pool safety bill in the Energy Independence and Security Act.

Lamp, CFL, the new fluorescent lamps, 350 times. Three-hundred fifty

times. Contains mercury. Only produced in China. We can't even dispose of it. If you drop one, you need to put on a mask, evacuate the house, let it air out until you can clean up a broken light bulb.

This was the commonsense plan, I hope not, that then Speaker PELOSI, then Minority Leader PELOSI was talking about bringing up, because gas has almost doubled, or more; maybe doubled when this commonsense plan came out.

But I want to read you one thing before I yield to my friend from Illinois. This was a statement made on January 18, 2007, the day, Mr. Speaker, this bill was passed. It says, "It is sad to see the Republicans come to this. Now, they laughably say that this will lead to higher prices." That was Mr. PETER DEFAZIO from Oregon on how the Democrat's 2007 energy bill would affect gas prices. "It is sad to see the Republicans come to this. Now, they laughably say this will lead to higher prices."

Well, Mr. Speaker, I'd hate to say this, and I hate to say this, but we were right. It has led to higher prices. It has led to oil going out the roof because now the speculators in this world know that we, as a country, are not going to become energy independent as long as the leadership continues the course that they are on right now.

I'd like to yield to my friend from Illinois, a great leader in the energy battle and somebody that I think has made some real movement in the policy here, and that's Mr. SHIMKUS.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I thank my colleague.

Mr. Speaker, it's great to be on the floor tonight, coming back from a week's break, and I'm sure everybody is coming back with the number one issue on their mind, which is high energy prices. If they are not, they were traveling overseas and they were looking at the gas prices overseas. I mean if they were home, I don't think you could find anyone who wasn't talked to about high energy prices.

I learned a couple of things. I did a couple of radio shows. One, I just think because many of us have been talking about this issue for so long, we have to be careful that we don't become a little energy arrogant and continue to help educate the public on the basic economic principles of the law of supply and demand. That is what we are basically addressing tonight, and it's really difficult to understand how what students are taught in a basic economics course at the college level is not understood here on the floor of the House of Representatives.

The other thing I learned on a radio show yesterday, a person called in and said, When are you guys going to talk about drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf? I wanted to reach through the wires and grab that caller and say, What do you think we have been doing for 10 weeks straight on the floor of the House?

I want to encourage my colleagues to not give up, not lose hope. We have got

to continue to talk about this. So I appreciate you grabbing the time, allowing us to come down on the floor.

I was going to ask how many folks have signed. You said 191 have signed the petition. I know we have some Democrats who have signed it. I saw one before the break. We know that we would like more. We know the challenges that they are under not to do that. But I think come election time, as we get closer, we have a production majority here on the floor of the House. I know it. I know who they are. If we can get a bill to the floor.

I wish my colleague, Mr. ROSKAM was here. I was up in Chicago with him today. He talked about the gas price in Wheaton, which is his hometown, his home area. But we had to drive to the airport. We drove past gas stations, \$4.47 in the Chicago area. That is not including climate change, which would add another 50 cents. So you're already over \$5 a gallon. That is what we are looking at. Because here's the basic problem. I have tried to be a little less rancorous in my debate.

When the Democrats took over, \$58. Today, it's \$140. When President Bush came in, it was \$23 a barrel. All I am saying when I hold this chart up is the trend line is bad. It doesn't matter where you go, whether you go when Bush got sworn in or whether you go here when the Democrats took control or whether you look at the price today, that trend line is not positive, and it disproportionately hurts middle class, the lower middle class, rural, small town citizens of our country, which I represent.

I represent 30 counties in southern Illinois. We have to drive long distances to get to health care, we have to drive long distances to get to our schools. We have to drive long distances to get to our work. You know what? The poor can't afford the Priuses of the world right now. The poor are purchasing used cars off the lots because that is the only thing they can afford. So if that is the problem, the question is: What is the solution?

My colleague from Georgia did a great job. All of the above. Let's open up the Outer Continental Shelf, let's use fuel from coal, let's go wind and solar, let's do the renewal fuels. The great thing about our position is, and I got asked numerous times, Well, what about solar? I said, Great. What about wind? I am going to have a big wind generation field in my district. I'm happy about it, excited about it, and pledged to do all I can to help.

So I say, Bring it on. Any idea we have to help decrease our lives of imported crude oil by bringing on more supply, decreasing—we talked about conservation. Our citizens are conserving now. They are forced to conserve because of the high cost. So we are driving less miles this year than we were last year. Driving less miles and we are paying more. That is kind of the Democrat energy policy, drive less, pay more. I don't like that.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. If you would yield for just a minute.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I'd be happy to.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. When these energy bills have come to the floor, have you been able to offer an amendment for some of your ideas that you have had here to present it to see if your constituency and your ideas could possibly be heard on this floor?

□ 2130

Mr. SHIMKUS. Well, you know the best way for a bill to get passed and signed into law, especially with a Republican President, is to work through the committee process. A lot of this would start in my subcommittee, the Energy and Air Quality Subcommittee, chaired by a good friend of mine. In fact he is a cosponsor of the Boucher-Shimkus bill.

If allowed, we could move an energy security bill that would really address what Americans want, which is to decrease our reliance on imported crude oil from those countries that are enemies of our state or unstable; focus on North American energy, that means the deployment of all our energy resources; continues our great relationship with Canada and Mexico; do the renewables, do the efficiency standards, and move.

So the answer is no. All the bills have come to the floor without any committee hearings. The only thing we have been able to do is offer motions to recommit. We have done that numerous times on alternative fuel standards, which would bring in coal-to-liquid. We have done that on other generation issues. Of course, they are more of a party-line vote, and they all fail.

But historically, in votes that have been cast on this floor since 1994, the facts just speak for themselves: 90 percent of all Republicans support more supply; 90 percent of all Democrats do not support more supply. They vote against more supply, they vote against refineries. But there is 10 percent. The Speaker pro tempore is a friend of the fossil fuel area, I understand. They are there. We just need to help them help us help the country.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. So what I hear you saying is we need to take the politics out of this, and we need to put people in front of power, and we need to put process in front of politics and do something that will move this country toward energy independence, rather than just staying in the fetal position, so-to-speak, that we have been in, and being held hostage by radical environmentalists who the majority may feel is a big part of their base. I don't want to put words in your mouth.

Mr. SHIMKUS. One of the reasons why we are not in the Outer Continental Shelf is an oil spill I think that happened in 1969. I was 11 years old. I have changed a lot, maybe some good, maybe some bad. I was 11 years old. That is 39 years ago. Technology has improved greatly. Katrina is a perfect example. When Katrina came up the

Western Gulf, tell me the major environmental disaster that occurred on the deep drilling, 5 miles deep, because of that massive hurricane? The answer is none.

Mr. GINGREY. If the gentleman will yield on that point, I think the gentleman was referring to the Exxon Valdez tanker.

Mr. SHIMKUS. No. No.

Mr. GINGREY. Well, that situation I think needs to be answered. A lot of people say, well, we don't want to drill on the Outer Continental Shelf, the coast of California, because we may contaminate the San Francisco Bay. As the gentleman from Illinois pointed out, and I will yield back quickly, even during the hurricanes, when these oil rigs were blown over, not one drop of oil was spilled. But this tanker that was coming from the Middle East with hundreds of thousands of gallons of petroleum, it cracks up and that is where you get the spills.

That is why I would say to the environmentalists, help us solve that problem, so we don't have to import all this raw petroleum from other countries.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Just let me address one thing. Of course, Speaker PELOSI made an announcement that she wants to now empty the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, a very foolish proposal. One is because that is there for our national security in case the sea lanes get closed. Since we don't have enough production on our own, like the farmers would say, it is like eating the seed corn. If you eat the seed corn, you have no seed to plant for the next year. Foolish. Foolhardy. A scary proposal. Versus moving in the discharge petition we will talk about coal-to-liquid technologies.

Better than to pump out the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, let's develop gas from our own coalfields. There is 250 years worth of supply in Southern Illinois. There are American jobs mining it, American jobs building the refinery, American jobs operating the refinery, American jobs building the pipeline to American jobs, wherever that goes. Whether it is diesel fuel, gasoline, or whether it is aviation fuel, we can do it.

Don't do something silly, which is take the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, pump all that oil out of there, and then you are done. You have no reserves.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Right now, one of the reasons we are not being held hostage by our enemies, the people that supply us with our oil, is because we have the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. If it was zero, trust me, we would have a bad time getting any oil.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I want to thank you for the time. I know I have another colleague that would like some. I just think it is very telling. I know my good fossil fuel Democrats are starting to fight I think the good fight. But here is what a Democrat staffer said today: "Right now, our strategy on gas prices is drive small cars and wait for the wind."

My constituents will not put up with that. First of all, we drive big trucks to haul feed, to haul livestock, to move farm equipment around, and we can't operate with a four cylinder electric engine on a major pickup truck.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. With a sail on the top of it.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I thank you for the time. I appreciate it.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I am going to yield now to my classmate that we came in together, my colleague from Texas, where there are thousands of jobs every day where people go to work working in oil fields, and that is my friend MIKE CONAWAY from the great State of Texas.

Mr. CONAWAY. I want to thank my friend.

There was an interesting headline and a couple of sentences in today's Hill newspaper, one of the leading newspapers in all of Washington, DC, by the way. It says, "The Energy Bill is Out of Gas." The lead sentence is, "House Democrats are in a bind on the focal point of their energy plan. Worried that a floor vote on any energy related measure will trigger a Republican-forced vote on domestic drilling, the leadership has scrubbed the floor schedule of the energy legislation that it vowed to tackle after the 4th of July recess." Politics, Mr. Speaker.

I spent all week in West Texas and Central Texas, an area that is blessed with a lot of crude oil and natural gas production. There are an awful lot of folks that make a living in drilling and producing crude oil and owning the minerals and owning the land that it is produced from. And I heard every day, why are these prices so high? Why can't we do the logical, rational things to lower these prices.

So if I am hearing that from a district that is very pro oil and gas, very pro drilling, I can't imagine what my Democrat colleagues heard on the other side. I was able to look them in the eye and say, Mr. Speaker, I am for it. Let's drill ANWR. Let's drill Outer Continental Shelf. Let's do all those things, all five things that my colleague from Georgia talked about. Let's do all those things.

I can't imagine any of my colleagues going back and facing their constituents, their voters, and looking them in the eye and say no, it is really best that we keep these prices high. It is really in your best interests that we don't drill Outer Continental Shelf, we don't drill ANWR. It is really in the best interests of the United States to continue to buy crude oil from folks who hate our guts, from a clown in Venezuela. That is really the best public policy.

I am surprised we had 300 people voting here tonight, because had I gone home and done that, I'd have got lynched, and it wouldn't have been a new rope.

I am going to make two points. We have some natural allies in this fight, and they come down here almost every

single night and rail about NAFTA and CAFTA, the anti-trade crowd. Where are they in this particular issue?

You know, they gripe about us exporting jobs to the other parts of the world. They gripe about the impact that NAFTA and CAFTA have, all the bilateral agreements. They vote against them. They just rail about them. Why aren't they down here screaming about this issue? Because every well that is drilled in the Outer Continental Shelf and ANWR, every plant that is an oil shale plant, the coal-to-liquid, those are American jobs. And that is what the anti-trade folks are all about, is American jobs. Every new refinery that is built, those are American jobs.

The other natural ally is most all of those refinery jobs are union jobs. Now, the domestic drilling, et cetera, isn't much unionized. But in the refinery world, those are union jobs. Where are those guys?

Mr. WESTMORELAND. If you will yield for just a second, every bill that has been passed through here has had Davis-Bacon, which is the union pay scale, attached to everything we have passed through here. So I am sure if they pass something, if they ever did about building a refinery, I am sure Davis-Bacon would be added to it.

Mr. CONAWAY. It would make it a little unpalatable for some of us who don't like Davis-Bacon.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I understand, but I am sure it would be part of what they do.

Mr. CONAWAY. I am sure you are right. If the unions, for goodness sakes, could force a vote on card check, an absolute walk-the-plank vote across America, a 90 percent issue, if they could force our colleagues across the aisle to vote for a card check bill, why can't they force our colleagues to vote for an American refinery bill?

The other point I want to make is we hear this glib little smart aleck remark that, well, we can't just drill our way out of this problem. You know, that is shallow and insincere. I mean, it is just insulting, quite frankly.

The raw mechanics are that every well that is drilled, not only in the United States, but in the world, has a finite amount of crude oil and natural gas that will be produced out of that well. That is a finite resource. And so if we have got 86 million barrels of production today and we produce 86 million barrels, we have got to find 86 million new barrels to tack on to maintain just flat, where we are, because demand is continuing to grow.

Night after night, we come down and talk about demand growth in India, demand growth in China, demand growth in the United States. So in order to just stay flat, we have to continue drilling if we are going to use crude oil and natural gas as a source to drive automobiles and trucks and airplanes, which we are.

The real issue is not the ultimate end game of weaning ourselves off of crude

oil, as an example. That is not going to happen in my lifetime, but it will happen one of these days. But we all agree where we are trying to get to.

The difference in our conversation between us and the guys on the other side of the aisle is, what do we do between now and then? We all want to get there, but how do we get between now and then?

Crude oil is a finite resource. It will always get more expensive. There will be ups and downs, but it is going to get more expensive. How we manage that growth, those increases in costs of crude oil, how we buffer against those increases is really in our best interests. And, quite frankly, the commonsense plan that the Speaker has either kept to herself or not, I can understand why she didn't roll it out in 2006, because we were in charge and we might try to steal the good idea and implement it and take credit for it. But we have been out here better than 18 months now and we still haven't seen that commonsense plan to address gasoline prices. Not the overall energy thing, but to address gasoline prices, which she spoke about.

So I heard it loud and clear all week long, on every stop, every town hall meeting, every coffee shop, every conversation that I had. "You know, what is the deal with drilling offshore? What is the deal with drilling in ANWR? What is the deal with oil shale, coal-to-liquid, all these kinds of things? Why is there a political issue going on?" Because these solutions don't wear party jerseys, you wouldn't think.

It is really what is in the best interests of America. This is not about Republicans. It shouldn't be about Democrats. This ought to be about a rational, thoughtful, straightforward energy policy for America that takes advantage all our natural resources and exploits those natural resources until we can move to whatever is next for the internal combustion engine that revolutionized America and the world coming out of the 19th century into the 20th century.

So I appreciate my colleague letting me get up here tonight and rant and rave a little bit and spit all over the folks sitting down here in front of us. But this is important stuff. And our cutesy little sayings, we use them, the guys on the other side of the aisle use them, we can't drill our way out of it, use it or lose it, all that little nonsense, is disrespectful for the seriousness of this particular policy. Emptying the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, I had not heard her say that.

□ 2145

As long as we can buy crude oil, let's buy it. Let's keep our savings or the Strategic Petroleum Reserve for that weird eventuality when we can't get it from anywhere else and we have got to try to figure out a way to survive in that environment. How we deal with the cost of crude oil, you, you don't take the savings out of the ground for

that; you drill or do whatever you have to. But that is a really bad idea and one that is not a particularly thoughtful idea that seems to be rampant in this environment.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I think it is interesting, you mentioned the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and the letter that Speaker PELOSI wrote to the President. It is interesting that oil came down \$4 a barrel. Now, if it will come down \$4 a barrel on just a letter going to the President asking him to take the crude out of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, think of what it would do if we voted in this body to drill without even sticking a drill in the ground. These speculators would run for the hills. And so I think you make a great point. And trust me, if we didn't have the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, we would not be getting oil from our enemies because they would know that they had us down.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, we have got just a few more minutes here, let me just say this. I think what you have heard tonight is that this is an all-of-the-above solution. It is all of the above. But a very important part of this is this country producing oil, to increase our oil production.

RAHM EMANUEL on TV said, yes, increasing oil production is part of the solution. The Speaker has acknowledged that increasing oil production or at least having more oil is part of the solution. But as my colleague from Texas said, we don't need to take that out of our savings account. We need to bring it out of our natural resources, out of the ground.

Senator SCHUMER in the Senate about 3 weeks ago said that if we could just get Saudi Arabia to increase oil production 1 million barrels a day, it would drop the price of gas 50 cents a gallon. I don't know if that is true or not, but at least on the other side of this building some of the Democratic leadership understands that increasing oil production would bring down the price of gas.

I don't know why it is so hard to get a bill like that to this floor. I think the reason is strictly politics. It is strictly the radical environmental groups that has a grip or their claws into this majority.

And so I think what is happening is we are putting power above people, we are putting politics above process. Because as these gentlemen have talked tonight, with these ideas that they have shared they have not had one opportunity to offer one amendment on the energy bills because they have been brought either under suspension, under a closed rule, no committee hearings, no subcommittee hearings. The process has been broken. And so when the process is broken, the product is flawed.

Let me just close with this: www.house.gov/westmoreland. Mr. Speaker, go there, see if your Member has signed this simple petition that says I will vote to increase U.S. oil production to lower the gas prices for Americans.

ENERGY PRICES AND PRODUCTION

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to come to the floor tonight and I guess continue what has been a theme this evening on both sides of the aisle. The theme is energy. We are hearing a lot about energy as we go home to our districts, and I am no exception. I heard a lot about energy from my constituents, I heard a lot about energy from talk radio, I heard a lot about energy from newspapers back home.

I wanted to come to the floor tonight and talk a little bit about an event that I held in my district that dealt with energy more from the consumer angle, just from the basis of the average everyday constituent back in the district.

I have people talk to me and ask me, well, what is the real villain here? Where is the real problem here? Is it the oil companies? Is it the speculators? Is it the global demand? Where is the problem?

One of the real frustrations from people back home is that it is just very difficult for the average person to go out and increase production on their own. They can't do that. It is very difficult for the average person to do much about energy speculation. It is very difficult for the average person to do much about the global impact on supply and demand.

What they can do, what they can modify is their own behavior and reduce their own demand profile, perhaps only a small amount, but you multiply that over the 300 million people in the United States and suddenly you begin to talk about numbers that are in fact meaningful.

So the purpose of the event we did last week in the district was to provide constituents with some insights as to how to take some personal proactive steps to reduce energy consumption and, in the process, to save some money off their energy bills. And I was impressed, Mr. Speaker. This was a week ago last Saturday. It was a nice Saturday down in Texas. It hadn't gotten too hot just yet. And that morning, nearly 200 Texans, 200 of my constituents delayed their Saturday morning activities, whether it be mowing the lawn or just spending time with their families, because they were interested in hearing about what was available as far as energy savings.

Now, I have done this event for several years and it has grown in popularity year after year. It started out as a relatively small event in one of the hardware stores with some of the off-the-shelf energy efficiency products that were available. We had someone down from the Department of Energy to speak about those things. It was a very, very well attended event for as small as it was. And then the following year we did it on the campus of the

university there. It was much more widely attended. And this year, we did it at one of the local high schools. And I am pleased to say that the attendance was larger this year than it was the year before. And each year at this event it becomes more and more important, and attendance increases, because more people feel the need to be smarter about their energy consumption. They want to take some control of this energy aspect, the stranglehold that it has on their lives and they want to start taking control of their energy costs.

Higher energy prices. Higher energy prices have a way of exerting a behavioral change. High prices at the pump, high prices with home energy, they have caused a slowdown in the economy. They have caused times to become much more stark, even for areas that are relatively blessed like North Texas with economic times that are not as bad as some other areas of the country. But still, in many homes across my district and indeed many homes across America tonight, these high energy prices really have a stranglehold on our American families.

Now, we have heard over and over again tonight. We have heard it from the Democratic side and we have heard it from the Republican side. The lack of congressional action has been underscored many times before, I am going to underscore it again. In the absence of congressional action to increase domestic sources of energy, I want people in my district to know about the tools that they have at their disposal right at their fingertips to help them conserve energy and save money today. This is not something that will happen years in the future. This is money that can be saved today.

So that is what we call the energy expo. That is what the energy expo is all about, learning how to save energy, learning how to reduce energy waste, and learning how to save money along the way.

First of all, we did have someone come down from the Department of Energy. We invited Leslie Drogin who is from the Office of Efficiency and Renewable Energy within the Department of Energy. She spoke about some of the alternative energy advancements that are occurring throughout the country, and particularly in some of my communities in North Texas.

Now, in Texas we are thought of as an oil State, an oil and gas State. Many people are surprised to find out that Texas is the number one State in electrical power generation from wind energy, and we are second in the number of alternative fueling stations. So Texas has been proactive about alternative sources of energy and alternative fuels.

Now, Leslie also stressed that setting goals for energy efficiency and working toward them is not always going to be easy, and it does take to some degree a personal commitment.

Now, in addition to some of the local and national speakers, I did have a

moderated discussion focusing on ways that individuals can squeeze a few more miles out of a gallon and squeeze a few more cooling hours out of that kilowatt hour of electricity in their homes. So the first panel consisted of representatives from AAA Texas and the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers and the Denton County Transportation Authority.

We first heard from a gentleman named Patrick O'Reilly of AAA Texas. He discussed many of the different maintenance tips and tricks consumers can use to ensure that their vehicles aren't only efficient but perhaps they are a little more safe as well.

Now, the one that everyone talks about and you hear it all the time and I will mention it again is tire pressure. Ensuring that tires are properly inflated can result in a 3 percent fuel economy benefit and equivalent gas savings of up to 12 cents a gallon. Properly inflated tires are safer and they last longer, so you will spend less money on your tires. So, in the long run, it is a real bargain.

Regular oil changes. Now, raise your hand if your dad ever told you to change the oil every 3,000 miles and how many of you let that slip a little bit. Well, keeping that oil changed every 3 months or 3,000 miles is the right thing to do. But we also learned that using the right grade of motor oil for the environment is important as well. For example, using a 10W-30 oil in an engine designed to use 5W-30 can lower gas mileage by 1 percent or 2 percent. And this again translates to 4 cents to 8 cents per gallon of gas savings. You add that 8 cents to the 12 cents of tire pressure, and now we are up to 20 cents savings on that gallon of gas.

Perhaps the most valuable tip that was reported that morning and one of which I was not completely aware, but changing the air filters regularly, which can increase energy efficiency up to 10 percent and save 41 cents per gallon. So now we have saved 20 cents by a combination of tire pressure and using the right grade of motor oil. Adding another 41 cents a gallon, and we are up to saving 60 cents a gallon of gasoline just with these three simple measures that anyone can do as far as automobile maintenance.

We also heard from a gentleman named Clinton Blair who spoke on behalf of the Automobile Alliance, and discussed some of the different concept vehicles and the innovations and technology that we might expect to see now, sooner rather than later. With gas prices being as they are, clearly there is a consumer demand and an impetus for the development of those types of vehicles. And most Americans already know about the hybrid electric vehicles, but that is just one of the many technologies that is going to be available to address both the environmental concerns and the rising fuel prices.

Now, several years ago I had to get on a waiting list, but I got on a waiting

list and I purchased a hybrid vehicle. This was back in 2003. It was actually 2004 by the time I took delivery of the vehicle. And my main concern at the time was air quality issues in my area of North Texas. With hot summer sunshine and particulate matter in the air, we have a big problem with ozone, and I wanted to be part of the solution and not part of the problem. So I got in line and paid the extra money for a hybrid vehicle.

Well, now that gas prices are up to \$4 a gallon, it looks like absolute genius to have done that several years ago. But the reality was, it was the right thing to do from the standpoint of air quality several years ago, and it is the right thing to do today from the standpoint of lowering the Nation's fuel consumption and lowering the amount of oil that has to be imported sometimes from areas of the world that don't particularly like us. And we heard about that extensively during the last hour.

But in addition to the hybrid technology, there are some other new technologies on the road today, and many, many more available just over the horizon. An innovation on the road today is the variable cylinder vehicle. Now, those of us who were around in the Arab embargo of the 1970s remember this type of technology was actually available back in the 1970s. I think it was the Cadillac car that came available with a button you could push for either running on all 8 cylinders, running on 6, or running on 4. And the theory was that when you got up to highway speeds and the engine did not need to develop the same amount of power just to simply maintain the speed, you could drop the cylinder usage to 4 from 6.

It wasn't particularly efficient and didn't really deliver on the promise. The technology at that time was largely mechanical rather than electronic, so it wasn't a big seller. But that concept is coming back, and now there are variable cylinder vehicles that sometimes run as a 6 cylinder vehicle, sometimes run as a 4 cylinder vehicle. And, again, it presents another option for consumers to save gas.

We did hear a lot about new car technology that is just over the horizon, and we hear about it frequently here on the floor of the House, we hear it frequently in the Energy and Commerce Committee, the concept of plug-in hybrids and plug-in cars.

That is an interesting development. In fact, just the other day someone was telling me about the fact that some of the hybrid cars that are now in production, the next generation of hybrid cars may very well have a solar panel on the roof. It is a wonderful, insightful idea, the way to charge that battery while the car is sitting in the parking lot, particularly in a State like Texas where you have got a lot of sunshine beating down on that car. And rather than just heating the interior of the car and making it unpleasant when you sit down, maybe you could use that en-

ergy to recharge the battery and drive farther on the battery than when you start that car up for the commute home, use less fuel in the process, and obviously have a positive impact on air quality as well.

□ 2200

So I was very grateful to hear about that innovation because I've often wondered why it is someone hasn't done that yet when I drive my own hybrid vehicle.

As to other concepts, like the hydrogen fuel cells and the new engineering techniques like regenerative braking systems, some of the hybrids already do that. When you step on the brakes, some of the power then goes to the generator, which recharges the battery, but again, these are technologies that just a few years ago were in their infancy but that are now hitting their stride and are coming into their own, the concept of recovering energy that would be otherwise wasted during stop-and-go driving.

Now, Mr. Blair also discussed the impact of the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards, which were passed as part of this Congress last year. It will be a few years before we see the impact of those. We can argue whether it's better to have those set by Congress or set by consumers in the market. I think the reality is \$4-a-gallon gasoline is going to do a lot more as far as lowering the Corporate Average Fuel Economy than any act of Congress could have ever done, but we'll wait and see.

That raises an interesting point when people tell us that, if you start tomorrow with increased drilling, you're not going to have that product available to the American consumer for a number of years, maybe as much as 7- to 10-years' time. Yet, last fall, we enacted the increases in the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards, recognizing that it was going to be—what?—5 years, 7 years, 10 years before those were fully implemented and were fully functional as far as reducing the number of gallons of gasoline consumed, and oh, by the way, you've also got to age out the older fleet, which is now still consuming gas at the older standard. So, if you want to talk about a process that consumes time when you're anxious to get things done quickly, again, the act of Congress to increase the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards certainly, in my estimation, falls into that category.

That really was not the point that Mr. Blair made at the meeting, but it certainly has been my observation over time.

So hybrid vehicles and Alternative Fuel Vehicles are available. They are currently more expensive than traditional fuel models, and a consumer has to make that estimation and has to make that choice. It is a little bit difficult not knowing what the future is going to bring. Two years ago, if you looked at the price of gasoline and

looked at the cost of a hybrid car or of an Alternative Fuel Vehicle, you might do the math and say, you know, it'll take me 7 to 9 years to recover the investment of the extra cost of this vehicle, and I just don't think it's worth it. Now that the price of a gallon of gasoline has doubled since January of 2007, maybe those mathematics work out more in favor of going ahead and of making the investment in an Alternative Fuel Vehicle or in a hybrid vehicle.

Also, as to the economies of scale as newer technologies are coming on line and as more and more of these vehicles are being produced, this does have the tendency of pushing down the overall cost of the production of those vehicles, and subsequently, the cost on the retail end drops as well.

All of the auto dealerships that attended the Energy Expo event were local, around in the area—James Wood Chevrolet from Denton, Bill Utter Ford from Denton, and Freeman Toyota from Hurst, Texas, which is just down the road.

To an individual, they reported that they could fill all of the orders for hybrid-type vehicles and for ultra-efficient vehicles. They could fill all of the orders and then some. If they had more of these vehicles in stock, they felt comfortable that they could, in fact, sell those vehicles. They have a significant backlog for fuel-efficient vehicle types. In fact, it is almost independent of the sticker price.

Another option for Americans, while they're waiting on Congress to act and while they're waiting on auto manufacturers to produce more fuel-efficient cars, trucks and SUVs, is another alternative altogether, one that I like to call rapid transit—the transit system that we have certainly here in Washington, DC. We don't have quite the same demographics. We don't have quite the same population densities back home as we do here in Washington. The fact remains that, with fuel prices as high as they are, more people now are looking towards transit as an option for cutting down a portion of their fuel bills during their commute.

Now, in Washington, the Metro's ridership is increasing. In fact, the Washington Times this morning was talking about the Metro's being somewhat constrained in adding more cars because they just simply cannot buy any more electricity during peak times. Well, there's an argument to be made for additional nuclear plants or for additional clean coal plants that are producing more electricity. We don't have the electrical generation capacity to actually run the rapid transit that we want to run even with today's numbers. What are we going to do as we add to that?

Still, transit is going to become increasingly important and not nearly as popular in my district, where we like to drive our big pickup trucks and our Dually pickup trucks. It's not nearly

going to be as popular back home as it is here in Washington. The infrastructure, certainly, is not nearly as extensive and is not nearly to the maturational point that it is here in the Washington Metropolitan Area, but I did think it was important for people to hear about what options are going to be available in the future as far as transit is concerned.

We did hear along that line from Charles Emery, who is with the Denton County Transportation Authority, and he discussed some of the resources available to constituents living in the Denton County area, who might consider transit as an option as they go about their daily commute or, in some areas of the metroplex, even just traveling around to shops and to shopping venues much closer to home.

This was useful information. Again, the culture is a little bit different in North Texas than it is in the metropolitan areas. It's different in the suburban areas than it is in the urban areas. It's different in the rural areas than it is in the suburban areas where it's not really the norm to use transit, but at the same time, this is increasing in importance.

The Denton County Transportation Authority, interestingly enough, was formed as a result of authorizing a vote that was taken in the general election in 2002, the same year that I ran for Congress the first time. It was these individuals who had the vision to recognize that at some point, and at that time, it was purely based on congestion and not based on the price of fuel. It was simply to mitigate the problems that they saw down the road with congestion. These individuals had the foresight to go to the voters and to ask for the will of the voter, if you will, on whether or not rapid transit was going to be part of the future of mobility in Denton County. The question was answered with a resounding "yes," and over 70 percent of the electorate that night did vote in favor of starting that transit option in North Texas.

Texans love their independence. They love to have the independence provided by having their own vehicles, but with gas up to \$4 a gallon, some of the worst congestion in the Nation exists in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. A lot of people are beginning to evaluate that trade-off and are coming down on the side that maybe transit is an option that they need to investigate a little further.

In addition, the increase in food prices and other services has, unfortunately, driven some families to the point where they literally have to find an alternative method of transportation because they just simply cannot afford the cost of filling up the family vehicle for that commute to work. They're having to make the choice between filling up the automobile or feeding or sheltering their families. Clearly, transit does provide another option for that.

Now, this panel, the first panel that was convened, was educational. I have

to compliment them on the fact that they were so thorough. These individuals presented a very professional discourse on energy and money savers. Certainly, I want to thank them for coming. Some of them did have to travel to the area. I want to thank them for coming and for participating in that symposium because I think it was, ultimately, very helpful to the end user—the consumer—and was helpful to, perhaps, devise ways to lower consumption, which will help in the supply-demand equation.

We did have a second panel, and the second panel focused on energy conservation in the home. We brought in individuals representing the Texas State Energy Conservation Office, the Home Builders Association, the Home Appliance Manufacturers, and the Home Energy Raters organization.

The first on that panel was Mr. Mike Myers, who currently serves as a project manager for the Texas Energy Partnership, a project of the State of Texas. Now, Mr. Myers previously served in the U.S. Department of Energy, in their program for affordable housing, and he has worked for both New York City and for the city of San Antonio. So he talked about some of the personal behaviors that individuals can adopt around the home that translate into savings when paying the utility bills.

Now, I was kind of surprised to learn about the cell phone charger. Even if your cell phone is not plugged into the charger, the charger still draws power as long as it's plugged in. Most of that power is going to be converted to heat. We're familiar with the fact that, even if a phone is not plugged into a charger and we unplug the charger from the wall, the charger is a little bit warm, but it's obviously drawing electrical energy to generate that heat, not a particularly useful exercise, especially in Texas in the summer. So, as long as the device is plugged in, it's going to draw energy. If you're not using it to charge the phone, perhaps it ought to be unplugged unless it's actually needed for charging.

We heard from several individuals about the importance of air-conditioning duct maintenance. Now, no one in Texas wants to climb in their attics in the summertime, where the heat is probably in excess of 140 degrees, to inspect their air-conditioning equipment and their air-conditioning ducts for leaks, but if there are leaks in the return system, in the system that brings air back to the cooling unit from the household, it pulls that super heated air in from the attic. Again, in a hot Texas summer, an attic's environmental temperature can easily be significantly in excess of 100 degrees. Not only that, you're pulling in dust and mold and, really, things that do not belong within the air-conditioning system. So, in addition to driving energy bills much, much higher, it also poses some health risks, so it is important to have those inspections done, and there

are individuals who are capable and who will provide that service.

For all air-conditioning systems and for all air infiltration systems, this individual recommended a few simple steps: First off, when building a home, get the right sized unit for the house. Obviously, choose a high-efficiency model. There are many more models of higher efficiency that are available today than there were even just a few years ago. Indeed, some cities have ordinances as to the efficiency rating that can be installed in a house. I know my home city of Lewisville has such a requirement, but do get the right efficiency, the right sized unit for the area that's going to be cooled and the highest efficiency model that is available that will fit the budget, and then make certain that the duct right-of-way and the duct sealing is all done properly for the proper amount of energy conservation.

We then heard from another individual who had actually been at one of my previous summits, Mr. Dan Fette of the Home Builders Association. This individual has won numerous awards for not only building homes but for the design of homes, affordable homes, in an energy-efficient fashion. He talked about the ways that a home could be built to be friendlier to the environment and friendlier to the energy consumer's wallet.

In Texas, we've got a lot of big homes and a lot of big homes with a lot of big, open spaces that sometimes aren't protected from the elements. Now, Dan specializes in maximizing comfort and in minimizing environmental disruption and energy waste. He utilizes features in the design of the home that include relocating windows that are exposed to direct sunlight.

Now, in Texas, when I was a kid, we used to have things that were called cisterns. They collected rainwater off the roof of the house, and it ran through the gutters and into a holding tank into the ground. Now they're called rainwater catchment systems, and they're capable of meeting landscape and irrigation needs. Obviously, they're dependent upon rainfall to fill the reservoir up, but it is a way of holding water that is otherwise going to just simply go into the storm water drainage system, holding onto water to meet the water needs of landscaping, and of course, he recommended using native landscapes that are lower in their water usage.

He emphasized the importance of selecting proper plumbing fixtures and appliances that are appropriate for the household. Building energy efficiency into a home can reduce the need for expensive repairs in the future, and it can reduce the need for undergoing the expense of an energy audit in the future, but we'll kind of leave the discussion of energy audits to just a little bit later on.

Now, also participating in this panel was Mrs. Casey Hege. She was a representative from General Electric's Appliance Division. She discussed selecting the appliance options that would reward the homeowner with better performance and with lower bills.

One of the biggest energy users in anyone's home is of no great surprise—the refrigerator. Older model refrigerators use more energy. In fact, they are one of the largest consumers of energy within the household. So one way to reduce energy consumption, if it fits the family budget, is to replace the old refrigerator with a higher energy-efficient model.

Now, one thing that she found was that people who were buying the higher efficiency refrigerators were then coming back and were saying, "You know what? I'm, in fact, using more energy today than I was before I purchased this high-energy model." It took her a while to figure out what was happening.

In Texas, a lot of times what we'll do is we'll take that old refrigerator out to the garage, and we'll plug it in, and we'll use it for our excess capacity. Well, if you do that, obviously, you're not getting any energy savings from buying that more efficient, new refrigerator.

□ 2215

So always dispose of the old refrigerator, dispose of it properly, dispose of it carefully. Many of these older models contain Freon, and there are going to be municipal requirements that are going to have to be met for their disposal, but obviously you're not going to save money in your home if you buy a new, highly efficient refrigerator and take the old one out to the garage and store whatever beverage you want to store in your garage. Having two refrigerators does ultimately cost more money and cost more energy.

Finally, that morning we heard from Mr. Steve Gleaves—he's a home energy auditor and a founding member of the Texas Home Energy Raters Organization—who talked about what to expect with a home energy audit. Now, when to seek an audit and what you can expect to find in your house were the topics of discussion for the home energy audit. He talked about how common it is—and again, this was a recurrent theme that we heard several times that morning—he talked about how common it is for home air-conditioning systems to have leaks in the intake system and around the ventilation grills.

Again, he emphasizes the point that one thing you can do from a heating and air-conditioning standpoint to improve energy efficiency in the home is to have those ducts inspected.

The other aspect that he talked about, and it was mentioned by one of our previous presenters, select the right size unit for house. A unit that is too big for the area that it is cooling will never come up to maximum effi-

ciency. It's always turning on and off, and the unit will use its maximum of draw, its maximum amount of power when it switches on. So a unit that's switching on and off frequently will never achieve that high energy efficiency rating that was the reason you bought the larger unit in the first place. So it is important to have the architect or builder right size the equipment for the home that's being built.

And again, having the ability or having someone investigate the integrity of the air-conditioning ducts so that those leaks which draw in that superheated attic air into the return vents, so that that doesn't happen under the best of circumstances on a hot day; the best an air conditioner is going to be able to achieve is a 20-degree difference between the outside air and the air inside. Well, if you're drawing in to the air-conditioning unit air that's heated to 140 degrees, it's going to be hard to get much measurable cooling off of that.

Now, in addition to the panelists, we had a number of local businesses and organizations who had set up displays around the area, and we did have good participation of the constituency that showed up that morning in looking at the displays, Home Depot, Lowe's Hardware, Peterbilt, which has a manufacturing plant in my district in Denton, NewCon Steel, which is located in Denton, the Agrilife Extension Office of Denton County, the Texas State Energy Conservation Office, obviously several automobile dealerships which I previously mentioned, and the Denton County Transportation Authority all had either booths or displays to help consumers understand about energy consumption and provide some information about energy-efficient products and services.

Peterbilt, for example, bought two trucks: one was an over-the-road model that we're all familiar with, a type of 18-wheeler that we see on our highways, but it was a diesel hybrid electric and, as a consequence, achieved about a 10 percent savings on the open road. The other model was, again, a diesel-electric hybrid, but this was more of a delivery truck, the type of truck you might see around town, the type of truck that might be in stop-and-go traffic, the type of truck that might be periodically caught in a traffic slowdown caused by congestion. And these vehicles actually achieved about a 25 percent overall savings.

So a significant savings in fuel for the company that was operating those vehicles, and I was very grateful to Peterbilt for having those units there.

Overall, I think the event was important. I think it was successful. I think each of us making a personal commitment to use energy wisely, to use energy efficiently is—it's not the entire solution to our energy problems, but it certainly can be a part of the solution. And most importantly in my mind, it puts the consumer back in control of

some of these parts of the energy equation in which they feel entirely powerless to impact: the supply/demand curve, they feel entirely powerless to impact the globalization that has occurred; if speculators are causing a problem, the end consumer has very little they can do as far as modifying the behavior of the speculator, the futures trader. But they can modify their behavior, and they can become more savvy consumers, and they can become more efficient consumers.

So all of these were benefits that I witnessed at the local level, and I think I would classify this event as a successful event. Again, this was the third year that it has happened. It has grown in popularity each year that it has occurred. I have actually had other areas in my district, other than cities in my district, who have inquired about the possibility of having a second event in their locations. And the acceptance by the public and the enthusiasm with which the public approached this was, I found, particularly gratifying, and I don't think there is any question that we will repeat this next year.

I wish it wouldn't be necessary, that prices would be down so low that energy was no longer a consideration, but the reality is that's a world to which we probably will not return, at least during my natural lifetime.

Now, we ask our constituents to be more savvy consumers, and they will step up and do the job that is asked of them, but while we're asking them to make some of the personal changes in their energy demands, we've heard it again and again on the floor of this House tonight, we heard it a week ago before we went home for the break, the July 4th holiday, we in Congress have to take some action as well. And we, like any other hard problem, like any other complex problem, you need a short-term, mid-term, and long-term approach to how you're going to deal with this.

In the short term, we've got to make sure that our energy is traded in markets that are fair and transparent, that the proper oversight exists from the proper regulatory authorities and the proper Federal agencies, to the extent that that hasn't been happening, it has to happen. And I don't think there is anyone in this body that would want to go home and try to justify to their constituents why that is not important. To the extent that there is manipulation in the market, it has to be ferreted out, stopped, corrected.

Now, last month, on June 23 in our Committee on Energy and Commerce, our Subcommittee of Oversight and Investigations, we had an investigative hearing. The hearing was titled "Energy Speculation. Is Greater Regulation Necessary to Stop Price Manipulation?"

Now, it was really an interesting hearing, and there was a lot of information, some information that I was not aware of prior to the hearing. Some

information that, yeah, we've all heard a lot for a long time. But I think one of the things that became very apparent during that hearing is that the scope and the magnitude of the number of dollars that are being invested in the energy futures markets is greater today than at any time in country's history. And that even if the motives are pure, it is just the sheer volume of dollars that are being invested that is driving the price of these futures contracts higher and higher, and that obviously impacts the cost of a barrel of crude oil. And it is driving the market much higher than you would see just based on the cost of—the marginal cost of production and certainly more than would be based on simply factors mediated by supply and demand.

Now, the shift into the futures market and the shift into oil speculation by institutional investors has been called the financialization of oil prices. Today, over 70 percent of the participants willing to buy and sell contracts for the West Texas intermediate crude on the New York Mercantile Exchange are speculators, and they're not participants looking to hedge changes in the price of oil before they take the physical delivery of the product. And often times these purchases on these contracts are made with what is called a margin, sometimes it's only pennies on the dollar, 5 percent down, and you own the futures contract until the time of delivery, but oh, by the way, you never intended to take delivery because you're going to sell the contract to someone else who will pay more money for it. Take your cash and run before you get to the end of that.

Now, there was a lot of discussion about some of the noncommercial traders who hold contracts only for a very short period of time. They don't have a place to store the product if they were to have to exercise the contract. And instead, they're simply riding that increase wave as it goes up to derive profit from the financial instrument itself, not from the actual product that was pumped out of the ground and put into a barrel and to be sold on the open market.

So we did hear from the Commissioner of the Commodities Future Trading Commission, Mr. Walter Lukken. That body is responsible for the oversight over the New York Mercantile Exchange, the NYMEX, and we heard from many of the participants how we could—well, the question that was asked of Mr. Lukken by myself is we see what some of the problems are here. What tools do you need that you don't have today, what tools do you need from Congress, what legislative activity do you need from Congress to stop this practice, to get your arms around this and to be more along the lines of a supply-demand market, not a frenzied financial futures trading market.

Certainly some of the advice we got was perhaps the margin investment needs to be increased. Five percent

may be too low. Maybe it needs to be 30 percent, 35 percent. Some people even suggested 50 percent. I'm not an expert in petroleum financial futures, but clearly 5 percent as a margin does seem low to me, and I would certainly be willing to hear the discussion of should these margins be higher.

What about the person who buys the futures contract and never intends to take delivery? And we're not talking about an airline who's hedging against higher prices by speculating and buying on the market and could take delivery of that product if they were required to do so. We're talking about people who have no way. There is no storage tank anywhere near them that would allow them to put this oil in a tank and take delivery of the product.

So clearly, they are only dealing in the financial instrument. Again, they have no interest in the actual commodity that's being traded.

So could the Commodities Futures Trading Commission, could it increase margin requirements? Could it put in place a requirement that at least in a certain percentage of that futures contract there must be a place to store it if it were actually delivered to the person who had purchased that contract?

Now, Commissioner Lukken answered the question that the Commodities Futures Trading Commission does currently have the authority to increase margin requirements and add position limits. So they have them, but they're only to be used under emergency conditions. As I pointed out to Commissioner Lukken, just in the month of May we had three airlines go bankrupt in a weekend. We had a day where the price of crude rose \$11 a barrel in one trading day. We had the Speaker of the House talking about pulling oil out of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. Are we not in an emergency situation already? What other evidence do you need of an emergency to invoke these emergency powers that would allow you to rein in some of the—if there is cost that's being driven by speculation in the financial market, what other evidence do you need?

If you have the power to do it in an emergency situation, I submit you don't need another study. I submit you don't need another law. Go ahead and take the activity which you are empowered to do by virtue of the fact that the Federal agency has the ability under emergency conditions to exercise those powers, go ahead and do it and we will deal with the studies, we will deal with the cumulative effects afterwards. But the situation is so dire at this point, it's so important at this point that I think you ought to do it.

Now, Congress was poised to take some action on that to perhaps make it a little more authoritative that the Commodity Futures Trading Commission would in fact be required to do that, but we kind of fell short of that. And Thursday right before we all left for the week of the July 4th break, we passed a bill that was a sense of Con-

gress, a sense of Congress telling the Commodities Futures Trading Commission that maybe you ought to look at exercising your emergency powers. I liken this to sending a "get well" card to the American energy consumer. We really didn't do anything. It made us feel better because, by golly, we passed a bill and we told the Commodities Futures Trading Commission what they need to do their job.

Well, the reality is they knew they need to do their job. They were told that in the committee hearing. I can't imagine why they haven't taken those steps already, but I certainly don't think that a sense of Congress resolution passed by this Congress 2 weeks ago was really going to impact them much one way or the other.

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Now, that's the short term. That's the short term to deal with some of the aspects of financial trading or futures trading.

What about the intermediate steps? We heard during that panel that some people believe there's a supply-demand problem today. Others say it's being overblown and it's really the futures market that is the problem; the supply-demand problem does not exist to the level at which it should drive the prices as high as we have seen them.

I don't know who's correct on that, but to a person throughout several panels that day, we heard over and over again, by the year 2015, demand is going to so vastly outstrip supply that we will be in serious trouble, serious trouble, not that we're not in serious trouble, but we'll be in real serious trouble by 2015 if we do not take the steps necessary to increase production to meet those increased demand requirements.

Now, we have heard it again tonight from both sides of the aisle. There are different approaches and different thoughts about it, and we're not talking about drawing oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. That's a very short-term solution, if indeed it's a solution at all, and we've heard some discussion as to the wisdom of that particular exercise, but things like drilling in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, things like drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf, off the east coast, off the west coast, development of the oil shale in the inner mountain west.

Last December, on our so-called energy bill that really didn't have any energy in it, in our so-called energy bill last December, we prohibited recovering oil from Canada in the Alberta tar sands because we're worried about the effect of something down the road. Well, for goodness sake, Canada is probably our largest supplier of foreign oil. Here is a readily available source where they could increase their production, but we don't want any part of that because we don't know what that's going to do to our carbon footprint down the road.

Well, forget about down the road. The time is here and now that we need to get that increased production. So this so-called energy bill that we passed last December, in addition to banning the incandescent bulb, we also banned a type of petroleum from our neighbor to the north, Canada, which could result in an immediate increase in the amount of crude oil available to our markets here. So we really did ourselves double harm during that exercise, but nevertheless, what's past is past. Let's get beyond that point.

We have to look at where we're going to get the increased supply that demand is going to require by the year 2015, 7 years away. We hear it talked about on the presidential trail. Well, you're talking about drilling in ANWR; you're talking about drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf; you're talking about deepwater drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. That product is 7 years away. Well, yeah, that's right, it's 7 years away, and if we don't start today, guess where we're going to be in 7 years. We're going to be in tall grass because we haven't done what is necessary to affect that increased supply.

And we all know the demand is coming. We all hear it every day, China and India and all of the other components of the global economy that are drawing energy into their economies while we literally fiddle as Rome burns here in the United States.

It is time for us to get past that point, get on with the development of new supply. If it takes 7 years, that's about the timeline we've got, and if we don't start this year, we're going to be a year later than we should be, or we're going to be 2 years later than we should be.

It really begs the question: When is this Congress going to wake up and understand the importance, the dire importance of that day when demand vastly outstrips supply in 2015?

Now, that issue is pretty clear-cut to me, and I think it's pretty clear-cut to most Americans. I think any polling you do on that subject would show that most Americans are in tune with the fact that they understand that allowing the production of American energy within America's borders is important for our national security, it's important for the future and the sustainability of our economy.

What about the long term? What about some of things you have heard tonight on the development of the techniques for cellulosic ethanol? It will be a wonderful day when we get there, but we're not there yet, and we cannot let our enthusiasm for the technology get ahead of our ability to deliver that technology. For the foreseeable future, for the 7- to 15-year time frame, our energy needs are going to be met by petroleum-based products: natural gas, oil, coal. There's literally no other way around it without simply cratering the American economy.

And reality is, do we do anyone any good here in this country or around the

world if we allow our economy to languish, if we allow our economy to falter, because we do not have the institutional courage to accept the fact that we're not quite ready to go on to all alternative types of energy? I wish we'd been building nuclear power plants for the last 10 years but we weren't. We should now because nuclear can provide that base load of electricity that you need.

Remember, Texas is the number one wind producing State in the Nation. That's a great thing for Texas. We're going to get to sell a lot of power, and it's power that comes from the wind. How cheap is that? But the reality is that even in West Texas, where the wind seems to blow incessantly, there are days when the wind doesn't blow. There are hours in the day when the wind blows less ferociously than other hours. And typically, those days that the wind doesn't blow or those hours when the wind production is diminished is summertime, late in the afternoon. But when is the number one electricity demand time in Texas because of air conditioning? It's summertime; it's late in the afternoon. So you can't depend on wind energy to deliver that constant load of electricity that's needed to keep the grid alive. You need something to deliver the base load.

Now, natural gas fills the bill for a lot of Texas right now. Natural gas electrical generation plants, so-called peaking plants, are present in my district. I've visited them. I think they provide a wonderful backstop to some of our energy requirements during the summertime in Texas, and I'm grateful that we have them. But many of these plants are older. They need to be refurbished. They're not nearly as efficient. We're not allowed to build anymore coal plants. That's off the table.

So where are the nuclear plants? And I ask my friends on the other side, when are we going to be serious about what we do with the development of nuclear in this country to allow that production, that base production of electricity? And yeah, we might be able to get over and above that from wind, we might be able to get over and above that from solar, but those sources of energy are not dependable enough. And we don't right now have the technology for the proper storage of electricity from those technologies that we're going to depend on something to provide that base load of electricity that we need to fire up the grid, certainly in the State of Texas and I suspect in other parts of the country as well.

You know, this is a situation where I think we've heard it eloquently from both sides of the aisle tonight. We need all hands on deck. We need all possible technologies that are available, we need them to be developed. We need them to be in the process of being developed. We need them to come online quickly. All hands on deck. And yet a lot of times, this Congress behaves like it's every man for himself. And the American people don't get that. And

believe me, I heard that over and over and over again when I was home in the district this last week.

Now, growing and strong economies are better prepared to mitigate some of the effects of disease, hunger, natural disasters, but if we hurt our economy, if we devastate our economy by some of the policies that this Congress has pursued in the last 18 months, our ability to deal with those problems has become woefully constricted. And who's going to suffer? Who's going to suffer? It's going to be the American middle class, the lower middle class, America working poor are going to suffer disproportionately because of the lack of preparedness for dealing with those effects on our economy. This Congress has the responsibility to create the right type of environment to facilitate the right type of growth in the energy sector.

Now, I'm going to borrow a poster from some of the previous speakers. I had a copy of today's Politico that I was going to read a paragraph or two from. We've all heard this over and over again, how the cost of energy has risen since January of 2001, but if you really look at that line, if you look at that line on what's happened with energy prices, what you see is, yeah, there's some bumps and some ups and downs and a general upward tendency of that trend line. You see a big peak for Katrina, see a drop-off after the recovery from Katrina when the refineries came back online much more quickly than anyone anticipated. You see some peaks and valleys for the summer driving season.

But what really stands out when you look at those graphs is how the cost of energy has significantly risen since December of 2006, January of 2007. If you look at the number of futures contracts that have been sold, and yes, there are more dollars going into those future contracts today than in almost anytime in the Nation's past, when you look at how the numbers of futures contracts and when you look at the dollars invested in futures contracts, yeah, there's been a general trend line that goes upward from 2000 until about December of 2006, and then it goes straight up.

Well, quoting from Politico, one of the magazines that we all get in our offices up here in Washington, D.C., there's an article on the front page that's entitled: "New Boogeymen: Oil Speculators," and it has a picture of the Speaker of the House giving a talk and a quote here from the Speaker of the House. "'Oil speculators are making money by betting against the American consumers at the pump,' House Speaker NANCY PELOSI said before the Independence Day recess."

Well, wait a minute, let's go back to this. The price of crude, the price of gasoline, gradually drifting upward, but it really takes a spike upward December of 2006, January of 2007. The number of futures contracts really

takes a spike up December of 2006, January of 2007. The number of dollars invested in the futures market really takes a spike up December of 2006, January of 2007.

Well, what happened between December of 2006 and January of 2007? Well, the 109th Congress ended and the 110th Congress started. So here we had a quote from our Speaker today: "Oil speculators are making money by betting against the American consumers at the pump."

Well, is that really the case? Maybe it is the speculators betting on Congress to continue to make dumb decisions about the energy policy in this country. And it looks like they started that about December of 2006 and January of 2007, and guess what. They bet right and they were rewarded.

So, until we do something that sends a signal to those speculators that Congress is through making the dumb decisions, the dumb decisions that it has been making in the past 18 months and is now going to make smart decisions for the American public and the American economy, we're likely not going to see that growth curve go anywhere but up.

So it is time. And I call on my friends on my side of the aisle and the other side of the aisle, we've got to approach this problem sensibly. We just cannot simply be blaming the current bogeyman du jour. We've got to face the fact that it's our policies, starting in about January of 2007, that have driven this market through the roof and, as a consequence, has damaged the purchasing power of the American consuming public.

And just going a little further into the article, a point I made a few minutes ago, "Before legislators left town, the House overwhelmingly approved legislation that would require a Federal regulatory agency to employ its rarely used emergency powers to crack down on any "excessive" speculation in domestic commodity markets." Again, that power already existed. I don't know why Commissioner Lukken did not equate that with the emergency with all of the signs and symptoms he had around him of an emergency in the American energy market.

Congress passed—not meaningful legislation last week. We sent a "get well" card to the American consuming public and hoped that someone wasn't paying attention and would perhaps mistake our activities a week ago Thursday for something meaningful. I somehow doubt that that occurred.

Let me finish up, Mr. Speaker. And I want to read a letter that was printed in the Dallas Morning News on July 4, 2008, "Oil Independence Day"—and again, this did run on Independence Day in the Dallas Morning News. "Tired of unfair laws and unreasonable taxes, American colonists proclaimed freedom. As we celebrate liberty today, it seems ironic that our country has evolved from declaring independence from foreign oppression to now depend-

ence on oppression from foreign oil. In fact, a slow rebellion against reliance on foreign oil began when OPEC left Americans sitting in lines to buy gasoline from stations with dry tanks in the 1970s. Today the price stands at \$4 a gallon for gasoline, and it shows up in everything from the food we eat and clothes we wear to the vacations we can no longer afford to take.

"We've proposed 15 ways to cut the cost of energy for working American families by giving them access to American energy, the American energy that they want and need. The problem is that the House Democratic leadership keeps blocking that legislation. There is no better time than America's Independence Day for Congress to stop arguing about the problem and to start fixing it."

Respectfully submitted, JOE BARTON, R-Arlington, MICHAEL BURGESS, R-Lewisville.

It is time that we can get past what was previously described as a bumper-sticker mentality and that we get to work about solving the serious problems that face the American consumers.

Mr. Speaker, you've been very generous with the time tonight.

HOUSE BILLS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills (of the House) of the following titles:

April 9, 2008:

H.R. 1593. An act to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, to improve reentry planning and implementation, and for other purposes.

April 18, 2008:

H.R. 5813. An act to amend Public Law 110-196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond April 18, 2008.

April 23, 2008:

H.J. Res. 70. A joint resolution congratulating the Army Reserve on its centennial, which will be formally celebrated on April 23, 2008, and commemorating the historic contributions of its veterans and continuing contributions of its soldiers to the vital national security interests and homeland defense missions of the United States.

April 30, 2008:

H.R. 1119. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to revise the congressional charter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart of the United States of America, Incorporated, to authorize associate membership in the corporation for the spouse and siblings of a recipient of the Purple Heart medal.

May 6, 2008:

H.R. 4286. An act to award a congressional gold medal to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commitment to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and democracy in Burma.

May 7, 2008:

H.R. 3468. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1704 Weeksville Road in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, as the "Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. Post Office".

H.R. 3532. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5815 McLeod Street in Lula, Georgia, as the "Private Johnathon Millican Lula Post Office".

H.R. 3720. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 424 Clay Avenue in Waco, Texas, as the "Army PFC Juan Alonso Covarrubias Post Office Building".

H.R. 3803. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3100 Cashwell Drive in Goldsboro, North Carolina, as the "John Henry Wooten, Sr. Post Office Building".

H.R. 3936. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 116 Helen Highway in Cleveland, Georgia, as the "Sgt. Jason Harkins Post Office Building".

H.R. 3988. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3701 Altamesa Boulevard in Fort Worth, Texas, as the "Master Sergeant Kenneth N. Mack Post Office Building".

H.R. 4166. An act 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".

H.R. 4203. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3035 Stone Mountain Street in Lithonia, Georgia, as the "Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building".

H.R. 4211. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 725 Roanoke Avenue in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, as the "Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office".

H.R. 4240. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10799 West Alameda Avenue in Lakewood, Colorado, as the "Felix Sparks Post Office Building".

H.R. 4454. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3050 Hunsinger Lane in Louisville, Kentucky, as the "Iraq and Afghanistan Fallen Military Heroes of Louisville Memorial Post Office Building", in honor of the servicemen and women from Louisville, Kentucky, who died in service during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

H.R. 5135. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Greenway Street in Derby, Kansas, as the "Sergeant Jamie O. Murgans Post Office Building".

H.R. 5220. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3800 SW 185th Avenue in Beaverton, Oregon, as the "Major Arthur Chin Post Office Building".

H.R. 5400. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 160 East Washington Street in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, as the "Sgt. Michael M. Kashkoush Post Office Building".

H.R. 5472. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2650 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, as the "Julia M. Carson Post Office Building".

H.R. 5489. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6892 Main Street in Gloucester, Virginia, as the "Congresswoman Jo Ann S. Davis Post Office".

H.R. 5715. An act to ensure continued availability of access to the Federal student loan program for students and families.

H.R. 3196. An act 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".

May 18, 2008:

H.R. 6051. An act to amend Public Law 110-196 to provide for a temporary extension of

programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond May 16, 2008.

May 19, 2008:

H.R. 6022. An act to suspend the acquisition of petroleum for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and for other purposes.

May 21, 2008:

H.R. 493. An act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment.

May 27, 2008:

H.R. 3522. An act to ratify a conveyance of a portion of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation to Rio Arriba County, State of New Mexico, pursuant to the settlement of litigation between the Jicarilla Apache Nation and Rio Arriba County, State of New Mexico, to authorize issuance of a patent for said lands, and to change the exterior boundary of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation accordingly, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5919. An act to make technical corrections regarding the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2007.

June 3, 2008:

H.R. 2356. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to encourage the display of the flag of the United States on Father's Day.

H.R. 2517. An act to amend the Missing Children's Assistance Act to authorize appropriations; and for other purposes.

H.R. 4008. An act to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to make technical corrections to the definition of willful noncompliance with respect to violations involving the printing of an expiration date on certain credit and debit card receipts before the date of the enactment of this Act.

June 6, 2008:

H.R. 1195. An act to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes.

June 17, 2008:

H.R. 6081. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide benefits for military personnel, and for other purposes.

June 26, 2008:

H.R. 3179. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to authorize the use of Federal supply schedules for the acquisition of law enforcement, security, and certain other related items by State and local governments.

H.R. 3913. An act to amend the International Center Act to authorize the lease or sublease of certain property described in such Act to an entity other than a foreign government or international organization if certain conditions are met.

June 30, 2008:

H.R. 2642. An Act making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6327. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

SENATE BILLS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills (of the Senate) of the following titles:

April 18, 2008:

S. 550. An act to preserve existing judgeships on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

April 23, 2008:

S. 845. An act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to expand and

intensify programs with respect to research and related activities concerning elder falls.

April 24, 2008:

S. 1858. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, and for other purposes.

April 25, 2008:

S. 2903. An act to amend Public Law 110-196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond April 25, 2008.

April 28, 2008:

S. 793. An act to provide for the expansion and improvement of traumatic brain injury programs.

May 2, 2008:

S. 2954. An act to amend Public Law 110-196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond May 2, 2008.

May 8, 2008:

S. 2457. An act to provide for extensions of leases of certain land by Mashantucket Pequot (Western) Tribe.

S. 2739. An act to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service, and the Department of Energy, to implement further the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

May 13, 2008:

S. 2929. An act to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

May 23, 2008:

S. 3029. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

May 30, 2008:

S. 3035. An act to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

June 3, 2008:

S. 2829. An act to make technical corrections to section 1244 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, which provides special immigrant status for certain Iraqis, and for other purposes.

S.J. Res. 17. A Joint Resolution directing the United States to initiate international discussions and take necessary steps with other Nations to negotiate an agreement for managing migratory and transboundary fish stocks in the Arctic Ocean.

June 20, 2008:

S. 2420. An act to encourage the donation of excess food to nonprofit organizations that provide assistance to food-insecure people in the United States in contracts entered into by executive agencies for the provision, service, or sale of food.

June 26, 2008:

S. 1245. An act to reform mutual aid agreements for the National Capital Region.

S. 2516. An act to assist members of the Armed Forces in obtaining United States citizenship, and for other purposes.

June 30, 2008:

S. 1692. An act to grant a Federal charter to Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated.

S. 2146. An act to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to accept, as part of a settlement, diesel emission reduction Supplemental Environmental Projects, and for other purposes.

S. 3180. An act to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. COHEN (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of a flight delay.

Mr. LEVIN (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of personal business.

Mr. MELANCON (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and until 5 p.m. on July 9 on account of election qualifying in the district.

Mr. BILIRAKIS (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of a delayed flight.

Mr. CARTER (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of an unavoidable family medical obligation.

Mr. PEARCE (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of traveling back to Washington D.C.

Mr. POE (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of official business.

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 Ms. WOOLSEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SKELTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SNYDER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. FOX) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, today, July 9, 10, 11, 14 and 15.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today, July 9, 10, 14 and 15.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today, July 9, 10 and 11.

Mr. BONNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today, July 9 and 10.

Mr. MCHENRY, for 5 minutes, today, July 9, 10 and 11.

Ms. FOX, for 5 minutes, today, July 9, 10 and 11.

Mr. WELLER of Illinois, for 5 minutes, July 9 and 10.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, for 5 minutes, July 9 and 10.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 3015. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18 S. G Street, Lakeview, Oregon, as the "Dr.

Bernard Daly Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

S. 3082. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1700 Cleveland Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri, as the "Reverend Earl Abel Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

S. 3218. An act to extend the pilot program for volunteer groups to obtain criminal history background checks; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Ms. Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by Speaker pro tempore, Mr. HOYER:

H.R. 2642. An act making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for

the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5690. An act to remove the African National Congress from treatment as a terrorist organization for certain acts or events, provide relief for certain members of the African National Congress regarding admissibility, and for other purposes.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reports that on June 26, 2008, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 6327. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reports that on June 27, 2008, she presented to the President of the

United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 2642. Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5690. To remove the African National Congress from treatment as a terrorist organization for certain acts or events, provide relief for certain members of the African National Congress regarding admissibility, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 9, 2008, at 10 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Speaker-Authorized Official Travel during the first and second quarters of 2008, pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO PORT A PRINCE, HAITI, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED ON MAY 16, 2008

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Kimberly Rudolph	5/16	5/16	Haiti		80.00						80.00
Dr. Joe Leonard	5/16	5/16	Haiti		80.00						80.00
Keiana Barrett	5/16	5/16	Haiti		80.00						80.00
Nicole King	5/16	5/16	Haiti		80.00						80.00
Committee total					320.00						320.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

Honorable CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK, Chairman, June 3, 2008.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO ISRAEL, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 16 AND MAY 20, 2008

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,935.00	(3)					1,935.00
Hon. Steny Hoyer	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(2)					1,365.00
Hon. Rahm Emanuel	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. John Larson	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. Henry Waxman	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. Howard Berman	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. Gary Ackerman	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. Nitz Lowy	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. Alcee Hastings	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. Jane Harman	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. Ron Klein	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. David Dreier	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. Adam Putnam	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hon. Wilson Livingood	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Michael Sheey	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Brendan Daly	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Reva Price	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Stacy Kerr	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Micaela Fernandez	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Mariah Sixkiller	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Hugh Halpern	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Steve Rusnak	5/16	5/20	Israel		1,365.00	(3)					1,365.00
Committee total					31,965.00						31,965.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.

Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House, June 20, 2008.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO CANADA-U.S. INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUP CONFERENCE IN SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 16 AND MAY 19, 2008

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Jim Oberstar	5/16	5/19	USA		655.69						655.69

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO CANADA-U.S. INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUP CONFERENCE IN SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 16 AND MAY 19, 2008—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Marcy Kaptur	5/16	5/19	USA		658.69						658.69
Hon. Louise Slaughter	5/16	5/19	USA		655.69						655.69
Hon. Cliff Stearns	5/16	5/19	USA		655.69						655.69
Hon. Bart Stupak	5/16	5/18	USA		436.46						436.46
Hon. Mark Souder	5/16	5/19	USA		655.69						655.69
Hon. Tom Tancredo	5/16	5/19	USA		655.69						655.69
Hon. Daniel Lipinski	5/16	5/19	USA		655.69						655.69
Peter Quilter	5/16	5/19	USA		655.69						655.69
Melody Hamoud	5/16	5/19	USA		655.69						655.69
Robyn Wapner	5/16	5/19	USA		655.69						655.69
Marin Stein	5/14	5/19	USA		1,129.11		397.00		142.91		1,669.02
Ian Fergusson	5/16	5/19	USA		4.00						4.00
Delegation Costs									23,853.36		23,853.36
Committee total					8,129.47		397.00		23,996.27		32,522.74

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

Honorable JAMES L. OBERSTAR, Chairman, June 16, 2008.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO AZERBAIJAN, ARMENIA, PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 22 AND MAY 30, 2008

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Adam Schiff	5/23	5/30	Azer., Arm., Pak., Afg		2,105.00		7,010.00				9,115.00
Allyson Schwartz	5/23	5/30	Azer., Arm., Pak., Afg		2,105.00		7,294.00				9,399.00
Wayne Gilchrest	5/23	5/27	Azer., Arm., Pak		1,609.00		5,422.00				7,031.00
John Lis	5/23	5/27	Azer., Arm., Pak., Afg		2,105.00		7,010.00				9,115.00
Tommy Ross	5/23	5/27	Azer., Arm., Pak., Afg		2,105.00		7,010.00				9,115.00
Rachael Leman	5/23	5/27	Azer., Arm., Pak., Afg		2,105.00		7,010.00				9,115.00
Timothy Bergreen	5/23	5/27	Azer., Arm., Pak., Afg		2,105.00		7,010.00				9,115.00
Committee total											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

Honorable ADAM B. SCHIFF, Chairman, June 25, 2008.

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2008

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. C. Dent	1/7	1/7	London (layover)								12,832.66
	1/7	1/8	Pakistan		289.00						289.00
	1/9	1/10	Afghanistan								
	1/10	1/11	Pakistan		289.00						289.00
	1/11	1/12	Kuwait		164.00						164.00
	1/12	1/13	Iraq								
	1/13	1/14	Kuwait		164.00						164.00
	1/14	1/15	Germany		366.00		12,832.66		366.00		366.00
Hon. Henry Cuellar	1/20	1/22	Mexico		600.00		1,051.44				1,651.44
Hon. M. McCaul	1/20	1/22	Mexico		600.00		1,051.44				1,651.44
Jessica Herrera-Flanigan	1/20	1/22	Mexico		600.00		1,051.44				1,651.44
Stephen Vina	1/20	1/22	Mexico		600.00		1,051.44				1,651.44
William Rubens	1/20	1/22	Mexico		600.00		1,051.44				1,651.44
Hon. B.G. Thompson	1/24	1/27	Kuwait		1,260.00		11,707.00				12,967.00
	1/25	1/25	Iraq				(³)				
Todd Levett	1/24	1/27	Kuwait		1,260.00		11,707.00				12,967.00
	1/25	1/25	Iraq				(³)				
Committee total					5,886.00		28,671.20				34,557.20

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.

Honorable BENNIE G. THOMPSON, Chairman, June 19, 2008.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2008

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. C. Dent	1/7	1/7	London (layover)								12,832.66
	1/7	1/8	Pakistan		289.00						289.00
	1/9	1/10	Afghanistan								
	1/10	1/11	Pakistan		289.00						289.00
	1/11	1/12	Kuwait		164.00						164.00
	1/12	1/13	Iraq								
	1/13	1/14	Kuwait		164.00						164.00
	1/14	1/15	Germany		366.00		12,832.66		366.00		366.00
Hon. M. McCaul	1/14	1/15	Germany		600.00		1,051.44				1,651.44
Jessica Herrera-Flanigan	1/14	1/15	Germany		600.00		1,051.44				1,651.44
Stephen Vina	1/14	1/15	Germany		600.00		1,051.44				1,651.44
William Rubens	1/14	1/15	Germany		600.00		1,051.44				1,651.44
Hon. B.G. Thompson	1/24	1/27	Kuwait		1,260.00		11,707.00				12,967.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2008—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Todd Levett	1/25	1/25	Iraq				(³)				
	1/24	1/27	Kuwait		1,260.00		11,707.00				12,967.00
	1/25	1/25	Iraq				(³)				
Committee total					5,286.00		27,619.76				32,905.76

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

Honorable BENNIE G. THOMPSON, Chairman, June 9, 2008.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

7339. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Vidalia Onions Grown in Georgia; Increased Assessment Rate [Docket No. AMS-FV-07-0159; FV08-955-1 FR] received June 27, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7340. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Hazelnuts Grown in Oregon and Washington; Establishment of Interim Final and Final Free and Restricted Percentages for the 2007-2008 Marketing Year [Docket No. AMS-FV-07-0150; FV08-982-1 FIR] received June 27, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7341. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Sweet Onions Grown in Walla Walla Valley of Southeast Washington and Northeast Oregon; Increased Assessment Rate [Docket No. AMS-FV-07-0157; FV08-956-1 FR] received June 27, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7342. A letter from the Administrator Housing and Community Facilities Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Housing Preservation Grants (RIN: 0575-AC76) received June 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7343. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received June 23, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7344. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Deposit Insurance Requirements After Certain Conversions; Definition of "Corporate Reorganization;" Optional Conversions ("Oakar Transactions"); Additional Grounds for Disapproval of Changes in Control; and Disclosure of Certain Supervisory Information (RIN: 3064-AD25) received June 23, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7345. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Mgmt. Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medical Devices; Hearing Aids; Technical Data Amendments [Docket No. FDA-2008-N-0148] received July 23, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7346. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-406, "Compensation and Holdover Clarification Amendment Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7347. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-410, "AED Installation for Safe Recreation and Exercise Temporary Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7348. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-411, "Fiscal Year 2008 Other-Type and Local Appropriations Adjustment Temporary Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7349. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-418, "Street Sweeping Improvement Enforcement Temporary Amendment Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7350. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-404, "Noise Control Protection Amendment Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7351. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-405, "Financial Literacy Council Establishment Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7352. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-407, "Wards 4, 7, and 8 Anti-Sale of Single Containers of Alcoholic Beverages Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7353. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-408, "Golden Triangle BID Amendment Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7354. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-415, "Affordable Housing Clearinghouse Directory Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7355. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-416, "Nuisance Properties Abatement Reform and Real Property Classification Amendment Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7356. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-419, "Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Support Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7357. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-417, "Street Sweeping Improvement Enforcement Amendment Act of 2008," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7358. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7359. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7360. A letter from the Deputy Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7361. A letter from the Deputy Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7362. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7363. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7364. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7365. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7366. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7367. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7368. A letter from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Species: Final Listing Determinations for 10 Distinct Population Segments of West Coast Steelhead [Docket No. 051216341-5341-01; I.D. No. 052104F] (RIN: 0648-AR93) received June 23, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7369. A letter from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Species; Revision of Critical Habitat for the Northern Right Whale in the Pacific Ocean [Docket No. 051018271-6157-02; I.D. 101405C] (RIN: 0648-AT84) received June 23, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7370. A letter from the Acting Assistant Administrator, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Threatened Status for Southern Distinct Population Segment of North American Green Sturgeon [Docket No. 050323081-6079-02; I.D. 031505C] (RIN: 0648-AT02) received June 23, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7371. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Species: Final Protective Regulations for Threatened Upper Columbia River Steelhead [Docket No. 060124013-6013-01; I.D. 052104F] (RIN: 0648-AU18) received June 23, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7372. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Species; Designation of Critical Habitat for Southern Resident Killer Whale [Docket No. 060228057-6283-02; I.D. 022206D] (RIN: 0648-AU38) received June 23, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7373. A letter from the OGE Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting the Office's final rule — Post-Employment Conflict of Interest Restrictions (RIN: 3209-AA14) received June 23, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7374. A letter from the Clerk of the House of Representatives, transmitting the annual compilation of personal financial disclosure statements and amendments thereto filed with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, pursuant to Rule XXVI, clause 1, of the House Rules; (H. Doc. No. 110-129); to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct and ordered to be printed.

7375. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification of his intention to designate the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Montenegro as separate beneficiary developing countries under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and to terminate the designation of Trinidad and Tobago as a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), pursuant to Public Law 104-188, section 1952(a)(110 Stat. 1917); (H. Doc. No. 110-130); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

7376. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services,

transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP); Retrospective Adjustment for Additional Allotments to Eliminate Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Funding Shortfalls; Final SCHIP Allotments for FYs 2008 and 2009; Redistribution of Unused SCHIP FY 2005 Allotments to Eliminate FY 2008 Funding Shortfalls; Additional Allotments to Eliminate FY 2008 Funding Shortfalls; and Provisions for Continued Authority for Qualifying States to Use a Portion of Certain SCHIP Funds for Medicaid Expenditures [CMS-2273-N2 and CMS-2265-N] (RIN: 0938-AO99 and 0938-APO7) Received June 27, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 415. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; with an amendment (Rept. 110-735). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1286. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail; with an amendment (Rept. 110-736). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1423. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease a portion of a visitor center to be constructed outside the boundary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in Porter County, Indiana, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 110-737). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3981. A bill to authorize the Preserve America Program and Save America's Treasures Program, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 110-738). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4199. A bill to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 to add sites to the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 110-739). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5741. A bill to amend the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to improve the conservation of sharks; with an amendment (Rept. 110-740). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. CONYERS: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1485. A bill for the relief of Esther Karinge (Rept. 110-741). Referred to the Private Calendar.

Mr. CONYERS: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2760. A bill for the relief of Shigeru Yamada (Rept. 110-742). Referred to the Private Calendar.

Mr. CONYERS: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5030. A bill for the relief of Corina

de Chalup Turcinovic (Rept. 110-743). Referred to the Private Calendar.

Mr. CARDOZA: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1317. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1286) to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail (Rept. 110-744). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1318. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5811) to amend title 44, United States Code, to require preservation of certain electronic records by Federal agencies, to require a certification and reports relating to Presidential records, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-745). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. OBEY: Committee on Appropriations. Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2008 (Rept. 110-746). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. OBEY: Committee on Appropriations. Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2008 (Rept. 110-747). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 6184. A bill to provide for a program for circulating quarter dollar coins that are emblematic of a national park or other national site in each State, the District of Columbia, and each territory of the United States, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-748). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII the following action was taken by the Speaker:

[The following action occurred on June 27, 2008]

H.R. 5541. Referral to the Committees on Agriculture and the Budget extended for a period ending not later than July 11, 2008.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SCALISE:

H.R. 6428. A bill to provide for State enhanced authority for coastal and ocean resources, expansion of America's supply of natural gas and oil, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, Armed Services, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MICHAUD:

H.R. 6429. A bill to establish a small business energy emergency disaster loan program; to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BUYER:

H.R. 6430. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, relating to the health professional scholarship program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BUYER:

H.R. 6431. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress reports in electronic form; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, and Mr. TOWNS):

H.R. 6432. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the animal drug user fee program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, and Mr. TOWNS):

H.R. 6433. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish a program of fees relating to generic new animal drugs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FARR (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. ANDREWS, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. STARK, Mr. FILNER, Ms. LEE, Mr. BACA, Mr. DICKS, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Ms. SLAUGHTER):

H.R. 6434. A bill to establish national standards for discharges from cruise vessels into the waters of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CASTLE (for himself and Mr. CAPUANO):

H.R. 6435. A bill to relieve traffic congestion; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CHABOT:

H.R. 6436. A bill to combat international oil price fixing and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a credit against income tax of at least \$1,000 to offset high 2008 gasoline and diesel fuel prices; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONAWAY (for himself, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. POE, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. CARTER, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. EDWARDS of Texas, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. REYES, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. PAUL, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. SALAZAR, and Mr. SKELTON):

H.R. 6437. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 North Texas Avenue in Odessa, Texas, as the "Corporal Alfred Mac Wilson Post Office"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 6438. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to lift restrictions on the availability of certain enlistment, reenlistment, and student loan benefits for military technicians, when membership in a reserve component is a condition of the military technician's employment and to repeal the prohibition in title 32, United States Code, against overtime pay for National Guard technicians; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HARE (for himself, Mr. FILNER, Mr. MICHAUD, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. BERKLEY, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, and Mr. HALL of New York):

H.R. 6439. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code to expand the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide counseling for family members of veterans receiving non-service-connected treatment; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

H.R. 6440. A bill to provide for the transfer of certain Federal Property to the Galveston Historical Foundation; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PAUL:

H.R. 6441. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for replacing an automobile with a more fuel-efficient automobile; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SPRATT:

H.R. 6442. A bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to require the Secretary of Labor to certify a group of workers in a subdivision of firm as eligible to apply for assistance under the trade adjustment assistance program if the subdivision is a seller of articles of the firm that employed a group of workers who received a certification of eligibility under such program and such sales are related to the article that was the basis for such certification; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. HAYES, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, and Mr. HELLER):

H. Con. Res. 388. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Department of Defense and the Federal Voting Assistance Program should take certain additional and timely measures to ensure that members of the Armed Forces and their dependents are provided with reasonable information on how to register to vote and vote in the 2008 general elections; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FILNER:

H. Res. 1319. A resolution expressing support for the designation of Four Immortal Chaplains Day in remembrance of the 4 men who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the name of compassion for those of different races and faiths; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. JACKSON of Illinois (for himself, Mr. CASTLE, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois):

H. Res. 1320. A resolution expressing support for designation of July 10, 2008, as "National Summer Learning Day"; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. HOOLEY, and Mr. WU):

H. Res. 1321. A resolution honoring the Oregon National Guard Youth Challenge Program for its outstanding achievements; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. FARR (for himself, Ms. PELOSI, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HONDA, Mr. ROYCE, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. GALLEGLY, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. BACA, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mr. COSTA, and Ms. LEE):

H. Res. 1322. A resolution commending the firefighters from California and throughout the United States for their courageous actions and sacrifices in fighting the California wildfires; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MITCHELL:

H. Res. 1323. A resolution commending the Arizona State University softball team for their victory in the 2008 Women's College World Series; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. STUPAK (for himself and Mr. RAMSTAD):

H. Res. 1324. A resolution requesting that the President focus appropriate attention on neighborhood crime prevention and community policing, and coordinate certain Federal efforts to participate in National Night Out, which occurs the first Tuesday of August each year, including by supporting local efforts and community watch groups and by supporting local officials, to promote community safety and help provide homeland security; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. WAMP introduced a bill (H.R. 6443) for the relief of Carlos Espinal Castillo-Reynolds; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 21: Mr. SARBANES.
 H.R. 74: Mr. MOLLOHAN.
 H.R. 303: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
 H.R. 410: Mr. HIGGINS.
 H.R. 468: Ms. MATSUI.
 H.R. 510: Mr. GOHMERT.
 H.R. 552: Mr. FARR, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. TIERNEY, and Mr. BACA.
 H.R. 636: Mr. SCALISE.
 H.R. 643: Mr. CARSON.
 H.R. 689: Mr. SCALISE.
 H.R. 690: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
 H.R. 695: Mr. ANDREWS.
 H.R. 777: Mr. ROTHMAN.
 H.R. 1073: Mr. ANDREWS.
 H.R. 1185: Mr. EMANUEL and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
 H.R. 1193: Mr. MCNERNEY.
 H.R. 1228: Ms. LEE.
 H.R. 1295: Mr. MANZULLO and Mr. GOHMERT.
 H.R. 1306: Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 1320: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 1350: Mr. FOSTER.
 H.R. 1363: Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota.
 H.R. 1390: Ms. FOX.
 H.R. 1428: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
 H.R. 1514: Mr. TOWNS.
 H.R. 1606: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
 H.R. 1619: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SPACE, and Mr. LATOURETTE.
 H.R. 1653: Ms. DEGETTE.
 H.R. 1671: Mr. BOSWELL.
 H.R. 1707: Mr. BACA.
 H.R. 1738: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Mr. CONYERS.
 H.R. 1755: Mr. MARKEY.
 H.R. 1889: Mr. SHERMAN.
 H.R. 1912: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
 H.R. 1926: Mr. CUMMINGS.
 H.R. 2073: Mr. MCCOTTER.
 H.R. 2169: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
 H.R. 2208: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, and Mr. CRENSHAW.

- H.R. 2303: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 2332: Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.
H.R. 2493: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 2533: Mr. CANTOR and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 2552: Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee.
H.R. 2558: Mr. MARCHANT and Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 2604: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 2670: Ms. PRYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 2694: Mr. JEFFERSON.
H.R. 2708: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 2712: Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 2731: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 2832: Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.
H.R. 2833: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BERMAN, and Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota.
H.R. 2851: Mr. PASCARELL, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 2923: Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 3001: Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 3008: Mr. BOSWELL.
H.R. 3010: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. ANDREWS, and Ms. KILPATRICK.
H.R. 3035: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 3036: Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 3089: Mr. TURNER, Mr. PITTS, and Mrs. CAPITO.
H.R. 3098: Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 3257: Mr. McNULTY and Mr. BOUCHER.
H.R. 3289: Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 3329: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia and Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.
H.R. 3334: Mr. INSLER, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 3339: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 3507: Mr. OLVER.
H.R. 3579: Mr. JONES of North Carolina.
H.R. 3660: Mr. HONDA and Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 3679: Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 3753: Mr. LAHOOD.
H.R. 3769: Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 3834: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 3844: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H.R. 3896: Mrs. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 3916: Mr. SHAYS.
H.R. 3934: Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. KLINE of Minnesota.
H.R. 3981: Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.
H.R. 3995: Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. PORTER, and Mr. WOLF.
H.R. 4114: Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 4116: Mr. SHULER.
H.R. 4174: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 4202: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 4248: Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 4296: Mr. CONYERS and Ms. CASTOR.
H.R. 4544: Mr. SESTAK, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 4838: Ms. RICHARDSON.
H.R. 4883: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 4884: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 4900: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 4930: Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 5056: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 5161: Ms. HIRONO and Ms. LEE.
H.R. 5236: Mr. MICHAUD and Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS.
H.R. 5244: Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. COOPER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.
H.R. 5268: Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mr. FATTAH.
H.R. 5435: Ms. DEGETTE and Ms. GIFFORDS.
H.R. 5454: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN and Mr. GUTIERREZ.
H.R. 5510: Mr. CONYERS and Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 5516: Mr. SOUDER, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. CHILDERS, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. HILL, and Mr. GORDON.
H.R. 5564: Mr. BOOZMAN.
H.R. 5573: Mr. CONYERS and Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 5580: Mr. BERMAN.
H.R. 5590: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 5635: Mr. WELLER.
H.R. 5662: Mr. STUPAK and Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 5672: Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H.R. 5673: Mr. GOHMERT.
H.R. 5698: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 5709: Mrs. EMERSON.
H.R. 5723: Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 5727: Mr. WAMP, Mr. SPACE, and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
H.R. 5731: Mrs. DRAKE.
H.R. 5737: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 5741: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 5752: Mr. GORDON, Mr. MCHENRY, and Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 5756: Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 5788: Mr. ROTHMAN.
H.R. 5793: Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 5809: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 5842: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5854: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.
H.R. 5864: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 5882: Ms. GIFFORDS.
H.R. 5901: Ms. SUTTON and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 5913: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 5914: Mr. ALTMIRE and Mr. SHAYS.
H.R. 5924: Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. FEENEY, and Mr. KUHL of New York.
H.R. 5925: Ms. CLARKE.
H.R. 5942: Mr. WU, Mr. SALAZAR, and Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 5946: Mr. PAYNE and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 5954: Mr. HARE, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DOYLE, and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 5984: Mr. LATTI and Mr. POE.
H.R. 6032: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Mr. SPACE.
H.R. 6036: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 6039: Ms. GIFFORDS.
H.R. 6078: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 6091: Mr. PORTER and Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 6099: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 6107: Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. MACK, Mr. COBLE, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. HULSHOF, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 6108: Mr. WESTMORELAND and Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 6129: Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 6159: Mrs. TAUSCHER and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 6180: Mr. HIGGINS and Mr. GORDON.
H.R. 6198: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 6199: Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. RANGEL, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 6205: Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. GORDON, Ms. LEE, and Mr. HALL of New York.
H.R. 6214: Mr. BOOZMAN.
H.R. 6219: Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. SALLI, and Mr. MCCAUL of Texas.
H.R. 6258: Mr. TERRY.
H.R. 6285: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 6287: Mr. FOSTER and Mr. HODES.
H.R. 6288: Mr. BOOZMAN.
H.R. 6321: Mr. WALSH of New York, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 6326: Mr. BACA, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. FILNER, Mr. STARK, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE, Mr. HONDA, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 6330: Mr. WU.
H.R. 6338: Mr. PUTNAM.
H.R. 6341: Mr. CARNAHAN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 6355: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 6368: Mr. RAMSTAD and Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 6371: Mr. GONZALEZ and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 6373: Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 6375: Mr. WAXMAN.
H.R. 6398: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 6407: Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. DELAURIO, Mr. MICHAUD, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. UDALL of Colorado.
H.R. 6410: Mr. PAUL.
H.J. Res. 39: Mr. WALBERG and Mr. BOUCHER.
H.J. Res. 93: Mr. ANDREWS.
H.J. Res. 96: Mr. JORDAN, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BURGESS.
H. Con. Res. 33: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H. Con. Res. 73: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H. Con. Res. 223: Mr. DEFazio, Mrs. MYRICK, and Mr. ROSS.
H. Con. Res. 244: Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H. Con. Res. 276: Mr. CARSON.
H. Con. Res. 341: Mr. SHUSTER.
H. Con. Res. 356: Mr. HINCHEY.
H. Con. Res. 358: Mr. AKIN and Mr. BOOZMAN.
H. Con. Res. 360: Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. ELLISON.
H. Con. Res. 371: Mrs. LOWEY.
H. Con. Res. 381: Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. SCHIFF.
H. Con. Res. 382: Ms. SLAUGHTER and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H. Con. Res. 385: Mr. WEINER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. MCCOTTER, and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.
H. Res. 102: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H. Res. 556: Mr. CLEAVER and Mr. TERRY.
H. Res. 565: Mr. GOHMERT.
H. Res. 655: Ms. WATERS.
H. Res. 672: Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. MEEKS of New York, and Mr. GONZALEZ.
H. Res. 757: Mr. WEXLER.
H. Res. 758: Mr. GERLACH.
H. Res. 870: Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. HOYER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, and Ms. BORDALLO.
H. Res. 1006: Mr. CHANDLER and Mr. COSTELLO.
H. Res. 1012: Mr. SHIMKUS.
H. Res. 1042: Mr. REYES.
H. Res. 1045: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H. Res. 1069: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H. Res. 1076: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H. Res. 1088: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. COHEN, Ms. LEE, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. ENGEL.
H. Res. 1115: Mr. PALLONE.
H. Res. 1179: Ms. FALLIN.
H. Res. 1182: Mr. HODES.
H. Res. 1200: Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. SESTAK.
H. Res. 1202: Mr. CAMP of Michigan, Mr. SHULER, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. HAYES, and Mr. SIMPSON.
H. Res. 1227: Mr. PAYNE.
H. Res. 1232: Mr. KUHL of New York, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H. Res. 1254: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. SNYDER.
H. Res. 1258: Mr. TOWNS.
H. Res. 1266: Mr. SHIMKUS and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
H. Res. 1273: Mr. COSTA and Mr. SHAYS.
H. Res. 1279: Mr. DOYLE, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. PITTS, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. UPTON, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGEN of California, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. GALLEGLY, Ms. FOX, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MACK, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. PENCE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr.

RYAN of Ohio, Mr. WU, and Mr. McCAUL of Texas.

H. Res. 1282: Mr. KUHLMANN of New York and Mr. SOUDER.

H. Res. 1286: Mr. CLAY, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. RUSH, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. FILNER.

H. Res. 1287: Mr. BOOZMAN.

H. Res. 1296: Mr. COHEN and Ms. BORDALLO.

H. Res. 1311: Mr. DEFazio, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. REYES, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. EDWARDS of Texas, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. RANGEL, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. LEE, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of

Florida, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. DAVIS of Alabama.

H. Res. 1312: Mr. CALVERT.

H. Res. 1313: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mr. CHANDLER, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.

H. Res. 1315: Mr. HARE, Mr. CAMPBELL of California, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. WALSH of New York, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. MAHONEY of Florida, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. DREIER, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. GORDON.

H. Res. 1316: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SESTAK, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. McDERMOTT.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendment to be offered by Representative BISHOP of Utah, or a designee, to H.R. 1286, the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail Designation Act, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of rule XXI.