

York, Ms. Corrine Brown of Florida, Mr. Filner, Ms. Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Cummings, Mrs. Tauscher, Mr. Boswell, Mr. Holden, Mr. Baird, Mr. Larsen of Washington, Mr. Capuano, Mr. Bishop of Utah, Mr. Michaud, Mr. Carnahan, Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. Lipinski, Ms. Hirono, Mr. Altmire, Mr. Walz, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Arcuri, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Carney, Mr. Hall of New York, Mr. Kagen, Mr. Cohen, Ms. Richardson, Mr. Sires, Ms. Edwards of Maryland, Mr. Ortiz, Mr. Hare, Mr. Boccheri, Mr. Schauer, Ms. Markey of Colorado, Mr. Griffith, Mr. McMahon, Mr. Perriello, Ms. Titus, Mr. Teague.

(6) COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.—Mr. Stark, Mr. Levin, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Lewis of Georgia, Mr. Neal of Massachusetts, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Becerra, Mr. Doggett, Mr. Pomeroy, Mr. Thompson of California, Mr. Larson of Connecticut, Mr. Blumenauer, Mr. Kind, Mr. Pascrell, Ms. Berkley, Mr. Crowley, Mr. Van Hollen, Mr. Meek of Florida, Ms. Schwartz of Pennsylvania, Mr. Davis of Alabama, Mr. Davis of Illinois, Mr. Etheridge, Ms. Linda T. Sanchez of California, Mr. Higgins, Mr. Yarmuth.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon in support of the beleaguered people of the State of Israel. I rise in support of the only democracy in the Middle East. I rise in support of the country in the Middle East that has the same values that our great country, the United States of America, has, principles of democracy and principles that are so important to every man, woman and child.

The people of Israel have for 60 years been vilified by undemocratic powers and by powers that would wish to destroy it. For the past several years, day in and day out the people of Israel have had to endure rocket attacks coming from the terrorist organization that runs Gaza called Hamas. Israel is supposed to just accept these attacks on its citizens and do little or nothing about it if you would listen to the United Nations, if you would listen to the international community, if you would listen to these hypocritical demonstrations going on in London and all the Arab capitals and everywhere else, and even some in the United States.

Every country, every government's primary responsibility is to protect its citizens, and the people of Israel and the Government of Israel should not be held to any other standard than that.

The terrorist organization that runs Gaza called Hamas, bought and paid for

by Iran, thinking that it can use terrorism as a way of somehow getting its state, must understand that in order to gain acceptance of nations in the free world, that it needs to renounce terror, that it needs to recognize Israel's right to exist, and that it needs to abide by all previous resolutions that were signed by the Palestinian Authority. It doesn't do it because it's a terrorist state. It doesn't do it because its vow is to destroy the Jewish State of Israel. It doesn't do it because, like Hezbollah and like Osama bin Laden and like al Qaeda, it thinks it can use terrorism to establish its aims and goals, but it cannot.

We stand in a bipartisan fashion with the people of Israel because if we in the United States had missiles being fired onto our innocent civilians from states across the border, we would move across the border and try to stop those terrorists from killing our people. That's what Israel is doing.

Many of us on the Foreign Affairs Committee this morning met with the Israeli ambassador and we saw a tape where Israel takes great precaution to try to prevent civilian casualties. But what Hamas does is it builds its bomb factories and it builds its terror weapons in the heart of the densely populated areas of Gaza and uses its own people as human shields. And so when the Israelis destroy these missile-making and bomb-making terror factories, innocent civilians very unfortunately get killed. But it is the Palestinians that support Hamas. It's the Hamas organization that is responsible for these killings. Israel has an absolute right to defend itself.

Now, we all want a cease-fire. We all want peace in the region. And we all know that ultimately peace will come when there is a two-state solution, an Israeli Jewish state and a Palestinian Arab state. The problem is most Israelis do accept the fact that there ought to be a Palestinian state, but the Palestinians, Hamas, does not accept the viability of Israel as a Jewish state.

And so let's put things in perspective here. If you have people that want to destroy you and want to kill you and don't recognize your right to exist, how can we have peace in the region?

We ought to note that Israel pulled out of Gaza several years ago and left Gaza to the Palestinians. And what did it get in return? It got missiles fired on its citizens in Syrot and other places in return for Israel leaving Gaza. The Palestinians used to say, well, it's the occupation, that's what drives everything. What occupation is there in Gaza? There is none. Israel has left Gaza. And the people of Gaza could have built a democratic government living in peace with its neighbors; instead, they chose to embrace terrorism and try to kill as many Israelis as they can.

So, in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let me say that support for Israel in this Congress is strong and it is bipartisan

and will remain so because we understand that the democratic nation of Israel has a right to exist, and the government of Israel has a right to protect its citizens.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL,
Washington, DC, January 6, 2009.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a civil subpoena, issued by the Superior Court for the District of Columbia, for the production of documents.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

DANIEL P. BEARD,
Chief Administrative Officer.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BOUCHER (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for January 6 after 3:30 p.m. on account of family illness.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

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

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

Mr. LANGEVIN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ENGEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, January 14.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, January 8.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, January 14.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. KENNEDY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WOLF, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 14 minutes

p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, January 8, 2009, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

6. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Importation of Cattle from Mexico; Addition of Port at San Luis, AZ [Docket No.: APHIS-2007-0095] (RIN: 0579-AC63) received January 5, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Navy, transmitting notification of an increase in the Average Procurement Unit Cost (APUC) for the H-1 Upgrades Program that exceeds the current Unit Cost Report (UCR) baseline estimate by at least 15 percent, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2433; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's report and recommendations pursuant to Section 133 of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008; to the Committee on Financial Services.

9. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's Annual Report on Federal Government Energy Management and Conservation Programs during Fiscal Year 2006, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 6361(c); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

10. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

11. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting weekly reports relating to post-liberation Iraq under Section 7 of the Iraq Liberation Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-338 for the reporting period of October 15, 2008 through December 15, 2008; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

12. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's 2008 competitive sourcing report, pursuant to Public Law 108-199, section 647(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

13. A letter from the Postal Regulatory Commission, Postal Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's Report on Universal Postal Service and the Postal Monopoly; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

14. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's report on competitive sourcing for fiscal year 2008, pursuant to Public Law 108-199, section 647(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

15. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Repeal of Increased Contribution and Coordinated Party Expenditures Limits for Candidates Opposing Self-funded Candidates received January 5, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on House Administration.

16. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program [Docket No.: OJP (BJA) 1468] (RIN:

1121-AA75) received January 5, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

17. A letter from the Office of Public Information, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting a copy of the embargoed 2008 Year-End Report on the Federal Judiciary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

18. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for General Law, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pipeline Safety: Polyamide-11 (PA-11) Plastic Pipe Design Pressures [Docket No. PHMSA-2005-21305] (RIN: 2137-AE26) received January 5, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

19. A letter from the Division Chief, Division of Legislation and Regulations, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — America's Marine Highway Program [Docket No.: MARAD-2008 0096] (RIN: 2133-AB70) received January 5, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

20. A letter from the Trail Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Adjustment of Monetary Threshold for Reporting Rail Equipment Accidents/Incidents for Calendar Year 2009 [FRA-2008-0136] received January 5, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MILLER of North Carolina (for himself, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. WATT, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. SIREN, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. STARK, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. COHEN, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia):

H.R. 225. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code with respect to modification of certain mortgages on principal residences, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PENNIE (for himself, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. UPTON, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. DREIER, Mr. CARTER, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. AKIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. AUSTRIA, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BONNER, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. BROWN of Georgia, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CAMP, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. COBLE, Mr. COLE, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Ms. FALLIN,

Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FORBES, Ms. FOX, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GOODLATTE, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. HELLER, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. JONES, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LATTI, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. LINDER, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. LUCAS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. MACK, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. MICA, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETRI, Mr. PITTS, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. POSEY, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. SCALISE, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TERRY, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. WAMP, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. WOLF):

H.R. 226. A bill to prevent the Federal Communications Commission from re-promulgating the fairness doctrine; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BROUN of Georgia (for himself, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. LINDER, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. LAMBORN, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. HERGER, Mr. JONES, Mr. TERRY, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. CARTER, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. FORBES, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. WAMP, Mr. AKIN, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. ROONEY, and Mr. LATTI):

H.R. 227. A bill to provide that human life shall be deemed to begin with fertilization; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas:

H.R. 228. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a scholarship program for students seeking a degree or certificate in the areas of visual impairment and orientation and mobility; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio (for himself and Ms. SUTTON):

H.R. 229. A bill to provide for the retention of the name of Mount McKinley; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CARDOZA:

H.R. 230. A bill to prevent foreclosure of home mortgages and increase the availability of affordable new mortgages; to the Committee on Financial Services.