United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 155 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2009 No. 59

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOLDEN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 22, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TIM HOLDEN 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:

Lord God, Father and Creator of all, this Nation is singular and powerful by the very fact that Congress begins its workday with prayer, setting an example for all students and workers of this great land.

By seeking Your presence in moments of prayer each day, we humbly lay before You our limitations and our hopes. We display our openness to Your creative light to guide us in the decisions that need to be made to stay the course of government of Your free people.

By being attuned to Your power, our vision is expanded and our compassion for our brothers and sisters is turned into action.

In You and with You, America's ideals are realized and equal justice for all is within reach both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I am touched by the unwavering spirit of the American people during these tough economic times. We continue to work hard and last week we all paid our taxes. In fact, thousands of immigrants also paid into our tax system through payroll taxes and sales taxes.

There are 12 to 14 million undocumented immigrants that are living and working in this Nation trying to build a better life for their families. I state, a better life for their families. We cannot forget that this country was founded by immigrants who prayed for a better life and who were willing to work hard to make it happen.

By providing a path to citizenship, it is estimated that new legal immigrants would provide $407 billion to strengthen the Social Security system over the next 50 years. We must bring this working population out from the shadows and allow them to become active contributing members of our society.

I urge my colleagues to work with the CHC and President Obama to support comprehensive immigration reform that will fix our economy and respect all families.

TAXED ENOUGH ALREADY

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when the British Crown initially ignored the Boston Tea Party in 1773 and regarded the participants as rabble, authorities thought nothing would come of the protest. They, of course, were wrong. Early Americans were objecting to the British government for not responding to the concerns of the people.

Now, this year, TEA parties, which means taxed enough already, were held throughout the country where citizens exercised the absolute right under the first amendment ''to peaceably assemble and petition government for redress of grievances.'' Most people seemed to be protesting spending and taxation.

The critics said no one would show up. They, of course, were wrong. Many in the media didn't want to cover the events because, frankly, they were politically opposed to the idea, so they responded by calling the protesters kooks and extremists, sort of like the British calling the colonists rabble and troublemakers.

But thousands of Americans, normal taxpayers who work for a living and not beholden to government giveaway programs showed up to let government know that citizens don't like the government spending so much of their money, borrowing money from China and taxing citizens out of existence. Government would do well to listen.

And that's just the way it is.

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FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN VIETNAM

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 334, which I introduced yesterday. This resolution calls for the release of 118 Vietnamese citizens who have been arrested, detained or harassed for signing the Manifesto on Freedom and Democracy in Vietnam.

The manifesto is a peaceful, nonviolent declaration demanding political freedom and respect for Vietnam's citizens.

House Resolution 334 also directs the Secretary of State to establish a ''Countries of Particular Concern'' list to condemn the government of Vietnam and other countries for engaging in particularly harsh human rights violations. Vietnam's ongoing denial of its citizens' fundamental human rights and political liberties is unacceptable.

I introduced H.R. 334 to mark the 3-year anniversary of the original signing of the manifesto and to raise awareness of the Vietnamese Communist government's failure to improve its human rights record.

In May we will honor the 15th anniversary of Vietnam Human Rights Day. I urge my colleagues to stand up for human rights and to join me in this resolution.

DETROIT FREE PRESS WINS PULITZER PRIZE

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

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Detroit Free Press for winning journalism's most esteemed award, the Pulitzer Prize, in the category of Local Reporting. Through old-fashioned hard work and investigative journalism, reporters Jim Schaefer and M.L. Elrick helped to secure their newspaper's prize by uncovering evidence which revealed endemic corruption at Detroit City Hall.

The Free Press's journalistic prowess and integrity provided a needed check to government power and corruption, a tradition which is firmly rooted in America's great tradition of a free press. The reporting of Schaefer and Elrick, and their work in uncovering the truth for the people of Detroit, is something that this entire country can be proud of.

Regardless of all of the ways that the media have changed in recent years, one thing that will never go out of style in America is the ability of a free press to keep the public accurately and honestly informed about its government.

Congratulations to the Detroit Free Press. You make us all proud, and you truly exemplify the spirit of the first amendment.

WATER FOR THE WORLD

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest environmental threats in the entire globe is the supply and quality of water.

In honor of the 39th annual Earth Day Celebration, I'm proud to introduce the Paul Simon Water for the World Act of 2009. The purpose of this act is to empower the United States Government to respond to the pressing environmental, poverty and security threats presented by mismanagement and shortage of global fresh water.

Today, one-fifth of the world's population relies on fresh water that's either polluted or inadequately supplied. The lack of safe drinking water and sanitation remains the world's greatest health problem, accounting for 2 million deaths and half the illnesses in the developing world.

The bipartisan ''Water for the World Act'' builds upon the framework of our 2005 Water for the Poor Act, expanding United States foreign assistance capacity, elevating sustainable water and sanitation policy, and investing in low-cost, high-impact solutions.

There are lots of things that divide us here in Congress, but one of the things that brings us together is a commitment to make the world and its environment better. And I deeply appreciate the leadership of my colleagues, Congressmen DONALD PAYNE, WAMP, ROHRABACHER, BOOZMAN and BURTON in joining me on this Earth Day to enact this important legislation.

LOUISIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE PATRICK WILLIAMS COMPLETES 226–MILE WALK TO BATON ROUGE

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Louisiana State Representative Patrick Williams, who recently completed the 226-mile walk from Shreveport, Louisiana, a major city in my district, to the State capitol in Baton Rouge to raise awareness for autism and childhood obesity.

Autism is a serious developmental disability in the United States, with one in 150 children likely to have some form of this disability.

Representative Williams also brought attention to a serious factor affecting childhood obesity—nutrition in the home, especially among poor families.

And let me say parenthetically that for every obese child, we very likely have a future diabetic.

After completing his walk, Representative Williams made a promise to talk to Congress and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to promote healthy eating in regards to food stamp recipients, as well as encouraging them to buy more fruits and vegetables.

As a family physician, I couldn't agree more, and look forward to working with Patrick Williams to find solutions to both of these medical issues.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CAUCUS

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on Earth Day, as a member of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Caucus, the so-called Green Dogs, to talk about the importance of investing in clean, renewable energy to help build a new green economy.

Investing in homegrown American renewable energy will create thousands of new American jobs that cannot be shipped overseas. In my State of Nevada, a thriving renewable energy industry will help diversify our local economy, which we so desperately need. Whether it is the researcher in the lab developing new generation biofuels, or the electrician on the roof installing solar panels, these jobs will stay right here in the United States.

We are currently losing clean energy jobs and market share to China, Germany, Korea and other countries, but now we have the opportunity to make a real difference. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure that we make the investments necessary today to help create clean energy jobs for tomorrow.

UNREASONABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY REQUIREMENTS

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, the Democrat leadership is moving forward on the change that they've promised. Last week, the EPA, Environmental Protection Agency, moved forward to regulate carbon dioxide emissions under the Clean Air Act, with or without congressional consent.

This week the Committee on Energy and Commerce is holding hearings on cap-and-tax legislation. And this is what we're learning. The renewable energy requirements in the bill are entirely unrealistic.

Currently, 3 percent of our electricity that is generated is by renewable energy, and the chairman's bill is mandating 25 percent by 2025. That would require 20,000 megawatts of renewable energy to come online every year until 2025. That is far above what the projections are, the government-generated projections.

So our question is, are we saddling our States and our energy consumers

with unrealistic demands and mandates at prohibitively high prices? Well, basically, the Democrat leadership presents a choice. We can acquiesce to bad regulation that will have certain and disastrous impacts on our economy, or we can legislate an even more harmful system.

Basically, Mr. Speaker, it's as though, when faced with a gun to our heads, we are taking it and opting to shoot ourselves in the chest.

EARTH DAY

(Mrs. DAHLKEMPER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Mr. Speaker, 39 years ago, then-Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin established a day on which millions of Americans across the country could demonstrate their support for the most precious resources we have, a healthy, sustainable environment.

For nearly four decades tens of millions of Americans continue on this tradition every April 22, a day we call Earth Day.

I want to acknowledge the commitment and vision of the millions of forward-thinking citizens who use this day to do their part, whether planting a tree, picking up litter, or teaching their children what they can do each day to better the world. Each and every one of these individuals is playing a crucial role as we work to meet the challenges that we all face as a Nation and as a world.

Mr. Speaker, I have always been a proponent of the environment. In fact, I founded and operated the Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park in Erie, Pennsylvania, and I have tried to impart upon my children the important role they can play in meeting the environmental challenges of the 21st century.

In the House of Representatives, I'm proud to continue this work as we take proactive steps to protect our environment and our way of life.

This week we will consider the National Water Research and Development Initiative Act to help improve our environment by securing fresh, clean water for all Americans. To this end, I'm very proud to have attached my amendment that encourages reuse and recycling of our water to promote conservation and sustainability for generations to come.

Thank you to all Americans and those around the world doing their part not only today—Earth Day—but each and every day.

□ 1015

TEA PARTIES

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today with a message from a few of my constituents. This scroll is a petition signed by hundreds of Centre County residents who participated in one of the many TEA parties that took place this past week in my district.

Not only do I agree with their message that the Federal Government has overstepped its bounds and continues to spend, tax and borrow too much, but I am proud of these folks who took a stand.

I came to Washington in January to be a part of democracy in action, and today, I can say that I am proud of my constituents who spoke out in their displeasure with this broken process that we call Washington. I am proud that they exercised their first amendment rights.

You see, Mr. Speaker, what occurred this past week is democracy. It's what our forefathers envisioned when drafting the Constitution and, later, the Bill of Rights. It's what our soldiers fight for each and every day. Mr. Speaker, it is the American way.

With that, I thank my colleague from Texas for his assistance.

THE 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise today to recognize and mourn the 10-year anniversary of the Columbine High School tragedy in Littleton, Colorado.

On April 20, 1999, the people of Colorado and across our Nation learned about the senseless act of violence which took 13 lives that day. My friend Congressman COFFMAN represents Columbine High School. I represent an area where many of the families attended Columbine High School. One of my daughters played soccer against a girl who was killed at Columbine. Our neighbors had a nephew who was killed at Columbine. It was a tragedy that affected our community deeply and affected this country deeply; but from a terrible tragedy such as that, with unspeakable evil and violence, we've seen the growth of a community, the coming back together of a community, and we've learned from the families of the victims of this terrible violence.

There is a memorial now built at Clement Park to honor the victims. It is near where I live, and it serves as a reminder of the loss but also of the growth we can develop from that point on. It was a terrible day in Colorado 10 years ago, but if you take a look at the people who have risen from those ashes, so to speak, we have five kids who attended Columbine that year who are now teachers at the high school. There is growth in this country. We deal with evil from time to time, but when we come back together, we are a stronger Nation for it. I know my community is stronger for the terrible tragedy that we suffered 10 years ago.

TAXPAYER CONSCIENCE PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was proud to introduce H.R. 1981, the Taxpayer Conscience Protection Act of 2009. This bill would require individual State departments of health to document whether they are providing any Federal funds they receive through Medicaid to organizations that perform, promote or refer for abortions.

No matter where you stand on the questions of life, this bill would protect the fundamental right that every American taxpayer should enjoy and, frankly, should expect—the right to know whether their money is being spent on activities or organizations to which they are morally opposed.

This administration and this Congress have pledged a new era of government transparency. The legislation would bring increased transparency for the millions of pro-life Americans who are currently in the dark regarding whether and how much of their tax dollars are being funneled to abortion providers.

Only by shining the light of day onto this area of government can we ensure that Federal tax dollars do not fund morally objectionable practices.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 94th anniversary of the start of the Armenian genocide, which was the first genocide of the 20th century. Sadly, that template has been a cycle that continues to this day.

In this case, it was established by history that from 1915 to 1923 the Ottoman Empire systematically killed an estimated 1.5 million Armenians and drove hundreds of thousands of others into exile from their ancestral homeland.

President Obama made promises during his campaign that he would finally recognize the Armenian genocide. It is vital to our Nation and to our foreign policy that we accurately reflect history. My district, in the San Joaquin Valley of California, is home to thousands of Armenian Americans, many of whom are the sons and daughters of survivors. We are quickly approaching the 100th anniversary of the start of the Armenian genocide. I am hopeful we don't have to wait until then to bring justice to my Armenian friends and neighbors.

We know that genocide, sadly, continues to this day. The United States

cannot continue a policy of denial regarding the Armenian genocide. I encourage the passage of House Resolution 252 to recognize the Armenian genocide in our Nation.

THE REAL THREAT TO HOMELAND SECURITY

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the Members' attention a report from the Department of Homeland Security, Secretary Napolitano, entitled ''Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment.''

On page 2, under Key Findings, the footnote states, ''Rightwing extremism in the United States can be broadly divided into those groups, movements and adherents that are primarily hate-oriented (based on hatred of particular religious, racial or ethnic groups) and those that are mainly antigovernment, rejecting Federal authority in favor of State or local authority or rejecting government authority entirely. It may include groups and individuals that are dedicated to a single issue, such as opposition to abortion or immigration.''

On Page 7, under Disgruntled Military Veterans, they're listed as having the potential to boost the capabilities of the extremists.

Mr. Speaker, this is the same Cabinet member who will no longer use the words ''terrorist'' or ''war on terror'' and who now wants to call some of our veterans and pro-life activists ''terrorists.'' This is outrageous.

President Obama, your Cabinet Secretary is the real threat to our security.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

HONORING SOJOURNER TRUTH

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

Mr. SCHAUER. Mr. Speaker, first, I rise to thank Representative JACKSON-LEE for her leadership of her resolution today in honoring Sojourner Truth.

As the Congressman representing Battle Creek, Michigan, I rise on behalf of a community that is proud of its citizen Sojourner Truth, who lived her last 26 years there.

My hometown was home to a pilgrim born into slavery, unable to read or write, who traveled the country, eloquently confronting the injustices of slavery and the unequal treatment of women. She spoke truth to power, and she changed the world. Her life is testimony to the endurance of the human spirit.

Every day that I come to work at my office, I sit across from a portrait of Sojourner Truth, which hangs on my wall. It lifts me and it grounds me, and I know that the memorial in Emancipation Hall, along with a monument at her resting place in Battle Creek, will do the same for the millions of citizens who will view them over the years to come.

EARTH DAY

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight and support the many communities, volunteers, teachers, students, and individuals celebrating Earth Day and their efforts to protect our environment. For 39 years, Earth Day has remained an annual opportunity to remind ourselves of our daily, ongoing responsibility.

Our Nation has experienced an environmental renaissance as of late with business, popular culture and political leadership getting ''green'' and becoming galvanized by the challenge of climate change.

The industries and communities of my district in Colorado are on the front lines of a changing climate—from a shrinking ski season and fewer tourist dollars to an increased threat of wildfire and water resources stretched even thinner. My district's economic well-being has a lot riding on a healthy environment.

Mr. Speaker, I commend all of those who will work, volunteer, teach, and learn about the ways we can protect our Earth and economy. I rise in strong support of all of those who work to make Earth Day every day and who understand the fact that our communities and economies are firmly rooted in a healthy environment.

BUDGET DEFICIT

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, for the last 2 weeks when I was home in my district, I heard from many of my constituents who were justifiably concerned about the large amounts of deficits that we face, about the borrowing that we will have to do and about the spending that we are proposing to do in the President's budget that he approved recently. You know, those who have sought to, maybe, take advantage of that fear have said, ''Nobody ever borrows their way to prosperity.'' Oh, really?

In fact, virtually everyone who has grown wealthy in this country—every corporation and any individual—has borrowed to make that possible, and that's exactly what we're doing. We face a choice. We face a choice of having a dysfunctional health care system, of having an energy system that makes us insecure and that damages our environment, and of having an education system that relegates our citizens to a dismal future.

What we are doing in the budget we passed is to borrow, yes, but to invest in those very important matters that will guarantee a brighter life for our society and for our people, and that is what we are committed to do.

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 incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

COMMENDING CAPTAIN RICHARD PHILLIPS, U.S. NAVY SEALS, AND THE U.S. NAVY IN SOMALI PIRATE HIJACKING

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 339) expressing the sense of the United States House of Representatives regarding the hijacking of the Maersk Alabama, the kidnapping of Captain Richard Phillips by Somali pirates, the rescue of Captain Phillips by United States Navy SEALs and the crews of the USS Bainbridge,USS Boxer, USS Halyburton and Patrol Squadron (VP) 8, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 339

Whereas on April 8, 2009, a group of armed Somali pirates hijacked the Norfolk, Virginia-based Maersk Alabama, a U.S. flagged cargo ship;

Whereas this attack represents the first such attack on a U.S. flagged vessel in modern history;

Whereas Captain Richard Phillips of Underhill, Vermont, commander of the Maersk Alabama, graduated from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and has over 20 years of maritime experience;

Whereas Captain Phillips and the crew of the Maersk Alabama were delivering a life-sustaining USAID shipment of over 8,000 metric tons of food aid to Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda when the ship came under pirate attack;

Whereas the crew of the Maersk Alabama overpowered one of the pirate attackers, and Captain Phillips offered himself up in return for the safe release of his crew and ship;

Whereas four pirates then fled with Captain Phillips to an 18-foot lifeboat;

Whereas the United States Fifth Fleet immediately dispatched Maritime Patrol (P–3) Aircraft to locate and positively identify and monitor the Maersk Alabama to vector the closest U.S. Navy ship to the scene;

Whereas the United States Navy destroyer USS Bainbridge, which had been patrolling

the region due to increased pirate activities, arrived on the scene;

Whereas the USS Bainbridge, under the command of U.S. Navy Commander Frank Castellano, monitored the conditions on the lifeboat and prevented the pirates from escaping;

Whereas Commander Castellano served as the on-the-scene coordinator for the combined rescue efforts of the State Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation hostage negotiators, and the U.S. Navy;

Whereas U.S. Navy SEALs quickly deployed to the scene;

Whereas, while being held by pirates, Captain Phillips attempted a daring escape, diving into the ocean and trying to swim to safety before being recaptured;

Whereas the pirates held Captain Phillips at gunpoint for 5 days;

Whereas the Navy SEALs once again demonstrated their extraordinary bravery, skill, and professionalism in rescuing Captain Phillips;

Whereas the USS Halyburton assisted the USS Bainbridge with the rescue operation, by skillfully ensuring that the pirates were blocked in their attempt to reach the Somali coast;

Whereas the USS Boxer assisted in the rescue operation by standing by to provide immediate medical support, which was thankfully not needed in this operation.

Resolved, that the United States House of Representatives—

1. commends the crew of the Maersk Alabama and Captain Phillips, who selflessly placed himself in harm's way to protect his crew;

2. recognizes the United States Navy, the crews of the USS Bainbridge, Boxer, Halyburton, and Patrol Squadron (VP) 8 for their role in the rescue;

3. congratulates the Navy SEALs on the scene for their decisive action that resulted in the rescue of Captain Phillips; and

4. joins all Americans in expressing great relief that the crew has returned home safely.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) and the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. COFFMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Rhode Island.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I am honored to rise this morning to recognize the efforts of some true heroes during the hijacking of the Maersk Alabama and its aftermath. Like millions of Americans, I watched as the ordeal unfolded from the initial attack, to the crew's quick response, to the captain's selfless sacrifice, to the Navy's breathtaking rescue.

Today, I hope all of our colleagues will join me in congratulating and in thanking the many brave Americans who played a role in the successful resolution of what could have been a terrible tragedy.

First, let me thank the gentleman from Vermont, my friend, PETER WELCH, for spearheading this effort. I'm honored to sponsor this resolution with him. I would also like to thank Chairman SKELTON and Ranking Member MCHUGH for working with us to bring this resolution so quickly to the floor.

The story of the merchant vessel Maersk Alabama is miraculous, not just for the safe return of its entire U.S. crew but also for the incredible bravery and professionalism displayed by the men and women of the U.S. Navy as well as Captain Richard Phillips, who gave himself up to ensure the safety of his crew.

□ 1030

We're all familiar with the story by now. On April 8, a group of armed Somali pirates hijacked the Norfolk, Virginia-based Maersk Alabama, a U.S.-flagged cargo ship—the first such attack on a U.S.-flagged vessel in modern history. Captain Phillips and his crew were delivering a life-sustaining USAID shipment of over 8,000 metric tons of food aid to Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda when the ship came under pirate attack. The crew overpowered one of the attackers, and Captain Phillips offered himself up in return for the safe release of his crew and ship. The four pirates then fled with Captain Phillips on an 18-foot lifeboat.

After receiving the distress call, the United States Fifth Fleet immediately dispatched maritime patrol aircraft to locate and monitor the Maersk Alabama and aid in directing the United States and the Navy destroyer USS Bainbridge to the scene.

The USS Bainbridge, under the command of Navy Commander Frank Castellano, immediately undertook efforts to monitor conditions on the lifeboat, and along with the USS Halyburton, would prevent the pirates from escaping. At one point, Captain Phillips attempted an escape by diving into the ocean but was recaptured. When it appeared that the captain's life was in imminent danger, the Navy SEALs did not hesitate. They drew on their training, and, most importantly, their courage and took decisive action to end the standoff and save the life of Captain Phillips.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us today recognizes the bravery of the captain and the crew of the Maersk Alabama and congratulates the Navy SEALs and the crews of the USS Bainbridge, Boxer, Halyburton and Patrol Squadron (VP) 8 for their decisive action in ensuring the safe return home of all concerned.

Again, I want to thank Congressman WELCH for his work on this legislation, and I ask all of our colleagues to vote for its passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of House Resolution 339.

I am pleased to join my colleagues, PETER WELCH and JIM LANGEVIN, as well as the many cosponsors of this resolution, in expressing the pride of the United States House of Representatives regarding the heroic actions of Captain Richard Phillips, the crew of the Maersk Alabama, and the professionalism and skill of the crews of the USS Bainbridge, the USS Boxer, the USS Halyburton, Patrol Squadron (VP) 8 and the U.S. Navy SEALs.

On April 8, 2009, in what has now become a well-known story, a group of armed Somali pirates hijacked the Norfolk, Virginia-based Maersk Alabama, which is a cargo ship sailing under a U.S. flag. The Alabama was on a mission to deliver over 8,000 metric tons of vital food aid to Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda. This food aid had been provided by U.S. taxpayers through the United States Agency for International Development. It was highly ironic, then, that the Somali pirates targeted a vessel destined to provide relief to their home country.

When the Alabama came under attack, it was also the first such attack on a U.S.-flagged vessel in modern history. But the surprise that the crew of the Alabama must have felt did little to deter positive action on their part. The crew of the Maersk Alabama overpowered one of the pirate attackers, and the ship's commander, Captain Richard Phillips, offered himself up in return for the safe release of his crew and ship.

Captain Phillips' courageous action is a credit to him, his 20 years of maritime experience, his alma mater, the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, and his hometown of Underhill, Vermont.

Four of the Somali pirates fled with Captain Phillips to an 18-foot lifeboat and set off for the Somali coast. The length of the Somali coastline is vast, roughly the same length as the entire eastern seaboard of the United States.

Despite the diligent efforts of the international community and the U.S.-led Combined Task Force 151 counter-piracy operations, military vessels cannot be every place at once. As a result, the nearest U.S. ship at the time of the incident was more than 300 nautical miles away.

In response to the distress call from the Maersk Alabama, the United States Fifth Fleet immediately dispatched maritime patrol aircraft to locate, positively identify and monitor the Maersk Alabama to direct the closest U.S. Navy ship to the rescue. The United States Navy destroyer USS Bainbridge, which had been patrolling the region due to the increase in pirate activity, soon arrived. The Bainbridge, under command of U.S. Navy Commander Frank Castellano, monitored the conditions on the lifeboat and prevented the pirates from escaping. Commander Castellano also served as the on-the-scene coordinator for the combined rescue efforts of the State Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation hostage negotiators, and the United States Navy.

While being held by pirates, Captain Phillips attempted a daring escape—

diving into the ocean and trying to swim to safety before being captured. Captain Phillips' ordeal cannot be understated. The pirates held him at gunpoint for 5 days until the U.S. Navy SEALs, who had quickly deployed to the scene onboard the USS Bainbridge, rescued Captain Phillips, demonstrating their extraordinary valor and skill.

The captain and crew of the Bainbridge were supported by two additional U.S. Navy ships. The USS Halyburton, an Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate, assisted the USS Bainbridge with the rescue operation by ensuring that the pirates were blocked in their attempts to reach the Somali coast. The USS Boxer, a Wasp-class amphibious assault ship, assisted in the rescue operation by standing by to provide immediate medical support, which was, thankfully, not needed in this operation.

It is also remarkable to note that the namesake for the USS Bainbridge is Captain William Bainbridge, one of the United States' earliest naval officers who became the country's most famous pirate hostage.

In October 1803, Captain Bainbridge was in command of the USS Philadelphia, a 36-gun frigate, on a mission to blockade North African pirate ships from Tripoli. Following an unfortunate grounding of the Philadelphia on a shallow reef near shore, Captain Bainbridge and his crew of 300 were taken hostage and held in captivity for nearly 2 years. When Captain Bainbridge finally returned to this country, he continued to serve in the U.S. Navy and went on to distinguish himself in the War of 1812.

Now, 200 years later, pirates continue to operate along the coast of Africa, and the U.S. Navy ship named in his honor has played such a critical role in thwarting their efforts.

In conclusion, I urge the international community, as well as President Obama, to apply both private and government means to combat piracy. While the U.S. military can have a significant deterrence on piracy and can play a key role in disrupting pirate attacks, a long-term solution to this problem cannot be found through military force alone.

I also urge my colleagues to adopt House Resolution 339 to recognize the bravery of the crew of the Maersk Alabama, commend Captain Phillips who selflessly placed himself in harm's way to protect his crew, congratulate the United States Navy, the crews of the USS Bainbridge, Boxer, Halyburton, Patrol Squadron 8 and the Navy SEALs on the scene for their decisive action that resulted in the rescue of Captain Phillips and join all Americans in expressing great relief that the crew has returned home safely.

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield as much time as he might consume to my friend and colleague, the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 339, and I thank my friends, Congressmen LANGEVIN and WELCH, for introducing this bill and their leadership on this subject.

Captain Phillips' brave leadership in the defense of his crew and ship, along with the outstanding service of the men and women of the United States Navy, allowed for the safe return of the crew of the motor vessel Maersk Alabama. Both Captain Phillips and his crew's actions clearly demonstrate the bravery that is present in our American Merchant Marines. I commend the sailors on the USS Bainbridge and Halyburton, as well as the Navy SEALs who were involved in the lengthy standoff with the Somali pirates.

On Easter Sunday, every American could be proud and thankful for the commitment and excellence of our servicemembers. The actions of our men and women in uniform highlight the dedication and professionalism present in our Navy servicemembers. This also demonstrates the critical need for the high level of training these sailors have been given which allows them to successfully conduct such a high-risk and complicated operation.

I have long warned of the dangers associated with international piracy. Just last month, I called for and chaired a full Armed Services Committee hearing on international piracy on the high seas. The inherent danger in allowing these types of criminal activities to go unchecked is evident throughout our history. We see prime examples of this when we look as far back as the days of the Barbary pirates, where the pirates were eventually defeated ashore in Algiers; or the recent example of the Straits of Malacca, where it took the combined forces of Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore working together to secure their waters.

In both of these instances, the international community was dealing with criminals whose sole objective was monetary gain; and when faced with superior forces, they retreated. The pirates off the coast of Somalia are no different. However, like the pirates of the past, they will only retreat as far as they are pushed.

Establishing a working government in Somalia is a solution, but this is a long-term solution. In the short term, it is imperative that the international coalition, already operating in the area, uses its superior force to continue to pursue these pirates into the safe havens where they are operating. This will be the only way to convince these criminals that the risks now outweigh the rewards. The authorities needed to conduct such operations have already been provided in United Nations Security Council Regulations 1846 and 1851.

I applaud the commitment of the international community to solve the problem, but additional work must be done to advance the current international coalitions operating in the region. Just this weekend we were reminded of the imminence of the ongoing problem. Hostages were freed by Dutch forces, but the gang of pirates responsible were subsequently released due to the lack of a detainment policy within the NATO task force.

The United States must encourage all of our coalition partners to adopt a single set of rules of engagement and authorities. I am encouraged by Secretary Clinton's call on the international community to hold these criminals accountable and agree with her comments about pursuing the pirate sanctuaries along the Somalia coast. Denying the ability of the pirates to operate ashore is the best solution for stopping these attacks in the short term.

□ 1045

Until the international community decides that it will no longer tolerate piracy in any way, we will continue to see history repeat itself, and the merchants operating in the surrounding waters of Somalia will continue to be at risk.

Mr. Speaker, we will not forget the heroic actions of our United States Navy, the United States Navy SEALs, and the brave men aboard the Maersk Alabama.

We sent a clear signal to the pirates that such a brazen attack on American people will not be tolerated. I look forward to working with my colleagues and friends in the administration to find a short-term solution to the ongoing piracy problem, and I am hopeful that we can work with our international partners to find a permanent solution to this issue.

I thank the gentlemen, Mr. LANGEVIN and Mr. WELCH, for their foresight in offering this resolution.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I would like to further comment on the issue of piracy and how we address this in that I feel that there is a cost-effective solution available to us.

Right now, in trying to patrol 1.1 million square miles of ocean, we have deployed a carrier strike group and an additional combined task force; and it is a sledgehammer going after a fly when all we need is a flyswatter.

I would like to propose that the administration consider placing a small detachment of United States Marines or sailors with cruiser weapons aboard U.S.-flagged merchant ships sailing through these waters. There is an average of one U.S. flagship per day sailing through the Gulf of Aiden. And so the Department of Defense response was that we are stretched in resources, and it would be difficult to deploy a squad of marines or the equivalent of sailors aboard this one U.S.-flagged merchant ship going through the Gulf of Aiden on a daily basis. Yet, we are deploying over 10 ships on a daily basis in these

waters, which require far more resources than a small detachment of U.S. marines or sailors.

The precedent for this is certainly during World War II, when we did so to protect our U.S.-flagged merchant shipping. I believe the situation exists today where we have cause to do so. And this is not simply a criminal activity. In 1803, when Captain Bainbridge was in command of the USS Philadelphia, President Thomas Jefferson saw fit to see the actions of the Barbary pirates as an act of war, and I view the conduct of the Somalia pirates as the same.

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to my friend and colleague, the original sponsor of this measure, the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH).

Mr. WELCH. I thank my colleague from Rhode Island. I thank the Armed Services Committee and Chairman SKELTON and my colleague, Mr. COFFMAN.

We have heard eloquent statements about the urgent problem of piracy and what the United States has to do. I would like to talk a little bit about Captain Phillips and about his hometown of Underhill, Vermont, and what is the good news behind this extraordinary rescue operation conducted by the United States Navy.

Mr. Speaker, Underhill is a small town in Vermont in the shadow of our largest mountain, Mt. Mansfield; about 2,800 people live there. The center of life is the Underhill Country Store where people go for their morning coffee to have conversation about what's going on. Neighbors know neighbors.

The folks who live in Underhill know the Phillips family very well. And it turned out that in that week when Captain Phillips was a hostage, all of the activity, all of the conversation in Underhill, of course, was totally about him, about his wife, Andrea, about Mariah and David, their son and daughter, both in college. And life in some ways went on in the ordinary course. David went over to a neighbor's and did his morning chores; it is what he said his dad would have wanted. And the neighbors did what neighbors do in Underhill and do in Vermont and do in communities all around this country when one of their own is in peril; they helped out. They brought over food. They checked in on their neighbors. They gave privacy and respect to Andrea and their family while they were going through this ordeal.

It is also the story about an extraordinary seaman, Captain Phillips, who, I think, as much as his bravery impressed all of us. His modesty impressed all of us as well. He insisted that he was not the hero. Let me use his own words that he was able to recite when he returned. ''I'm not a hero, the military is,'' the cargo shipper, Richard Phillips, told reporters. ''I'm a small part. I'm just a bit part in this story. I'm a seaman doing the best I can like all other seamen out there.'' Captain Phillips insisted on giving all credit to everyone else—his crew, the extraordinary Navy SEALs, the United States Navy, not taking any of the credit for his heroics upon himself.

Now, why is it that he is that way? You know, oftentimes it is said that a hero is a person who is ordinary but, faced with extraordinary circumstances, does extraordinary things. And certainly Captain Phillips fits that description because, when faced with this danger, he put himself and his life on the line to save his crew. It was an extraordinary act in extraordinary circumstances.

But when you reflect on it, Captain Phillips didn't see it that way. He was a seaman doing his job. And maybe what he is reminding us, all of us in America, is that it is doing our jobs day in and day out, what is required of us, that makes us all have it within our reach to be heroic.

Captain Phillips has as his primary responsibility, the way he defines it and the way the law of the sea defines it, to protect his crew. And on some days protecting his crew may be that he has to guide his ship through troubled waters, but on another day, when his ship was seized by pirates, protecting his crew meant turning over his life and his safety to the pirates in exchange for the safety of his crew. And for him, that was just an ordinary, matter-of-fact decision. He didn't even have to think about it because that was his job. It is what he signed up to do. And when the circumstances required he make that decision, he did.

That is what is so inspiring, I think, to so many of us about Captain Phillips, the matter-of-fact way in which he went about being a captain in the Merchant Marine. And it is the same attitude he displays as a dad when he is home, with the jealous guarding of his time with his family that means so much to him so that he can ski, play basketball, do outdoor activities with his kids and with his friends. He is known in the community as just another guy, and that is the person who he wants to return to be.

The inspiring story here is all up and down the line. When a captain was faced with an extraordinary decision, he made it as though it was just an ordinary decision. When one of America's own ships on the high seas was in peril, our Navy responded as they were trained to do. And when one of the hostages, Captain Phillips, was in imminent danger of losing his life, these Navy SEALs, who had trained quietly, relentlessly, and effectively, did what was required of them, and they went on to live the rest of their lives. So this act is an extraordinary act of heroics because of how Captain Phillips made this an ordinary day in his life.

All of us, of course, are thrilled about the safe return of Captain Phillips to Underhill, Vermont, and the reunification of the family, but we are also very proud of our Navy. We are proud of the Navy SEALs and all the people who were involved in this, doing the jobs they were trained to do, doing it successfully, and then going on about their lives without request for fame or favor.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to my friend and colleague, one of the newest members of the Committee on Armed Services, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. NYE).

Mr. NYE. I thank my colleague.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the actions of all the brave Americans who brought about the safe rescue of the captain and crew of the Maersk Alabama.

I have the distinct honor to represent Naval Station Norfolk, the home port of the USS Bainbridge, the first ship to respond after the Alabama was attacked and her captain taken hostage by pirates.

In particular, I would like to applaud the quick, decisive, and effective action taken by the men and women of the Bainbridge and her commanding officer, Commander Frank Castellano. Throughout his 23 years in the Navy, Commander Castellano has served with distinction and honor and has received numerous awards and commendations. As captain of the USS Bainbridge, he skillfully managed the rescue of the Maersk Alabama, ensured the safety of her crew, and led the hostage negotiations with the pirates. And on April 12, when Captain Phillips' life was in danger, Commander Castellano did not hesitate; he gave the green light for our SEALs to take action.

Over the 4 days of the rescue operation, as the world watched, Commander Castellano and the men and women of the Bainbridge made us all proud and reminded us why the U.S. Navy is second to none. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I want to again commend my colleague, Mr. WELCH, for his sponsorship of this resolution. I am proud to join with him. This truly is a story of remarkable heroism and bravery.

I again recognize the leadership of Captain Phillips and his crew and, in particular, the Navy SEALs, and all of our naval vessels and sailors that were involved in this entire effort. They truly are well-trained, and it showed in this. The training paid off.

On a personal note, I have great respect for all of our merchant mariners. Both my grandfather and my great uncle were both members of the Merchant Marine during World War II. I know the sacrifices that these Merchant Marines give in their daily lives day in and day out to make sure that cargo moves safely around the world.

This is truly a good news story, but clearly we have work to do in stopping pirate activities in the future. This is going to be an ongoing effort. I look

forward to working with my colleagues to make sure that this type situation never happens again.

Again, my congratulations to all my colleagues involved in this resolution, particularly Mr. WELCH.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today with great jubilation for the successful rescue of Captain Phillips. I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 339 "Expressing the sense of the United States House of Represensatives regarding the hijacking of the Maersk Alabama, the kidnapping of Captain Richard Phillips by Somali pirates, the rescue of Captain Phillips by United States Navy SEALs and the crews of the USS Bainbridge, USS Boxer, USS Halyburton and Patrol Squadron (VP) 8, and for other purposes."

I believe that Congressional recognition is due to the crews of the USS Bainbridge and other ships on the scene, and especially the incredible skill of the Navy SEALs who rescued Capt. Phillips. Somali pirates boarded the container ship Maersk Alabama about 500 kilometers off the coast of Somalia. The 20 man crew regained control of the Danish-owned, American-operated ship. But the ship's captain—Richard Phillips—was taken hostage as the pirates escaped aboard a lifeboat.

I would like to acknowledge the profound bravery and selflessness that Captain Phillips displayed throughout the entire ordeal. At the time of the hijacking of the Maersk Alabama, Captain Phillips placed himself in harm's way to protect his crew. Phillips offered himself as a hostage after the pirates stormed the U.S.-flagged Alabama. He is a hero, he rose to the occasion and—thankfully—lived to tell about it.

I commend the Navy SEAL snipers on the destroyer USS Bainbridge who killed Captain Phillips's three captors. I applaud President Obama and his administration who gave standing orders for the military to take decisive action if the Captain was in imminent danger.

This is the first time in modern history that the United States has in custody a pirate who carried out an attack on a U.S. citizen. The events that have been taking place off the coast of Somalia are intolerable and I feel that the United States must put an end to piracy.

I am pleased that Captain Phillips is home with his family: his wife, Andrea, and his two children, Daniel and Mariah, in Underhill, Vermont. I wish them all the best as their lives get back to normal.

However, this piracy has not ceased even after the U.S. Navy fatally shot three pirates, who were armed with AK–47 rifles. They are continuing to hijack ships in the Gulf of Aden. More than 200 mariners still remain captives at sea in the hands of pirates. Adm. Rick Gurnon has publicly said, "The pirates have a great business model that works for them: See ships, take ransom, make millions" and that is exactly what they are doing. The pirates from Somalia often launch one or two speed boats with about four or five men aboard. Armed with automatic weapons and in some cases rocket-propelled grenades, they approach unarmed ships, force them to slow down and then board them in order to gain ransom money.

Analysts blame Somalia's nearly 20 years of lawlessness for fueling piracy's rise. Years ago, foreign trawlers began taking advantage of Somalia's civil war to fish its waters illegally and dump toxic waste there. Vigilante Somali fishermen tried to defend their shores, and later morphed into full-blown pirates. Piracy has been a problem in Somali waters for at least 10 years—when Somali fishermen began losing their livelihoods. Their traditional fishing methods were no match for the illegal trawlers that were raiding their waters. Piracy initially started along Somalia's southern coast but began shifting north in 2007—and as a result, the pirate gangs in the Gulf of Aden are now multi-clan operations.

Attacks have risen markedly in recent weeks, and brigands hold at least 17 other ships and around 300 crew. Meanwhile, Somalia called for international help to rebuild its military to combat piracy and train security forces to track down pirates.

I urge the United States to take swift and immediate action against these Somali pirates. It is unacceptable that unarmed Americans or any persons should be attacked and taken hostage on the high seas, with all the resources available to us in this day and age. This is not an American problem, but an international problem, that must be dealt with on a multilateral level. We can not eradicate piracy alone.

I am relieved that Secretary Clinton said the United States wanted to "seek more effective ways to hold these pirates criminally responsible for their actions, which threaten not only the lives of merchant seamen, but the security of critical maritime routes." I believe the meeting which will take place next month in New York with representatives of 24 nations, in order to look at legal measures in the fight against piracy off Somalia is a large first step in ending this madness.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I have no further requests for time. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 339.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERMITTING DESIGNATION OF INDIVIDUAL TO DISBURSE CAMPAIGN FUNDS UPON CANDIDATE'S DEATH

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 749) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 749

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO MAKE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE DISBURSEMENTS IN EVENT OF DEATH OF CANDIDATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 302 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 432) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(j)(1) Each candidate may, with respect to each authorized committee of the candidate, designate an individual who shall be responsible for disbursing funds in the accounts of the committee in the event of the death of the candidate, and may also designate another individual to carry out the responsibilities of the designated individual under this subsection in the event of the death or incapacity of the designated individual or the unwillingness of the designated individual to carry out the responsibilities.

"(2) In order to designate an individual under this subsection, the candidate shall file with the Commission a signed written statement (in a standardized form developed by the Commission) that contains the name and address of the individual and the name of the authorized committee for which the designation shall apply, and that may contain the candidate's instructions regarding the disbursement of the funds involved by the individual. At any time after filing the statement, the candidate may revoke the designation of an individual by filing with the Commission a signed written statement of revocation (in a standardized form developed by the Commission).

"(3) Upon the death of a candidate who has designated an individual for purposes of paragraph (1), funds in the accounts of each authorized committee of the candidate may be disbursed only under the direction and in accordance with the instructions of such individual, subject to the terms and conditions applicable to the disbursement of such funds under this Act or any other applicable Federal or State law (other than any provision of State law which authorizes any person other than such individual to direct the disbursement of such funds).

"(4) Nothing in paragraph (3) may be construed to grant any authority to an individual who is designated pursuant to this subsection other than the authority to direct the disbursement of funds as provided in such paragraph, or may be construed to affect the responsibility of the treasurer of an authorized committee for which funds are disbursed in accordance with such paragraph to file reports of the disbursements of such funds under section 304(a).".

(b) INCLUSION OF DESIGNATION IN STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEE.—Section 303(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 433(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(7) in the case of an authorized committee of a candidate who has designated an individual under section 302(j) (including a second individual designated to carry out the responsibilities of that individual under such section in the event of that individual's death or incapacity or unwillingness to carry out the responsibilities) to disburse funds from the accounts of the committee in the event of the death of the candidate, a copy of the statement filed by the candidate with the Commission under such section (as well as a copy of any subsequent statement of revocation filed by the candidate with the Commission under such section).".

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall apply with respect to authorized campaign committees which are designated under section 302(e)(1) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

□ 1100

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous matter on the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 749, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act. This bill will allow Federal election candidates to designate someone to disburse their campaign funds in the event of their death. The candidate would simply file an appropriate form with the FEC and could also revoke or change the designee at any time.

H.R. 749 will assure candidates for Federal office that the funds raised by their campaign committees will be distributed in accordance with their express wishes after they are deceased.

H.R. 749 is a commonsense fix to the Federal Election Campaign Act. It would provide clear direction to campaign treasurers, who face a wide range of conflicting and confusing State laws. I urge all Members to support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I am pleased to support H.R. 749, which will permit each Federal candidate to designate an individual who, in the event of the candidate's death, will be authorized to make arrangements for the disbursement of campaign funds.

Every private citizen who decides to become a candidate for public office is driven by issues that inspire and motivate them to want to serve. Often, those issues outlive the individuals who campaign for their ideals.

This bill will ensure that every Federal candidate will have the opportunity to appoint a trusted individual to distribute campaign funds after they have passed. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 749.

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

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

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the author, the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES. I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member for reintroducing this bill and moving it to the floor. Last year we passed this bill at the end of the session, and it went over to the Senate, and the Senate did not have enough time to move the bill.

It has been explained by Chairman BRADY and Mr. MCCARTHY the importance of this bill. There are times in a person's public life that they don't think about the time that they might be called by God. And this happened to my father, as a matter of fact.

I am going to explain the story with my father, just bring it to an end from my standpoint of why I introduced this bill, to help other candidates who are running for office, to help incumbents, as both have said before me.

My father finished his 26 years in the United States House of Representatives in 1993, and he actually died that year, in the fall of that year. And as we found out, he was one of the last Members of Congress that could actually take the campaign account and use it for personal reasons.

As explained by the chairman, Mr. MCCARTHY, that has changed. Now those funds can be disbursed, given to a charity, can be given to a political party or whatever the individual decides to do.

Well, in my father's situation, the treasurer, a wonderful man, Tom Parrish, a lawyer who was handling my father's campaign account when my father passed, then the attorney in Farmville, North Carolina, where I am from, where my father was from, the attorney who was handling the estate called the treasurer and said we need to transfer those funds to Congressman Walter Jones, Sr.'s account. And the treasurer said, no, this cannot happen. By law, I am responsible for the disbursement and I, by law, cannot transfer the moneys. Anyway, it was resolved.

Now, as we know has been stated, that the campaign account, should a Member of Congress, the United States House or Senate pass on, then the Treasury would be responsible for disbursing those moneys. What this bill would do is allow that candidate or incumbent, sitting Member of the Congress, should that person be called by God, that then the family member that they designate will be able—or a friend, it could be a friend, but the family member would be able to be disburse those moneys knowing the wishes of that individual.

And I want to thank the chairman again, I want to thank Mr. MCCARTHY on the floor today. I think this is a bill that really will make it easy for a family should that Member die while he or she is serving in the United States House or Senate or be a candidate.

So, Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you very much for moving this bill again. I am going to work the Senate if this should pass the House.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. I have no other speakers. I would just like to thank the gentleman for his work. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I would also like to thank WALTER JONES for this make-sense resolution. I am in favor of this resolution and urge an ''aye'' vote.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 749.

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.

HOUSE RESERVISTS PAY ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1679) to provide for the replacement of lost income for employees of the House of Representatives who are members of a reserve component of the armed forces who are on active duty for a period of more than 30 days, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1679

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 ''House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009''.

SEC. 2. REPLACEMENT OF LOST INCOME FOR HOUSE EMPLOYEES ON ACTIVE DUTY UNDER INVOLUNTARY MOBILIZATION ORDER.

(a) PAYMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For each active duty month of an eligible employee of the House of Representatives who is also a member of a reserve component of the armed forces, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall pay to the employee the amount by which—

(A) the amount of regular compensation the employee would have received from the House of Representatives if the month had not been an active duty month, exceeds (if at all)

(B) the total monthly military compensation paid to the employee for the month by the Secretary of Defense.

(2) ELIGIBILITY.—An employee of the House of Representatives is eligible for purposes of paragraph (1) with respect to an active duty month if the employee was an employee of the House of Representatives during each day of the 90-day period which ends on the day on which the employee reports for active duty under an involuntary mobilization order.

(b) DETERMINATION OF COMPENSATION EMPLOYEE WOULD HAVE RECEIVED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a)(1), the amount of regular compensation an employee would have received from the House of Representatives for a month shall be equal to the amount of compensation the employee received from the House of Representatives for the base month (excluding any bonus or incentive payment made during the month), increased (in a compound manner) by any cost-of-living adjustments applicable to the compensation of employees of

the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer for months occurring after the base month.

(2) BASE MONTH DEFINED.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ''base month'' means, with respect to an employee, the most recent month for which the employee received compensation from the House of Representatives which precedes the active duty month.

(c) SPECIAL RULES REGARDING AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—

(1) REDUCTION FOR AMOUNTS PAID FROM OTHER SOURCES AS REPLACEMENT OF LOST INCOME.—The Chief Administrative Officer shall reduce the amount of any payment made to any individual under subsection (a) with respect to an active duty month by the amount of any payment received by the individual under section 910 of title 37, United States Code, or any other source that is provided to replace income lost by the individual during the month.

(2) MINIMUM AMOUNT REQUIRED FOR PAYMENT.—The Chief Administrative Officer shall not make a payment otherwise required under this section if the amount of the payment (as determined under subsection (a), taking into account the reduction made under paragraph (1)) is not greater than $50.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''active duty month'' means, with respect to an employee of the House of Representatives who is also a member of a reserve component of the armed forces, any month during which the employee is not able to perform duties for the office of the employee's employing authority because the employee is on active duty under an involuntary mobilization order for a period of more than 30 days;

(2) the terms ''armed forces'', ''active duty for a period of more than 30 days'', and ''reserve component'' have the meaning given such terms in section 101 of title 37, United States Code; and

(3) the term ''total monthly military compensation'' has the meaning given such term in section 910(e)(2) of title 37, United States Code.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives such sums as may be necessary for payments under this section.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to active duty months beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. ENSURING CONSISTENCY WITH CODE OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT.

Clause 8 of rule XXIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(d) Nothing in this clause may be construed to prohibit the disbursement or receipt of any payment authorized under section 2 of the House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009.''.

SEC. 4. CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF SURVIVORS FOR HOUSE GRATUITY.

The last undesignated paragraph under the center heading ''House of Representatives'' and the center subheading ''Contingent Expenses of the House'' in the first section of the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1955 (2 U.S.C. 125), is amended by adding at the end the following: ''Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to prohibit the Chief Administrative Officer from paying a gratuity to the widow, widower, or heirs-at-law of an employee of the House who dies during an active duty month (as defined in section 2(d) of the House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009).''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous matter on this bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1679 will replace lost income for military reservists working for the House of Representatives when they are activated for more than 30 days. I introduced this bill after discussion with several House employees who also serve as members of armed services. When they are called up, these men and women must leave their homes, families and jobs, often for an undetermined and unpredictable amount of time.

While on active duty, men and women earn the wages of full-time servicemen and forfeit their regular salary. Many leading companies have helped families survive during this troubling time by paying the difference between their usual salary and their active-duty pay.

This bill would do the same thing for House employees. It requires the CAO to provide that supplement for House employees when they are activated involuntarily. This is a good bill that honors the devoted public service of House employees who not only serve as stewards of the democracy at home but as her defender abroad.

I thank the ranking member, Mr. LUNGREN, Mr. MCCARTHY and now Mr. HARPER for working with us on this legislation. I urge all Members to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2009.

Hon. ROBERT A. BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on House Administration, House of Representatives, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY: We write to you regarding H.R. 1679, the ''House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009.''

H.R. 1679 contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. Specifically, Clause 8 of House Rule XXIII (the Code of Official Conduct), is amended to provide a new paragraph ''(d)'', providing that ''[n]othing in this clause may be construed to prohibit the disbursement or receipt of any payment authorized under section 2 of the House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009.'' We write to confirm the mutual understanding of the Committee on House Administration and the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct that this provision does not waive, reduce, or otherwise affect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to exercise its jurisdiction in this area in the future.

We recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House in an expeditious manner and, accordingly, we do not plan to act on this bill prior to its consideration on the Floor. However, we agree to waive consideration of this bill with the mutual understanding that our decision to forgo action on the bill does not waive, reduce, or otherwise affect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct over certain provisions in H.R. 1679.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct's jurisdictional interest in the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House Floor.

We look forward to working with you as we prepare to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

ZOE LOFGREN,
Chair.
JO BONNER,
Ranking Republican Member.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2009.

Hon. ZOE LOFGREN,
Chair, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

Hon. JO BONNER,
Ranking Republican Member, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIR LOFGREN AND RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER BONNER: Thank you for your April 21, 2009, letter regarding H.R. 1679, the ''House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009''.

I agree that certain provisions in H.R. 1679 are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. I appreciate your willingness to waive rights to further consideration of H.R. 1679, and I acknowledge that through this waiver your Committee is not relinquishing its jurisdiction over the relevant provisions of H.R. 1679. Specifically, I confirm our mutual understanding that Floor consideration of H.R. 1679 does not waive, reduce, or otherwise affect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to exercise its jurisdiction in this area in the future.

This exchange of letters will be placed in the Congressional Record as part of the consideration of H.R. 1679 in the House. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have interacted with the Committee regarding this matter. I look forward to working with you as we prepare to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. BRADY,
Chairman.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

As a member of the House Administration Committee, I am pleased to support H.R. 1679, the House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009.

I congratulate Chairman BRADY for his leadership in introducing this bill, and I am pleased to support any measure that will alleviate some of the financial burden placed upon our military families.

The men and women of the United States Armed Forces, both Active Duty

and Reservists, make many sacrifices to protect our freedom. When called to active duty, Reservists are asked to spend time away from home, to selfishly put themselves in harm's way and, in many cases, to accept a salary that is less than what they would normally earn in civilian life.

The gap in pay experienced by these servicemen and -women often causes undue hardship to them and their families and increases the already heavy burden placed upon them as they leave for battle. I am pleased that this legislation will empower the House of Representatives to do its part to eliminate the financial hardship for those brave employees and their families.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1679.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1679, the "House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009". I would like to thank my colleague ROBERT BRADY for introducing this legislation. H.R 1679 moves to require that the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to pay an eligible House employee, who is also a member of a Reserve component of the Armed Forces, for each active duty month, the amount by which the employee's regular compensation from the House would have exceeded the total monthly military compensation paid to the employee for the active duty month by the Secretary of Defense.

The men and women in our Nation's reserve program are vital in our country's greatest time of need. They serve as military personnel, taking the time to stay trained and ready to serve this country at anytime when we as Congress vote to send them into combat. Their entire lives are put on hold, and families left behind to pick up the workload when a member is selected for active duty. They also hold civilian jobs like the employees covered under H.R. 1679, those employed by the House of Representatives. This commitment that they make to our country is much greater than the commitment we make today. In passing this legislation we can guarantee that the payment made to these soldiers by the House is the same when these employees are working as civilians or when they are called to active duty. As they watch a family member leave for service and questions of who will do the household duties that they usually perform. The worst thing we as Congress could do is ask them to take a pay cut.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1679, the "House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009". To require that the Chief Administrative Officer of the House pay House employees, who are also Reservists of the Armed Forces, for each active duty month the amount by which the employee's regular compensation from the House would have exceeded the total monthly military compensation.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote, and I yield back the balance of time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1679.

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. BRADY of Pennsylvania. 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.

CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY PROJECT ACT OF 2009

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 586) to direct the Librarian of Congress and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to carry out a joint project at the Library of Congress and the National Museum of African American History and Culture to collect video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of individuals who participated in the Civil Rights movement, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 586

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 "Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

(1) A fundamental principle of American democracy is that individuals should stand up for their rights and beliefs and fight for justice.

(2) The actions of those who participated in the Civil Rights movement from the 1950s through the 1960s are a shining example of this principle in action, demonstrated in events as varied as the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the sit-ins, the Freedom Rides, the March on Washington, the drive for voting rights in Mississippi, and the March to Selma.

(3) While the Civil Rights movement had many visible leaders, including Thurgood Marshall, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Rosa Parks, there were many others whose impact and experience were just as important to the cause but who are not as well known.

(4) The participants in the Civil Rights movement possess an invaluable resource in their first-hand memories of the movement, and the recording of the retelling of their stories and memories will provide a rich, detailed history of our Nation during an important and tumultuous period.

(5) It is in the Nation's interest to undertake a project to collect oral histories of individuals from the Civil Rights movement so future generations will be able to learn of their struggle and sacrifice through primary-source, eyewitness material. A coordinated Federal project would also focus attention on the efforts undertaken by various public and private entities to collect and interpret articles in all formats relating to the Civil Rights movement, and serve as a model for future projects undertaken in museums, libraries, and universities throughout the Nation.

(6) The Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution are appropriate repositories to collect, preserve, and make available to the public a collection of these oral histories. The Library and Smithsonian have expertise in the management of documentation projects, and experience in the development of cultural and educational programs for the public.

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to create a new federally sponsored, authorized, and funded project that will coordinate at a national level the collection of video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of individuals who participated in the American Civil Rights movement that will build upon and complement previous and ongoing documentary work on this subject, and to assist and encourage local efforts to preserve the memories of such individuals so that Americans of all current and future generations may hear from them directly and better appreciate the sacrifices they made.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT PROJECT AT LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE TO COLLECT VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDINGS OF HISTORIES OF PARTICIPANTS IN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROJECT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Within the limits of available funds, the Librarian of Congress (hereafter referred to as the "Librarian") and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution (hereafter referred to as the "Secretary)", acting jointly, shall establish an oral history project—

(A) to survey, during the initial phase of the project, collections of audio and video recordings of the reminiscences of participants in the Civil Rights movement that are housed in archives, libraries, museums, and other educational institutions, as well as ongoing documentary work, in order to augment and complement these endeavors and avoid duplication of effort;

(B) to solicit, reproduce, and collect—

(i) video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of individuals who participated in the Civil Rights movement, and

(ii) visual and written materials (such as letters, diaries, photographs, and ephemera) relevant to the personal histories of individuals;

(C) to create a collection of the recordings and other materials obtained, and to catalog and index the collection in a manner the Librarian and the Secretary consider appropriate; and

(D) to make the collection available for public use through the Library of Congress and the National Museum of African American History and Culture, as well as through such other methods as the Librarian and the Secretary consider appropriate.

(2) ROLE OF DIRECTOR OF MUSEUM.—The Secretary shall carry out the Secretary's duties under this Act through the Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

(b) USE OF AND CONSULTATION WITH OTHER ENTITIES.—The Librarian and the Secretary may carry out the activities described in subsection (a)(1) through agreements and partnerships entered into with other government and private entities, and may otherwise consult with interested persons (within the limits of available resources) and develop appropriate guidelines and arrangements for soliciting, acquiring, and making available recordings under the project under this Act.

(c) SERVICES OF EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS; ACCEPTANCE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES;

ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—In carrying out activities described in subsection (a)(1), the Librarian and the Secretary may—

(1) procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code;

(2) accept and utilize the services of volunteers and other uncompensated personnel and reimburse them for travel expenses, including per diem, as authorized under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code; and

(3) make advances of money and payments in advance in accordance with section 3324 of title 31, United States Code.

(d) TIMING.—As soon as practicable after the enactment of this Act, the Librarian and the Secretary shall begin collecting video and audio recordings and other materials under subsection (a)(1), and shall attempt to collect the first such recordings from the oldest individuals involved.

(e) DEFINITION.—In this Act, the term ''Civil Rights movement'' means the movement to secure racial equality in the United States for African Americans that, focusing on the period 1954 through 1968, challenged the practice of racial segregation in the Nation and achieved equal rights legislation for all American citizens.

SEC. 4. PRIVATE SUPPORT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY PROJECT.

(a) ENCOURAGING SOLICITATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS.—The Librarian of Congress and the Secretary are encouraged to solicit and accept donations of funds and in-kind contributions to support activities under section 3.

(b) DEDICATION OF FUNDS PROVIDED TO LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) any funds donated to the Librarian of Congress to support the activities of the Librarian under section 3 shall be deposited entirely into an account established for such purpose;

(2) the funds contained in such account shall be used solely to support such activities; and

(3) the Librarian of Congress may not deposit into such account any funds donated to the Librarian which are not donated for the exclusive purpose of supporting such activities.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act—

(1) $500,000 for fiscal year 2010; and

(2) such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 586, which would create the Civil Rights History Project. The bill directs the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution, through the Museum of African American History and Culture, to collaborate and establish an oral history project. This joint venture will collect and preserve audio and video recordings by participants in the civil rights movement.

A fundamental principle of our American democracy is that individuals stand up for their rights and beliefs, and pursue justice through peaceful action. Many who participated in the civil rights movement did so at great personal sacrifice. Their actions were heroic and tireless and challenged the practice of racial segregation in the Nation. They challenged the status quo and won equal rights for all American citizens.

Much of this history has never been written down from the perspective of those who were there. As these pioneers age, it is important that their memories of events are documented so that future generations can witness their testimony regarding the lives and times of that era. This bill would ensure that the record of this important period of our Nation's history is not lost.

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

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such as much time as I may consume.

I am pleased to support H.R. 586, a bill that will allow for the collection and preservation of eyewitness accounts of the civil rights movement from the people who lived through it. This investment in history will allow future generations to both learn and be inspired by the sacrifice of those that came before them.

While some stories of prominent civil rights leaders are well-documented, there are many lesser-known experiences and accounts just as important to the cause and lessons we and future generations can learn. Now is the time to collect the stories of those that stood up for their rights and fought for justice.

I believe that this is an important piece of legislation that will provide future generations with the rich collection of oral accounts from individuals who lived through the civil rights movement, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Committee report regarding H.R. 586:

PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

H.R. 586, the Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009, would authorize funding to create a comprehensive compilation of audio and video recordings of personal histories and testimonials of individuals who participated in the Civil Rights movement.

BILL SUMMARY

H.R. 586 would direct the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture to jointly work to collect and preserve for posterity audio and video recordings of the memories and stories of individuals who participated in and witnessed first-hand the Civil Rights movement during the 1950s and 1960s.

As participants in the Civil Rights movement continue to age, it is important that memories and stories of those individuals who participated in events such as the sit-ins, the Freedom Rides, the drive for voting rights in Mississippi, and the March to Selma are documented so that future generations will be able to access original sources of information regarding the lives and times of that era.

The purpose of this Act is to coordinate at a national level the collection and the preservation of oral and video recordings. It will also serve to complement previous and ongoing documentary work on this subject.

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

H.R. 586 was introduced on January 15, 2009 by Representative Carolyn McCarthy of New York along with Representative John Lewis of Georgia. On March 25, 2009, the Committee considered H.R. 151 and, by voice vote, ordered the bill reported favorably without amendment. No recorded votes were taken during the consideration of the bill.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR H.R. 586

It is in the best interest of the Nation to undertake the Civil Rights History Project so that future generations will be able to learn of the struggles and sacrifices of those who participated in the Civil Rights movement. A basic principle of democracy is that individuals should stand up for their rights and beliefs and pursue justice. The Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution will join forces to develop an extensive collection of oral histories of those participants who played a part and witnessed the American Civil Rights movement.

The Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution have jointly signed a letter of intent outlining their agreement to carry out identified activities related to the project to the extent that funding for the project is available through appropriations or donations, specifically committing to create a detailed Memorandum of Understanding within two months of enactment of H.R. 586. That letter is appended to this report.

ANALYSIS OF THE BILL (AS REPORTED)

The Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009 requires the Librarian of Congress and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution (acting through the Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture) to establish an oral history project to: (1) collect video and audio recordings of, and visual and written materials relevant to the personal histories of participants in the Civil Rights movement; and (2) make the collection available for public use through the Library of Congress and the Museum.

Section 1. Section 1 states the short title of the Act, the ''Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009.''

Section 2. Section 2 states that the participants in the civil rights movement hold an invaluable resource in their first-hand accounts of the era. The retelling of their memories and stories will capture the real-life events and actions of those who participated in the civil rights movement from the 1950's through the 1960's. Much is known about the lives of Thurgood Marshall, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks and other prominent leaders of the movement; however, there were many others whose impact and experience were just as important to the cause but whose stories are not well known or documented.

Section 3. Section 3 establishes the joint project at the Library of Congress and the National Museum of African American History and Culture. The initial phase of the project will be to survey the collections of audio and video recordings that are housed

in various archives, libraries, museums, and other education institutions. The next step will be to solicit and collect materials that will create an extensive collection to be made available for public use through the Library of Congress and the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Section 4. Section 4 requires private support for the Civil Rights History Project. Both the Librarian of Congress and the Smithsonian Secretary are encouraged to solicit and accept donations of funds and in-kind contributions to support the collection of materials.

Section 5. Section 5 authorizes appropriations to carry out this Act—

1) $500,000 for Fiscal Year 2010; and

2) Such sums as may be necessary for each of the Fiscal Years 2011 through 2014.

MATTERS REQUIRED UNDER RULES OF THE HOUSE

Constitutional Authority

Clause 3(d)(1) of House Rule XIII requires each committee report on a public bill or joint resolution to include a statement citing the specific constitutional power(s) granted to the Congress on which the Committee relies for enactment of the measure under consideration. The Committee cites the legislative power granted to Congress in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of House Rule XIII requires the results of each recorded vote on an amendment or motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and against, to be printed in the committee report. No recorded votes were taken during the Committee's consideration of H.R. 586.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATE

Clause 3(c)(3) of House Rules XIII requires the report of a committee on a measure which has been approved by the committee to include a cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the CBA, if timely submitted. The Director submitted the following estimate:

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
U.S. CONGRESS,
Washington, DC, March 27, 2009.

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on House Administration, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 586, the Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Christina Hawley Anthony, who can be reached at 226–2820.

Sincerely,
for DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF,
Director.

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

MARCH 27, 2009.

H.R. 586 CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY PROJECT ACT OF 2009

As ordered reported by the Committee on House Administration on March 25, 2009

H.R. 586 would direct the Librarian of Congress and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to establish an oral history project to survey, solicit, reproduce, and collect audio and video recordings of participants in the Civil Rights movement. The bill would permit the Librarian and Secretary to solicit and accept donations of funds and in-kind contributions to support those activities. In addition, H.R. 586 would authorize the appropriation of $500,000 for fiscal year 2010 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

Based on information from the two agencies, and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 586 would cost $4 million over the 2010–2014 period.

Because H.R. 586 would allow the Librarian and Secretary to accept and spend donations for projects, enacting H.R. 586 could affect direct spending, but the spending would be offset by the amount of the donations, which would be credited as offsetting receipts. Thus, CBO estimates that enacting the provision would not have a significant net effect on direct spending.

H.R. 586 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Christina Hawley Anthony. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

Federal Mandates

Section 423 of the CBA requires a committee report on any public bill or joint resolution that includes a federal mandate to include specific information about such mandates. The Committee states that H.R. 586 includes no federal mandates.

Preemption Clarification

Section 423 of the CBA requires a committee report on any public bill or joint resolution to include a committee statement on the extent to which the measure is intended to preempt state or local law. The Committee states that H.R. 586 is not intended to preempt any state or local law.

Oversight Findings

Clause 3(c)(1) of Rule XIII requires each committee report to contain oversight findings and recommendations required pursuant to clause 2(b)(1) of House Rule X. The Committee has general oversight responsibility of the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution. The Committee has included the findings in the body of the report.

Statement of General Performance Goals and Objectives

Clause 3(c)(4) of House Rule XIII requires committee reports to include a statement of general performance goals and objectives. The Committee believes enactment of the bill would enhance the collections at both the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution. It would gather and preserve invaluable historical information, and provide additional resources to scholars for research, and to the public.

Congressional ''Earmarks''

Clause 9 of House Rule XXI requires committee reports on public bills and resolutions to contain an identification of congressional ''earmarks,'' limited tax benefits, limited tariff benefits, and the names of requesting Members. The bill contains no such items either as introduced or as reported to the House.

Congressional Accountability Act Applicability

Section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (Pub.L. 104–1) (CAA) requires each report on a public bill or joint resolution relating to terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations to describe the manner in which the legislation apply to the Legislative Branch. H.R. 586 does not impact any provisions covered by the CAA.

Changes in Existing Law Made by the Bill, as Reported

H.R. 586 makes no changes in existing law.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 586, the Civil Rights Oral History Project.

I want to thank Chairman BRADY and the Committee on House Administration for moving the bill to the Floor.

I also want to thank my lead cosponsor on the bill, Congressman JOHN LEWIS of Georgia, himself a civil rights hero, for all of his help in developing and generating support for the bill.

Mr. LEWIS was at the forefront of the battle to end segregation and his contribution to ensuring equality in our country cannot be overstated.

I know I speak for all of my colleagues when I say that we are honored to serve with him and grateful for all that he has done and continues to do for all Americans as a steward of justice and equal rights.

We are fortunate to serve in Congress with several other influential civil rights leaders and I would like to extend a heartfelt ''thank you'' for their sacrifices and commitment to the cause of freedom.

The fight for civil rights was one of the most significant social and cultural movements in our Nation's history.

The will of a generation to right centuries of injustice changed the world we live in forever.

The leaders of the civil rights movement displayed tremendous courage and persistence to ensure that all Americans were treated equally and with dignity regardless of their ethnic backgrounds, race or origins.

Many leaders from all walks of life put their lives on the line to make it possible for all people to live freely and have the same fundamental rights.

In my Congressional District, there are many important leaders who fought to ensure equal rights for all Long Islanders.

Brave Americans like Irving C. McKnight from Roosevelt, Mr. McNeil from Hempstead, Mrs. Iris Johnson from Freeport, Fred Brewington and Sal Zaccaro from Malverne and so many others.

We can never overstate the contributions of our Nation's civil rights leaders.

Without their efforts many of the things we take for granted every day would not have come to pass.

It is vital that future generations know and understand the struggles and challenges of those that paved the way for us to live in a free Nation.

These brave Americans' stories must continue to be told to not only inspire future generations, but to remind people of what is possible in America and how far we have come.

Unfortunately, with each passing year, our Nation loses more and more of the people that played major roles in the struggle to secure equal rights for all Americans.

In recent years, we have lost great leaders like Mrs. Coretta Scott King and Mrs. Rosa Parks.

Thankfully, their stories have been well documented in the historic record, but there are many others who have already passed or whose memories are fading.

While we know so much about the lives of the leaders of the Civil Rights Movement, such as Dr. Martin Luther King, our colleague, Congressman JOHN LEWIS, and Thurgood Marshall, it is important that we learn about the everyday people of all races who took a stand during a pivotal time in our Nation's history.

There were so many people who were crucial to the civil rights movement, but have not had as much recorded about their experiences for the public record.

These were the people in many cases that were a part of some of the most significant battles in the fight for equality.

The workers in Memphis that went on strike and marched in protest with Dr. King, the students that held sit-ins at lunch counters in the south, the thousands of people that marched on Washington and witnessed the ''I Have a Dream Speech'' and the millions of Americans that stood up and worked in their own ways to make our country a better place for all people.

These people are heroes of the civil rights movement and we need to make sure that their stories are woven into the fabric of the American story.

That's why I have introduced the Civil Rights Oral History bill.

The purpose of the Civil Rights Oral History Bill is to catalogue and preserve the stories and experiences of the people who were involved with the civil rights movement.

This legislation stresses the importance of capturing the memories and deeds of the Civil Rights generation and will give us a unique insight into the experiences of the people that were really on the frontlines of the civil rights movement.

This bill will create a joint effort between the future National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Library of Congress to collect oral histories of the people that were involved in the civil rights movement and preserve their stories for future generations.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and take the time to acknowledge the contributions of those great Americans who fought to make our Nation a more fair and just place.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 586, ''Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009.'' I want to thank my colleague Congresswoman CAROLYN MCCARTHY of New York for introducing this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support the ''Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009,'' which will require the Librarian of Congress and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution (acting through the Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture) to establish an oral history project to: (1) collect video and audio recordings of, and visual and written materials relevant to the personal histories of, participants in the Civil Rights movement; and (2) make the collection available for public use through the Library of Congress and the Museum.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the progress we have made in casting out the demons of prejudice and discrimination. I rise today in recognition of the steps we have taken as a nation to get closer to the American creed that all men were created equal.

In the darkest days of slavery, the faith of our ancestors that one day their descendants would live in freedom helped them bear the unbearable burden of bondage. Through all the terrible years of Jim Crow's legalized segregation, the courage of our great-grandparents to provide for their children and maintain their dignity while enduring a hundred daily slights helped bring down the Jericho walls of de jure segregation. In the crucible of the Civil Rights Movement, the determination of our parents and grandparents to secure the full measure of equal treatment under law for themselves and their children changed America and made it better.

From the activism of Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman during the abolitionist movement to the efforts of Rosa Parks, Martin King, Thurgood Marshall, and Fannie Lou Hamer during the civil rights movement, Americans have never lost faith in this country to expand democracy and provide true freedom for all Americans.

Now is the time to come together. Now is the time to reach down to our roots and call upon what is important to us. Now is the time to talk to each of our brothers and sisters and let them know that we have to come together on this issue.

The heart of what we have fought for so long is at stake now. We have fought and suffered to attain our place at the table of society, to show America and the rest of the world that diversity does work, that America will make good on its promise, that our society does accept people who are different from each other.

I am reminded of what the late Honorable Barbara Jordan said that ''America's mission was and still is to take diversity and mold it into a cohesive and coherent whole that would espouse virtues and values essential to the maintenance of civil order. There is nothing easy about that mission. But it is not mission impossible.''

Mr. Speaker, we should not now give up on this start. We must remember the struggles of those freedom fighters. I am reminded of the words of Dr. King when he was the minister at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama when he told a packed house the night before the bus boycott set off by Rosa Parks that they were in the process of making America whole. He told them, ''If we are wrong, the Constitution of the United States is wrong. If we are wrong, Jesus of Nazareth was merely a utopian dreamer and never came down to earth. If we are wrong, justice is a lie. And we are determined to work and fight until justice runs down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream.''

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 586, because the most valuable tool, history, gives us is a frame of reference, a perspective, for viewing our world. This Civil Rights History Project will provide us that magnificent perspective of our tremendous successes and failures in our quest for cultural freedom and acceptance. When we cut ourselves off from the past, either intentionally or simply through an ignorance of the past, we fall prey to every twist and turn, every immediate crisis that life brings along—with no power or stability to resolve those crises. If we ignore the past or are simply ignorant of what has happened before, we may fall prey to a sense of false security, a personal or cultural pride, which blinds us to possibilities all around us, stunting our moral and intellectual growth and limiting our options in every area of life.

Mr. Speaker, this is the challenge we face today and we have to stand up and be understood. We have to be understood that civil rights in America is about opportunity and is the natural extension of Aotir Bill of Rights. It creates a place at the table, a place where we deserve to be, a place that we have earned, a place where we belong. Keep hope alive. Let's not turn out the lights on civil rights.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, America's Civil Rights movement was a great step forward for all of the citizens of this great nation. This movement has brought us one step closer to an America where one's race does not serve as a barrier against greater opportunity. This movement has allowed our great country to reach a point where any child—black or white, girl or boy, rich or poor—can dream of becoming President of the United States.

The Civil Rights movement is what allowed many of us in this chamber to be here, myself included. We, and the rest of America, owe a debt of gratitude to this movement and its courageous leaders. Many lived through this movement and fought for it. Others grew up surrounded by its stories.

Unfortunately, as the years go by, we are slowly losing some of our courageous Civil Rights leaders. Just recently, we have lost Civil Rights pioneers such as Mrs. Coretta Scott King and Mrs. Rosa Parks. It is vital that we preserve the stories of these heroes so that future generations will know of the struggles and sacrifices made on their behalf. For this reason, I am urging the passage of H.R. 586, the Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009.

This bill provides for the collection of oral histories from those individuals who were involved first hand in the struggles of the Civil Rights movement. This collection will be organized by the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Library of Congress.

Now is the time for us to embark on this project. If we wait, we may lose this chance forever. The recorded retelling of these stories will provide a rich history for future generations. It will bring future students of this momentous era closer to the people who shaped it. The voices of the Civil Rights movement—voices which were lifted up in the cause of justice—deserve to be preserved for years to come.

Although the Civil Rights era was a tumultuous time for our country, it is also a time where the nation came out stronger as a whole. The Civil Rights Oral History Project will celebrate this history and pave the way for future generations to realize what is possible when people come together.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge an ''aye'' vote.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 586.

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

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

AUTHORIZING EMANCIPATION HALL FOR UNVEILING SOJOURNER TRUTH BUST

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 86) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the unveiling of a bust of Sojourner Truth.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 86

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

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR UNVEILING OF SOJOURNER TRUTH BUST.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used for an event on April 28, 2009, to unveil a bust of Sojourner Truth.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the concurrent resolution now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the unveiling of a bust of Sojourner Truth.

Born Isabella Baumfree in 1791 in upstate New York, Sojourner Truth is one of the lasting icons of the dark ages of slavery and an important symbol of the resiliency of the human spirit.

A slave for more than 20 years, Baumfree escaped to freedom in 1826, a year before the New York State Emancipation Act was passed. In 1843, Baumfree changed her name to Sojourner Truth, citing a religious awakening. For more than 40 years, Truth traveled the country preaching religious tolerance, pacifism and gender equality.

Sojourner Truth's lasting legacy is now being recognized in the form of a bust commissioned by Congress. Her image will grace Emancipation Hall, serving as a reminder of our capacity to change and our willingness to endure. I urge passage of this resolution to honor her history.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I am pleased to support this resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Visitor Center for the purpose of unveiling the bust of Sojourner Truth.

The ceremony will take place in Emancipation Hall, a site wholly appropriate for this remarkable woman who was born into slavery, emancipated and spent her adult life fighting for the rights of others.

In 1843, while in her mid-forties, she told her friends that she had been called by the Spirit. She changed her name to Sojourner Truth and embarked on a journey of activism. Upon her death more than 40 years later, Sojourner Truth traveled the country, preaching about abolition, women's suffrage and human rights.

□ 1115

The inclusion of this work and the collection of arts and artifacts of the Capitol and the display of the bust in the Capitol Visitor Center fill the gap in the representation of historic Americans that contribute much to the betterment of this country.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the National Congress of Black Women, who generously offered this bust and pedestal as a donation to the collection of the United States Capitol.

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

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would now like to yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE), the author of the resolution.

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, first let me thank the chairman of the House Administration Committee for his generosity and leadership, and we truly appreciate his being the epitome of the mayor of this great community. I thank the manager of this legislation as well.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, because sometimes when we reflect on history, if we do not tell the truth of history, it is lost. It gives me a great privilege to come and to acknowledge the origins and the story of the placing of Sojourner Truth, an abolitionist and a suffragette, in the halls of the United States Capitol. Born in 1797, passing in 1883, she was truly an historical figure, and she was a vision of Dr. C. Delores Tucker, the original president of the National Congress of Black Women.

The story begins, as we look in the early years of my coming to the United States Congress, of the women who were characterized and sculptured as suffragettes. In fact, when I came, the stone sculpture was in the basement of this place. It was the leadership of the Women's Caucus, CAROLYN MALONEY, then the Chair, and others who wanted to lift that stone women's sculpture that represented the women who had been suffragettes to a presence of respect. We joined in that, women of all walks of life and all ethnic and racial backgrounds. But we noticed one difference: The presence of Sojourner Truth was not there. That became the cause of C. Delores Tucker, the late president, the former Secretary of State of the National Congress of Black Women. So we worked and worked.

I offer my appreciation to the now Speaker of the House, NANCY PELOSI, who was sensitive to this and has helped us to hold this wonderful ceremony next week. I offer my appreciation to the former Chair of the House Administration Committee, the Honorable Juanita Millender-McDonald, Congresswoman DIANE WATSON, and the many women who understood our plea to respect Sojourner Truth. I'm delighted to have carried the initial legislation and to have joined with my sisters in helping to propose the funding for this sculpture. We managed to do this in the short period of time that was given to us over a 2-year period and to recognize a woman that could be both a suffragette and an abolitionist. On this day, April 28, we will honor the idea of fighting for women's rights and the abolition of slavery, intertwined, a woman.

Might I also suggest to you that there is no African American woman sculpture in the entire body of this United States Capitol. There is one African American man, Dr. Martin Luther King, and a few pictures. We hope to see soon the statue of Rosa Parks. So we are making history on April 28, and, again, we are grateful for this.

Might I share with you the words of this young woman, Sojourner Truth, who explained what being a slave was all about. She was a powerful speaker. And she would tell listeners of how some slaves were kept cowed and afraid to act by beatings, sometimes with spikes, sticks, and chains. She, herself, as a teenager, had been taken into the barn by her master one afternoon for absolutely no reason and tied up by the wrists. Then he tore the shirt from her back and whipped her with a bundle of sticks until her back bled. In a voice contemporarily described as rich and deep, she described how she refused to give him the satisfaction of screaming

by clinching her fists so hard, her fingernails drew blood from her palms. She was heard to have said when she was recognized by a speaker in the front of the room by saying, ''Yes, sir, what do you want?'' she said, and ''Ain't I a woman?'' Regal with a deep voice but committed to the fight.

And so I'm delighted that the National Congress of Black Women under the leadership of Dr. C. Delores Tucker provided us with the Sojourner Truth crusade. We thank her current president, Dr. E. Faye Williams, and we certainly thank all of those who worked with our office for providing this opportunity. Might I also thank the Senate sponsor who was a champion, Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, now the Secretary of State, who worked without tiring to provide us the partnership on this legislation. ARLEN SPECTER, CARL LEVIN, Senator Lott were great champions of this effort.

Mr. Speaker and to the chairman, what we have is a fulfillment of the dream of Dr. C. Delores Tucker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. And I am so glad that I was not only able to provide the legislation for holding this ceremony but the actual legislation to pass this House and this Senate in order to provide us with the presence of Sojourner Truth in the body of this United States Capitol.

Again, we could not do it without the chairman of the House Administration Committee, Chairman BRADY. We thank him again for his generosity and the ranking member. And I believe that what we will now do is tell the complete and full story that suffragettes came in many diverse forms, that of an ex-slave, an abolitionist, and a person who advocated for the freedom and empowerment of women. How proud I am to stand here as the author of the original legislation in the name and in tribute to Dr. C. Delores Tucker and as well the legislation that will allow us to celebrate this on April 28, Pay Parity Day, 2009.

I thank the Speaker for her leadership and her assistance in all of this. May we be benefited for all the history that has been expanded in the Capitol.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of H. Con. Res. 86 to authorize the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the unveiling of the bust of Sojourner Truth. As a senior Member of the Congressional Black Caucus, and a tireless advocate for minorities and women, I am honored to reintroduce this resolution.

Sojourner Truth was a towering figure among the founders of the movement for women's suffrage in the United States.

She was born Isabella Baumfree in 1797 in a plantation in upper New York. As a slave, she endured cruel and harsh beatings and rape. In late 1826, Ms. Truth escaped to freedom to the home of the Van Wagener's, who paid her owner $20 to keep her from having to return to his plantation. She lived with the Van Wageners until the New York State Emancipation Act was approved a year later.

After living through 30 years of slavery, Sojourner Truth became a leading voice for the abolitionist and the equal rights for women movements. She was a suffragist before it was acceptable to be one and worked to end slavery and improve the conditions of African-Americans before, during, and after the Civil War.

In 1864, Sojourner Truth was received by then-President Lincoln in the White House. Today, we have our first African-American President, and our first woman Speaker of the House—it is truly time for Sojourner to be properly received in the Capitol.

Sojourner Truth said, ''Truth is powerful and prevails''. While she did not get to see her rights and those of women like her fully realized, Ms. Truth changed the evolution of the path which woman had to take, and continue to take, to gain equal rights. Ms. Truth is one of the founding mothers of the women's rights movement.

Depicting American history in full color instead of as an all-white occurence is an ongoing enterprise. Omitting Sojourner Truth from the Portrait Monument, which includes Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, now in the Rotunda of the Capitol, is the equivalent of memorializing the Declaration of Independence without Thomas Jefferson, or the Revolutionary War without George Washington.

The suffrage movement was not a white women's movement alone. Its ranks included woman of all races and ethnicities. These included African American, Hispanic, and Asian women. It included rich and poor alike. Sojourner Truth's now famous speech, ''And Ain't I a Women?'' at the 1851 Women's Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio rallied a crowd of dispirited and concerned group of Suffrage leaders.

The Congressional Black Caucus, particularly its women members, along with many women's organizations have long pushed for this day. For the first time ever, an African American woman will be represented and honored in the Capitol.

One woman in particular made it her mission to see that Sojourner Truth was memorialized on Capitol Hill. Dr. C. Dolores Tucker deserves much of the credit for making this day happen. She unfortunately cannot be here to witness the result of her tremendous efforts because she passed away in October 2005. Dr. Tucker was a visionary leader and activist for women's and civil rights. She marched from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama with Dr. Martin Luther King in 1965. Later, she became the first women to serve as a Secretary of State in 1971. As a member of the Democratic National Committee, Dr. Tucker was deeply involved in efforts to ensure that women were equally represented at all levels of the Democratic party, and she was a primary organizer of the women's caucus.

She was the founding chair in 1984 of the National Political Congress of Black Women, now called the National Congress of Black Women (NCBW). As chair of the NCBW, she fought to have Sojourner Truth included in the Portrait Monument.

In 1995, I learned of Dr. Tucker's efforts to have Sojourner Truth incorporated with the other Suffragists. After many meetings with the Architect of the Capitol, the Members of the Women's Caucus, the Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and other stakeholders, legislation was ultimately introduced in 2005 to have a separate bust commissioned and installed in the Capitol. And now four years later, here we are.

While Ms. Truth has not yet been included in the portrait monument, it is in large part due to Dr. Tucker's work that Ms. Truth will be the first African-American women with a statute on Capitol Hill.

I would also like to applaud the efforts of Michelle Battle, the National Council of Negro Women and the National Organization for Women, former Congresswoman Millender-McDonald, Congresswoman DIANE WATSON, and E. Faye Williams and the many other women and men who helped make this event possible.

The presence of this bust in the Capitol Hill will commemorate the struggle of women and African-Americans alike to gain equal rights in the United States. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 86 so that we may celebrate Sojourner Truth, a true American hero.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 86.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR APPOINTMENT OF DAVID RUBENSTEIN TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate joint resolution (S.J. Res. 8) providing for the appointment of David M. Rubenstein as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate joint resolution.

The text of the Senate joint resolution is as follows:

S.J. RES. 8

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 43), the vacancy on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in the class other than Members of Congress, occurring because of the expiration of the term of Anne d'Harnoncourt of Pennsylvania is filled by the appointment of David M. Rubenstein of Maryland. The appointment is for a term of 6 years, effective on the date of enactment of this joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. 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 matter on the joint resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S.J. Res. 8 would appoint David Rubenstein as one of the public regents to serve on the Board of Regents for the Smithsonian Institution. The Board of Regents has nominated him to join their ranks, and legislation appointing him has been sponsored by all of the members who serve on the board.

Mr. Rubenstein is a co-founder and managing director of the Carlyle Group, one of the world's largest private equity firms. He holds an undergraduate degree from Duke University and a law degree from the University of Chicago. Before co-founding the Carlyle Group over 20 years ago, he had a distinguished career as an attorney in private practice, at the White House, and here on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Rubenstein also has a long history of giving back to the community. He serves on the boards of three of our Nation's most prestigious universities, as well as the Lincoln and Kennedy Centers for the Performing Arts and numerous other charities. He has demonstrated his service on the boards of the Museum of American History and the Museum of Natural History.

The members of the Committee on House Administration had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Rubenstein before bringing this nomination to the floor. We appreciated his thoughts regarding the future of the institution, and we are confident that he will be a positive addition to the board.

I urge the passage of this resolution.

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

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

As a member of the House Administration Committee, I am pleased to support the appointment of David Rubenstein to be a citizen regent of the Smithsonian Institution. Committee members recently had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Rubenstein, co-founder of the Carlyle Group, and we discussed the heightened expectations and increased responsibilities of the board as it continues to tackle the challenges faced by the institution.

Currently, the Smithsonian Institution is comprised of 19 museums that hosted over 25 million visitors last year, roughly five times the number of visitors that came to the U.S. Capitol. In addition to current facilities, the institution is slated to break ground on the National Museum of African American History and Culture in 2012, a project estimated to cost $500 million. And just last year, the President signed the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, which established a commission to study the creation of a national museum dedicated to the art, culture, and history of the Latino community in the United States.

The Smithsonian, like every other growing complex organization, faces unique operational challenges. Yet the institution's core mission, first articulated by James Smithson in 1826, to be ''an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge'' still stands the test of time.

Through his philanthropy, Mr. Rubenstein has already demonstrated a commitment to James Smithson's original vision. When the last privately owned copy of the Magna Carta became available for purchase, Mr. Rubenstein bought this priceless artifact and then permanently lent it back to the National Archives. Mr. Rubenstein's indisputable dedication to philanthropy coupled with his keen business sense will be a welcome addition at the institution, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting his appointment to the Smithsonian Board of Regents.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of S.J. Res. 8, a bill to nominate David M. Rubenstein to the Smithsonian Board of Regents. As a Member of the Board of Regents' Governance and Nominating Committee which selected Mr. Rubenstein to join the Board, I wanted to express my support for moving his nomination.

Mr. Rubenstein is a native of Baltimore and graduated magna cum laude from Duke, and from the University of Chicago Law School, where he was editor of the law review.

Mr. Rubenstein is Co-Founder and Managing Director of The Carlyle Group, one of the world's largest private equity firms. David is widely respected for his business prowess.

The Smithsonian, like many institutions during these challenging economic times, faces serious funding issues . . . and it is more important than ever to have Members of the Board with financial expertise.

As part of our Governance efforts, we specifically adopted policy changes that turned the corner toward stronger oversight and accountability, including adopting regent description. These expectations of Regents include overseeing the Smithsonian's mission, as well as attending regular committee and full Board meetings.

As such; we searched to find someone like David Rubenstein. Someone who is committed to giving back to his community; he is,on the Board of Directors of Duke, the Kennedy Center and the Lincoln Center for Performing Arts, among others.

And who has committed to moving the Smithsonian forward during these challenging economic times; he has helped the Carlyle Group grow to a firm with 33 offices around the world.

Today, Mr. Rubenstein is being nominated for the vacant seat that Anne d'Harnoncourt held. Anne was a great colleague on the Board and truly committed to the Smithsonian's mission. She was also chief executive officer of the Philadelphia Museum of Art from 1982 until her death in 2008.

An acclaimed author and internationally respected art historian and administrator, she has been a part of the Smithsonian Institution since 1974. Serving on the Board of Regent's from 1995 until 2007 and was awarded Regent Emerita status. Her early death was a tragic loss to the arts community and to the Smithsonian, and she is missed.

Her dedication to the Smithsonian's mission of the increase and diffusion of knowledge is something that David Rubenstein shares. And I look forward to serving with him on the Board of Regents to promote the Smithsonian's mission in the 21st century. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate joint resolution, S.J. Res. 8.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR ACCEPTANCE OF RONALD REAGAN STATUE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 101) providing for the acceptance of a statue of Ronald Wilson Reagan from the people of California for placement in the United States Capitol.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 101

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

SECTION 1. ACCEPTANCE OF STATUE OF RONALD WILSON REAGAN FROM THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA FOR PLACEMENT IN UNITED STATES CAPITOL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The statue of Ronald Wilson Reagan furnished by the people of California for placement in the United States Capitol in accordance with section 1814 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (2 U.S.C. 2131), is accepted in the name of the United States, and the thanks of the Congress are tendered to the people of California for providing this commemoration of one of California's most eminent persons.

(b) PRESENTATION CEREMONY.—The State of California is authorized to use the rotunda of the Capitol on June 3, 2009, for a presentation ceremony for the statue accepted under this section. The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board shall take such action as may be necessary with respect to physical preparations and security for the ceremony.

(c) DISPLAY IN ROTUNDA.—The Architect of the Capitol shall provide for the display of the statue accepted under this section in the rotunda of the Capitol, in accordance with

the procedures described in section 311(e) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 2132(e)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. 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 matter on the resolution now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution provides for the acceptance of a statue of Ronald Reagan from the State of California and authorizes the use of the Capitol Rotunda for an unveiling ceremony. Title II of the United States Code allows for each State to choose no more than two statues to represent that State in the Statuary Hall collection. The State of California has chosen to replace the statue of Thomas Starr King. The new statue represents Ronald Reagan, who served as President of the United States from 1981 to 1989. I urge that the House pass this resolution for the ceremony acceptance of the statue.

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

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

One of the advantages of having spent a little time around the House of Representatives besides your hair turning gray is that I'm now the senior Republican Member of the delegation and thereby have the privilege of carrying this resolution on behalf of the Members of the House. So, Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to introduce H. Con. Res. 101 to accept the statue of Ronald Reagan from the people of California for placement in the United States Capitol.

This bill authorizes the State of California to use the Rotunda of the Capitol on June 3, 2009, for a presentation ceremony. The Architect of the Capitol shall display the statue in the Rotunda. The current statue of Thomas Starr King will be relocated to a suitable place in Sacramento, California.

I am honored to have both known and worked with Ronald Reagan both when he was Governor and, of course, as President of the United States. One of the great leaders of the 20th century, Ronald Reagan. His contributions on behalf of freedom around the world are unparalleled since the end of World War II. There is no more Cold War. There is no more Berlin Wall. There is no worldwide threat of Communist dictatorship because of the leadership of President Ronald Reagan.

When the history of our time is written, the accomplishments of President Reagan will shine out. He made America the land of opportunity once again and brought the breath of freedom to millions of people around the world who had spent decades under the yoke of tyranny.

□ 1130

His memory will live on among all the free and loving people around the world.

Mr. Speaker, a statue of Ronald Reagan in the U.S. Capitol is a fitting tribute to one of the most significant leaders of our time. I urge swift passage of H. Con. Res. 101.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER).

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding me this time, and I rise to join him in stating what a tremendous action we are taking by bringing the statue of Ronald Reagan to the Capitol. We are sorry that our colleague, the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Administration, Mr. LUNGREN, couldn't be here today, but I know that he and our colleague KEN CALVERT have worked long and hard to get us to this day, and I believe that it is going to be a great thing.

It is very fitting, I think, that as we just 3 months ago marked the 20th anniversary of the end of Ronald Reagan's Presidency, that we look at where we are as we deal with the challenges that exist.

Clearly the hallmark of the Reagan Presidency and his philosophy was a very staunch belief in the power of free markets and free peoples. This belief led President Reagan to increase American prosperity, and, as my colleague Mr. LEWIS has just pointed out, champion the cause of democracy and political freedom around the globe, bringing down the Berlin Wall and bringing the Soviet Union to its knees.

Unfortunately, as we look at the challenges that we are dealing with today, there are many demagogues who have pounced on our current economic crisis to cynically advance what are, unfortunately, anti-free market principles. They try to exploit the anxieties and uncertainties of the current situation by claiming that economic freedom inevitably led to the downturn that we are going through today and the only solution is to dramatically increase the nanny-state view of government.

Mr. Speaker, they clearly ignore the true causes of the crisis that we are dealing with today: regulators who failed to do their jobs, individuals who borrowed irresponsibly and banks that lent irresponsibly, government efforts to interfere in the housing market and artificially drive up demand, and unchecked government-sponsored enterprises that behaved recklessly. These are the kinds of things that led to the challenges that we are dealing with, not the failure of the free market.

That is why I think it is important for us to note that Ronald Reagan's vision was a very important one, and I believe passionately that we should, as we are going through the economic challenges that we face, provide the prescription that Ronald Reagan did in 1981 by bringing about broad across-the-board marginal rate reduction to stimulate economic growth, because growth is clearly the single best way for us to deal with the economic crisis that we have, with the debt that has been accumulated, and to deal with the necessary Federal spending that is out there.

Mr. Speaker, one of the great things that Ronald Reagan was known for was his sense of optimism. So I have got to say that I believe fervently, as Ronald Reagan would have if he were here today, that our economy is going to recover. I think that it is going to recover in spite of, not because of the things that we are doing here in the United States Congress and here in Washington, D.C., but we are going to recover because we are Americans.

Now, at the base of this statue that is going to be in the Great Rotunda, unveiled, as Mr. LEWIS has said, on June 3, there are three great statements, and they all come down to the very simple directive that Ronald Reagan always had, and that is America's best days are ahead of us, and by virtue of that, we have to continue to remain optimistic. Using that Reagan spirit, as we deal with the challenges through which virtually every American is going today, is very, very important to us. So I strongly support this resolution.

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

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT), a member of the committee.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 101, providing for the acceptance of the statue of Ronald Reagan from the people of California for placement in the United States Capitol.

First, I would like to thank my colleagues who joined me in the original letter requesting the California legislature to pass a resolution to bring the statue of Ronald Reagan to the United States Capitol. A special thanks goes to California State Senator Dennis Hollingsworth for leading the effort and carrying the resolution in the State legislature. I would also like to thank the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation for their support and work

in bringing the statue to the Capitol, and also artist Chris Fagan, who I am sure did a remarkable job in sculpting the statue of Ronald Reagan.

In my 16 years in the House, initiating the effort to bring the statue of President Reagan to our Nation's Capitol has been one of my greatest privileges. Like many people, President Reagan helped shape my political views as a young man, and as the co-chair of his Riverside County campaign back in the day, I was, of course, very proud to see him succeed in becoming the 40th President of the United States.

As we find ourselves today struggling with hardship and conflict, President Reagan was also confronted with a troubled economy and uncertain times, not just as the Governor of California, but later as President of the United States. In both cases, his characteristic optimism and can-do attitude helped meet those challenges.

Ronald Reagan was elected the 33rd Governor of the State of California in 1967 and during his administration led California toward a ''Creative Society,'' one that ''turns away from increasing reliance on government and leads toward renewed respect for—and greater reliance on—the collective genius and common sense of the people.''

As President, he inherited an economy facing double-digit unemployment and inflation. President Reagan initiated sweeping economic reforms, deep across-the-board tax cuts and implemented sound monetary policies to contain inflation. His policies resulted in bringing the economy out of recession and turning it into the largest peacetime economic boom in American history.

The country also faced the continuation of a 35-year-long Cold War. President Reagan, in his famous June 1982 speech in the British Parliament, described ''a plan and a hope for the long term, the march of freedom and democracy which will leave Marxism-Leninism on the ash heap of history as it has left other tyrannies which stifle the freedom and muzzle the self-expression of the people.''

Five years later, Reagan delivered his courageous address at the Brandenburg Gate in West Berlin near the infamous wall and demanded, ''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.'' This was the beginning of the end of the Cold War and also signified a new beginning for relations between the United States and Russia.

Mr. Speaker, there were many accomplishments for me to name here, but it is clear that President Reagan was a Californian, an American and a patriot. California is proud to have such a leader as both Governor of our State and President of our Nation who brought so much greatness to the world.

Today, I encourage all of my colleagues to support the resolution and bring the statue of President Ronald Reagan to the Capitol so that visitors from all over the world can honor the man who declared America's destiny is ''to be a shining city on the hill for all mankind to see.''

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I reserve my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to control the time of the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS).

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY).

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to first thank the gentleman for his work and also our colleague JERRY LEWIS for his work.

I rise today in support for House Concurrent Resolution 101. President Ronald Reagan was first known widely to the public as a beloved actor. Ronald Reagan became president of the Screen Actors Guild, a two-term Governor of California, and then a two-term President of the United States.

During his time in office as President, Ronald Reagan tamed inflation, reduced America's tax burden, and faced down the Soviet empire, delivering millions from tyranny.

Speaking at the Berlin Wall on June 12, 1987, President Reagan challenged Soviet General Secretary Gorbachev to bring down the Iron Curtain. Standing at the Brandenburg Gate, Reagan declared, ''If you seek peace, if you seek prosperity for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, come here to this gate. Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate. Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.''

Upon his death in 2004, when Ronald Reagan was lying in State in the Rotunda, Gorbachev came and paid silent tribute to his erstwhile adversary. Fittingly, in the same Rotunda, the statue of President Ronald Reagan will remain permanently, with a ring of fragments from the Berlin Wall embedded in its pedestal.

President Reagan once said, ''There is no limit to what a man can do or where he can go if he doesn't mind who gets the credit.'' While placement of the statue in the Capitol Rotunda does not, in my opinion, offer due credit to the 40th President, by recognizing him in this manner the people of California ensure that Ronald Reagan will have a lasting and symbolic presence for the countless future generations of Americans visiting the United States Capitol.

I would like to thank the former First Lady, Nancy Reagan, and the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library for their tireless work in this tribute. Along with my colleagues KEN CALVERT and JERRY LEWIS, they have been a driving force behind this effort.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to our newest Member from the State of California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK).

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the statue of Ronald Reagan could not possibly be arriving here at the United States Capitol at a more appropriate time in the history of our Nation. In these difficult days, we need to remind ourselves as a Nation what it was like when it truly was morning again in America.

They say it is always darkest before the dawn, and Ronald Reagan took office at a far more difficult time than the one we are having right now. We tend to forget double-digit unemployment, double-digit inflation, interest rates above 20 percent, mile-long lines around gas stations, American embassies seized with impunity, and an American military so weak it couldn't mount a simple rescue mission.

The arrival of this statue and all that it represents is a potent reminder that when our Nation has drifted off course, we have always found our way back to those grand and uniquely American principles of individual rights, personal responsibility, limited government and free enterprise that define us as a people.

It is true, Ronald Reagan was a great communicator. But as William Saracino has said, Reagan wasn't communicating cookie recipes. He was communicating the self-evident truths of the American tradition. And those truths resonated throughout the Nation and ultimately produced that bright moment when we realized that it indeed was morning again in America.

May this statue of Ronald Reagan remain here always as a promise that America's greatest days still lie ahead and that our founding principles will always shine as a bright beacon toward a safe harbor in the stormy tempests we have encountered and that we have yet to encounter.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER).

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you to speak of a statesman whose statue will stand tall in the halls of the Capitol, whose character and service to his country will long outlast the 8 years of his Presidency, and whose positive influence on America will endure forever. I stand before you to speak today about a statesman who I have long admired. That statesman was our 40th President, Ronald Reagan.

When Ronald Reagan took office in 1981, the economy was struggling with high unemployment, high interest rates, and Americans were looking for hope. President Reagan brought commonsense values to this country and to Washington. He reduced the tax burden on Americans and helped those small businesses that were struggling. He gave us that confidence and hope that we needed as a country.

His leadership reached far beyond America, as his peace-through-strength approach to rebuilding our military and supporting missile defense, among other things, helped bring an end to communism in the former Soviet Union, giving freedom to millions of people across Eastern Europe.

It is also very personal to my family. My 19-year-old special needs son, Livingston, has collected 45 Ronald Reagan books so far that he has in his office, in his room at home, and he is looking forward to coming to the June 3 ceremony. It is a special event for our family.

This statue will be a constant reminder of the hope he gave us as we continue to our ''rendezvous with destiny.''

□ 1145

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I will continue to reserve, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE).

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to be here to pay tribute to a man known by many and whose influence can be seen throughout the world today.

During his life he was president of the Screen Actors Guild; he was a fan of FDR and his New Deal policies; he was a registered Democrat but became a registered Republican; and he was also a member of the media. Doesn't sound like a person I normally would pay tribute to.

However, he was also an Army officer, he served as 33rd Governor of the State of California; and almost single-handedly won the Cold War. He had the eternal sense of optimism. He summarized it best in this quote: ''It's morning in America.''

And today we consider the measure which would authorize a statue of Ronald Reagan to be displayed here in this Capitol. It's a fitting tribute. Ronald Reagan arguably is one of the most influential persons in the 20th century. And there's no doubt that the world is a better place because Ronald Reagan was here. You can just ask the millions of people in Eastern Europe that are free today and have freedom because that wall, as he demanded, came down.

Ronald Reagan ushered in a new era, ''Reagan Revolution,'' as it came to be called, and swept across every aspect of America, from the executive branch to the legislative branch and the judicial branch.

Ronald Reagan pursued policies that reflected his personal belief in the worth of the individual. He stood up for the little guy. He advocated small Federal government and more power to the people to make decisions for themselves and their communities. He believed in the sanctity of the Constitution, federalism, a balanced budget and a strong military. He established policies consistent with all of those beliefs.

Ronald Reagan once said, ''Each generation goes further than the generation preceding it because it stands on the shoulders of that generation.'' That statement is true, and I believe our children and our children's grandchildren are better off because they're standing on the shoulders of this great American statesman.

And that's just the way it is.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. May I inquire of the gentleman if he has any speakers?

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. No, I don't.

Mr. CALVERT. I'll give the closing remarks, Mr. Speaker.

In closing, June 3 will be a great day here in the United States Capitol, a great day for our State of California, and certainly, I believe, a great day for America and for the world who appreciated Ronald Reagan's leadership. This was truly a remarkable American. So we look forward to gathering together with the former First Lady and with other people who will come from throughout the United States and throughout the world to pay tribute to this great man.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of Ronald Reagan and his accomplishments as our nation's 40th president. He was a legendary president, skilled actor, and loving husband and father to his family.

Today, we pay tribute to a great American, a man who deeply loved this country. In the midst of darkness, Reagan showed no fear—staring down the face of communism and ultimately leading us to victory in the Cold War. He exhibited unprecedented leadership during a period in our history when our economy seemed bleak, our enemies surrounded us, and the fight against Soviet Communism pushed against our ideals of freedom and democracy. Even after an assassination attempt in 1981, Reagan quickly returned to duty with tremendous grace and ease, giving us a mere glimpse of his strength and determination to better our country. Known as the "Great Communicator," Reagan had an amazing gift of connecting with the public, instilling us with a sense of pride as Americans. President Reagan once stated, "There is no limit to what a man can do or where he can go if he doesn't mind who gets the credit." Certainly, these words ring loud and true today in the halls of Congress, reminding us that we are merely servants of the American public.

I wholeheartedly support today's resolution for the acceptance of a statue of President Reagan to be placed in the U.S. Capitol. Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution and in expressing our heartfelt gratitude for Ronald Reagan's service to our great Nation.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my support to H. Con. Res. 101 that would forever honor America's 40th President, Ronald Reagan. Both as Governor of California and as our nation's Chief Executive, Reagan faced domestic and international struggles with optimism and decorum that assured us all, "It's morning again in America." President Reagan captured the hearts and minds of Americans by following in the footsteps of our Founding Fathers in advocating less government, private enterprise and a managed budgetary approach.

At a time when we are unsure of our economic future and deal precariously with the nations of the world, a figure of Reagan would serve as a simple reminder that confidence in our country's potential is necessary to our success today. President Reagan once told us, "I know in my heart that man is good. That what is right will always eventually triumph. And there's purpose and worth to each and every life."

Mr. Speaker, I rise to show my support for honoring President Reagan in this way. It is a gesture appropriate to the legacy he left us as a leader and as an American.

Mr. CALVERT. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge an ''aye'' vote, and I yield back the balance of my time

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 101.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE RECYCLING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1580) to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to award grants for electronic waste reduction research, development, and demonstration projects, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1580

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 ''Electronic Device Recycling Research and Development Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The volume of electronic devices in the United States is substantial and will continue to grow. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that over 2 billion computers, televisions, wireless devices, printers, gaming systems, and other devices have been sold since 1980, generating 2 million tons of unwanted electronic devices in 2005 alone.

(2) Electronic devices can be recycled or refurbished to recover and conserve valuable materials, such as gold, copper, and platinum. However, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, only 15 to 20 percent of electronic devices discarded from households reach recyclers.

(3) The electronic device recycling industry in the United States is growing; however, challenges remain for the recycling of electronic devices by households and other small generators. Collection of such electronic devices is expensive, and separation and proper recycling of some of the materials recovered, like lead from cathode-ray tube televisions, is costly.

(4) The export of unwanted electronic devices to developing countries also presents a serious challenge. The crude methods of many of the recycling operations in these countries can expose workers to harmful chemicals, jeopardizing their health and polluting the environment.

(5) Some of the challenges to increasing the recyclability of electronic devices can be addressed by improving the logistics and technology of the collection and recycling process, designing electronic devices to avoid the use of hazardous materials and to be more easily recycled, and encouraging the use of recycled materials in more applications.

(6) The public currently does not take full advantage of existing electronic device recycling opportunities. Studying factors that influence behavior and educating consumers about responsible electronic device recycling could help communities and private industry develop recycling programs that draw more participation.

(7) The development of tools and technologies to increase the lifespan of electronic devices and to promote their safe reuse would decrease the impact of the production of electronic devices on the environment and likely increase the recyclability of such devices.

(8) Accurately assessing the environmental impacts of the production of electronic devices and the recycling of such devices is a complex task. Data, tools, and methods to better quantify these impacts would help policymakers and others determine the best end-of-life management options for electronic devices.

SEC. 3. ELECTRONIC DEVICE ENGINEERING RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall award multiyear grants to consortia to conduct research to create innovative and practical approaches to manage the environmental impacts of electronic devices and, through the conduct of this research, to contribute to the professional development of scientists, engineers, and technicians in the fields of electronic device manufacturing, design, refurbishing, and recycling. The grants awarded under this section shall support research to—

(1) increase the efficiency of and improve electronic device collection and recycling;

(2) expand the uses and applications for materials recovered from electronic devices;

(3) develop and demonstrate environmentally friendly alternatives to the use of hazardous and potentially hazardous materials in electronic devices and the production of such devices;

(4) develop methods to identify, separate, and remove hazardous and potentially hazardous materials from electronic devices and to reuse, recycle, or dispose of such materials in a safe manner;

(5) reconsider product design and assembly to facilitate and improve refurbishment, reuse, and recycling of electronic devices, including an emphasis on design for recycling;

(6) conduct lifecycle analyses of electronic devices, including developing tools and methods to assess the environmental impacts of the production, use, and end-of-life management of electronic devices and electronic device components;

(7) develop product design, tools, and techniques to extend the lifecycle of electronic devices, including methods to promote their upgrade and safe reuse; and

(8) identify the social, behavioral, and economic barriers to recycling and reuse for electronic devices and develop strategies to increase awareness, consumer acceptance, and the practice of responsible recycling and reuse for such devices.

(b) MERIT REVIEW; COMPETITION.—Grants shall be awarded under this section on a merit-reviewed, competitive basis.

(c) APPLICATIONS.—A consortium shall submit an application for a grant under this section to the Administrator at such time, in such manner, and containing such information and assurances as the Administrator may require. The application shall include a description of—

(1) the research project that will be undertaken by the consortium and the contributions of each of the participating entities, including the for-profit entity;

(2) the applicability of the project to reduce impediments to electronic device recycling in the electronic device design, manufacturing, refurbishing, or recycling industries;

(3) the potential for and feasibility of incorporating the research results into industry practice; and

(4) how the project will promote collaboration among scientists and engineers from different disciplines, such as electrical engineering, materials science, and social science.

(d) DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS.—Research results shall be made publicly available through—

(1) development of best practices or training materials for use in the electronic device manufacturing, design, refurbishing, or recycling industries;

(2) dissemination at conferences affiliated with such industries;

(3) publication on the Environmental Protection Agency's Web site;

(4) demonstration projects; or

(5) educational materials for the public produced in conjunction with State governments, local governments, or nonprofit organizations on problems and solutions related to electronic device recycling and reuse.

(e) FUNDING CONTRIBUTION FROM FOR-PROFIT MEMBER OF CONSORTIUM.—The for-profit entity participating in the consortium shall contribute at least 10 percent of the total research project cost, either directly or with in-kind contributions.

(f) PROTECTION OF PROPRIETARY INFORMATION.—The Administrator—

(1) shall not disclose any proprietary information or trade secrets provided by any person or entity pursuant to this section;

(2) shall ensure that, as a condition of receipt of a grant under this section, each member of the consortium has in place proper protections to maintain proprietary information or trade secrets contributed by other members of the consortium; and

(3) if any member of the consortium breaches the conditions under paragraph (2) or discloses proprietary information or trade secrets, may require the return of any funds received under this section by such member.

(g) BIENNIAL REPORT.—Within 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter, the Administrator shall transmit a report to Congress that provides—

(1) a list of the grants awarded under this section;

(2) the entities participating in each consortium receiving a grant;

(3) a description of the research projects carried out in whole or in part with funds made available under such a grant;

(4) the results of such research projects; and

(5) a description of the rate and success of the adoption or integration of such research results into the manufacturing processes, management practices, and products of the electronics industry.

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this section:

(1) $18,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

(2) $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

(3) $22,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

SEC. 4. NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES REPORT ON ELECTRONIC DEVICE RECYCLING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In order to better recognize gaps and opportunities in the research and training programs established in this Act, the Administrator shall enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences for a report, to be transmitted to Congress not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, on—

(1) opportunities for and barriers to—

(A) increasing the recyclability of electronic devices, specifically addressing—

(i) recycling or safe disposal of electronic devices and low value materials recovered from such devices;

(ii) designing electronic devices to facilitate reuse and recycling; and

(iii) the reuse of electronic devices; and

(B) making electronic devices safer and more environmentally friendly, specifically addressing reducing the use of hazardous materials and potentially hazardous materials in electronic devices;

(2) the environmental and human health risks posed by the storage, transport, recycling, and disposal of unwanted electronic devices;

(3) the current status of research and training programs to promote the environmental design of electronic devices to increase the recyclability of such devices; and

(4) any regulatory or statutory barriers that may prevent the adoption or implementation of best management practices or technological innovations that may arise from the research and training programs established in this Act.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The report under subsection (a) shall identify gaps in the current research and training programs in addressing the opportunities, barriers, and risks relating to electronic device recycling, and the report shall recommend areas where additional research and development resources are needed to reduce the impact of unwanted electronic devices on the environment.

SEC. 5. ENGINEERING CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Director of the National Science Foundation, shall award grants to institutions of higher education to develop curricula that incorporates the principles of environmental design into the development of electronic devices—

(1) for the training of electrical, mechanical, industrial, manufacturing, materials, and software engineers and other students at the undergraduate and graduate level; and

(2) to support the continuing education of professionals in the electronic device manufacturing, design, refurbishing, or recycling industries.

(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The term ''institution of higher education'', as such term is used with respect to eligibility to receive a grant under subsection (a)(2), includes any institution of higher education under section 101(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(b)).

(c) OUTREACH TO MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTIONS.—The Administrator shall conduct outreach to minority serving institutions for the purposes of providing information on the grants available under this section and how to apply for such grants.

(d) MERIT REVIEW; COMPETITION.—Grants shall be awarded under this section on a merit-reviewed, competitive basis.

(e) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under this section shall be used for activities that enhance the ability of an institution of higher education to broaden the undergraduate

and graduate-level engineering curriculum or professional continuing education curriculum to include environmental engineering design principles and consideration of product lifecycles related to electronic devices and increasing the recyclability of such devices. Activities may include—

(1) developing and revising curriculum to include multidisciplinary elements;

(2) creating research and internship opportunities for students through partnerships with industry, nonprofit organizations, or government agencies;

(3) creating and establishing certificate programs; and

(4) developing curricula for short courses and continuing education for professionals in the environmental design of electronic devices to increase the recyclability of such devices.

(f) APPLICATION.—An institution of higher education seeking a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Administrator at such time, in such manner, and with such information and assurances as the Administrator may require.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this section:

(1) $5,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

(2) $5,150,000 for fiscal year 2011.

(3) $5,304,000 for fiscal year 2012.

SEC. 6. ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS PHYSICAL PROPERTY DATABASE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall establish an initiative to develop a comprehensive physical property database for environmentally friendly alternative materials for use in electronic devices.

(b) PRIORITIES.—The Director, working with the electronic device design, manufacturing, or recycling industries, shall develop a strategic plan to establish priorities and the physical property characterization requirements for the database described in subsection (a).

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this section:

(1) $3,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

(2) $3,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

(3) $3,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) CONSORTIUM.—The term ''consortium'' means a grant applicant or recipient under section 3(a) that includes—

(A) at least one institution of higher education, nonprofit research institution, or government laboratory; and

(B) at least one for-profit entity, including a manufacturer, designer, refurbisher, or recycler of electronic devices or the components of such devices.

(3) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

(4) ELECTRONIC DEVICE.—The term ''electronic device'' may include computers, computer monitors, televisions, laptops, printers, wireless devices, copiers, fax machines, stereos, video gaming systems, and the components of such devices.

(5) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ''institution of higher education'' has the meaning given such term in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

(6) MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term ''minority serving institution'' means an institution that is an eligible institution under section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 1580, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today I rise in support of H.R. 1580, the Electronic Device Recycling, Research and Development Act. This bill represents the first step forward on a large and growing problem. Every year Americans send millions of old cell phones, televisions, computers, laptops and other electronic devices to landfills. Millions more are stored in desk drawers and attics by consumers unsure of how to get rid of the old computer.

These devices are often termed as electronic waste, but waste is hardly an appropriate name for these sophisticated products. Many can still be used. All can be recycled to recover their constituent materials. And as the Science and Technology Committee learned through a series of hearings, electronics also can contain hazardous materials like lead and cadmium, which do not belong in landfills.

The Environmental Protection Agency reported that nearly 2 billion electronic products were sold between 1980 and 2004. Unfortunately, of the hundreds of millions of now unwanted products, only about 15 percent are recycled. There are many hurdles to increasing this percentage, such as the cost of collecting and processing materials and the low value or the hazardous nature of many of the recoverable materials.

The purpose of H.R. 1580 is to meet these challenges through research and development. The areas the bill addresses were identified through two Science and Technology Committee hearings held this Congress and last, and reflects the considerable input from the electronics producers, manufacturers, recyclers, refurbishers and the environmental interest community.

It's supported by a broad number of stakeholders, including the Consumer Electronics Retailers Coalition, the Consumer Electronics Association, the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, The Wireless Association, the National Association of Manufacturers, the Electronics Take Back Coalition, Best Buy, AT&T, the Center for Environmental Health, Lower East Side Ecology Center, the Product Stewardship Institute, and the National Center for Electronics Recycling.

I'm also pleased that this bill is the product of a bipartisan collaboration and contains the input of both Democratic and Republican members of our committee.

H.R. 1580 directs the Environmental Protection Agency to fund the R&D that will enable efficient and affordable electronic device recycling and find other means of reducing the impact of electronic devices on our environment. Research can foster innovation to enable more efficient recycling, the selection of more environmentally friendly materials, better ways to educate consumers about electronics recycling, and methods to design products for easier disassembly and recycling.

The research supported by H.R. 1580 will also assess the environmental impact of electronic products over their entire lifecycle. This information will allow electronic producers, policymakers and consumers to make wise environmental decisions.

Specifically, the research grants authorized by this bill require university or government-led laboratories to work with electronics producers, recyclers or related for-profit entities. The goal of H.R. 1580 is to ensure research that can be applied to this challenge as soon as possible.

H.R. 1580 also authorizes the EPA, in consultation with the National Science Foundation, to fund grants that will give engineering students the tools and knowledge to incorporate environmental considerations into their future environmental endeavors.

Electronic devices have become indispensable tools for modern living, but they, unfortunately, are a modern environmental problem, too. Research, development and innovation are a key component to addressing this environmental challenge. And I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1508.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1580. I am pleased that this bill has been introduced and happy that our country will continue to be on the forefront of technology policy. The goals, frankly, of this bill are commendable as we struggle to limit the pollution and amount of waste that is being sent to our landfills.

Obviously, there are a lot of issues to consider when we address disposal, recycling and the reuse of electronic equipment. First, we must consider what technologies are appropriate for reuse and recycling. Obviously, another consideration is the proper disposal of hazardous waste that accompanies electronics. And, finally, we must balance the costs and the benefits of the regulatory issues when you're dealing with export economies.

Now, with each technological advance and each model replacement, we face the question of disposal of those

older products. This is a very complex situation which creates a vast array of opinions on possible solutions to the problems.

Now, dealing with this problem is not insurmountable. With the right type of research and development, we can institute new ways of tracking, of sorting, recycling and reusing electronics, and by making them less hazardous from the design stage, from the beginning, before they're even being built, allow them to do less harm when we dispose of them later on in life. So I think this legislation is a move in the right direction to address these concerns.

Through the committee process, Mr. Speaker, we've learned that there are a number of companies, many of them actually, that seek new uses for these products which obviously then reduces the number of them that end up in landfills. And I'm grateful to the chairman for introducing this legislation and also for holding hearings on this subject matter.

So, again, lots of times we hear that legislation gets to the floor without going through the normal order, regular order. In this case, not only has that taken place, but the chairman has had hearings on it, and I think it's important.

Now, again, I endorse the concept behind this bill, and I believe Congress should be encouraging better designs for electronic devices, to increase their life span and, obviously, to make them easier to recycle.

But there are a few aspects of this bill that still I have some concerns with. One such concern comes from an amendment offered in committee requiring that the EPA publish the results of research and development projects authorized by this bill on its Web site. And of course that sounds like something we should all support, and we should.

But here's the concern, that the copyright protections of the research published on the Web site may not be preserved. We should ensure that this is addressed prior to the bill finally being enacted into law. And I look forward to continuing to work with the chairman.

Additionally, it was unclear from the bill's language whether, if there's more than one for-profit entity included in a consortium whether the total contribution from all for-profit entities is to be at least 10 percent, or if each for-profit member is to contribute at least 10 percent. It's not clear. So I appreciate the efforts of the chairman to clarify this in report language, and I hope that he would be willing to modify the legislative language itself, if necessary, to ensure that these issues are addressed. And, again, the chairman, I know, also has the same concerns because he's addressed it. But I think we need to address it a little bit further.

I believe this bill takes steps towards addressing a very important issue. And I hope that this bill, as it moves forward, will continue to be tweaked a little bit to make sure that it's even better.

So, again, I hope that we can get the best possible bill, the best possible legislation out of this. I commend the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the remaining part of my time.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, let me first thank my friend from Florida for his constructive advice. I think most of his concerns have been addressed in report language. But this is a continuing product. We want to get the best that we can. And we want to work with you and your compatriots as we go through the whole process. This is an important bill and a good bill.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my friend from California (Mr. THOMPSON). Mr. THOMPSON is the cochair of the Working Group on Electronic Waste, but more importantly, really is the leader in Congress on this issue. He has been a longtime advocate and we welcome his time.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your kind words and for recognizing me on this bill.

Mr. Speaker and Members, I'm here today to speak in strong support of this measure, H.R. 1580. As the chairman noted, I've been involved in this subject of electronic waste or e-waste since I first came to Congress. And I want to applaud the chairman and the Science Committee's work and their interest on this very, very important issue. Chairman GORDON has been a strong leader on e-waste issues and has helped to move this issue forward.

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Electronic product technology is moving at a very, very fast pace, but at the same time, it's creating an ever-growing environmental and waste disposal problem. That's because it's often cheaper or sometimes cooler to buy a new PC or a new cell phone than to upgrade an old one. Today, the average life span of a computer is only 2 years, and Americans are disposing of 3,000 tons of computers every day. These discarded items, more often than not, wind up in landfills in developing countries where the waste is a terrible environmental problem.

A recent GAO study found that most e-waste exported from the U.S. is dismantled under unsafe conditions, often by children, using methods like open-air incineration and acid baths to extract component metals. This puts people at risk and makes e-waste a moral issue, a moral hazard as well.

The bill we are considering today will achieve two important and necessary goals. First, it will establish grant programs to fund studies to evaluate how to make electronic equipment easier to recycle on the front end. Second, it will train our Nation's engineering students in ''green design.'' This important legislation will lay an important piece of the foundation for comprehensive e-waste legislation in the future. Truly, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. If obsolete computers and other such items can be diverted from the waste stream at the outset, half of our battle will already have been won.

Again, I thank the chairman and the committee for their good work. I urge swift passage of this measure.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. If I may inquire, Mr. Speaker, of the chairman if he has further speakers.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. We have no further speakers.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. At this time then, Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Let me just conclude, Mr. Speaker, by saying this is a good bipartisan bill, and I thank Mr. THOMPSON for his support. As I say, he has been a leader on this issue.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1580.

Many of us, whether at home or in our offices, have leftover electronics that eventually find their way to a dark closet corner or basement.

If I took a poll of Members here, everyone would raise a hand to having an old computer, several old cell phones, and at least one old television. For those of us with children and grandchildren, that list probably grows to include first generation Nintendos, Gameboys, and Mp3 players.

Those of us that keep old electronics probably plan to give them away. Or, we buy the latest, most updated gadget without thinking of what to do with the old. We want to dump or donate the old PC, but we worry about what personal information may still be on its hard drive.

H.R. 1580 takes the first step to address all of those issues, and study the prospects and concerns for abandoned electronics and their components stream.

As we heard at our February 11th hearing, coordinated research and education efforts are needed to address disposal, product design, and in general, raise awareness of what opportunities consumers have to recycle un-used or what they consider ''obsolete'' equipment.

A witness at that hearing, and constituent of mine, is one of the first certified Microsoft refurbishers in the country. Thanks to his hard work, forty thousand computers have been refurbished and distributed to schools, non-profits, and homes of at-risk children throughout the Chicago area.

With the right research and development, and more business models like my constituent's, electronics recycling and refurbishment can be an integral part of our communities, decrease waste in our landfills, and offer budget-friendly alternatives for consumers. It is important to note that every dollar spent on refurbishment stays in the U.S.; every dollar spent on new products may not.

I would like to thank Chairman GORDON for working with the members of the committee to improve H.R. 1580. Thanks to his cooperation, we were able to include an important change

from the term "waste" to "device" in the underlying text. Doing so sets a tone of reuse instead of disposal and lessens the opportunity for regulatory or legal hurdles to stall the refurbishing and recycling process that we are trying to promote.

If we can institute new ways of tracking, sorting, recycling, and reusing electronics and make them less hazardous from the design stage, we can allow them to do less harm in the disposal stage. I think this legislation is a move in the right direction to address these concerns.

Although I endorse the concept behind H.R. 1580 and believe Congress should be encouraging better designs for electronic devices to increase their life-span and make them easier to recycle, there are aspects of this bill that concern me.

One such concern comes from an amendment offered in Committee requiring the Environmental Protection Agency to publish the results of research and development projects authorized by this bill on its website. The concern here is that the copyright protections of the research published on the website may not be preserved. We should ensure this is addressed prior to this bill being enacted into law.

Additionally, it is unclear from the bill language whether if there is more than one for-profit entity included in a consortium whether the total contribution from all for-profit entities is to be at least ten (10) percent, or if each for-profit member is to contribute at least ten (10) percent. I appreciate the efforts of the Chairman to clarify this in report language and hope that he would be willing to modify the legislative language, if necessary, to ensure this issue is addressed.

I believe this bill takes steps toward addressing a very important issue and I hope that moving forward we will continue to work together to ensure we produce the best law possible.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR of Arizona). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1580, as amended.

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

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to award grants for electronic device recycling research, development, and demonstration projects, and for other purposes.".

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GREEN ENERGY EDUCATION ACT OF 2009

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 957) to authorize higher education curriculum development and graduate training in advanced energy and green building technologies.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 957

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 "Green Energy Education Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. DEFINITION.

For the purposes of this Act:

(1) DIRECTOR.—The term "Director" means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

(2) HIGH PERFORMANCE BUILDING.—The term "high performance building" has the meaning given that term in section 914(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16194(a)).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Energy.

SEC. 3. GRADUATE TRAINING IN ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

(a) FUNDING.—In carrying out research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities authorized for the Department of Energy, the Secretary may contribute funds to the National Science Foundation for the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program to support projects that enable graduate education related to such activities.

(b) CONSULTATION.—The Director shall consult with the Secretary when preparing solicitations and awarding grants for projects described in subsection (a).

SEC. 4. CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE BUILDING DESIGN.

(a) FUNDING.—In carrying out advanced energy technology research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities authorized for the Department of Energy related to high performance buildings, the Secretary may contribute funds to curriculum development activities at the National Science Foundation for the purpose of improving undergraduate or graduate interdisciplinary engineering and architecture education related to the design and construction of high performance buildings, including development of curricula, of laboratory activities, of training practicums, or of design projects. A primary goal of curriculum development activities supported under this section shall be to improve the ability of engineers, architects, landscape architects, and planners to work together on the incorporation of advanced energy technologies during the design and construction of high performance buildings.

(b) CONSULTATION.—The Director shall consult with the Secretary when preparing solicitations and awarding grants for projects described in subsection (a).

(c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants with respect to which the Secretary has contributed funds under this section, the Director shall give priority to applications from departments, programs, or centers of a school of engineering that are partnered with schools, departments, or programs of design, architecture, landscape architecture, and city, regional, or urban planning.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 957, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, I rise in support of H.R. 957, the Green Energy Education Act of 2009. First, I would like to thank Mr. MCCAUL for his leadership on this legislation. This bill authorizes the Department of Energy to contribute funds to the National Science Foundation's successful Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program, known as IGERT. IGERT awards prepare doctoral students by integrating research and education in innovative ways that are tailored to the unique requirements of newly emerging interdisciplinary fields and new career options.

This bill also authorizes the Department of Energy's high-performance building technology programs to contribute to the National Science Foundation's ongoing curriculum development activities with the goal of improving the ability of engineers and architects to design and construct high-performance buildings.

In summary, this bill addresses a critical need to provide resources to universities to update their curricula and research efforts in alternative energy and high-performance buildings, and it improves the coordination between the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation in achieving this goal.

I am pleased to support H.R. 957, the Green Energy Education Act of 2009. Once again, I want to commend Mr. MCCAUL for this important legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 957, and I yield myself as much time as I might consume.

I also urge my colleagues to support this bill, H.R. 957, the Green Energy Education Act of 2009, introduced by my distinguished colleague, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas.

This is a good piece of legislation that, by the way, passed in the 110th Congress, but the Senate did not take it up before adjournment. Simply put, this measure encourages the Department of Energy to work with the National Science Foundation to help develop the next generation of engineers and architects to work effectively together to produce buildings that incorporate the latest in energy-efficient technologies.

Oftentimes, energy-efficient buildings are not being constructed, not because building professionals don't want to do it or think it's a bad idea, but primarily because they just don't even know or are not aware of all of the technology that's available, so this measure is intended to close that gap.

I also want to commend Mr. MCCAUL for his fine work on this very important bill.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. We have no other speakers at this time, and I would reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would now like to yield as much time as he might consume to the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL).

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Florida for yielding.

I also want to thank the chairman of the Science and Technology Committee for his dedication and strong bipartisan leadership on this committee, which is so important, and for allowing my bill to go out of committee once again and come to the House floor. As the gentleman mentioned, it passed unanimously last Congress out of the House. I hope it does the same this Congress, and I hope the Senate will act on it this time.

Like many other Members of Congress, I am concerned about America's dependence on foreign sources of energy, and the National Academy's ''Rising above the Gathering Storm'' report has echoed the calls of many in the academic and business communities for a greater need to recruit and develop scientific and engineering talent to work on solving these problems. Increasing energy independence and decreasing the harmful effects of energy production and use are clearly areas of long-term national need. Our reliance on imported energy only serves to increase our vulnerability to external events and to the actions of regimes that are, in many cases, openly hostile to the United States.

One of the ways that we can reduce the need for energy imports is to use our energy more efficiently. Buildings consume more energy than any other sector of the economy, including industry and transportation. According to the United States Department of Energy, American buildings consume 39 percent of our Nation's primary energy and 70 percent of our electricity. However, energy-efficient building practices are still at the fringes of the building sector, in part, because of a lack of awareness about energy-efficient technologies and design practices among building professionals.

That is why I introduced the Green Energy Education Act. This legislation authorizes the Department of Energy to partner with the National Science Foundation to support graduate education and curriculum development to advance DOE's broad energy-technology development mission. Working through NSF, DOE will help develop the next generation of engineers and architects to produce buildings, incorporating the latest energy-efficient buildings and technologies.

In order to reduce the likelihood of duplicative and wasteful programs, this bill allows for the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation to combine their efforts to find workable solutions to the issues surrounding building efficiency that can be transferred to the marketplace. Specifically, H.R. 957 will authorize DOE's Office of Science and Applied Energy Technology Programs to contribute funds to NSF's successful graduate education and research program.

This bill also authorizes the DOE to contribute to NSF's curriculum development activities in order to improve the ability of engineers and architects to design and to construct more efficient and durable buildings.

So let me, once again, thank the chairman for allowing this to come forward to the House floor, and I urge my colleagues to support this important step towards increasing America's energy independence.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I do want to just yield myself 30 seconds.

I also want to thank the chairman of the committee. The chairman of the committee is always willing to work with all members of his committee to make sure that he gets the finest legislation possible. He goes through the regular process, something that, unfortunately, is not done as much as it should be.

So, again, I would just like to take these seconds to thank the chairman of the committee for working with all of his committee and for always being open. His door is always open.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would yield back the remaining part of our time.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Well, let me first thank my friend for those compliments, and let me ask that you hold me to those compliments. We need to continue to run the committee that way.

In conclusion, let me also thank, once again, my friend from Texas, Mr. MCCAUL, for his leadership and for bringing this issue before us. We passed it last year. We're going to pass it again this year. We both need to work together to get this through the other body, and I look forward to working with you.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 957, ''Green Energy Education Act.'' H.R. 957 will provide for the promotion of graduate education related to energy research, advanced energy technology research, and development for high performance buildings to the National Science Foundation for curriculum development to improve undergraduate or graduate interdisciplinary engineering and architecture education related to the design and construction of such buildings. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

As a representative of the 18th Congressional District of Texas, which includes the energy capital of the world, Houston, I am especially pleased to support this bill. This bill fosters education in green energy, which increasingly is becoming a viable alternative to petroleum.

Today, we as a Global Community, take the time out to appreciate the natural resources our planet has provided for us. It is also a day we examine better ways that we can use these resources for the advancement of mankind and the preservation of the world.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 957 provides an opportunity to learn about the positive actions that we can take to improve energy efficiency; to develop safe, renewable energy sources; to design goods that are durable, reusable, and recyclable; and to eliminate the production of harmful wastes while protecting our environment and encouraging sustainable development throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 957 will allow for the leading authorities to teach and conduct the research on energy consumption throughout our nation. The research and studies are highly detailed, carefully constructed to be statistically representative of the entire population, and are indispensable analysis and policy planning. In gauging the success of any energy efficiency program, data on consumption, price, and product—both prior to and after the research program's implementation—are needed to calculate the change in green use, cost, and product purchase tendencies. By affording these research programs the necessary funding, classes will assist policy planners to better identify the highest-value products to target in designing their programs.

Along with rising gas prices, weak economic growth, continued environmental warnings and scientific studies pointing to global warming, many Americans continue to worry about the state of energy security in the world. Adding green space in city and urban areas, investing in alternative energy and making sure we participate in recycling and conserving our planet's resources are just some ways that we can preserve our wonderful planet, however, our federal government must take the lead in preserving our planet.

I have long been a proponent of green education. For example, during the 110th Congress, I successfully offered amendments to the Comprehensive Energy Independence bill that was introduced late last year and voted out of the House.

Specifically, I offered amendments that would provide scholarships for post-secondary study in ethanol, wind, solar energy, and other green alternatives to petroleum. I have also offered an amendment to establish Energy Centers of Excellence, which would provide a consortium of HBCU's, Hispanic serving institutions, tribal universities, and majority serving institutions to develop curriculum and programs in green energy. Moreover, my amendments provide scholarships, and concerns of study for minorities to study green energy. Thus, I have long been a proponent of the type of education requirements that this bill requires. Indeed, I count myself as one on the forefront of this cause.

This Congress understands the energy concerns of the American people and we continue to work to ensure this nation moves in a new direction to achieve energy independence and energy security.

Mr. Speaker, I call on all Americans, along with the rest of the global community to come together and continue to produce practical yet creative ways to conserve energy around the world. Let us continue to strive towards a

world that respects the natural resources that this planet has provided and use them wisely.

I thank my colleague, Representative MICHAEL MCCAUL, of Texas, for introducing this important legislation, to ensure that we preserve our most treasured resource, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this H.R. 957.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 957.

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. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. 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.

NATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELORS APPRECIATION DAY

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 247) expressing support for designation of March 22, 2009, as ''National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day''.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 247

Whereas rehabilitation counselors conduct assessments, provide counseling, support to families, and plan and implement rehabilitation programs for those in need;

Whereas the purpose of the professional organizations in rehabilitation is to promote the improvement of rehabilitation services available to persons with disabilities through quality education and rehabilitation research for counselors;

Whereas the various professional organizations, including the National Rehabilitation Association (NRA), Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association (RCEA), the National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE), the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association (NRCA), the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA), the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC), the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR), and the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) have stood firm to advocate up-to-date education and training and the maintenance of professional standards in the field of rehabilitation counseling and education;

Whereas, on March 22, 1983, Martha Walker of Kent State University, who was President of the NCRE, testified before the Subcommittee on Select Education of the House of Representatives, and was instrumental in bringing to the attention of Congress the need for rehabilitation counselors to be qualified;

Whereas the efforts of Martha Walker led to the enactment of laws that now require rehabilitation counselors to have proper credentials in order to provide a higher level of quality service to those in need; and

Whereas March 22, 2009, would be an appropriate date to recognize ''National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expressing support for designation of ''National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day''; and

(2) commends all of the hard work and dedication that rehabilitation counselors provide to individuals in need and the numerous efforts that the multiple professional organizations have made to assisting those who require rehabilitation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 247 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TONKO. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 247 to designate March 22, 2009, as ''National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day.''

Across our great country, qualified rehabilitation counselors work to empower people with disabilities to access employment, education and community opportunities and independent living. According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are approximately 141,000 rehabilitation counselors in our United States. We are extremely grateful for their commitment to providing professional service and support that is rendered to people with disabilities in a variety of settings, including State and local agencies, medical facilities, educational programs, and community businesses.

As the number of veterans with disabilities increases and people with disabilities struggle to obtain employment in these tough economic times, the need for quality rehabilitation counseling does, in fact, continue to grow. According to the National Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate of persons with a disability in February of this year was 14 percent compared to 8.7 percent for persons with no disabilities. Of even greater concern, only 23 percent of people with disabilities are currently in our labor force compared to over 70 percent of the general population. These are alarming statistics.

Qualified rehabilitation counselors are an important part of the solution as they provide services critical to improving employment outcomes for people with disabilities. We appreciate their hard work and the determination of these professionals. Various professional organizations, including the National Rehabilitation Association, the National Council on Rehabilitation Education, and the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation, advocate for up-to-date education, training and professional standards for rehabilitation counselors, and because of these national organizations' persistent efforts, the quality of rehabilitation services has dramatically improved and expanded.

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On March 22 of 1983, Martha Walker, president of the National Council on Rehabilitation Education, testified before the Subcommittee on Select Education for the House of Representatives expressing the necessity for rehabilitation counselors to be well-qualified. Ms. Walker's hard work led to the enactment of requirements to ensure that rehabilitation counselors have proper training and credentials so that people with disabilities receive quality rehabilitation service.

Let Congress designate March 22 as National Rehabilitation Counselors Day. This holiday can honor the dedicated rehabilitation counselors and professional organizations that work tirelessly to provide quality rehabilitation support.

I want to thank, particularly, Representative SKELTON for his outstanding leadership on this issue in bringing this important resolution forward. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 247, which expresses support for designating March 22, 2009, as National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day.

I am surprised by the number of individuals who do not understand what rehabilitation counselors do, and they might be well advised to read the Doonesbury comic strip where, for the past 6 months or more, there's been an ongoing discussion on how to rehabilitate veterans, and describes the work of rehabilitation counselors.

Nearly one in five Americans lives with some type of long-lasting condition or disability that requires extensive rehabilitation. Rehabilitation counselors help people deal with the personal, social and vocational effects of disabilities. They counsel individuals with disabilities resulting from birth defects, illness or disease, accidents or other causes. They evaluate the strength and limitations of individuals, provide personal and vocational counseling and arrange for medical care, vocational training and job placement. All of these are invaluable to those who need the help.

Rehabilitation counselors interview people with disabilities and their families, evaluate school and medical reports and confer with physicians, psychologists, occupational therapists, and employers to determine the capabilities and skills of the individual.

They develop rehabilitation programs by conferring with clients, which also includes training to help clients develop job skills. Rehabilitation counselors also work toward increasing the client's capacity to live independently. These professionals work with individuals, professional organizations and advocacy groups to address the social barriers that create obstacles for people with disabilities. They are instrumental in building bridges between the often-isolated world of people with disabilities and their families, communities, and school and work environments. They empower individuals to make informed choices so that they can become productive members of society.

Rehabilitation counselors are employed in private practice, by community health organizations and hospitals, and in State and Federal Government positions. There are approximately 141,000 rehabilitation counselors in the United States, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. That number is expected to grow rapidly as medical advances help people survive serious injury or illness, including veterans returning from both the Afghanistan and Iraqi wars.

Rehabilitation counselors provide a great service to the millions of Americans with disabilities. They encourage people with disabilities to participate as active citizens within their communities. These highly trained professionals help many disabled Americans cope with their life-altering situations, and today we recognize them for their hard work and dedication.

I ask for my colleagues' support of this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) who we praised in our earlier comments for bringing this awareness of the value of our rehabilitation counselors to the attention of the House, and we applaud him for his efforts, and we recognize him for 5 minutes.

Mr. SKELTON. I thank the gentleman so much for yielding.

And, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join in supporting H. Res. 247, which would express support for recognizing March 22 as National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day. I want to thank my friend, PHIL GINGREY, the gentleman from Georgia, for joining me in offering this resolution.

On March 22 in 1983, Martha Lentz Walker of Kent State University provided testimony to Members of the U.S. House of Representatives regarding the valuable services provided by qualified rehabilitation counselors. Due in large part to events of that day, rehabilitation counselors today are required to have proper certification in order to provide a higher level of service.

Vocational rehabilitation counselors are dedicated professionals. Their good works assist disabled Americans across the country in living independent and productive lives. An honest day's work is a source of pride, but many individuals with disabilities who want to work just don't have the training, support, or tools they need to enter the workforce. Vocational rehabilitation counselors step in to provide the necessary services that succeed in bringing thousands of disabled Americans into the workforce every day.

Today, we have injured veterans seeking to gain, retain, or regain employment. Today, we have older workers staying in the workforce longer in these difficult economic times. Today, many other individuals want nothing more than to pursue a career. Rehabilitation counselors play an important role in helping them to reach their goals, and I believe the service is worthy of our recognition and our thanks.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back my time.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, the resolution before the House is one of great worth, obviously recognizing the important role that rehabilitation counselors play in the lives of individuals with disabilities. They open doorways, they absolutely enhance the quality of life, and coax the professionalism from those who, amongst us, are in the ranks of the disabled with an awful lot of contribution to be made to society. The rehabilitation counselor is a partner in that effort.

So I ask that, again, we move forward and recognize this and support this resolution.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud cosponsor of House Resolution 247. This Resolution expresses support for the designation of March 22, 2009 as "National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day."

I am particularly pleased to be able to join my good friend, Chairman IKE SKELTON, on this important Resolution. Since my first days in the Congress, Chairman SKELTON has been a good friend and I have worked with him on a number of issues critical to our nation's defense. It is a particular honor to work with Chairman SKELTON in bringing this Resolution to the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 247 recognizes the hard and important work of our nation's rehabilitation counselors who day in and day out improve the lives of those who are in need of rehabilitation either from an injury or from a permanent disability. These counselors play an integral role in helping people re-establish control over their daily lives by managing the personal, social, and vocational effects of their disabilities.

Recognizing the importance of multiple sources of support, rehabilitation counselors work both with individuals and their families to plan and implement rehabilitation programs that fit their needs. Counselors often make arrangements for medical care, job training, and job placement services with the aim of achieving the best possible quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, physical disabilities do not discriminate and can affect anyone or any family. Many of us have family members or friends who suffer from disabilities that shape their everyday life. Chairman SKELTON himself is a testament to the positive effect of rehabilitation counseling.

In fact, I was pleased to join Chairman SKELTON a few years back in Warm Springs, Georgia—which at the time was part of the 11th Congressional District. We were there because in his youth, Chairman SKELTON himself benefited from rehabilitation and therapy for his own disability. I know this Resolution has particular and personal importance for him as he remembers those doctors and counselors who were so helpful to him.

Mr. Speaker, in this life, we often face challenges that we cannot overcome alone. Accordingly, we have an obligation to recognize and celebrate those individuals who spend their lives making other lives better. I call on my colleagues to support this Resolution in gratitude for our nation's rehabilitation counselors. I yield back.

Mr. TONKO. I yield back my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 247.

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

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

ACKNOWLEDGING AND COMMENDING NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 336) supporting the goals and ideals of National Library Week.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 336

Whereas the Nation's school, academic, public, and special libraries make a difference in the lives of millions of people in the United States, today, more than ever;

Whereas librarians are trained professionals, helping people of all ages and backgrounds find and interpret the information they need to live, learn, and work in a challenging economy;

Whereas libraries are part of the American Dream, places for opportunity, education, self-help, and lifelong learning;

Whereas according to a December 2008 National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) report, public library use increased to 1,400,000,000 visits nationwide during fiscal year 2006, among all types of library users, continuing a long term trend of increased library usage;

Whereas libraries play a vital role in supporting the quality of life in their communities;

Whereas libraries help people of all ages discover a world of knowledge, both in person and online, as well as provide personal service and assistance in finding needed information;

Whereas libraries are a key player in the national discourse on intellectual freedom and equity of access;

Whereas libraries are narrowing the ''digital divide'', by providing no-fee public computer and Internet access to accommodate the growing need for access to digital and online information, including e-government, continuing education, and employment opportunities; and

Whereas libraries, librarians, library workers, and supporters across the United States celebrated National Library Week, April 12–18, 2009, with The Campaign for America's Libraries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Library Week; and

(2) encourages all residents to visit a library to take advantage of the wonderful library resources available, and to thank their librarians and library workers for making information accessible to all who walk through the library's doors.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials on House Resolution 336 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 336, which encourages all Americans to take advantage of the numerous resources libraries make available.

All across the country, libraries have developed communities by bringing people of all nationalities, ages and socioeconomic levels together to enjoy the pleasures of literature, media and new technology. Libraries foster national discourse on intellectual freedom and provide informational equity across our great Nation.

Not only do libraries provide free resources, but they preserve historical artifacts and information highlighting societal achievements. Today, we have over 123 libraries nationwide playing a vital role in creating vibrant, energized communities. For example, the Big Read is a national reading program designed to revitalize the role of reading in America, and 208 communities participate in the Big Read program nationwide. American libraries play a central role fostering community participation.

There is also the National Book Festival sponsored by our very own Library of Congress. Representatives from State libraries gather at the Nation's Capital to promote reading and literacy in all of our 50 States. Last September, the 8th annual National Book Festival was a huge success. Hundreds of people gathered to promote reading to children, including professional athletes, actors, and famous writers, authors and poets.

The Library of Congress is also a great resource for the public. As the largest library in the world, the Library of Congress holds more than 120 million items on approximately 530 miles of book shelves. The collections include more than 18 million books, 2.5 million recordings, 12 million photographs, 4.5 million maps and 54 million manuscripts. The massive resource provided by this library to this country is indeed a bit of invaluable information.

National Library Week continues to commend librarians who help the public to interpret the information they need to live, to learn, and to navigate their way in today's challenging and complicated economy.

□ 1230

By providing free educational opportunities and a safe place for lifelong learning, libraries and librarians help people achieve the American Dream. With that said, ultimately libraries help people explore curiosities and make sense of this complex world.

I do want to thank Representative EHLERS for his leadership and bringing this important resolution forward.

Again, I want to extend my gratitude toward libraries for their important work in our communities. I ask my colleagues to support this important resolution.

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

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

First of all, Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Congressman GRIJALVA, who is the principal majority party cosponsor of this resolution. He has a deep interest in libraries as well.

I also wanted to say that I am a great fan of libraries for a number of reasons. First of all, I have served on a city library board, on a county library board, on the board of the State Library of Michigan, and also, through my service on the House Administration Committee, I have been on the committee governing the Library of Congress. But the main reason is that, when I was a young child, I was quite ill and could not attend school. This gave me a lot of spare time, and I read between six and eight books a week. I was totally dependent on the library for those books, so twice a week I would trudge down to the library—which was only open 2 days a week—and haul out a pile of books which I could read. So I fully appreciate the importance of libraries. There is another factor as well. My daughter, Marla, is Assistant Director of the Grand Rapids Public Library in my hometown and keeps me fully informed about library affairs. And so I say all this in preface as to why I introduced the resolution and why it is so important that we recognize libraries.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the States. This is done every year in April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our Nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support.

In the mid 1950s, research showed that Americans were spending less time on books and more on radio, television, and musical instruments. Concerned that Americans were reading less, a nonprofit citizens' organization called the National Book Committee formed in 1954. The committee's goals were ambitious and ranged from encouraging people to read in their increasing leisure time, to improving incomes and health and developing a strong and happy family life.

In 1957, the committee developed a plan for National Library Week based on the idea that once people were motivated to read, they would support and use libraries. With cooperation from various organizations, the first National Library Week was observed in 1958 with the theme, ''Wake Up and Read!''

This year's theme, ''Worlds Connect at Your Library,'' highlights how libraries are narrowing the digital divide by providing no-fee public computer and Internet access to meet the growing needs for access to digital and online information, including e-government, continuing education and employment opportunities.

I can vouch for the big changes in libraries. Last year, I visited my daughter's library—perhaps, I should say the Grand Rapids Public Library—and I was just amazed at the number of computers available to the public, and every single computer was in use. I would say there were at least a dozen there, and people working heartily on them. This has become even more important with the unemployment situation because many workers don't have their own computer and they have to go to the library to polish up their resume, look online for jobs, and so forth. So the library's usefulness has continued to grow over the years.

Libraries truly play a vital role in supporting the quality of life in their communities. They help us discover a world of knowledge, both in person and online, and are a key player in the national discourse on intellectual freedom and the equity of access. In fact, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, library use was up to 1.3 billion visits last year nationwide among all types of library users, continuing a long-term trend of increased library usage.

By recognizing National Library Week, we show our appreciation to libraries, librarians, library workers, and supporters across America. I also should mention that we should at this point recognize and mention the support that Andrew Carnegie gave to libraries initially. When he began giving

away his fortune, much of it went to libraries across the country, and you will find Carnegie libraries throughout our Nation, including in my hometown.

I am honored to support this resolution. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the great contributions of libraries and librarians.

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

Mr. TONKO. I again want to thank Mr. EHLERS for the inspiration to pay tribute to the libraries across this country. They are, indeed, very valuable components of the education infrastructure in this country. They obviously provide tremendous opportunity to individuals throughout this country without any sort of prejudice.

I am reminded of the powerful library in my hometown of Amsterdam, New York, and the wonderful countywide system that is part of Schenectady County, with several sites within their library structure.

And so it is, indeed, very appropriate that we recognize the contribution that libraries, and more specifically, librarians, make to our society and the development of the intellectual capacity and character of our society.

With that, I encourage passage of the resolution.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to the all-American public library upon completion of National Library Week. It was a week filled with activities and celebration designed to highlight the important role libraries and librarians play in our lives.

Based on a theme of "Worlds connect @ your library," libraries across the nation hosted contests and presentations to educate and entertain readers of all ages. Since 1958, National Library Week has been part of the American Library Association's goal of "encouraging people to read in their increasing leisure time." It was and has been an impressive goal and today we see libraries full of readers, taking on new challenges and expanding the education of their communities. This week was an opportunity to bring in new library patrons and to encourage reading as part of everyday life.

Former First Lady, Laura Bush, herself a librarian by profession, once said this of our libraries: "Libraries allow children to ask questions about the world and find the answers. And the wonderful thing is that once a child learns to use a library, the doors to learning are always open."

Mr. Speaker, I speak today to honor the work libraries and librarians provide not only children but all in their communities. They are more than buildings that house books and people that help us find resources. They are places to discover and imagine with neighbors gladly serving their fellow citizens in an expanding and challenging world.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 336.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BEST BUDDIES EMPOWERMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES ACT OF 2009

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1824) to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1824

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 ''Best Buddies Empowerment for People with Intellectual Disabilities Act of 2009''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Best Buddies operates the first national social and recreational program in the United States for people with intellectual disabilities.

(2) Best Buddies is dedicated to helping people with intellectual disabilities become part of mainstream society.

(3) Best Buddies is determined to end social isolation for people with intellectual disabilities by promoting meaningful friendships between them and their non-disabled peers in order to help increase the self-esteem, confidence, and abilities of people with and without intellectual disabilities.

(4) Since 1989, Best Buddies has enhanced the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities for 1-to-1 friendships and integrated employment.

(5) Best Buddies is an international organization spanning 1,300 middle school, high school, and college campuses.

(6) Best Buddies implements programs that will positively impact more than 400,000 individuals in 2009 and expects to impact 500,000 people by 2010.

(7) The Best Buddies Middle Schools program matches middle school students with intellectual disabilities with other middle school students and supports 1-to-1 friendships between them.

(8) The Best Buddies High Schools program matches high school students with intellectual disabilities with other high school students and supports 1-to-1 friendships between them.

(9) The Best Buddies Colleges program matches adults with intellectual disabilities with college students and creates 1-to-1 friendships between them.

(10) The Best Buddies e-Buddies program supports e-mail friendships between people with and without intellectual disabilities.

(11) The Best Buddies Citizens program pairs adults with intellectual disabilities in 1-to-1 friendships with other individuals in the corporate and civic communities.

(12) The Best Buddies Jobs program promotes the integration of people with intellectual disabilities into the community through supported employment.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purposes of this Act are to—

(1) provide support to Best Buddies to increase participation in and public awareness about Best Buddies programs that serve people with intellectual disabilities;

(2) dispel negative stereotypes about people with intellectual disabilities; and

(3) promote the extraordinary contributions of people with intellectual disabilities.

SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE FOR BEST BUDDIES.

(a) EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of Education may award grants to, or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements with, Best Buddies to carry out activities to promote the expansion of Best Buddies, including activities to increase the participation of people with intellectual disabilities in social relationships and other aspects of community life, including education and employment, within the United States.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts appropriated to carry out this Act may not be used for direct treatment of diseases, medical conditions, or mental health conditions.

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES.—Not more than 5 percent of amounts appropriated to carry out this Act for a fiscal year may be used for administrative activities.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the use of non-Federal funds by Best Buddies.

SEC. 4. APPLICATION AND ANNUAL REPORT.

(a) APPLICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under section 3(a), Best Buddies shall submit an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary of Education may require.

(2) CONTENT.—At a minimum, an application under this subsection shall contain the following:

(A) A description of activities to be carried out under the grant, contract, or cooperative agreement.

(B) Information on specific measurable goals and objectives to be achieved through activities carried out under the grant, contract, or cooperative agreement.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receipt of any funds under section 3(a), Best Buddies shall agree to submit an annual report at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary of Education may require.

(2) CONTENT.—At a minimum, each annual report under this subsection shall describe the degree to which progress has been made toward meeting the specific measurable goals and objectives described in the applications submitted under subsection (a).

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Education for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements under section 3(a), $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H.R. 1824 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1824. The bill will expand the important work of Best Buddies to empower people with disabilities and put an end to their social isolation.

Best Buddies International is the only national organization focused on improving the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities through a one-to-one friendship with peers.

People with intellectual disabilities are often excluded from society because of their differences. Sadly, the social isolation of children with disabilities is well-documented by researchers. However, over the last 20 years, Best Buddies has proven something that most of us take for granted, that lasting, meaningful friendships are the key to a better life.

But friendships for people with intellectual disabilities do not always come easily. Over the past 50 years, while this population has gained many civil rights, attitudinal barriers and stereotypes persist. This is something Best Buddies is changing. Since 1989, Best Buddies has worked with 1,300 middle school, high school, and college campuses. Best Buddies volunteers annually contribute services to the community that equate to more than $17 million. Federal assistance is critical to help Best Buddies expand their efforts to all of our 50 States.

Bullying continues to be a problem in our schools for many children. A 2005 study found that a Best Buddy relationship is associated with lower frequencies of peer victimization, better adaptive behavior, and fewer psychological problems for youth. Clearly, a friend is a powerful thing.

Through one-to-one matches with peers without disabilities, as well as support of e-mail friendships, citizen programs for adults, and a jobs program that promotes integration into the workplace, Best Buddies expects to impact over 500,000 people by the year 2010.

H.R. 1824 will allow Best Buddies to continue this important work through increased participation and public awareness. It simply authorizes the Secretary of Education to support Best Buddies to increase the participation of people with intellectual disabilities in social relationships and other aspects of community life.

Best Buddies envisions a world where people with intellectual disabilities are so successfully integrated into our schools, our workplaces, and our general communities that their current efforts and services will grow unnecessary. I share that vision.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I express my full support for H.R. 1824, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1824, the Best Buddies Empowerment for People with Intellectual Disabilities Act. This bill would authorize funding for Best Buddies, a nonprofit organization that provides mentors and friends for individuals with intellectual disabilities in order to increase their social relationships and other aspects of community life.

I appreciate Mr. TONKO's comments about bullying. I have introduced a bill dealing with bullying. And I got a letter—not from one of my constituents, but some other constituents—outlining a terrible situation where a young man was bullied so severely he decided he couldn't take it anymore and committed suicide at a very young age. That is the sort of tragedy we have to stop, and Best Buddies is a very important way in which that can be stopped.

Best Buddies was founded in 1989 by Anthony Kennedy Shriver as the first national, social, and recreational program for people with intellectual disabilities. Since that time, this has grown from one chapter to more than 1,400 middle school, high school and college campuses all around the country. It also operates programs on six continents around the world, with additional country programs under development.

Best Buddies offers six programs to students with special needs. Best Buddies Citizens pairs adults with intellectual disabilities with their nondisabled working peers. Best Buddies Jobs is a supported employment program targeting high-paying white collar jobs for people with intellectual disabilities. Best Buddies High Schools pairs special education students in one-on-one friendships with high school volunteers. Best Buddies Middle Schools pairs students with middle school volunteers. And Best Buddies Colleges pairs students with intellectual disabilities with college student volunteers. And the sixth program, e-Buddies, is a cutting-edge online friendship program.

According to independent researchers, an estimated 7 million individuals—2 percent of the population of the United States—have intellectual disabilities which impair their adaptive skills. These skills, such as communication, self-care, home living, social skills, functional academics, community participation, and employment are daily living skills needed to live and work in the local community as productive citizens.

The three major known causes of intellectual disabilities are Down syndrome, fetal alcohol syndrome, and Fragile X. With early intervention, effective education, and appropriate support into adulthood, many individuals with intellectual disabilities are able to lead independent lives in their communities.

Best Buddies assists in this effort by building personal relationships between Buddies and individuals with intellectual disabilities. The organization currently operates programs in 20 States, including a Best Buddies College program at Grand Valley State University, which is in my congressional district, as well as five other universities in Michigan.

□ 1245

However, there is a great need to ensure that there are programs operating in all 50 States. This new authorization would assist the organization in getting dedicated funding through the U.S. Department of Education in support of its expansion to all 50 States.

I want to thank my good friend, Mr. BLUNT, for his strong support for initiatives that assist students with intellectual disabilities and for introducing this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland, Majority Leader HOYER of the House, whose longstanding commitment to people with disabilities is well-documented. And I have to also make mention that when it comes to a buddy system for incoming freshmen, helping us to navigate on behalf of our constituents, there is a real friend in Majority Leader HOYER.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for his kind comments. The gentleman from New York is very generous.

I want to thank my friend from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) with whom I served on the House Administration Committee for many years; and also, of course, my dear friend, one of the Republican leaders in this House, Mr. BLUNT, who has cosponsored this legislation with me. It so happens my name is first, but Mr. BLUNT and I have worked on this effort together, because we both believe it's a very important one for our country and for all of those who are advantaged by this program.

I am proud, therefore, to speak in favor of this bill supporting Best Buddies, an organization, as Mr. EHLERS has pointed out, dedicated to the social integration of children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

It was founded some 20 years ago by Anthony Kennedy Shriver. Best Buddies is the first social and recreational program of its kind in the United States. It has already reached hundreds of thousands of Americans, both with and without disabilities, a total that is set to reach a half a million by 2010.

Best Buddies, Mr. Speaker, fosters and supports friendships and mentorships between participants from kindergartners to adult professionals, sponsoring more than 1,000 volunteer-led chapters at schools and workplaces.

Not only do volunteers learn leadership training, they learn firsthand about the important contributions made by their fellow citizens with intellectual disabilities. Participants with disabilities learn that they are valuable members of our communities, capable of forming a wide range of real and lasting friendships.

This legislation authorizes a total of $10 million for grants, contracts or cooperative agreements to be distributed

to Best Buddies by the Department of Education in fiscal year 2010, along with such sums as may be necessary for each of the four succeeding fiscal years.

These funds will enable this important organization to reach hundreds of thousands more potential volunteers and participants, promoting the crucial values of shared participation and community and social equality.

All of us will be advantaged by this program, not those immediate participants alone, but all of those whose communities will be better places for the participation of those directly involved in Best Buddies.

I want to thank Congressman BLUNT for cosponsoring this bill. He and I worked together for many years on this effort, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield to the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), for as much time as he wishes.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank Mr. EHLERS for yielding.

I certainly was pleased to join my colleague from Maryland, the majority leader, as an original sponsor of this Best Buddies Empowerment for People with Intellectual Disabilities Act.

This isn't the first time that Mr. HOYER and I have joined with our colleagues to come together in a meaningful way in this important area. In fact, we are both proud of the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act in 2004 that became law during the 108th Congress.

The success stories of healthy athletes, the program that emerged out of that effort, is really the great result of what we did. The reports we get from Special Olympics have been heartening every year as those athletes come together.

It's estimated that between 7 and 8 million Americans live with intellectual disabilities, impacting nearly one in every 10 families. For these individuals, life is not always welcoming. Very rarely is it easy. People with intellectual disabilities are often excluded from society, whether that's a school, in the workplace or in their communities, simply because they are different.

So I have been glad to support a program that we have talked about today, Best Buddies. It's been mentioned that it was organized 20 years ago by Anthony Shriver, and it really was designed to help integrate people with intellectual disabilities into the mainstream of society to end their isolation, to help them embark on productive, fulfilling lives by finding a buddy that didn't have the disabilities that they have.

The Best Buddies program works with volunteers to establish meaningful friendships with their nondisabled peers in order to help increase the self-esteem and confidence of people with and without intellectual disabilities. This is a program that's enhanced the lives of individuals by providing real and safe opportunities for one-on-one friendships and new options for employment.

These can often be life-changing events for individuals and often are life-changing events for those individuals with intellectual disabilities. This is often the first time in their lives that they have had someone to call their friend, someone to be their friend who didn't have disabilities, and introduced them to the world without disabilities.

This bill helps accomplish that goal in a number of significant ways. It authorizes the Secretary of Education to award grants or contracts with Best Buddies to conduct and expand its activities.

It has an eye on increasing the participation of individuals with intellectual disabilities, as well as to promote outreach programs. This bill will go a long way toward dispelling negative hurtful stereotypes and make clear the extraordinary gifts that people with intellectual disabilities nonetheless possess and, with just a little encouragement, are able to utilize.

More important, it will help move people from intellectual disabilities from the margins of society to the mainstream of society.

I know Mr. HOYER, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. TONKO and I hope to see this bill enacted into law, knowing that it will help raise the hope and dignity of people with intellectual disabilities and further empower their full participation in our communities.

I hope my colleagues pass this bill today. We intend to work for its enactment into law and look forward to the difference that this bill, Mr. Speaker, can make in the lives of people.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, we have no other Representatives from the majority that choose to speak on the measure, so I would ask if the gentleman from Michigan has others to speak.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, we have no other speakers on this side.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, the House resolution concerning Best Buddies is an outstanding opportunity for us to reinforce the efforts made by Best Buddies as they move towards the mission of integrating individuals with intellectual disabilities into society, into community in the most successful measure. And so for those reasons I would strongly urge support for this resolution.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1824, the Best Buddies Empowerment for People with Intellectual Disabilities Act of 2009. I thank Majority Leader HOYER for introducing this important legislation which authorizes the Secretary of Education to award grants to, or enter into agreements with, "Best Buddies" to promote the expansion of its programs. I urge my colleagues to approve this resolution so this vital nonprofit organization can provide further aid to people with disabilities and help them fit into mainstream society.

H.R. 1824 is needed because it will allow Best Buddies to increase participation in and public awareness about Best Buddies programs so that the organization can help more people in need. This public awareness campaign, and the successful participants in their program, will help dispel negative stereotypes about individuals with disabilities. Moreover, the public awareness campaign will promote the extraordinary contributions of people with disabilities.

This Bill is important because of the importance of the Best Buddies programs. According to the Best Buddies website the program has over 1,300 chapters and will help 400,000 individuals with intellectual disabilities just this year alone through its six program groups. Those groups include Best Buddies Citizens, Colleges, E-Buddies, High Schools, Jobs, and Middle Schools.

While the organization has expanded greatly, there are still many areas of the country that lack the resources to help individuals with intellectual disabilities become a part of mainstream society. Best Buddies is able to help this broad range of individuals by providing one-on-one friendships and integrated employment.

The vision statement of the Best Buddies organization sums up their important goals best, "Best Buddies envisions a world where people with intellectual disabilities are so successfully integrated into our schools, our workplaces and our general communities that our current efforts and services will be unnecessary".

This vision is still necessary because people with intellectual disabilities are often excluded from society due to their differences. Best Buddies is determined to end the social isolation of people with intellectual disabilities by establishing meaningful, lasting one-to-one friendships with their peers without intellectual disabilities. The friendships Best Buddies create help increase self-esteem, confidence and the abilities of people with and without intellectual disabilities.

Since 1989, Best Buddies has worked towards this vision an operates the first national social and recreational program in the United States for people with intellectual disabilities.

Persons with intellectual disabilities need this crucial assistance to help them gain adaptive life skills. Such skills include communication, self-care, home living, social skills, leisure, health and safety, self-direction, functional academics like reading, writing and basic math as well as community participation and employment.

The effects of intellectual disabilities vary considerably among people. About 87 percent are mildly affected and will be only slightly less proficient than average in learning new information and skills. With the assistance of programs like Best Buddies, a significant portion of our population can become self-reliant and an integral part of society.

According to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, an estimated 2.5 million people, approximately 1% of the national population, have an intellectual disability. Estimates also indicate that only 31% of individuals with intellectual disabilities are employed, although many more want to work. Persons with intellectual disabilities successfully perform a wide range of jobs, and can be dependable workers. They just need help to make it happen.

As the Representative of the 18th District of Texas, and a tireless advocate for equal rights for all persons, I strongly support this Resolution. Currently, the Best Buddies Texas headquarters is in Houston and has programs in high schools and colleges within my district. I want to see that more states can get the help from Best Buddies that Texas has been so lucky to receive and ensure that Best Buddies can continue to grow and help even more individuals with intellectual disabilities in Texas and my district. I urge my colleagues to pass this Bill.

Mr. TONKO. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1824.

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.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 316, I call from the Speaker's table the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 13) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The text of the Senate concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 13

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

SECTION 1. CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010.

(a) DECLARATION.—Congress declares that this resolution is the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010 and that this resolution sets forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2009 and 2011 through 2014.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this concurrent resolution is as follows:

Sec. 1. Concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010.

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

Sec. 101. Recommended levels and amounts.
Sec. 102. Social Security.
Sec. 103. Postal Service discretionary administrative expenses.
Sec. 104. Major functional categories.

TITLE II—RESERVE FUNDS

Sec. 201. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to transform and modernize America's health care system.
Sec. 202. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to invest in clean energy and preserve the environment.
Sec. 203. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for higher education.
Sec. 204. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for child nutrition and WIC.
Sec. 205. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in America's infrastructure.
Sec. 206. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to promote economic stabilization and growth.
Sec. 207. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for America's veterans and wounded servicemembers.
Sec. 208. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for judicial pay and judgeships and postal retiree assistance.
Sec. 209. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for defense acquisition and contracting reform.
Sec. 210. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in our Nation's counties and schools.
Sec. 211. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the Food and Drug Administration.
Sec. 212. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for bipartisan congressional sunset commission.
Sec. 213. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve domestic fuels security.
Sec. 214. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for a comprehensive investigation into the current financial crisis.
Sec. 215. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for increased transparency at the Federal Reserve.
Sec. 216. Deficit-Neutral reserve fund for improving child welfare.
Sec. 217. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to fully fund the Long-Term Stability/Housing for Victims Program.
Sec. 218. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for providing a nonrefundable Federal income tax credit for the purchase of a principal residence during a 1-year period.
Sec. 219. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for monitoring of FHA-insured lending.
Sec. 220. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address the systemic inequities of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement that lead to access problems in rural areas.
Sec. 221. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to provide for accelerated carbon capture and storage and advanced clean coal power generation research, development, demonstration, and deployment.
Sec. 222. Expenditure of remaining TARP funds.
Sec. 223. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for prohibiting undeserved contracting performance bonuses.
Sec. 224. Deficit-reduction reserve fund to ensure the pledge of President Obama to eliminate wasteful, inefficient, and duplicative programs.
Sec. 225. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), and other related programs.
Sec. 226. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for ending abusive no-bid contracts.
Sec. 227. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for home visitation programs.
Sec. 228. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for 21st Century Community Learning Centers.
Sec. 229. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to provide for the extension of the top individual tax rates for small businesses.
Sec. 230. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for pension coverage for employees of Department of Energy laboratories and environmental cleanup sites.
Sec. 231. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for provision of critical resources to firefighters and fire departments.
Sec. 232. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for the elimination and recovery of improper payments.
Sec. 233. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the repeal of the 1993 increase in the income tax on social security benefits.
Sec. 234. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for legislation to increase the amount of capital losses allowed to individuals.
Sec. 235. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for foster care financing reform.
Sec. 236. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for healthcare professionals for the Veterans Health Administration.
Sec. 237. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to repeal deductions from mineral revenue payments to States.
Sec. 238. Reserve fund to promote tax equity for States without personal income taxes.
Sec. 239. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for setting performance standards to identify failing Government programs.
Sec. 240. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to expedite research on viability of use of higher ethanol blends at service station pump.
Sec. 241. Deficit-neutral reserve funds to enhance drug-control efforts within our communities and along our borders.
Sec. 242. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to promote individual savings and financial security.
Sec. 243. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the National Health Service Corps.
Sec. 244. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve animal health and disease program.
Sec. 245. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for increase in the end strength for active duty personnel of the Army.
Sec. 246. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for wildland fire management activities.
Sec. 247. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for estate tax relief.
Sec. 248. Point of order against legislation that provides additional relief for the estate tax beyond the levels assumed in this budget resolution unless an equal amount of additional tax relief is provided to middle-class taxpayers.
Sec. 249. Deficit-neutral reserve fund increase FDIC and NCUA borrowing authority.
Sec. 250. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for innovative loan guarantee program of the Department of Energy.
Sec. 251. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for nuclear research and development.
Sec. 252. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the 2012 completion of Food and Drug Administration facilities.
Sec. 253. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for Energy Star for Small Business Program.

TITLE III—BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle A—Budget Enforcement

Sec. 301. Discretionary spending limits, program integrity initiatives, and other adjustments.
Sec. 302. Point of order against advance appropriations.
Sec. 303. Emergency legislation.
Sec. 304. Point of order against legislation increasing short-term deficit.
Sec. 305. Point of order against provisions of appropriations legislation that constitute changes in mandatory programs affecting the Crime Victims Fund.
Sec. 306. Point of order against legislation that raises taxes on middle-income taxpayers.
Sec. 307. Point of order on legislation that raises income tax rates on Small Businesses.
Sec. 308. Point of order against legislation that imposes a National energy tax on middle-income taxpayers.
Sec. 309. Point of order on legislation that imposes a marriage tax penalty.
Sec. 310. Point of order on legislation that increases revenue above the levels established in the budget resolution.
Sec. 311. Point of order on legislation that increases taxes during any period when the unemployment rate is in excess of 5.8 percent.
Sec. 312. Point of order against legislation that causes significant job loss.
Sec. 313. Limitations on legislation that would permit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recover from a private health insurer of a disabled veteran amounts paid for treatment of such disability.
Sec. 314. Point of order.
Sec. 315. Restrictions on unfunded mandates on States and local governments.
Sec. 316. Point of order on legislation that eliminates the ability of Americans to keep their health plan or their choice of doctor.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

Sec. 321. Oversight of government performance.
Sec. 322. Budgetary treatment of certain discretionary administrative expenses.
Sec. 323. Application and effect of changes in allocations and aggregates.
Sec. 324. Adjustments to reflect changes in concepts and definitions.
Sec. 325. Debt disclosure requirement.
Sec. 326. Debt disclosures.
Sec. 327. Exercise of rulemaking powers.

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

SEC. 101. RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS.

The following budgetary levels are appropriate for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2014:

(1) FEDERAL REVENUES.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution:

(A) The recommended levels of Federal revenues are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $1,506,196,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $1,620,072,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $1,918,926,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $2,123,586,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $2,286,601,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $2,489,829,000,000.

(B) The amounts by which the aggregate levels of Federal revenues should be changed are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: –$26,374,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: –$45,914,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: –$169,705,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: –$236,806,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: –$228,736,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: –$143,829,000,000.

(2) NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total new budget authority are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $3,668,049,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $2,853,966,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $2,799,858,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $2,812,313,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $2,990,082,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $3,164,644,000,000.

(3) BUDGET OUTLAYS.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total budget outlays are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $3,355,533,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $2,981,026,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $2,937,215,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $2,856,956,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $3,003,162,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $3,152,972,000,000.

(4) DEFICITS.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the amounts of the deficits are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $1,849,337,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $1,360,954,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $1,018,289,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $733,370,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $716,560,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $663,142,000,000.

(5) PUBLIC DEBT.—Pursuant to section 301(a)(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the appropriate levels of the public debt are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $12,067,919,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $13,298,235,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $14,394,517,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $15,303,842,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $16,175,508,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $17,022,970,000,000.

(6) DEBT HELD BY THE PUBLIC.—The appropriate levels of debt held by the public are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $7,754,355,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $8,817,043,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $9,702,393,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $10,345,439,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $10,919,379,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $11,471,742,000,000.

SEC. 102. SOCIAL SECURITY.

(a) SOCIAL SECURITY REVENUES.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the amounts of revenues of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $653,117,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $668,208,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $694,864,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $726,045,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $766,065,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $802,166,000,000.

(b) SOCIAL SECURITY OUTLAYS.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the amounts of outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $513,029,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $544,140,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $564,523,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $586,897,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $612,017,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $639,054,000,000.

(c) SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—In the Senate, the amounts of new budget authority and budget outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for administrative expenses are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $5,296,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,945,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $6,072,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,934,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $6,568,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $6,433,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $6,895,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $6,809,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $7,223,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $7,148,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $7,599,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $7,517,000,000.

SEC. 103. POSTAL SERVICE DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

In the Senate, the amounts of new budget authority and budget outlays of the Postal Service for discretionary administrative expenses are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $253,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $253,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $262,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $262,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $267,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $267,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $272,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $272,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $277,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $277,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $283,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $283,000,000.

SEC. 104. MAJOR FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES.

Congress determines and declares that the appropriate levels of new budget authority and outlays for fiscal years 2009 through 2014 for each major functional category are:

(1) National Defense (050):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $693,557,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $671,725,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $691,703,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $695,628,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $619,767,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $662,705,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $628,785,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $642,223,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $639,535,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $641,425,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $653,458,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $646,834,000,000.

(2) International Affairs (150):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $55,333,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $38,011,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $50,667,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $48,853,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $48,186,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $51,034,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $50,421,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $51,649,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $53,324,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $52,556,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $55,992,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $53,223,000,000.

(3) General Science, Space, and Technology (250):

Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $35,389,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,973,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $31,139,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,467,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $33,993,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,032,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $35,008,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,749,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $35,557,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $34,971,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $36,211,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $36,066,000,000.
(4) Energy (270):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $43,919,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,952,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $4,488,999,999.
(B) Outlays, $6,209,999,999.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $4,404,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $8,906,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $4,427,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $10,341,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $4,619,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,613,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $4,540,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $484,000,000.
(5) Natural Resources and Environment (300):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $56,009,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $36,834,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $37,687,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $40,690,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $37,914,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $39,928,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $38,376,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $39,419,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $38,256,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $38,883,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $38,602,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $38,788,000,000.
(6) Agriculture (350):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $24,974,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,070,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $23,620,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,881,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $24,602,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,914,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $21,500,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,410,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $22,295,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $21,877,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $22,920,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $21,906,000,000.
(7) Commerce and Housing Credit (370):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $694,439,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $665,437,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $61,113,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $85,818,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $25,931,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $37,798,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $9,305,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $8,400,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $16,985,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,329,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $10,958,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$2,762,000,000.
(8) Transportation (400):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $122,457,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $87,784,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $75,246,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,695,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $75,301,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,147,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $75,885,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,184,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $75,758,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,017,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $75,642,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $94,972,000,000.
(9) Community and Regional Development (450):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $23,811,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,983,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $16,338,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,924,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $16,152,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,574,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $16,194,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $22,263,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $16,043,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,640,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $16,068,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,870,000,000.
(10) Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services (500):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $164,276,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $73,219,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $94,430,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $140,624,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $107,858,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $141,412,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $117,121,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $118,480,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $115,931,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $118,911,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $125,788,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $120,959,000,000.
(11) Health (550):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $380,158,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $354,397,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $385,447,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $389,191,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $363,906,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $368,001,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $368,156,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $367,749,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $387,170,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $382,650,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $396,523,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $397,368,000,000.
(12) Medicare (570):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $427,076,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $426,736,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $442,828,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $442,959,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $487,518,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $487,336,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $491,854,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $491,626,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $539,711,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $539,862,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $592,893,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $592,733,000,000.
(13) Income Security (600):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $520,123,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $503,020,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $536,609,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $539,949,200,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $507,502,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $511,313,800,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $450,091,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $450,856,400,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $454,160,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $453,934,500,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $454,931,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $453,726,100,000.
(14) Social Security (650):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $31,820,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,264,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $20,255,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,378,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $23,380,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,513,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $26,478,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,628,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $29,529,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,679,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $32,728,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,728,000,000.
(15) Veterans Benefits and Services (700):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $97,705,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $94,831,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $106,490,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $105,593,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $112,806,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $112,355,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $108,643,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $108,048,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $113,722,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $113,071,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $115,929,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $115,388,000,000.
(16) Administration of Justice (750):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $55,783,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $49,853,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $53,499,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $52,064,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $52,061,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $54,204,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $51,866,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $53,839,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $51,651,000,000.

(B) Outlays, $52,679,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $51,488,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $51,635,000,000.
(17) General Government (800):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $30,405,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,629,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $22,324,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,024,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $22,483,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,328,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $22,715,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,814,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $22,445,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,260,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $22,812,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,113,000,000.
(18) Net Interest (900):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $289,021,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $289,021,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $284,558,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $284,558,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $323,794,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $323,794,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $387,620,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $387,620,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $470,073,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $470,073,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $557,326,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $557,326,000,000.
(19) Allowances (920):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, –$16,031,999,999.
(B) Outlays, –$7,037,199,999.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, –$16,046,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$15,266,800,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, –$17,512,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$17,654,400,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, –$19,097,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$18,658,500,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, –$20,674,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$19,891,100,000.
(20) Undistributed Offsetting Receipts (950):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, –$78,206,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$78,206,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, –$68,444,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$68,444,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, –$71,653,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$71,653,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, –$74,620,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$74,620,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, –$77,585,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$77,585,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, –$79,491,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$79,491,000,000.

TITLE II—RESERVE FUNDS

SEC. 201. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO TRANSFORM AND MODERNIZE AMERICA'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

(a) TRANSFORM AND MODERNIZE AMERICA'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger that are deficit-neutral over 11 years, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that are deficit-neutral, reduce excess cost growth in health care spending and are fiscally sustainable over the long term, and—

(1) protect families' financial health including restraining the growth of health premiums and other health-related costs;

(2) make health coverage affordable to businesses (in particular to small business and individuals who are self-employed), households, and governments, including by reducing wasteful and inefficient spending in the health care system with periodic reports on savings achieved through these efforts, and by moving forward with improvements to the health care delivery system, including Medicare;

(3) aim for universality of health coverage;

(4) provide portability of coverage and assurance of coverage with appropriate consumer protections;

(5) guarantee choice of health plans and health care providers to Americans;

(6) invest in prevention and wellness and address issues of health disparities;

(7) improve patient safety and quality care, including the appropriate use of health information technology and health data, and promote transparency in cost and quality information to Americans; or

(8) maintain long-term fiscal sustainability and pays for itself by reducing health care cost growth, improving productivity, or dedicating additional sources of revenue;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not result in diminishing a taxpayers' ability to deduct charitable contributions as an offset to pay for such purposes, and provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(b) OTHER REVISIONS.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that—

(1) increase the reimbursement rate for physician services under section 1848(d) of the Social Security Act and that include financial incentives for physicians to improve the quality and efficiency of items and services furnished to Medicare beneficiaries through the use of consensus-based quality measures;

(2) include measures to encourage physicians to train in primary care residencies and ensure an adequate supply of residents and physicians;

(3) improve the Medicare program for beneficiaries and protect access to outpatient therapy services (including physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology services) through measures such as repealing the current outpatient therapy caps while protecting beneficiaries from associated premium increases;

(4) promote payment policies under the Medicare program that reward quality and efficient care and address geographic variations in spending; or

(5) protect Medicare Advantage enrollees from premium increases and benefit reductions in their Medicare Advantage plans that would result from the estimate of the national per capita Medicare Advantage growth percentage contained in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for Calender Year 2010, as proposed on February 20, 2009, that is made using the Medicare payment rates for physicians' services assumed in such Advance Notice rather than the Medicare payment rates for physicians' services assumed in the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2010 (which accounts for additional expected Medicare payments for such services);

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 202. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO INVEST IN CLEAN ENERGY AND PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT.

(a) INVESTING IN CLEAN ENERGY AND PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would reduce our Nation's dependence on imported energy including through expanded offshore oil and gas production in the Outer Continental Shelf, produce green jobs, promote renewable energy development, strengthen and retool manufacturing supply chains, create a clean energy investment fund, improve electricity transmission, encourage conservation and efficiency (including through industrial energy efficiency programs), make improvements to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, set aside additional funding from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund for arctic oil spill research conducted by the Oil Spill Recovery Institute, implement water settlements, or preserve or protect public lands, oceans or coastal areas, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the cost of producing energy from domestic sources, including oil and gas from the Outer Continental Shelf or other areas; would not increase the cost of energy for American families; would not increase the cost of energy for domestic manufacturers, farmers, fishermen, or other domestic industries; and would not enhance foreign competitiveness against U.S. businesses; and would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019. The legislation may include tax provisions.

(b) CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would invest in clean energy technology initiatives, decrease greenhouse gas emissions (without regulating carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxide, water vapor, or methane emissions from biological processes associated with livestock production), create new jobs in a clean technology economy, strengthen the manufacturing competitiveness of the United States, diversify the domestic clean energy supply to increase the energy security of the United States, protect consumers (including policies that address regional differences), provide incentives for cost-savings achieved through energy efficiencies, provide voluntary opportunities for agriculture and forestry communities to contribute to reducing the levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, and help families, workers, communities, and businesses make the transition to a clean energy economy, without increasing electricity or gasoline prices or increasing the overall burden on consumers,

through the use of revenues and policies provided in such legislation, without increasing electricity or gasoline prices, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(c) ALLOCATIONS.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget shall not revise the allocations in this resolution if the legislation provided for in subsections (a) or (b) is reported from any committee pursuant to section 310 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

SEC. 203. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that make higher education more accessible and affordable while maintaining a competitive student loan program that provides students and institutions of higher education with a comprehensive choice of loan products and services, which may include legislation to expand and strengthen student aid, such as Pell Grants, or increase college enrollment and completion rates for low-income students, such as by investing in programs such as the programs under subpart 4 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070c et seq.), such as by investing in programs such as the programs under chapters 1 and 2 of subpart 2 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–11 et seq., 1070a–21 et seq.), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019. The legislation may include tax provisions.

SEC. 204. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR CHILD NUTRITION AND WIC.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would reauthorize child nutrition programs or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (the WIC program), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 205. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INVESTMENTS IN AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) INFRASTRUCTURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide for a robust Federal investment in America's infrastructure, which may include projects for public housing, energy, water, transportation, including freight and passenger rail, or other infrastructure projects, by the amounts provided in that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(2) DENALI COMMISSION.—The Chairman of the Budget Committee may also revise the allocations to allow funding for the Denali Commission established by section 303(a) of the Denali Commission Act of 1998 (42 U.S.C. 3121 note; 112 Stat. 2681–637) for each applicable fiscal year at a level equal to not less than the level of funding made available for the Denali Commission during fiscal year 2006.

(b) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide new budget authority for surface transportation programs to the extent such new budget authority is offset by an increase in receipts to the Highway Trust Fund (excluding transfers from the general fund of the Treasury into the Highway Trust Fund not offset by a similar increase in receipts), provided further that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(c) MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would authorize multimodal transportation projects that—

(1) provide a set of performance measures;

(2) require a cost-benefit analysis be conducted to ensure accountability and overall project goals are met; and

(3) provide flexibility for States, cities, and localities to create strategies that meet the needs of their communities,

by the amounts provided in that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(d) FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide for levee modernization, maintenance, repair, and improvement, by the amounts provided in that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(e) ALLOWING AMTRAK PASSENGERS TO SECURELY TRANSPORT FIREARMS ON PASSENGER TRAINS.—None of amounts made available in the reserve fund authorized under this section may be used to provide financial assistance for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) unless Amtrak passengers are allowed to securely transport firearms in their checked baggage.

SEC. 206. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC STABILIZATION AND GROWTH.

(a) MANUFACTURING.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports, including tax legislation, that would revitalize and strengthen the United States domestic manufacturing sector by increasing Federal research and development, by expanding the scope and effectiveness of manufacturing programs across the Federal Government, by increasing efforts to train and retrain manufacturing workers, by enhancing workers' technical skills in the use of the new advanced manufacturing technologies to produce competitive energy efficient products, by increasing support for sector workforce training, by increasing support for the redevelopment of closed manufacturing plants, by increasing support for development of alternative fuels and leap-ahead automotive and energy technologies such as advanced batteries, or by establishing tax incentives to encourage the continued production in the United States of advanced technologies and the infrastructure to support such technologies, by the amounts provided in that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(b) TAX RELIEF.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would provide tax relief, including but not limited to extensions of expiring and expired tax relief, such as enhanced charitable giving from individual retirement accounts, including life-income gifts, or refundable tax relief and enhancement of the employer-provided child care credit and enhancement of the dependent care tax credit, by the amounts provided in that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(c) TAX REFORM.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would reform the Internal Revenue Code to ensure a sustainable revenue base that would lead to a fairer and more efficient tax system and to a more competitive business environment for United States enterprises, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(d) FLOOD INSURANCE REFORM.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would provide for flood insurance reform and modernization, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(e) TRADE.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to trade by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of

the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(f) HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports related to housing assistance, which may include low income rental assistance, assistance provided through the Housing Trust Fund created under section 1131 of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, and legislation that allows for a temporary suspension of the 10 percent tax penalty in order for struggling families to make an early withdrawal from their qualified retirement accounts to pay their monthly mortgage payments, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(g) UNEMPLOYMENT MITIGATION.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports which reduce the unemployment rate or provide assistance to the unemployed, particularly in the states and localities with the highest rates of unemployment, or improve the implementation of the unemployment compensation program, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 207. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR AMERICA'S VETERANS AND WOUNDED SERVICEMEMBERS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would expand the number of disabled military retirees who receive both disability compensation and retired pay, accelerate the phase-in of concurrent receipt, eliminate the offset between Survivor Benefit Plan annuities and Veterans' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, enhance servicemember education benefits for members of the National Guard and Reserve by ensuring those benefits keep pace with the national average cost of tuition, provide for the payment of retired pay for members of the Alaska Territorial Guard who served in the Alaska Territorial Guard during and after World War II, or expand veterans' benefits (including for veterans living in rural areas), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 208. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR JUDICIAL PAY AND JUDGESHIPS AND POSTAL RETIREE ASSISTANCE.

(a) JUDICIAL PAY AND JUDGESHIPS.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would authorize salary adjustments for justices and judges of the United States, or increase the number of Federal judgeships, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(b) POSTAL RETIREES.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports relating to adjustments to funding for postal retiree health coverage, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 209. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR DEFENSE ACQUISITION AND CONTRACTING REFORM.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that—

(1) enhance the capability of the Federal acquisition or contracting workforce to achieve better value for taxpayers;

(2) reduce the use of no-bid and cost-plus contracts;

(3) reform Department of Defense processes for acquiring weapons systems in order to reduce costs, improve cost and schedule estimation, enhance developmental testing of weapons, or increase the rigor of reviews of programs that experience critical cost growth;

(4) reduce the award of contracts to contractors with seriously delinquent tax debts;

(5) reduce the use of contracts, including the continuation of task orders, awarded under the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP) III;

(6) reform Department of Defense processes for acquiring services in order to reduce costs, improve costs and schedule estimation, enhance oversight, or increase the rigor of reviews of programs that experience critical cost growth;

(7) reduce the use of contracts for acquisition, oversight, and management support services; or

(8) enhance the capability of auditors and inspectors general to oversee Federal acquisition and procurement;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 210. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INVESTMENTS IN OUR NATION'S COUNTIES AND SCHOOLS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide for the reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–393) or make changes to the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–565), or both, by the amounts provided by that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 211. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION.

(a) REGULATION.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that authorize the Food and Drug Administration to regulate products and assess user fees on manufacturers and importers of those products to cover the cost of the Food and Drug Administration's regulatory activities, by the amounts provided in that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(b) DRUG IMPORTATION.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that permit the safe importation of prescription drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration from a specified list of countries, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(c) FOOD SAFETY.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would improve the safety of the food supply in the United States, by the amounts provided in such legislation for these purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 212. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUNSET COMMISSION.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that—

(1) provide for a bipartisan congressional sunset commission, that will review Federal programs, focusing on unauthorized and nonperforming programs;

(2) provide for a process that will help abolish obsolete and duplicative Federal programs;

(3) provide for improved government accountability and greater openness in Government decisionmaking; and

(4) provide for a process that ensures that Congress will consider the commission's reports and recommendations;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 213. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE DOMESTIC FUELS SECURITY.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference

reports to achieve domestic fuels security by authorizing the Department of Defense to procure alternative fuels from domestic sources under contracts for up to 20 years, provided that such procurement is consistent with section 526 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–140) and provided further that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 214. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR A COMPREHENSIVE INVESTIGATION INTO THE CURRENT FINANCIAL CRISIS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide resources for a comprehensive investigation to determine the cause of the current financial crisis, hold those responsible accountable, and provide recommendations to prevent another financial crisis of this magnitude from occurring again by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 215. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INCREASED TRANSPARENCY AT THE FEDERAL RESERVE.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that increase transparency at the Federal Reserve System, including audits of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks, to include—

(1) an evaluation of the appropriate number and the associated costs of Federal reserve banks;

(2) publication on its website, with respect to all lending and financial assistance facilities created by the Board to address the financial crisis, of—

(A) the nature and amounts of the collateral that the central bank is accepting on behalf of American taxpayers in the various lending programs, on no less than a monthly basis;

(B) the extent to which changes in valuation of credit extensions to various special purpose vehicles, such as Maiden Lane I, Maiden Lane II, and Maiden Lane III, are a result of losses on collateral which will not be recovered;

(C) the number of borrowers that participate in each of the lending programs and details of the credit extended, including the extent to which the credit is concentrated in one or more institutions; and

(D) information on the extent to which the central bank is contracting for services of private sector firms for the design, pricing, management, and accounting for the various lending programs and the terms and nature of such contracts and bidding processes; and

(3) including the identity of each entity to which the Board has provided all loans and other financial assistance since March 24, 2008, the value or amount of that financial assistance, and what that entity is doing with such financial assistance;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 216. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR IMPROVING CHILD WELFARE.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would make improvements to child welfare programs, including strengthening the recruitment and retention of foster families, or make improvements to the child support enforcement program, by the amounts provided in that legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 217. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO FULLY FUND THE LONG-TERM STABILITY/HOUSING FOR VICTIMS PROGRAM.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would fully fund the Long-Term Stability/Housing for Victims Program under the Violence Against Women Act which builds collaborations between domestic violence service providers and housing providers and developers to leverage existing resources and create housing solutions that meet victims' need for long-term housing at the authorized level, by the amounts provided in that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 218. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR PROVIDING A NONREFUNDABLE FEDERAL INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE DURING A 1-YEAR PERIOD.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would provide a one-time nonrefundable Federal income tax credit for the purchase of a principal residence during a 1-year period in the amount of the lesser of $15,000 or 10 percent of the purchase price of such residence, exclusive of any other credit available for the purchase of a residence, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 219. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR MONITORING OF FHA-INSURED LENDING.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would increase the capacity of the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to investigate cases of mortgage fraud of Federal Housing Administration loans, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 220. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ADDRESS THE SYSTEMIC INEQUITIES OF MEDICARE AND MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT THAT LEAD TO ACCESS PROBLEMS IN RURAL AREAS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would address the systemic inequities of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement that lead to access problems in rural areas, including access to primary care and outpatient services, hospitals, and an adequate supply of providers in the workforce, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 221. DEFICIT NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROVIDE FOR ACCELERATED CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE AND ADVANCED CLEAN COAL POWER GENERATION RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, DEMONSTRATION, AND DEPLOYMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels and limits in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would accelerate the research, development, demonstration, and deployment of advanced technologies to capture and store carbon dioxide emissions from coal-fired power plants and other industrial emission sources and to use coal in an environmentally acceptable manner.

(b) DEFICIT NEUTRALITY.—Subsection (a) applies only if the legislation described in subsection (a) would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 222. EXPENDITURE OF REMAINING TARP FUNDS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that reaffirm that the remaining Troubled Asset Relief Program funds shall be used to save homes, save small businesses, help the municipal bond market, make credit more widely available, and provide additional resources for the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, the Congressional Oversight Panel, and the Government Accountability Office for vigorous audit and evaluation of all expenditures and commitments made under the Troubled Asset Relief Program, by the amounts provided in that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 223. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR PROHIBITING UNDESERVED CONTRACTING PERFORMANCE BONUSES.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would prohibit federally funded bonuses awarded to contractors and government executives responsible for over budget

projects and programs that fail to meet basic performance requirements, by the amounts provided in that legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2010 through 2019.

SEC. 224. DEFICIT-REDUCTION RESERVE FUND TO ENSURE THE PLEDGE OF PRESIDENT OBAMA TO ELIMINATE WASTEFUL, INEFFICIENT, AND DUPLICATIVE PROGRAMS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that achieves savings by going through the Federal Budget line by line, as President Obama has called for, to eliminate wasteful, inefficient, and duplicative spending by requiring—

(1) the head of every department and agency to provide a report to Congress within 90 days after the date of enactment of this resolution on programs that are duplicative, inefficient, or failing, with recommendations for elimination and consolidation of these programs,

(2) the Office of Management and Budget to provide a report to Congress within 90 days after the date of enactment of this resolution on programs that are duplicative government-wide, with recommendations for elimination or consolidation of these programs, and

(3) every standing committee of the Senate to conduct at least one oversight hearing each fiscal year in order to identify wasteful, inefficient, outdated, and duplicative programs that could be eliminated and consolidated,

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 225. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA) AND THE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT (FVPSA), AND OTHER RELATED PROGRAMS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide resources for programs administered through the Violence Against Women Act and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, and other related programs, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 226. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR ENDING ABUSIVE NO-BID CONTRACTS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would end abusive no-bid contracts by requiring all Federal contracts over $25,000 to be competitively bid, by the amounts provided in that legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2010 through 2019.

SEC. 227. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR HOME VISITATION PROGRAMS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that provide funds to States to establish or expand quality programs of early childhood home visitation that increase school readiness, child abuse and neglect prevention, and early identification of developmental and health delays, including potential mental health concerns, and that—

(1) serve pregnant women, or parent's or other primary caregivers and their children under the age of entry into kindergarten through quality programs of early childhood home visitation;

(2) are delivered by nurses, social workers, child development specialists, or other well-trained and competent staff, as demonstrated by education or training and the provision of ongoing specific training and supervision in the model of service being delivered;

(3) have outcomes and research standards that—

(A) demonstrate ongoing positive outcomes for children, parents and other primary caregivers that enhance child health and development;

(B) conform to a clear consistent home visitation model that has been in existence for at least 3 years and that—

(i) is research-based, grounded in relevant empirically-based knowledge;

(ii) is linked to program determined outcomes;

(iii) is associated with a national organization or institution of higher education that has comprehensive home visitation program standards that ensure high quality service delivery and continuous program quality improvement; and

(iv) has demonstrated significant positive outcomes when evaluated using well-designed and rigorous randomized controlled or well-designed and rigorous quasi-experimental research designs, and the evaluation results have been published in a peer-reviewed journal; and

(4) show, establish, or propose linkages to high quality early learning opportunities;

provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 228. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would increase funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program by the amounts provided in such legislation for such purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 229. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE TOP INDIVIDUAL TAX RATES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that maintains the rates of tax under section 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for the highest two rate brackets at 33 percent and 35 percent, respectively, for individuals who receive more than 50 percent of income from a small business concern (as defined under section 3 of the Small Business Act), by the amounts provided by that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 230. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR PENSION COVERAGE FOR EMPLOYEES OF DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY LABORATORIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP SITES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would authorize funding to cover the full cost of pension obligations for current and past employees of laboratories and environmental cleanup sites under the jurisdiction of the Department of Energy (including benefits paid to security personnel) in a manner that does not impact the missions of those laboratories and environmental cleanup sites.

(b) DEFICIT NEUTRALITY.—Subsection (a) applies only if the legislation described in subsection (a) would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 231. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR PROVISION OF CRITICAL RESOURCES TO FIREFIGHTERS AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would provide firefighters and fire departments with critical resources under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Firefighters Grant of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, by the amounts provided in such legislation for such purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 232. DEFICIT-REDUCTION RESERVE FUND FOR THE ELIMINATION AND RECOVERY OF IMPROPER PAYMENTS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the aggregates, allocations, functional totals, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution upon enactment of legislation that achieves savings by requiring that Federal departments and agencies eliminate improper payments and increase the use of the recovery audits and uses such savings to reduce the deficit, by the amount of such savings, provided that such legislation would decrease the deficit.

SEC. 233. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE REPEAL OF THE 1993 INCREASE IN THE INCOME TAX ON SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would repeal the 1993 increase in the income tax on social security benefits, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of

the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 234. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR LEGISLATION TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF CAPITAL LOSSES ALLOWED TO INDIVIDUALS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that increases the amount by which a capital loss of an individual is allowed, by the amounts provided by that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 235. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR FOSTER CARE FINANCING REFORM.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would—

(1) change the Federal foster care payment system from a system that supports programs to one that supports children, whatever their best placement may be, and one that promotes permanency for children;

(2) when it is determined to be in the best interests of the child, promote and improve family support, family preservation, including residential family treatment for families suffering from substance abuse and addiction, and time-limited family reunification services;

(3) provide for subsidies and support programs that are available to support the needs of the children prior to removal, during removal, and post placement, whether through reunification, adoption, kinship adoption, or guardianship;

(4) promote innovation and best practice at the State level; and

(5) guarantee that public funds are used to effectively meet the needs of children who have been abused or neglected;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 236. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS FOR THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would—

(1) increase the number of healthcare professionals in the Veterans Health Administration to meet the needs of the expanding number of veterans and to fill healthcare professional positions in the Veterans Health Administration that are currently vacant; and

(2) provide enhanced incentives for healthcare professionals of the Veterans Health Administration who serve in rural areas;

by the amounts provided in that legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the total of the period of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years of 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 237. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO REPEAL DEDUCTIONS FROM MINERAL REVENUE PAYMENTS TO STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would repeal the requirement to deduct certain amounts from mineral revenues payable to States under the heading ''ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS'' under the heading ''MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE'' under the heading ''DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR'' of title I of the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111–8).

(b) DEFICIT NEUTRALITY.—Subsection (a) applies only if the legislation described in subsection (a) would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 238. RESERVE FUND TO PROMOTE TAX EQUITY FOR STATES WITHOUT PERSONAL INCOME TAXES.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the aggregates, allocations, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would provide for the permanent extension of the deduction for state and local sales taxes, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 239. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR SETTING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS TO IDENTIFY FAILING GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would develop performance measures for each program receiving Federal assistance under their jurisdiction, by the amounts provided in that legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2010 through 2019.

SEC. 240. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO EXPEDITE RESEARCH ON VIABILITY OF USE OF HIGHER ETHANOL BLENDS AT SERVICE STATION PUMP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would expedite research at the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency on the viability of the use of higher ethanol blends at the service station pump.

(b) DEFICIT NEUTRALITY.—Subsection (a) applies only if the legislation described in subsection (a) would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 241. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUNDS TO ENHANCE DRUG-CONTROL EFFORTS WITHIN OUR COMMUNITIES AND ALONG OUR BORDERS.

(a) HIDTA.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that increase the number of counties designated as High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas to provide coordination, equipment, technology, and additional resources to combat drug trafficking and its harmful consequences in critical regions of the United States by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

(b) DRUG SMUGGLING.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that increase drug interdiction funding at the Department of Homeland Security to combat drug smuggling across international borders by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 242. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROMOTE INDIVIDUAL SAVINGS AND FINANCIAL SECURITY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the aggregates, allocations, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that promote financial security through financial literacy, retirement planning, and savings incentives, including individual development accounts and child savings accounts, provided that such legislation does not increase the deficit over either the period of the total fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 243. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions or conference reports that provide the National Health Service Corps with $235,000,000 for fiscal year 2010, by the amount provided in that legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total for fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total for fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 244. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE ANIMAL HEALTH AND DISEASE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would ensure that the animal health and disease program established under section 1433 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3195) is fully funded.

(b) DEFICIT NEUTRALITY.—Subsection (a) applies only if the legislation described in subsection (a) would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 245. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INCREASE IN THE END STRENGTH FOR ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL OF THE ARMY.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would reduce the strain on the United States Armed Forces by authorizing an increase in the end strength for active duty personnel of the Army to a level not less than 577,400 persons, by the amounts provided in such legislation for such purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 246. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would—

(1) allow wildland fire management funds for hazardous fuels reduction and hazard mitigation activities in areas at high risk of catastrophic wildfire to be distributed to areas demonstrating highest priority needs, as determined by the Chief of the Forest Service; and

(2) provide that no State matching funds are required for the conduct of activities described in paragraph (1).

(b) DEFICIT NEUTRALITY.—Subsection (a) applies only if the legislation described in subsection (a) would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 247. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR ESTATE TAX RELIEF.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports that would provide for estate tax reform legislation establishing—

(1) an estate tax exemption level of $5,000,000, indexed for inflation,

(2) a maximum estate tax rate of 35 percent,

(3) a reunification of the estate and gift credits, and

(4) portability of exemption between spouses, and

provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 248. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION THAT PROVIDES ADDITIONAL RELIEF FOR THE ESTATE TAX BEYOND THE LEVELS ASSUMED IN THIS BUDGET RESOLUTION UNLESS AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL TAX RELIEF IS PROVIDED TO MIDDLE-CLASS TAXPAYERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order to consider any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would provide estate tax relief beyond $3,500,000 per person ($7,000,000 per married couple) and a graduated rate ending at less that 45 percent unless an equal amount of tax relief is provided to Americans earning less than $100,000 per year and that such relief is in addition to the amounts assumed in this budget resolution.

(b) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(c) APPEALS.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate duly chosen and sworn shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on any point of order raised under this section.

SEC. 249. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND INCREASE FDIC AND NCUA BORROWING AUTHORITY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the aggregates, allocations, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports to increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the National Credit Union Administration, provided that such legislation does not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 250. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INNOVATIVE LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that authorizes an additional $50,000,000,000 for use to provide loan guarantees for eligible projects under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16511 et seq.).

(b) DEFICIT NEUTRALITY.—Subsection (a) applies only if the legislation described in subsection (a) would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 251. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that authorizes nuclear research and development activities, including the Generation IV program, the Advanced Fuel Cycle Initiative, and the Light Water Reactor Sustainability program.

(b) DEFICIT NEUTRALITY.—Subsection (a) applies only if the legislation described in subsection (a) would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 252. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE 2012 COMPLETION OF FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION FACILITIES.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports in order to provide sufficient funding for the General Services Administration to complete construction of the Food and Drug Administration White Oak Campus in Silver Spring, Maryland by 2012, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

SEC. 253. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR ENERGY STAR FOR SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other levels in this resolution by the amounts provided by a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would set aside, from amounts made available for the Energy Star Program of the Environmental Protection Agency, at least 2 percent for the Energy Star for Small Business Program.

(b) DEFICIT NEUTRALITY.—Subsection (a) applies only if the legislation described in that subsection would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2009 through 2019.

TITLE III—BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle A—Budget Enforcement

SEC. 301. DISCRETIONARY SPENDING LIMITS, PROGRAM INTEGRITY INITIATIVES, AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS.

(a) SENATE POINT OF ORDER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill or joint resolution (or amendment, motion, or conference report on that bill or joint resolution) that would cause the discretionary spending limits in this section to be exceeded.

(2) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEALS.—

(A) WAIVER.—This subsection may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(B) APPEALS.—Appeals in the Senate from the decisions of the Chair relating to any provision of this subsection shall be limited to 1 hour, to be equally divided between, and controlled by, the appellant and the manager of the bill or joint resolution. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this subsection.

(b) SENATE DISCRETIONARY SPENDING LIMITS.—In the Senate and as used in this section, the term ''discretionary spending limit'' means—

(1) for fiscal year 2009, $1,391,471,000,000 in new budget authority and $1,220,843,000,000 in outlays; and

(2) for fiscal year 2010, $1,079,050,000,000 in new budget authority and $1,268,104,000,000 in outlays;

as adjusted in conformance with the adjustment procedures in subsection (c).

(c) ADJUSTMENTS IN THE SENATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After the reporting of a bill or joint resolution relating to any matter described in paragraph (2), or the offering of an amendment thereto or the submission of a conference report thereon—

(A) the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may adjust the discretionary spending limits, budgetary aggregates, and allocations pursuant to section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, by the amount of new budget authority in that measure for that purpose and the outlays flowing therefrom; and

(B) following any adjustment under subparagraph (A), the Senate Committee on Appropriations may report appropriately revised suballocations pursuant to section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to carry out this subsection.

(2) MATTERS DESCRIBED.—Matters referred to in paragraph (1) are as follows:

(A) CONTINUING DISABILITY REVIEWS AND SSI REDETERMINATIONS.—If a bill or joint resolution is reported making appropriations for

fiscal year 2010 that appropriates $273,000,000 for continuing disability reviews and Supplemental Security Income redeterminations for the Social Security Administration, and provides an additional appropriation of up to $485,000,000 for continuing disability reviews and Supplemental Security Income redeterminations for the Social Security Administration, then the discretionary spending limits, allocation to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and aggregates may be adjusted by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, but not to exceed $485,000,000 in budget authority and outlays flowing therefrom for fiscal year 2010.

(B) INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE TAX ENFORCEMENT.—If a bill or joint resolution is reported making appropriations for fiscal year 2010 that appropriates $7,100,000,000 for the Internal Revenue Service for enhanced tax enforcement to address the Federal tax gap (taxes owed but not paid) and provides an additional appropriation of up to $890,000,000 for the Internal Revenue Service for enhanced tax enforcement to address the Federal tax gap, then the discretionary spending limits, allocation to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and aggregates may be adjusted by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, but not to exceed $890,000,000 in budget authority and outlays flowing therefrom for fiscal year 2010.

(C) HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE CONTROL.—If a bill or joint resolution is reported making appropriations for fiscal year 2010 that appropriates up to $311,000,000 to the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control program at the Department of Health and Human Services, then the discretionary spending limits, allocation to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and aggregates may be adjusted by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, but not to exceed $311,000,000 in budget authority and outlays flowing therefrom for fiscal year 2010.

(D) UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IMPROPER PAYMENT REVIEWS.—If a bill or joint resolution is reported making appropriations for fiscal year 2010 that appropriates $10,000,000 for in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews, and provides an additional appropriation of up to $50,000,000 for in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews, then the discretionary spending limits, allocation to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and aggregates may be adjusted by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, but not to exceed $50,000,000 in budget authority and outlays flowing therefrom for fiscal year 2010.

(E) REDUCING WASTE IN DEFENSE CONTRACTING.—If a bill or joint resolution is reported making appropriations for fiscal year 2010 that appropriates up to $100,000,000 to the Department of Defense for additional activities to reduce waste, fraud, abuse, and overpayments in defense contracting or to enhance the capability of the defense acquisition or contracting workforce to save taxpayer resources, then the discretionary spending limits, allocation to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and aggregates may be adjusted by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, but not to exceed $100,000,000 in budget authority and outlays flowing therefrom for fiscal year 2010.

(3) ADJUSTMENTS TO SUPPORT ONGOING OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.—The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may adjust the discretionary spending limits, allocations to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and aggregates for one or more—

(A) bills reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations or passed by the House of Representatives;

(B) joint resolutions or amendments reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations;

(C) amendments between the Houses received from the House of Representatives or Senate amendments offered by the authority of the Senate Committee on Appropriations; or

(D) conference reports;

making appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for overseas contingency operations by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes (and so designated pursuant to this paragraph), up to $130,000,000,000 in budget authority for fiscal year 2010 and the new outlays flowing therefrom.

(4) REVISED APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If after adoption of this resolution by the Congress, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) re-estimates the President's request for discretionary spending in fiscal year 2010 at an aggregate level different from the CBO preliminary estimate dated March 20, 2009, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may adjust the discretionary spending limits, budgetary aggregates, and allocations pursuant to section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 by the amount of budget authority and outlays flowing therefrom, to reflect the difference between such re-estimate and the CBO preliminary estimate dated March 20, 2009.

(B) SUBALLOCATIONS.—Following any adjustment under subparagraph (A), the Senate Committee on Appropriations may report appropriately revised suballocations pursuant to section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to carry out this paragraph.

(d) INAPPLICABILITY.—In the Senate, subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) of section 312 of S. Con. Res. 70 (110th Congress) shall no longer apply.

SEC. 302. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) POINT OF ORDER.—Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, or conference report that would provide an advance appropriation.

(2) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''advance appropriation'' means any new budget authority provided in a bill or joint resolution making appropriations for fiscal year 2010 that first becomes available for any fiscal year after 2010, or any new budget authority provided in a bill or joint resolution making general appropriations or continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011, that first becomes available for any fiscal year after 2011.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—Advance appropriations may be provided—

(1) for fiscal years 2011 and 2012 for programs, projects, activities, or accounts identified in the joint explanatory statement of managers accompanying this resolution under the heading ''Accounts Identified for Advance Appropriations'' in an aggregate amount not to exceed $28,852,000,000 in new budget authority in each year;

(2) for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and

(3) for the Department of Veterans Affairs for the Medical Services, Medical Administration, Medical Facilities, and Medical and Prosthetic Research accounts of the Veterans Health Administration.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—In the Senate, subsection (a) may be waived or suspended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

(d) FORM OF POINT OF ORDER.—A point of order under subsection (a) may be raised by a Senator as provided in section 313(e) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(e) CONFERENCE REPORTS.—When the Senate is considering a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to, a bill, upon a point of order being made by any Senator pursuant to this section, and such point of order being sustained, such material contained in such conference report shall be deemed stricken, and the Senate shall proceed to consider the question of whether the Senate shall recede from its amendment and concur with a further amendment, or concur in the House amendment with a further amendment, as the case may be, which further amendment shall consist of only that portion of the conference report or House amendment, as the case may be, not so stricken. Any such motion in the Senate shall be debatable. In any case in which such point of order is sustained against a conference report (or Senate amendment derived from such conference report by operation of this subsection), no further amendment shall be in order.

(f) INAPPLICABILITY.—In the Senate, section 313 of S. Con. Res. 70 (110th Congress) shall no longer apply.

SEC. 303. EMERGENCY LEGISLATION.

(a) AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE.—In the Senate, with respect to a provision of direct spending or receipts legislation or appropriations for discretionary accounts that Congress designates as an emergency requirement in such measure, the amounts of new budget authority, outlays, and receipts in all fiscal years resulting from that provision shall be treated as an emergency requirement for the purpose of this section.

(b) EXEMPTION OF EMERGENCY PROVISIONS.—Any new budget authority, outlays, and receipts resulting from any provision designated as an emergency requirement, pursuant to this section, in any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report shall not count for purposes of sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, section 201 of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress) (relating to pay-as-you-go), section 311 of S. Con. Res. 70 (110th Congress) (relating to long-term deficits), and sections 301 and 304 of this resolution (relating to discretionary spending and short-term deficits). Designated emergency provisions shall not count for the purpose of revising allocations, aggregates, or other levels pursuant to procedures established under section 301(b)(7) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 for deficit-neutral reserve funds and revising discretionary spending limits set pursuant to section 301 of this resolution.

(c) DESIGNATIONS.—If a provision of legislation is designated as an emergency requirement under this section, the committee report and any statement of managers accompanying that legislation shall include an explanation of the manner in which the provision meets the criteria in subsection (f).

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ''direct spending'', ''receipts'', and ''appropriations for discretionary accounts'' mean any provision of a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that affects direct spending, receipts, or appropriations as those terms have been defined and interpreted for purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

(e) POINT OF ORDER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—When the Senate is considering a bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report, if a point of order is made by a Senator against an emergency designation in that measure, that provision making such a designation shall be stricken from the measure and may not be offered as an amendment from the floor.

(2) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEALS.—

(A) WAIVER.—Paragraph (1) may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(B) APPEALS.—Appeals in the Senate from the decisions of the Chair relating to any provision of this subsection shall be limited to 1 hour, to be equally divided between, and controlled by, the appellant and the manager of the bill or joint resolution, as the case may be. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this subsection.

(3) DEFINITION OF AN EMERGENCY DESIGNATION.—For purposes of paragraph (1), a provision shall be considered an emergency designation if it designates any item as an emergency requirement pursuant to this subsection.

(4) FORM OF THE POINT OF ORDER.—A point of order under paragraph (1) may be raised by a Senator as provided in section 313(e) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(5) CONFERENCE REPORTS.—When the Senate is considering a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to, a bill, upon a point of order being made by any Senator pursuant to this section, and such point of order being sustained, such material contained in such conference report shall be deemed stricken, and the Senate shall proceed to consider the question of whether the Senate shall recede from its amendment and concur with a further amendment, or concur in the House amendment with a further amendment, as the case may be, which further amendment shall consist of only that portion of the conference report or House amendment, as the case may be, not so stricken. Any such motion in the Senate shall be debatable. In any case in which such point of order is sustained against a conference report (or Senate amendment derived from such conference report by operation of this subsection), no further amendment shall be in order.

(f) CRITERIA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, any provision is an emergency requirement if the situation addressed by such provision is—

(A) necessary, essential, or vital (not merely useful or beneficial);

(B) sudden, quickly coming into being, and not building up over time;

(C) an urgent, pressing, and compelling need requiring immediate action;

(D) subject to subparagraph (B), unforeseen, unpredictable, and unanticipated; and

(E) not permanent, temporary in nature.

(2) UNFORESEEN.—An emergency that is part of an aggregate level of anticipated emergencies, particularly when normally estimated in advance, is not unforeseen.

(g) INAPPLICABILITY.—In the Senate, section 204(a) of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008, shall no longer apply.

SEC. 304. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION INCREASING SHORT-TERM DEFICIT.

(a) POINT OF ORDER.—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report (except measures within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Appropriations) that would cause a net increase in the deficit in excess of $10,000,000,000 in any fiscal year provided for in the most recently adopted concurrent resolution on the budget unless it is fully offset over the period of all fiscal years provided for in the most recently adopted concurrent resolution on the budget.

(b) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL IN THE SENATE.—

(1) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended only by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

(c) DETERMINATIONS OF BUDGET LEVELS.—For purposes of this section, the levels shall be determined on the basis of estimates provided by the Senate Committee on the Budget.

(d) SUNSET.—This section shall expire on September 30, 2018.

(e) INAPPLICABILITY.—In the Senate, section 315 of S. Con. Res. 70 (110th Congress), the concurrent resolution in the budget for fiscal year 2009, shall no longer apply.

SEC. 305. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST PROVISIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION THAT CONSTITUTE CHANGES IN MANDATORY PROGRAMS AFFECTING THE CRIME VICTIMS FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order to consider any appropriations legislation, including any amendment thereto, motion in relation thereto, or conference report thereon, that includes any provision or provisions affecting the Crime Victims Fund, as defined by section 1402 of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601), which constitutes a change in a mandatory program that would have been estimated as affecting direct spending or receipts under section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (as in effect prior to September 30, 2002) were they included in legislation other than appropriations legislation. A point of order pursuant to this section shall be raised against such provision or provisions as described in subsections (d) and (e).

(b) DETERMINATION.—The determination of whether a provision is subject to a point of order pursuant to this section shall be made by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

(d) GENERAL POINT OF ORDER.—It shall be in order for a Senator to raise a single point of order that several provisions of a bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report violate this section. The Presiding Officer may sustain the point of order as to some or all of the provisions against which the Senator raised the point of order. If the Presiding Officer so sustains the point of order as to some of the provisions (including provisions of an amendment, motion, or conference report) against which the Senator raised the point of order, then only those provisions (including provision of an amendment, motion, or conference report) against which the Presiding Officer sustains the point of order shall be deemed stricken pursuant to this section. Before the Presiding Officer rules on such a point of order, any Senator may move to waive such a point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions against which the point of order was raised. Such a motion to waive is amendable in accordance with rules and precedents of the Senate. After the Presiding Officer rules on such a point of order, any Senator may appeal the ruling of the Presiding Officer on such a point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions on which the Presiding Officer ruled.

(e) FORM OF THE POINT OF ORDER.—When the Senate is considering a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to, a bill, upon a point of order being made by any Senator pursuant to this section, and such point of order being sustained, such material contained in such conference report or amendment shall be deemed stricken, and the Senate shall proceed to consider the question of whether the Senate shall recede from its amendment and concur with a further amendment, or concur in the House amendment with a further amendment, as the case may be, which further amendment shall consist of only that portion of the conference report or House amendment, as the case may be, not so stricken. Any such motion shall be debatable. In any case in which such point of order is sustained against a conference report (or Senate amendment derived from such conference report by operation of this subsection), no further amendment shall be in order.

SEC. 306. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION THAT RAISES TAXES ON MIDDLE-INCOME TAXPAYERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—After a concurrent resolution on the budget is agreed to, it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, resolution, amendment between Houses, motion, or conference report that—

(1) would cause revenues to be more than the level of revenues set forth for that first fiscal year or for the total of that fiscal year and the ensuing fiscal years in the applicable resolution for which allocations are provided under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and

(2) includes a Federal tax increase which would have widespread applicability on middle-income taxpayers.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(1) MIDDLE-INCOME TAXPAYERS.—The term ''middle-income taxpayers'' means single individuals with $200,000 or less in adjusted gross income (as defined in section 62 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) and married couples filing jointly with $250,000 or less in adjusted gross income (as so defined).

(2) WIDESPREAD APPLICABILITY.—The term ''widespread applicability'' includes the definition with respect to individual income taxpayers in section 4022 (b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998.

(3) FEDERAL TAX INCREASE.—The term ''Federal tax increase'' means—

(A) any amendment to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that, directly or indirectly, increases the amount of Federal tax; or

(B) any legislation that the Congressional Budget Office would score as an increase in Federal revenues.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

SEC. 307. POINT OF ORDER ON LEGISLATION THAT RAISES INCOME TAX RATES ON SMALL BUSINESSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order, to consider any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that includes any provision which increases Federal income tax rates.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''Federal income tax rates'' means any rate of tax imposed under subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of section 1, 11(b), or 55(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(c) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(d) APPEALS.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

SEC. 308. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION THAT IMPOSES A NATIONAL ENERGY TAX ON MIDDLE-INCOME TAXPAYERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—After a concurrent resolution on the budget is agreed to, it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, resolution, amendment between Houses, motion, or conference report that includes a National energy tax increase which would have widespread applicability on middle-income taxpayers.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(1) MIDDLE INCOME TAXPAYERS.—The term ''middle-income'' taxpayers means single individuals with $200,000 or less in adjusted gross income (as defined in section 62 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) and married couples filing jointly with $250,000 or less in adjusted gross income (as so defined).

(2) WIDESPREAD APPLICABILITY.—The term ''widespread applicability'' includes the definition with respect to individual income taxpayers in section 4022(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998.

(3) NATIONAL ENERGY TAX INCREASE.—The term ''National energy tax increase'' means any legislation that the Congressional Budget Office would score as leading to an increase in the costs of producing, generating or consuming energy.

SEC. 309. POINT OF ORDER ON LEGISLATION THAT IMPOSES A MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order, to consider any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that includes any provision which imposes or increases a marriage tax penalty.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''marriage penalty'' means any provision under which the Federal income tax liability of taxpayers filing a joint return under section 6013 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is greater than such tax liability of such taxpayers if such taxpayers were unmarried and had filed individual tax returns under section 1(c) of such Code.

(c) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(d) APPEALS.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

SEC. 310. POINT OF ORDER ON LEGISLATION THAT INCREASES REVENUE ABOVE THE LEVELS ESTABLISHED IN THE BUDGET RESOLUTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—After a concurrent resolution on the budget is agreed to, it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, resolution, amendment between Houses, motion, or conference report that would cause revenues to be more than the level of the revenues set forth, prior to any adjustment made pursuant under any reserve fund, for that first fiscal year or for the total of that fiscal year and the ensuing fiscal years in the applicable resolution for which allocations are provided under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(b) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

SEC. 311. POINT OF ORDER ON LEGISLATION THAT INCREASES TAXES DURING ANY PERIOD WHEN THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS IN EXCESS OF 5.8 PERCENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order, to consider any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report during any period in which the unemployment rate in the United States (as measured by the most recent Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Population Survey and based on the national seasonally adjusted rate for persons age 16 and over) exceeds 5.8 percent if such bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report increases taxes.

(b) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(c) APPEALS.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

SEC. 312. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION THAT CAUSES SIGNIFICANT JOB LOSS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—After a concurrent resolution on the budget is agreed to, it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, resolution, amendment between Houses, motion, or conference report that—

(1) would cause revenues to be more than the level of revenues set forth for that first fiscal year or for the total of that fiscal year and the ensuing fiscal years in the applicable resolution for which allocations are provided under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and

(2) would cause significant job loss in manufacturing- or coal-dependent regions of the United States such as the Midwest, Great Plains or South.

(b) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

SEC. 313. LIMITATIONS ON LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PERMIT THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO RECOVER FROM A PRIVATE HEALTH INSURER OF A DISABLED VETERAN AMOUNTS PAID FOR TREATMENT OF SUCH DISABILITY.

(a) POINT OF ORDER.—If the Senate is considering legislation, upon a point of order being made by any Senator against the legislation, or any part of the legislation, that the legislation, if enacted, would result in providing authority to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recover from a private health insurer of a veteran with a service-connected disability amounts paid by the Secretary for the furnishing of care or treatment for such disability, and the point of order is sustained by the Presiding Officer, the Senate shall cease consideration of the legislation.

(b) WAIVERS AND APPEALS.—

(1) WAIVERS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Before the Presiding Officer rules on a point of order described in subsection (a), any Senator may move to waive the point of order and the motion to waive shall not be subject to amendment.

(B) VOTE.—A point of order described in subsection (a) is waived only by the affirmative vote of 60 Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEALS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—After the Presiding Officer rules on a point of order described in subsection (a), any Senator may appeal the ruling of the Presiding Officer on the point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions on which the Presiding Officer ruled.

(B) VOTE.—A ruling of the Presiding Officer on a point of order described in subsection (a) is sustained unless 60 Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, vote not to sustain the ruling.

(3) DEBATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Debate on the motion to waive under paragraph (1) or on an appeal of the ruling of the Presiding Officer under paragraph (2) shall be limited to 1 hour.

(B) DIVISION.—The time shall be equally divided between, and controlled by, the Majority leader and the Minority Leader of the Senate, or their designees.

(c) LEGISLATION DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''legislation'' means a bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report.

(d) TERMINATION.—The provisions of this section shall terminate on December 31, 2012.

SEC. 314. POINT OF ORDER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—After a concurrent resolution on the budget is agreed to, it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, resolution, amendment between Houses, motion, or conference report that—

(1) weakens any authorized anti-terrorism tool or investigative method provided by the USA Patriot Act of 2001 (PL 107–56), the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (PL 108–458), the USA Patriot Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 (PL 109–177), or the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 (PL 110–261); or

(2) eliminates any authorized anti-terrorism tool or investigative method provided by any of the statutes referred to in paragraph (1).

(b) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEALS.—

(1) WAIVER.—Subsection (a) may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEALS.—Appeals in the Senate from the decisions of the Chair relating to any provision of subsection (a) shall be limited to 1 hour, to be equally divided between, and controlled by, the appellant and the manager of the bill or joint resolution. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

SEC. 315. RESTRICTIONS ON UNFUNDED MANDATES ON STATES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

(a) POINT OF ORDER.—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, or conference report that would increase the direct costs of one or more States or local governments by an amount that exceeds the threshold provided under section 424(a)(1) of the

Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 658c(a)(1)).

(b) WAIVER AND APPEAL.—Subsection (a) may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

SEC. 316. POINT OF ORDER ON LEGISLATION THAT ELIMINATES THE ABILITY OF AMERICANS TO KEEP THEIR HEALTH PLAN OR THEIR CHOICE OF DOCTOR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order, to consider any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that eliminates the ability of Americans to keep their health plan or their choice of doctor (as determined by the Congressional Budget Office).

(b) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(c) APPEALS.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

SEC. 321. OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE.

In the Senate, all committees are directed to review programs within their jurisdiction to root out waste, fraud, and abuse in program spending, giving particular scrutiny to issues raised by Government Accountability Office reports. Based on these oversight efforts and committee performance reviews of programs within their jurisdiction, committees are directed to include recommendations for improved governmental performance in their annual views and estimates reports required under section 301(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committees on the Budget.

SEC. 322. BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

In the Senate, notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, section 13301 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, and section 2009a of title 39, United States Code, the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on any concurrent resolution on the budget shall include in its allocations under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committees on Appropriations amounts for the discretionary administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration and of the Postal Service.

SEC. 323. APPLICATION AND EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.

(a) APPLICATION.—Any adjustments of allocations and aggregates made pursuant to this resolution shall—

(1) apply while that measure is under consideration;

(2) take effect upon the enactment of that measure; and

(3) be published in the Congressional Record as soon as practicable.

(b) EFFECT OF CHANGED ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.—Revised allocations and aggregates resulting from these adjustments shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 as allocations and aggregates contained in this resolution.

(c) BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS.—For purposes of this resolution the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority, revenues, deficits, and surpluses for a fiscal year or period of fiscal years shall be determined on the basis of estimates made by the Senate Committee on the Budget.

SEC. 324. ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS.

Upon the enactment of a bill or joint resolution providing for a change in concepts or definitions, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may make adjustments to the levels and allocations in this resolution in accordance with section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (as in effect prior to September 30, 2002).

SEC. 325. DEBT DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall not be in order to consider a budget resolution in the Senate unless it contains a debt disclosure section including all, and only, the following disclosures regarding debt:

"SEC. ___. DEBT DISCLOSURES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The levels assumed in this budget resolution allow the gross Federal debt of the nation to rise/fall by $_____ from the current year, fiscal year 20___, to the fifth year of the budget window, fiscal year 20___.

''(b) PER PERSON.—The levels assumed in this budget resolution allow the gross Federal debt of the nation to rise/fall by $_____ on every United States citizen from the current year, fiscal year 20___ to the fifth year of the budget window, fiscal year 20___.

''(c) SOCIAL SECURITY.—The levels assumed in this budget resolution project that $_____ of the Social Security surplus will be spent over the 5-year budget window, fiscal years 20___ through 20___, on things other than Social Security.''.

(b) SOCIAL SECURITY.—If any portion of the Social Security surplus is projected to be spent in any year or the gross Federal debt in the fifth year of the budget window is greater than the gross debt projected for the current year, as described in section 101(5) of this resolution, the report, print, or statement of managers accompanying the budget resolution shall contain a section that—

(1) details the circumstances making it in the national interest to allow Federal debt to increase rather than taking steps to reduce the debt; and

(2) provides a justification for allowing the surpluses in the Social Security Trust Fund to be spent on other functions of Government even as the baby boom generation retires, program costs are projected to rise dramatically, the debt owed to Social Security is about to come due, and the Trust Fund is projected to go insolvent.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term ''gross Federal debt'' means the nominal levels of (or changes in the levels of) gross Federal debt (debt subject to limit as set forth in section 101(5) of this resolution) measured at the end of each fiscal year during the period of the budget, not debt as a percentage of gross domestic product, and not levels relative to baseline projections.

SEC. 326. DEBT DISCLOSURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The levels assumed in this budget resolution allow the gross Federal debt of the nation to rise by $4,960,000,000,000 from the current year, fiscal year 2009, to the fifth year of the budget window, fiscal year 2014.

(b) PER PERSON.—The levels assumed in this budget resolution allow the gross Federal debt of the nation to rise by $16,200 on every United States citizen from the current year, fiscal year 2009, to the fifth year of the budget window, fiscal year 2014.

(c) SOCIAL SECURITY.—The levels assumed in this budget resolution project that $700,000,000,000 of the Social Security surplus will be spent over the 5-year budget window, fiscal years 2010 through 2014, on things other than Social Security.

SEC. 327. EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.

Congress adopts the provisions of this title—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of the Senate and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of the Senate to change those rules at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as is the case of any other rule of the Senate.

MOTION OFFERED BY MR. SPRATT

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Spratt moves to strike all after the resolving clause and to insert in lieu thereof the provisions of House Concurrent Resolution 85 as adopted by the House.

The motion was agreed to.

The text of the Senate concurrent resolution, as amended, is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 13

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

SECTION 1. CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010.

(a) DECLARATION.—Congress declares that this resolution is the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010 and that this resolution sets forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009 and for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—

Sec. 1. Concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010.

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

Sec. 101. Recommended levels and amounts.
Sec. 102. Major functional categories.

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

Sec. 201. Reconciliation in the House.
Sec. 202. Reconciliation in the Senate.

TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

Sec. 301. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for health care reform.
Sec. 302. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for college access, affordability, and completion.
Sec. 303. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for increasing energy independence.
Sec. 304. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for America's veterans and servicemembers.
Sec. 305. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for certain tax relief.
Sec. 306. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for a 9/11 health program.
Sec. 307. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for child nutrition.
Sec. 308. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for structural unemployment insurance reforms.
Sec. 309. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for child support.
Sec. 310. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
Sec. 311. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for home visiting.
Sec. 312. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program trigger.
Sec. 313. Reserve fund for the Surface Transportation Reauthorization.

Sec. 314. Current policy reserve fund for Medicare improvements.
Sec. 315. Current policy reserve fund for middle class tax relief.
Sec. 316. Current policy reserve fund for reform of the alternative minimum tax (AMT).
Sec. 317. Current policy reserve fund for reform of the Estate and Gift Tax.

TITLE IV—BUDGET ENFORCEMENT

Sec. 401. Adjustments for direct spending and revenues.
Sec. 402. Adjustments to discretionary spending limits.
Sec. 403. Point of order against advance appropriations.
Sec. 404. Oversight of Government performance.
Sec. 405. Budgetary treatment of certain discretionary administrative expenses.
Sec. 406. Application and effect of changes in allocations and aggregates.
Sec. 407. Adjustments to reflect changes in concepts and definitions.
Sec. 408. Exercise of rulemaking powers.

TITLE V—POLICY

Sec. 501. Policy on middle-class tax relief and revenues.
Sec. 502. Policy on defense priorities.

TITLE VI—SENSE OF THE HOUSE

Sec. 601. Sense of the House on veterans' and servicemembers' health care.
Sec. 602. Sense of the House on homeland security.
Sec. 603. Sense of the House on promoting American innovation and economic competitiveness.
Sec. 604. Sense of the House regarding pay parity.
Sec. 605. Sense of the House on college affordability.
Sec. 606. Sense of the House on Great Lakes restoration.
Sec. 607. Sense of the House regarding the importance of child support enforcement.

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

SEC. 101. RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS.

The following budgetary levels are appropriate for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2014:

(1) FEDERAL REVENUES.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution:

(A) The recommended levels of Federal revenues are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $1,532,571,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $1,659,525,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $1,933,072,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $2,190,099,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $2,361,429,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $2,507,846,000,000.

(B) The amounts by which the aggregate levels of Federal revenues should be changed are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $0.
Fiscal year 2010: –$6,461,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: –$155,559,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: –$170,294,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: –$153,908,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: –$125,832,000,000.

(2) NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total new budget authority are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $3,675,133,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $2,892,061,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $2,866,329,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $2,913,316,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $3,095,704,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $3,286,135,000,000.

(3) BUDGET OUTLAYS.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total budget outlays are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $3,357,255,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $2,996,234,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $2,981,872,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $2,939,612,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $3,093,577,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $3,261,525,000,000.

(4) DEFICITS (ON-BUDGET).—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the amounts of the deficits (on-budget) are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $1,824,684,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $1,336,709,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $1,048,800,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $749,513,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $732,148,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $753,679,000,000.

(5) DEBT SUBJECT TO LIMIT.—Pursuant to section 301(a)(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the appropriate levels of the public debt are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $12,017,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $13,223,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $14,350,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $15,276,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $16,162,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $17,100,000,000,000.

(6) DEBT HELD BY THE PUBLIC.—The appropriate levels of debt held by the public are as follows:

Fiscal year 2009: $7,730,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $8,768,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $9,684,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $10,344,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $10,934,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014: $11,577,000,000,000.

SEC. 102. MAJOR FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES.

The Congress determines and declares that the appropriate levels of new budget authority and outlays for fiscal years 2009 through 2014 for each major functional category are:

(1) National Defense (050):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $618,057,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $646,810,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $562,033,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $606,043,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $570,107,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $587,945,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $579,135,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $576,023,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $589,895,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $584,670,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $603,828,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $595,476,000,000.

(2) International Affairs (150):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $40,885,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $37,797,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $45,320,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,461,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $49,146,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $48,642,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $53,742,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $52,123,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $59,160,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $55,773,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $64,388,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $59,292,000,000.

(3) General Science, Space, and Technology (250):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $35,389,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,973,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $31,139,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,467,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $31,493,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,407,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $33,373,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,465,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $34,419,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,614,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $35,686,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $34,835,000,000.

(4) Energy (270):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $43,919,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,952,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $5,489,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $7,267,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $5,539,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $11,322,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $5,732,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $13,400,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $6,098,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $12,133,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $6,227,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $10,512,000,000.

(5) Natural Resources and Environment (300):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $56,009,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $36,834,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $37,387,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $40,450,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $38,600,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $40,237,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $39,249,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $40,058,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $39,348,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $39,754,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $40,017,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $39,957,000,000.

(6) Agriculture (350):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $24,974,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,070,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $23,690,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,951,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $24,691,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,998,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $21,644,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,540,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $22,497,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $22,063,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $23,182,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $22,150,000,000.

(7) Commerce and Housing Credit (370):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $694,439,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $665,437,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $60,933,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $85,638,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $26,181,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $37,954,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $9,561,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $8,645,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $17,247,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,585,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:

(A) New budget authority, $11,226,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$2,500,000,000.
(8) Transportation (400):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $122,457,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $87,784,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $88,151,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,695,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $89,071,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,474,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $90,047,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,851,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $90,866,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,150,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $91,809,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,793,000,000.
(9) Community and Regional Development (450):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $23,811,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,983,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $18,308,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,303,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $21,232,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,530,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $21,311,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,722,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $21,202,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,155,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $21,270,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $22,752,000,000.
(10) Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services (500):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $164,276,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $73,219,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $93,689,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $140,300,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $107,858,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $141,108,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $117,121,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $118,391,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $115,931,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $118,888,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $125,788,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $120,959,000,000.
(11) Health (550):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $380,158,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $354,397,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $383,911,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $388,746,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $364,910,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $367,628,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $369,852,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $368,556,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $389,719,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $384,359,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $400,451,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $400,173,000,000.
(12) Medicare (570):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $427,076,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $426,736,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $449,653,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $449,784,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $505,171,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $504,962,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $513,824,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $513,591,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $558,235,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $558,381,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $616,315,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $616,150,000,000.
(13) Income Security (600):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $520,123,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $503,020,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $536,169,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $539,918,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $510,575,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $513,410,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $478,039,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $478,323,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $483,386,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $482,745,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $485,396,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $483,758,000,000.
(14) Social Security (650):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $31,820,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,264,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $20,255,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,378,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $23,380,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,513,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $26,478,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,628,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $29,529,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,679,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $32,728,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,728,000,000.
(15) Veterans Benefits and Services (700):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $97,705,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $94,831,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $106,365,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $105,468,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $112,842,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $112,386,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $108,702,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $108,103,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $113,803,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $113,151,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $116,021,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $115,480,000,000.
(16) Administration of Justice (750):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $55,783,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $49,853,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $52,857,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $51,630,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $53,892,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $55,503,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $53,738,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $55,441,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $53,569,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $54,526,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $54,247,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $54,058,000,000.
(17) General Government (800):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $30,405,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,629,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $21,979,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $22,757,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $22,316,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,147,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $22,737,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,795,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $22,750,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,492,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $23,415,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,629,000,000.
(18) Net Interest (900):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $288,955,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $288,955,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $284,085,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $284,085,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $323,266,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $323,266,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $387,483,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $387,483,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $470,452,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $470,452,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $560,137,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $560,137,000,000.
(19) Allowances (920):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $14,450,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $1,788,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $9,422,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,893,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $8,052,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,903,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $6,518,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,750,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $5,543,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,122,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, $3,865,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,962,000,000.
(20) Undistributed Offsetting Receipts (950):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, –$78,206,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$78,206,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, –$68,774,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$68,774,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, –$71,993,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$71,993,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, –$74,970,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$74,970,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, –$77,945,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$77,945,000,000.
Fiscal year 2014:
(A) New budget authority, –$79,861,000,000.
(B) Outlays, –$79,861,000,000.
(21) Overseas Deployments and Other Activities (970):
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $82,648,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,129,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $130,000,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $92,774,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $50,000,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $76,530,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $50,000,000,000.

(B) Outlays, $67,694,000,000.

Fiscal year 2013:

(A) New budget authority, $50,000,000,000.

(B) Outlays, $57,830,000,000.

Fiscal year 2014:

(A) New budget authority, $50,000,000,000.

(B) Outlays, $52,085,000,000.

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

SEC. 201. RECONCILIATION IN THE HOUSE.

(a) HEALTH CARE REFORM.—

(1) Not later than September 29, 2009, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce shall report changes in laws to reduce the deficit by $1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2009 through 2014.

(2) Not later than September 29, 2009, the House Committee on Ways and Means shall report changes in laws to reduce the deficit by $1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2009 through 2014.

(b) INVESTING IN EDUCATION.—Not later than September 30, 2009, the House Committee on Education and Labor shall report changes in laws to reduce the deficit by $1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2009 through 2014.

(c) SINGLE ENGROSSMENT.—The House may direct the Clerk to add at the end of a bill addressed by this section the text of another measure addressed by this section as passed by the House to form a single engrossed reconciliation bill within the meaning of section 310 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

SEC. 202. RECONCILIATION IN THE SENATE.

(Senate reconciliation instructions to be supplied by the Senate.)

TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

SEC. 301. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that makes improvements to health care in America, which may include making affordable health coverage available for all, improving the quality of health care, reducing rising health care costs, building on and strengthening existing public and private insurance coverage, including employer-sponsored coverage, and preserving choice of provider and plan by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 302. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR COLLEGE ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY, AND COMPLETION.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that makes college more affordable or accessible or that increases college enrollment and completion through reforms to the Higher Education Act of 1965 or other legislation, including increasing the maximum Pell grant award annually by an amount equal to one percentage point more than the Consumer Price Index, by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 303. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INCREASING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that—

(1) provides tax incentives for or otherwise encourages the production of renewable energy or increased energy efficiency;

(2) encourages investment in emerging energy or vehicle technologies or carbon capture and sequestration;

(3) limits and provides for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions;

(4) assists businesses, industries, States, communities, the environment, workers, or households as the United States moves toward reducing and offsetting the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions; or

(5) facilitates the training of workers for these industries (''green collar jobs'');

by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 304. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR AMERICA'S VETERANS AND SERVICEMEMBERS.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that—

(1) enhances health care for military personnel or veterans;

(2) maintains the affordability of health care for military retirees or veterans;

(3) improves disability benefits or evaluations for wounded or disabled military personnel or veterans, including measures to expedite the claims process;

(4) expands eligibility to permit additional disabled military retirees to receive both disability compensation and retired pay (concurrent receipt); or

(5) eliminates the offset between Survivor Benefit Plan annuities and veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation; and

does not authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to bill private insurance companies for treatment of health conditions that are related to veterans' military service, by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 305. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR CERTAIN TAX RELIEF.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that provides for tax relief that supports working families, businesses, States, or communities, by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 306. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR A 9/11 HEALTH PROGRAM.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that would establish a program, including medical monitoring and treatment, addressing the adverse health impacts linked to the September 11, 2001, attacks by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 307. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR CHILD NUTRITION.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that reauthorizes, expands, or improves child nutrition programs by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 308. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR STRUCTURAL UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE REFORMS.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that makes structural reforms to make the unemployment insurance system respond better to serious economic downturns by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 309. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR CHILD SUPPORT.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that increases parental support for children, particularly from non-custodial parents, including legislation that results in a greater share of collected child support reaching the child, by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 310. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that capitalizes the existing Affordable Housing Trust Fund by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 311. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR HOME VISITING.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that provides funds to states for a program or programs of home visits to low-income mothers-to-be and low-income families which will produce sizeable, sustained improvements in the health and well-being of children and their parents, by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 312. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TRIGGER.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that makes the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program more responsive to energy price increases by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for either time period provided in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 313. RESERVE FUND FOR THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION.

The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that reauthorizes surface transportation programs or that authorizes other transportation-related spending by providing new contract authority by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure establishes or maintains a solvent Highway Trust Fund over the period of fiscal years 2009 through 2015. ''Solvency'' is defined as a positive cash balance. Such measure may include a transfer into the Highway Trust Fund from other Federal funds, as long as the transfer of Federal funds is fully offset.

SEC. 314. CURRENT POLICY RESERVE FUND FOR MEDICARE IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) PROCEDURE.—The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that would increase outlays by an amount not to exceed $87,290,000,000 in fiscal years 2010 through 2014 and, for the purposes of the Rules of the House of Representatives, by an amount not to exceed $284,970,000,000 in fiscal years 2010 through 2019 by reforming the Medicare payment system for physicians to—

(1) change incentives to encourage efficiency and higher quality care in a way that supports fiscal sustainability;

(2) improve payment accuracy to encourage efficient use of resources and ensure that primary care receives appropriate compensation;

(3) improve coordination of care among all providers serving a patient in all appropriate settings; or

(4) hold providers accountable for their utilization patterns and quality of care.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—For the purposes of section 401(a) of this resolution, the revisions made pursuant to this section shall apply only to a measure that includes the policies and the amounts described in this section.

SEC. 315. CURRENT POLICY RESERVE FUND FOR MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF.

(a) PROCEDURE.—The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that would decrease revenues (or increase outlays, as appropriate) by an amount not to exceed $698,571,000,000 in fiscal years 2010 through 2014 and, for the purposes of the Rules of the House of Representatives, by an amount not to exceed $1,848,523,000,000 in fiscal years 2010 through 2019, by extending certain provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for middle class tax relief, including the—

(1) 10 percent individual income tax bracket;

(2) marriage penalty relief;

(3) child credit at $1,000 and partial refundability of the credit;

(4) education incentives;

(5) other incentives for middle class families and children;

(6) other reductions to individual income tax brackets; and

(7) small business tax relief.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—For the purposes of section 401(a) of this resolution, the adjustments made pursuant to this section shall apply only to a measure that includes the policies and the amounts described in this section.

SEC. 316. CURRENT POLICY RESERVE FUND FOR REFORM OF THE ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX (AMT).

(a) PROCEDURE.—The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that would decrease revenues by an amount not to exceed $68,650,000,000 in fiscal years 2010 through 2014 and fiscal years 2010 through 2019 by reforming the AMT so that tens of millions of working families will not become subject to it.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—For the purposes of section 401(a) of this resolution, the adjustments made pursuant to this section shall apply only to a measure that includes the policies and the amounts described in this section.

SEC. 317. CURRENT POLICY RESERVE FUND FOR REFORM OF THE ESTATE AND GIFT TAX.

(a) PROCEDURE.—The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that would decrease revenues by an amount not to exceed $72,033,000,000 in fiscal years 2010 through 2014 and, for the purposes of the Rules of the House of Representatives, by an amount not to exceed $256,244,000,000 in fiscal years 2010 through 2019 by reforming the Estate and Gift Tax so that only a minute fraction of estates owe tax, by extending the law as in effect in 2009 for the Estate and Gift Tax.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—For the purposes of section 401(a) of this resolution, the adjustments made pursuant to this section shall apply only to a measure that includes the policies and the amounts described in this section.

TITLE IV—BUDGET ENFORCEMENT

SEC. 401. ADJUSTMENTS FOR DIRECT SPENDING AND REVENUES.

(a) ADJUSTMENTS TO MAINTAIN CURRENT POLICY.—

(1) Subject to the condition specified in paragraph (3), when the chairman of the Committee on the Budget evaluates the budgetary effects of a provision in any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this resolution, or the Rules of the House of Representatives relative to baseline estimates that are consistent with section 257 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, he shall exclude from his evaluation the budgetary effects of such provision if such effects would have been reflected in a baseline adjusted to maintain current policy.

(2) Paragraph (1) applies only to a provision with respect to which the chairman of the Committee on the Budget has exercised his authority to make budgetary adjustments under sections 314, 315, 316, and 317 of this resolution.

(3) Paragraph (1) shall apply only if the House of Representatives has previously passed a bill to impose statutory pay-as-you-go requirements, or the measure containing the provision being evaluated by the chairman of the Committee on the Budget imposes such requirements, and only if such bill is designated as providing statutory pay-as-you-go-requirements under this subsection.

(b) LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP).—Prior to consideration of a bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2010 that appropriates $3,200,000,000 in funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance program and provides additional appropriations of up to $1,900,000,000 for that program, then the chairman of the Committee on the Budget may revise the budgetary treatment of such additional amounts and allocate such additional budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority to the Committee on Appropriations.

(c) DEPOSIT INSURANCE.—When the chairman of the Budget Committee evaluates the budgetary effects of a provision of a bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this resolution, or the Rules of the House of Representatives, the chairman shall exclude the budgetary effects of any provision that affects the full funding of the deposit insurance guarantee commitment in effect on the date of enactment of Public Law 110–343, the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008.

SEC. 402. ADJUSTMENTS TO DISCRETIONARY SPENDING LIMITS.

(a) PROGRAM INTEGRITY INITIATIVES.—

(1) SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM INTEGRITY INITIATIVES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2010 that appropriates $273,000,000 for continuing disability reviews and Supplemental Security Income redeterminations for the Social Security Administration and (except as provided in subparagraph (B)) provides an additional appropriation of up to $485,000,000, and that amount is designated for continuing disability reviews and Supplemental Security Income redeterminations for the Social Security Administration, the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations shall be increased by the amount of the additional budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority for fiscal year 2010.

(B) ASSET VERIFICATION.—The additional appropriation of $485,000,000 may also provide that a portion of that amount, not to exceed $34,000,000, instead may be used for asset verification for Supplemental Security Income recipients, but only if and to the extent that the Office of the Chief Actuary estimates that the initiative would be at least as cost effective as the redeterminations of eligibility described in subparagraph (A).

(2) INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE TAX COMPLIANCE.—Prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2010 that appropriates $5,117,000,000 to the Internal Revenue Service for Enforcement and provides an additional appropriation of up to $387,000,000 for Enforcement to address the Federal tax gap, and provides that such sums as may be necessary shall be available from the Operations Support account in the Internal Revenue Service to fully support these Enforcement activities, the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations shall be increased by the amount of the additional budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority for fiscal year 2010.

(3) HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE CONTROL PROGRAM.—Prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2010 that appropriates up to $311,000,000, and the amount is designated to the health care fraud and abuse control program at the Department of Health and Human Services, the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations shall be increased by the amount of additional budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority for fiscal year 2010.

(4) UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM INTEGRITY ACTIVITIES.—Prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for

fiscal year 2010 that appropriates $10,000,000 for in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews for the Department of Labor and provides an additional appropriation of up to $50,000,000, and the amount is designated for in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews for the Department of Labor, the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations shall be increased by the amount of additional budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority for fiscal year 2010.

(5) PARTNERSHIP FUND FOR PROGRAM INTEGRITY INNOVATION.—Prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that provides discretionary budget authority for a Partnership Fund for Program Integrity Innovation in the Office of Management and Budget in an amount not to exceed $175,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and that designates the amount for the Partnership Fund for Program Integrity Innovation in the Office of Management and Budget, the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations shall be increased by the amount of the additional budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority for fiscal year 2010.

(6) PROCEDURE FOR ADJUSTMENTS.—Prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report, the chairman of the Committee on the Budget shall make the adjustments set forth in this subsection for the incremental new budget authority in that measure and the outlays resulting from that budget authority if that measure meets the requirements set forth in this subsection.

(b) COSTS OF OVERSEAS DEPLOYMENTS AND EMERGENCY NEEDS.—

(1) OVERSEAS DEPLOYMENTS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES.—If any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report makes appropriations for fiscal year 2009 or fiscal year 2010 for overseas deployments and related activities and such amounts are so designated pursuant to this subparagraph, then new budget authority, outlays, or receipts resulting therefrom shall not count for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 or this resolution.

(2) EMERGENCY NEEDS.—If any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report makes appropriations for discretionary amounts and such amounts are designated as necessary to meet emergency needs, then new budget authority and outlays resulting therefrom shall not count for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 or this resolution.

SEC. 403. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making a general appropriation or continuing appropriation may not provide for advance appropriations.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—An advance appropriation may be provided for fiscal year 2011 for programs, projects, activities, or accounts identified in the report to accompany this resolution or the joint explanatory statement of managers to accompany this resolution under the heading ''Accounts Identified for Advance Appropriations'' in an aggregate amount not to exceed $28,852,000,000 in new budget authority, and for 2012, accounts separately identified under the same heading.

(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''advance appropriation'' means any new discretionary budget authority provided in a bill or joint resolution making general appropriations or any new discretionary budget authority provided in a bill or joint resolution making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2010 that first becomes available for any fiscal year after 2010.

SEC. 404. OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE.

All committees are encouraged to conduct rigorous oversight hearings to root out waste, fraud, and abuse in all aspects of Federal spending and Government operations, giving particular scrutiny to issues raised by the Federal Office of the Inspector General or the Comptroller General of the United States. Based upon these oversight efforts, the committees are encouraged to make recommendations to reduce wasteful Federal spending to promote deficit reduction and long-term fiscal responsibility. Such recommendations should be submitted to the Committee on the Budget in the views and estimates reports prepared by committees as required under 301(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

SEC. 405. BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, section 13301 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, and section 4001 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on any concurrent resolution on the budget shall include in its allocation under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committee on Appropriations amounts for the discretionary administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration and of the Postal Service.

(b) SPECIAL RULE.—For purposes of applying section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, estimates of the level of total new budget authority and total outlays provided by a measure shall include any off-budget discretionary amounts.

SEC. 406. APPLICATION AND EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.

(a) APPLICATION.—Any adjustments of allocations and aggregates made pursuant to this resolution shall—

(1) apply while that measure is under consideration;

(2) take effect upon the enactment of that measure; and

(3) be published in the Congressional Record as soon as practicable.

(b) EFFECT OF CHANGED ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.—Revised allocations and aggregates resulting from these adjustments shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 as allocations and aggregates included in this resolution.

(c) BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS.—For purposes of this resolution, the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority, revenues, deficits, and surpluses for a fiscal year or period of fiscal years shall be determined on the basis of estimates made by the Committee on the Budget.

(d) ADJUSTMENTS.—The chairman of the Committee on the Budget may adjust the aggregates, allocations, and other levels in this resolution for legislation which has received final Congressional approval in the same form by the House of Representatives and the Senate, but has yet to be presented to or signed by the President at the time of final consideration of this resolution.

SEC. 407. ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS.

Upon the enactment of any bill or joint resolution providing for a change in budgetary concepts or definitions, the chairman of the Committee on the Budget shall adjust any appropriate levels and allocations in this resolution accordingly.

SEC. 408. EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.

The House adopts the provisions of this title—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House of Representatives and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of the House, and these rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with other such rules; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of the House of Representatives to change those rules at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of the House of Representatives.

TITLE V—POLICY

SEC. 501. POLICY ON MIDDLE-CLASS TAX RELIEF AND REVENUES.

It is the policy of this resolution to minimize fiscal burdens on working families and their children and grandchildren. It is the policy of this resolution to extend the following tax relief consistent with current policy—

(1) relief for the tens of millions of middle-income households who would otherwise be subject to the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) under current law;

(2) middle-class tax relief; and

(3) elimination of estate taxes on all but a minute fraction of estates by reforming and substantially increasing the unified tax credit.

In total, this resolution supports the extension of $1,700,000,000,000 in tax relief to individuals and families relative to current law. This resolution supports additional, deficit-neutral tax relief, including the extension of AMT relief, the research and experimentation tax credit, the deduction for State and local sales taxes, the enactment of a tax credit for school construction bonds, and other tax relief for working families. The cost of enacting such policies may be offset by reforms within the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that produce higher rates of tax compliance to close the ''tax gap'' and reduce taxpayer burdens through tax simplification. The President's budget proposes a variety of other revenue offsets. Unless expressly provided, this resolution does not assume any of the specific revenue offset proposals provided for in the President's budget. Decisions about specific revenue offsets are made by the Ways and Means Committee, which is the tax-writing committee.

SEC. 502. POLICY ON DEFENSE PRIORITIES.

It is the policy of this resolution that—

(1) there is no higher priority than the defense of our Nation, and therefore the Administration and Congress will make the necessary investments and reforms to strengthen our military so that it can successfully meet the threats of the 21st century;

(2) acquisition reform is needed at the Department of Defense to end excessive cost growth in the development of new weapons systems and to ensure that weapons systems are delivered on time and in adequate quantities to equip our servicemen and servicewomen;

(3) the Department of Defense should review defense plans to ensure that weapons developed to counter Cold War-era threats are not redundant and are applicable to 21st century threats;

(4) sufficient resources should be provided for the Department of Defense to aggressively address the 758 unimplemented recommendations made by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) since 2001 to improve practices at the Department of Defense, which could save billions of dollars that could be applied to priorities identified in this section;

(5) the Department of Defense should review the role that contractors play in its operations, including the degree to which contractors are performing inherently governmental functions, to ensure it has the most effective mix of government and contracted personnel;

(6) the Department of Defense report to Congress on its assessment of Cold War-era weaponry, its progress on implementing GAO recommendations, and its review of contractors at the Department as outlined in paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) by a date to be determined by the appropriate committees;

(7) the GAO provide a report to the appropriate congressional committees by December 31, 2009, on the Department of Defense's progress in implementing its audit recommendations;

(8) ballistic missile defense technologies that are not proven to work through adequate testing and that are not operationally viable should not be deployed, and that no funding should be provided for the research or development of space-based interceptors;

(9) cooperative threat reduction and other nonproliferation programs (securing ''loose nukes'' and other materials used in weapons of mass destruction), which were highlighted as high priorities by the 9/11 Commission, need to be funded at a level that is commensurate with the evolving threat;

(10) readiness of our troops, particularly the National Guard and Reserves, is a high priority, and that continued emphasis is needed to ensure adequate equipment and training;

(11) improving military health care services and ensuring quality health care for returning combat veterans is a high priority;

(12) military pay and benefits should be enhanced to improve the quality of life for military personnel and their families;

(13) the Department of Defense should make every effort to investigate the national security benefits of energy independence, including those that may be associated with alternative energy sources and energy efficiency conversions;

(14) the Administration's budget requests should continue to comply with section 1008, Public Law 109–364, the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, and that to the extent practicable overseas military operations should no longer be funded through emergency supplemental appropriations; and

(15) when assessing security threats and reviewing the programs and funding needed to counter these threats, the Administration should do so in a comprehensive manner that includes all agencies involved in our national security.

TITLE VI—SENSE OF THE HOUSE

SEC. 601. SENSE OF THE HOUSE ON VETERANS' AND SERVICEMEMBERS' HEALTH CARE.

It is the sense of the House that—

(1) the House supports excellent health care for current and former members of the United States Armed Services—they have served well and honorably and have made significant sacrifices for this Nation;

(2) the President's budget will improve health care for veterans by increasing appropriations for VA by 10 percent more than the 2009 level, increasing VA's appropriated resources for every year after 2010, and restoring health care eligibility to additional nondisabled veterans with modest incomes;

(3) VA is not and should not be authorized to bill private insurance companies for treatment of health conditions that are related to veterans' military service;

(4) VA may find it difficult to realize the level of increase in medical care collections estimated in the President's budget for 2010 using existing authorities; therefore, this resolution provides $540,000,000 more for Function 700 (Veterans Benefits and Services) than the President's budget to safeguard the provision of health care to veterans;

(5) it is important to continue providing sufficient and timely funding for veterans' and servicemembers' health care; and

(6) this resolution provides additional funding above the 2009 levels for VA to research and treat mental health, post-traumatic stress disorder, and traumatic brain injury.

SEC. 602. SENSE OF THE HOUSE ON HOMELAND SECURITY.

It is the sense of the House that because making the country safer and more secure is such a critical priority, the resolution therefore provides robust resources in the four budget functions—Function 400 (Transportation), Function 450 (Community and Regional Development), Function 550 (Health), and Function 750 (Administration of Justice)—that fund most nondefense homeland security activities that can be used to address our key security priorities, including—

(1) safeguarding the Nation's transportation systems, including rail, mass transit, ports, and airports;

(2) continuing with efforts to identify and to screen for threats bound for the United States;

(3) strengthening border security;

(4) enhancing emergency preparedness and training and equipping first responders;

(5) helping to make critical infrastructure more secure and resilient against the threat of terrorism and natural disasters;

(6) making the Nation's cyber infrastructure resistive to attack; and

(7) increasing the preparedness of the public health system.

SEC. 603. SENSE OF THE HOUSE ON PROMOTING AMERICAN INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS.

It is the sense of the House that—

(1) the House should provide sufficient investments to enable our Nation to continue to be the world leader in education, innovation, and economic growth as envisioned in the goals of the America COMPETES Act;

(2) this resolution builds on significant funding provided in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for scientific research and education in Function 250 (General Science, Space and Technology), Function 270 (Energy), Function 300 (Natural Resources and Environment), Function 500 (Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services), and Function 550 (Health);

(3) the House also should pursue policies designed to ensure that American students, teachers, businesses, and workers are prepared to continue leading the world in innovation, research, and technology well into the future; and

(4) this resolution recognizes the importance of the extension of investments and tax policies that promote research and development and encourage innovation and future technologies that will ensure American economic competitiveness.

SEC. 604. SENSE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING PAY PARITY.

It is the sense of the House that rates of compensation for civilian employees of the United States should be adjusted at the same time, and in the same proportion, as are rates of compensation for members of the uniformed services.

SEC. 605. SENSE OF THE HOUSE ON COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY.

It is the sense of the House that nothing in this resolution should be construed to reduce any assistance that makes college more affordable and accessible for students, including but not limited to student aid programs and services provided by nonprofit State agencies.

SEC. 606. SENSE OF THE HOUSE ON GREAT LAKES RESTORATION.

It is the sense of the House that this resolution recognizes the importance of funding for an interagency initiative to address regional environmental issues that affect the Great Lakes, and that coordinated planning and implementation among the Federal, State, and local government and nongovernmental stakeholders is essential to more effectively addressing the most significant problems within the Great Lakes basin.

SEC. 607. SENSE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE OF CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT.

It is the sense of the House that—

(1) additional legislative action is needed to ensure that States have the necessary resources to collect all child support that is owed to families and to allow them to pass 100 percent of support on to families without financial penalty; and

(2) when 100 percent of child support payments are passed to the child, rather than administrative expenses, program integrity is improved and child support participation increases.

The Senate concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

MOTION TO GO TO CONFERENCE

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 316, I move that the House insist upon its amendment to Senate Concurrent Resolution 13 and request a conference with the Senate thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from South Carolina is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SPRATT. I yield the gentleman from Wisconsin, my ranking member, half of the allocated time, 30 minutes.

I reserve the balance of my time so that Mr. RYAN can proceed.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. At this time, Mr. Speaker, I believe I will reserve the balance of my time and allow the gentleman from South Carolina to get started.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, before leaving here for the spring vacation, the district work period, the House passed, by a significant majority, some 233 ''ayes,'' the resolution before us today, which we are moving to go to conference.

With that resounding vote of support, we would like to see the conference concluded as soon as possible so that the House and Senate both may proceed with the consideration, floor debate, and passage of appropriation bills.

I would, therefore, urge that all Members of the House, particularly those who supported this resolution originally, vote now to go to conference so that we can resolve our differences with the Senate and put behind us on a timely basis the budget resolution for 2010.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, we are here today to move the process along on going to conference on the budget resolutions.

I just spent the last week doing 25 listening sessions throughout the 1st Congressional District, which is the

district I am privileged to represent, talking to the people I represent about the fiscal future of America, how we just went through this process of the House passing a budget resolution, the other body passing their version of the budget resolution.

There is very little distinction between the President's budget, the House-passed budget resolution and the Senate budget resolution. Therefore, this move to go to conference should not be a very lengthy conference because the differences between the two are very few and far between, with the exception of the process called reconciliation.

We will talk about that a little bit more. But I think it's important to understand what this is. And I spent a lot of my time talking with constituents about that, because they think sort of when you pass a budget resolution, the budget is done and it's passed.

That is how it works in our State legislatures, which is, a budget is a budget and it's passed and it's executed. This is the beginning of the process, not the ending of the process.

□ 1300

The best way to think about the process we are engaging in and what we are doing right here with the budget resolution is the budget resolution is the fiscal architecture of the Federal Government. It's the blueprint of what our government should look like, how big it should get, what is the fiscal policy of it. So we are here debating these blueprints of the Federal Government. And the blueprints were approved by the House a couple of week ago, by the Senate, and now the idea here is to smooth out any differences, which are few and far between, and then move forward to implement the component parts of the budget. So once this process is done, then we have the architectural diagrams in place; then we go start building the government that's being proposed here. The new cap-and-trade legislation, new national health care legislation, all these new spending bills, the tax increases, that's where Congress goes from here, which is once the budget resolution is done, start implementing these pieces, the goal of which is by this fall all of this is in law and is done.

Let me reiterate what we are talking about here, just the huge magnitude of what's being proposed here. Just with respect to the cost of government to the future generations, our debt, this budget proposes more debt, more borrowing, under this Presidency than all prior Presidencies combined. This budget proposes that our publicly held debt, the amount of bonds we have to go out there and sell to the Chinese, to the Japanese, to other people to cash flow our government, our debt will double in 5½ years and triple in 10½ years.

What's more, what this budget says we ought to do is we should chase ever higher spending, an unprecedented level of new spending with ever higher taxes. It not only proposes the largest tax increase in American history, which is $1.5 trillion, taxes on energy, taxes on incomes, on small businesses, on the very investments that make up our savings portfolios, our 401(k)s, our pension plans, things that are probably going down by about 40 percent for the average American, not only are those tax increases huge, the spending increases are much larger.

So what these architectural designs do, what this blueprint for the Federal Government that the President has sent to Congress that Congress is now in the midst of rubber-stamping does is it says let's have this unprecedented gusher of new spending, let's chase it with higher taxes. Those taxes never quite catch up with the spending, and the result is an unprecedented increase in our national debt.

Mr. Speaker, this is how you end prosperity in America. Name me a great country that has been able to increase standards of living, increase jobs, increase prosperity where they increase the size of government, the taxes of government, the borrowing of government like this. This is an unprecedented spending, taxing, and borrowing spree which we simply do not stand for, which we simply can't go along with.

And I want to draw your attention to one other point: This unprecedented borrowing spree is done in the face of an already bleak fiscal future for this country. This is an ad that has been taken out in many newspapers across America by the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, a nonpartisan advocacy group that says America should get its fiscal house in order. It just shows this tip of the iceberg. Today's economic crisis is the tip of the iceberg. What this says is right now to pay the bills for the Federal Government, right now to make sure that the government programs that everybody has come to know, Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security, right now those three programs alone show us a $56 trillion unfunded liability. What that means is for everybody in America today, my mother's generation, my generation, my children's generation—and my children are 4, 5, and 7 years old—for us to pay the bills of all the government promises that are being made to these three generations, today we would have to set aside $56 trillion, invest it at Treasury rates in order to just make sure these programs are solvent. It is an enormous fiscal liability.

Rather than tackling this problem, rather than confronting America's fiscal wreck that's coming, rather than getting us under control, what does this budget resolution do? It makes it worse. It adds more debt on top of this debt. It is saying never mind the fact that all these programs are going insolvent, never mind the fact that we're not even prepared for the baby boomers, never mind the fact that today the per-household debt is $483,000 per household, for every household in America right now today they owe $483,000 just to pay the bills we have already racked up that are unpaid for the Federal Government, the majority wants to what? Not fix it but make it worse. Rather than getting spending under control, it goes out of control. I mean the Environmental Protection Agency this year alone gets a 124 percent increase in their budget. On and on and on the spending goes.

Rather than getting taxes under control so entrepreneurs can keep more of what they earn; so small businesses, the economic engine of America, have an incentive to go back to work to hire people, not to lay people off, taxes go out of control. And rather than tackling this challenge of debt, what are they doing? They are accelerating our increase of debt, accelerating the fact that $483,000 per family is owed today and makes it much, much worse.

At the end of the day, what it's really all about is freedom. The question really before the American people today is with the government's taking more and more money out of your pocket, with the government's growing and making more and more decisions here in Washington, with the government's making the decisions on how your health care is to be delivered rather than you and your doctor making the decision, with the government's taking over the energy sector, the health care sector, 25 percent of our economy, with the government's saying to future generations we are going to have to take more money out of your pocket in order to pay the bills, in order to borrow the money, you have less freedom. And this just shows you how the President and the majority here in Congress are proposing a dramatic and radical new increase in the size of government way beyond where we have historically been.

I asked the Congressional Budget Office before this budget came due, what will the tax rates on my three children have to be if we're going to have to finance all this growth of government through taxes, which ultimately must happen? If the government is to spend beyond its means by borrowing, somebody's going to have to pay that back through higher taxes, and that's the next generation. And the answers I got from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office keep me awake at night.

As I mentioned, I am in my late thirties. My kids are 4, 5, and 7 years old. And what they said was really scary. They said that by the time my three kids are my age, in order to pay these bills that they are racking up for them, the lowest tax bracket in America, today the 10 percent bracket, would have to go to 25 percent. The middle-income tax bracket for middle-income taxpayers would have to go to 66 percent income tax rate. And the top tax bracket, the ones that small businesses pay, will go to 88 percent.

That's the ending of America. That's the end of prosperity. That is severing

the legacy of this country. And the legacy of this country is that each generation takes its challenges seriously, fixes those problems so that they can bequeath onto the next generation a more prosperous, a more secure America. We are at risk for severing that legacy for the first time in the history of this country. If we consign to the next generation that burden of debt, that increase in tax rates, there is no way we will be able to provide a higher standard of living to the next generation of Americans.

But the matter is even more urgent than that. The matter is urgent to the fact that we are in the worst recession we have seen since the 1940s. It's a global recession. And the question we ought to be asking ourselves: Should we be raising all these taxes in the middle of a recession? Should we be raising the energy fees on consumers by anywhere from $1,600 to $3,500 a year in a recession? Should we be raising taxes on small businesses, which create most of our jobs, in a recession? Should we be raising taxes on the assets that make up our pension plans, our children's 401(k) plans, their college education plans, our IRAs in a recession? Of course not. Unfortunately, that's precisely what the President and this budget do.

This is a huge moment for America. And Americans may not know this because they are greasing this thing through so fast: It's a moment where America may abandon its tireless principles, its timeless ideas that built this country, the idea that the goal of government is to protect our rights and to equalize opportunity for all so people can stake their claim and make the most of their lives and replace that with more of a Europeanized notion where we try to micromanage the results of people's lives, where people are less concerned about their liberty and more concerned about security.

We believe in having a safety net to help people who cannot help themselves. We believe in having a safety net to help people when they are down on their luck. But we reject the philosophy and the approach of this budget which says we need to have more than that, we need to have a society where more and more Americans become dependent on the government itself for their own well-being.

We want people to maximize their potential. We want people to make the most of their lives. We don't want to lull people in lives of complacency where they are becoming more and more dependent on the Federal Government. We have seen what those ideas do. We see them on display in foreign capitals all around the world. Higher unemployment, a lower standard of living, stagnant wages, decaying societies. That's not America. That is not what this country is. It's not the idea of America. We want the idea of America that we have known for the 20th century to be the idea of America in the 21st century. That's what this budget is about. That's what this blueprint or this architecture that we are debating here today is really all about.

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

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

I would remind my friend and all Members of the House that President Obama came to office less than 100 days ago. And when he came, he found on the doorstep waiting for him a budget that was deep in deficit. By our calculation, the Bush administration is responsible for at least $1.3 trillion of the deficit we are now struggling with trying to resolve and work down in the budget before us, $1.3 trillion out of a projected deficit this year of $1.752 trillion.

The economy, the worst since the Great Depression, happened on the watch of President Bush. He can't escape it. He was in office 8 years, and it happened in the midst of his tenure in office. The debt accumulation during that administration due to the deficits that have steadily racked up almost every year after the first 2 years of his administration, the deficit added over $5 trillion to the debt of the United States.

And to deal with the wretched conditions in our economy and to keep this economy from slipping into a downward death spiral, the Bush administration undertook some aggressive actions, I think rightly so, such as the TARP, dealing with troubled asset programs. They undertook a number of these remedial actions at significant cost to the Federal Government. I don't fault them for that. They did what needed to be done in order to keep the economy from going deeper into the rut. But we are here living with the consequences of that.

The major reason we have a deficit so swollen, $1.752 trillion, is not because of what's about to happen with the adoption of this budget. This budget works the deficit down. It's because of what did happen during 8 years of the Bush administration when we finally ended up with the worst recession since the Great Depression.

So we are dealing with the aftermath of the Bush administration here today, and we have a budget which builds upon the budget sent to us by President Obama. It takes the deficit from where it is, $1.752 trillion this year, and reduces it to $586 billion within 4 years. I would like to see it go further, beyond that. But we have given the House and the Congress a 5-year budget that will put us on a path downward from $1.7 trillion, $1.8 trillion to $586 billion by 2013 and perhaps even better by 2014.

□ 1315

I think we should go further. We have got to go further. I will be the first to acknowledge that when you look at OMB's projections of the 10 years lying ahead of us, in the second 5-year period of that 10-year span, in that period of time the deficit starts going back up again. We don't want that to happen. But we can best make the policy that will address that second 5-year period when we are out of this economy, when we are standing on firmer ground than we are today and we know a bit more about the future of the economy and the budget than we do at this point in time.

In the meantime, what we are doing is prescribing over the next 5 years a budget that will go down, down, down, from $1.752 trillion to $586 billion. I say that is a fiscally responsible budget. So did the House.

When this measure was before us, before we left for the Easter-Passover break, when this measure was before us, the concurrent resolution, 233 Members of the House voted to pass our resolution, our budget resolution which now comes before us on a motion to go to conference.

Mr. RYAN presented, or his side presented, the Republicans presented two budget alternatives. One received 137 votes. 137 votes, that is 80 votes less than a majority, with 293 noes. The other received 111 votes. We received 233 votes.

I think the House has spoken and spoken resoundingly. They listened to the debate, then they read the materials we put out, they decided this is a better way to go. This is a responsible budget because it takes us over the foreseeable future to a much, much lower budget, something we can do, because this year's budget is swollen. $1.7 trillion is totally unsustainable, totally intolerable, but it is swollen by actions that have been taken that are countercyclical in order to get this economy out of the rut it is in right here today. Once you leave those nonrecurring expenditures out, you can credibly say that we can get from where we are to a deficit in the mid-500s in a 4-year period of time.

Now, you are going to hear a lot of talk about tax cuts. But read the committee report and you will see in short summary exactly some of the highlights and features of this particular bill. If you read the very last page, you will see that our budget resolution calls for reducing revenues, for tax cuts. Provided under the CBO baseline forecast, this resolution provides $613 billion over the first 5 years and $1.48 trillion in total tax reductions.

We have been taunted in the past by those saying that when we came to power we wouldn't continue the middle income tax cuts; we would allow them to expire on December 31, 2010, as they are prescribed to expire. But we protect those tax cuts. The marital penalty, mitigation provisions in the marital penalty relief bill, the 10 percent bracket, which is a big tax cut for many working Americans, the child tax credit, all of these we preserve and extend in our particular bill, including the estate tax. We simply say with respect to the estate tax, just leave it in place as it is in 2010, that is, with a $3.5

million per decedent exemption, $7 million for a couple.

All of these things are in the package before us. That is why it received a resounding vote of support from the House just a few weeks ago and why it is a better choice and why we need now to finish the work we began, go on to conference and adopt a concurrent budget resolution which will be the ruling law for the coming fiscal year.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the vice ranking member of the Budget Committee, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING).

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I can think of no greater act of irresponsibility for this House of Representatives here and now than to take this budget to conference. This is a budget that will place more debt, more debt on our Nation in the next 10 years than was run up in the previous 220. That is right, Mr. Speaker. This budget, this budget is laying the framework for more debt to be placed on our Nation in the next 10 years than was placed in the previous 220.

Now, I must admit that I find it somewhat amusing that every time one of my friends from the other side of the aisle, including the distinguished chairman of the Budget Committee, comes to the floor to debate, they always want to play the blame game, Mr. Speaker. They always want to point the finger at somebody else and they speak of, well, there is this problem that was inherited.

Well, maybe there was a problem that President Obama inherited, but he inherited it from a Democratic-controlled Congress. When the Democrats took over Congress, the deficit stood at $161 billion. Now we know in just two short years, two short years, we are looking at a budget deficit of $1.8 trillion, a 10-fold increase, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, that is a challenge inherited by the President from the Democratic Congress. But to be fair to the Democratic Congress, he is really only inheriting about a $1.3 trillion budget deficit from them. He is adding about half a trillion dollars of it himself to get to the $1.8 trillion.

When the Democrats took control of Congress, the unemployment rate stood at 4.4 percent. Now it is over 8 percent, almost double.

When the Democrats took control of Congress, the Dow stood at 12,400. I need not tell anybody in this Chamber that it is down almost 40 percent now.

Now, I don't blame my colleagues for every single woe that our Nation faces today, but they seemingly take no responsibility and seemingly are more interested in pointing the finger than solving the problem. And when they so-called try to solve the problem, all we have is a borrow, tax and spend budget. Borrow, tax and spend, that is what this budget is all about.

If history is my guide, Mr. Speaker, no nation in the history of the world has been able to borrow and spend its way into prosperity. Many have tried, including our own. In the Great Depression, Henry Morgenthau, FDR's Secretary of Treasury, once said, ''We have tried spending money. We are spending more than we have ever spent before and it does not work. After 8 years of this administration, we have just as much unemployment as when we started and an enormous debt to boot.'' That was at the outset of World War II, after 10 years.

Many of us know about Japan's lost decade. An industrialized economy, not unlike our own, they had a real estate bubble burst on them in the early nineties. They passed eight different so-called government stimulus bills in 10 years, and in 10 years they created no new jobs, no new economic growth, and their per capita income went from second, second in the world, to 10th in the world. Now, how many young people in that nation were never able to go to college, never able to start a new business, never able to own a home because of the debt placed on that nation?

As The New York Times wrote about the experience, and let me say again, The New York Times, not Rush Limbaugh, not National Review, in a recent article they said, ''During those two decades, Japan accumulated the largest public debt in the world. This has led many to conclude that spending did little more than sink Japan deeply into debt, leaving an enormous tax burden for future generations.''

The article from The New York Times goes on to say, ''Among ordinary Japanese, the spending is widely disparaged for having turned the nation into a public works-based welfare state, making regional economies dependent on Tokyo for jobs.''

Mr. Speaker, we need to learn from our neighbor's history. We need to learn from our own history. This is a budget that will not only spend too much and tax too much, but place a level of burden of debt on future generations that is absolutely unconscionable.

Even prior to this horrendous budget, we were on track to have to double taxes, double taxes on the next generation just to balance the budget. This is a budget that will triple, triple the national debt in just 10 years, and run up more debt in the next 10 years than in the previous 220.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I rarely use the word ''immoral'' in political debate, but I think placing that level of debt on my 7-year-old daughter and my 5-year-old son and all the children of America is immoral. This budget should not be taken to conference.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlelady from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO).

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this resolution and a budget that addresses our Nation's priorities, confronts our economic crisis today, and makes critical investments in our long-term growth. With this budget, we have laid out a clear path to cut the deficit by nearly two-thirds and to cut taxes for middle-class Americans. It reduces wasteful spending while making long overdue investments to get our country back on track.

The truth is we cannot afford to wait. Failure to reform and invest have produced 8 years of the slowest growth in three-quarters of a century. Every day, I hear stories from my constituents. The single mother who lost her job and the health care coverage that went with it. Now she fights daily just to make sure her children can get the care they need to stay healthy.

To the small business owner, to stay afloat in a market where credit has become so tight, simply making payroll is not a sure thing.

The student who excelled in school but won't be going to college because he or she cannot afford it.

And the homeowner who worked and saved and did everything right, but still finds himself or herself underwater on the verge of foreclosure.

Our Nation owes its citizens far better. There will be no growth, no opportunity and no jobs unless we invest in our future. We cannot fix our economy unless we take concrete steps to create jobs, transition to a clean energy economy, make health care more affordable, and improve education, pursue true reform, get the big things right and focus on our national priorities. Focus on health care by addressing the burdens that the current health care system places on families, aiming to improve quality, efficiency and accountability of health care in order to control costs and provide resources to expand access.

There are no easy answers when it comes to making our health care system work for everyone, but one thing is clear: This is our window of opportunity. This budget is an essential first step to ensuring quality, affordable health care for all of our constituents. It gives us the flexibility to give people real choices when it comes to their health care; the choice to keep what they have now, or to have a new choice of a private or public health insurance plan.

Focus on education, the key to economic opportunity, especially in these tough economic times. When too many of our children and adults are not prepared to compete or when our region's workforce does not meet the demands our employers, our entire Nation suffers. This budget expands access and increases funding for early childhood education, creates a new tax credit to help cover college costs, and raises the Pell Grant award.

Focus on energy independence, because from rising prices to rising temperatures to the dangerous actions of hostile regimes abroad, one thing is clear: If we do not take action, young people today, not to mention their children and their grandchildren, will face dire consequences.

This budget builds a framework for developing and producing new energy

and jobs, modernizing the electricity grid to make it more efficient, secure and reliable, increasing the efficiency of Federal buildings, and helping to make State and local governments more energy efficient.

Focus on infrastructure to create jobs for transportation, energy projects, maintaining highways, rebuilding bridges, transit and water systems. This budget lays the groundwork for a national infrastructure bank to give these projects the priority they deserve and the leveraged resources to maximize their impact, all to create good jobs that cannot be outsourced while spurring economic growth and keeping our Nation competitive.

No matter where we focus, our goals are clear: To move from recovery to growth. This budget builds on the powerful down payment we made with the recovery package that President Obama signed into law this spring.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand behind this responsible budget. It is the foundation of a strong economy, true reform and future growth.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I reserve my time.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

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

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman.

This debate really is very timely because the number one issue on the minds of the American people is the economic crisis, and although we use the language of the budget, what we are really talking about here is whether to adopt or not adopt a plan to fix the economic crisis facing the country.

□ 1330

Literally, the motion that we're debating right now is whether to try to reach an agreement with the Senate about that plan, and we'll take a vote on whether to go forward or not. I hope everybody votes to go forward with the process.

But I assume, Mr. Speaker, the minority's not really debating the process; they're debating the substance, and that's good and that's welcome.

I think for us to fix this economic crisis we need to do three things, and the President has stepped forward to try to do these three things. The first is to get the economy kick-started in the short run. The President proposed legislation that would put construction workers back to work, that would help first-time homebuyers with their down payment for a new home, that would let people deduct the sales tax when they buy a car or truck, that would stop the hemorrhaging of layoffs from schools around the country by a significant increase in Federal aid to schools. And we passed that. And it's about 2 months old, and we're hoping that it will work.

The second leg of recovery is to stop the meltdown of the financial system. You know, the two parties came together in the fall and passed legislation that was very controversial, very easy to vote against, to try to rescue the financial system and the banking system, not for the benefit of the shareholders of banks, but for the benefit of borrowers and depositors and all of us who depend upon the banking system. And the new Secretary of the Treasury has gone forward with a different version of how to implement that plan, and it's playing out in the marketplace, and we're hoping that that plan will be successful.

The third piece of the recovery plan is a long-term plan to deal with the long-term problems of the country. The President proposed a way to deal with the problem of borrowing too much money to run the country, and we passed in the House a budget that cuts the deficit by two-thirds and we hope will stimulate the economic growth that will pay down the debt as we did in the 1990s.

The President proposed a plan that would start us toward fixing our health care system, to control costs for businesses and families, so that the metastasizing growth of health care costs is reduced and subdued, and that's included in this budget.

The President has proposed a plan to deal with our energy dependency upon imported foreign oil; and although the specifics of that are not included in this budget, this House, at the appropriate time, will take up that debate and will either pass it or not.

And, finally, the President talked about improving the job skills of our workers so we are more competitive in global economic competition with some major reforms in the way we pay for getting a college or higher education.

Now, you can disagree with the way the President went about these objectives. But I think what you can't do is propose essentially nothing as an alternative. And I know there were alternatives on the floor during the budget debate. But the reality is the minority has kind of set itself up here to tell us what it's against, and I respect that.

We're for something very different. We're for a plan that reduces the deficit by two-thirds. We're for a plan that stops the hemorrhaging from our pocketbooks in America's health care system. We want to debate and eventually adopt a plan that will terminate our addiction to imported oil. We're for a plan that raises the skills and aspirations of every worker, every man, woman and child in this country. That is what we are for. And we want to go forward with the other body and with the President and, hopefully, with the other party in a way that will implement a plan that will make this economy recover.

So that's what we're talking about today: Should we or should we not go forward with a plan that will help the economy recover?

We've laid out our ideas. We believe in them. We think the track record shows that they work. There really are two competing sets of ideas about how to fix the economy. The minority believes that massive reductions in taxes for the wealthiest Americans and deregulation of the economy will produce prosperity for all. We don't believe that. We think that lower deficits, investment in education and health care, infrastructure, sensible regulation of the marketplace will produce prosperity for all.

There's a record, Mr. Speaker. Their method, tried in the last 8 years, has, frankly, led us to the economic catastrophe we're experiencing today. Our method, by and large, tried in the 1990s, led to a very different result. For every one job——

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SPRATT. Could I ask how much time we have left?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 13½ minutes.

Mr. SPRATT. I yield the gentleman 1 additional minute.

Mr. ANDREWS. For every one job that their strategy produced, ours produced 108. For every dollar of economic growth that their strategy produced, ours produced $1.69. A middle class family, during the last 8 years, saw their purchasing power drop by $500, at least, compared to what it was 8 years ago. And finally, the purchasing power of the middle class family during our strategy being invoked saw purchasing power for middle class families increase by over $5,000. That's the record. That's the choice. Let's get on with it and go to conference.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin. And I would have liked to thank the gentleman from New Jersey if he had yielded because he has made that same statement over and over and over again on the floor with regard to how many more jobs would be produced under their budget and under the proposals by the Republicans. And each time when we try to ask him where his documentation for that or where the proof is so that he can prove it to the American public, as just happened right now, he has refused to do so.

Mr. ANDREWS. Will the gentleman yield? I would be happy to supply that answer.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. And I would like to respond in kind just as you responded in kind to me. So when you're on your time we would like to have that documentation. We'd very much like to see it.

I also appreciate the fact that the gentleman from New Jersey, that he says that the Democrats are presenting to us a different form of budget. Absolutely. The American public, I think, is outraged with the type of budget that they are presenting. It's a budget that spends too much, borrows too much

and taxes too much. It spends more than any other government or any other budget that we've ever seen in the history of this country.

So much of the time they lament the fact that we are brought to this table today because of the budgets of the previous administration. Yet, what do they do? On the one hand they're saying that those previous administrations failed to spend enough, and that's why they have to spend more; but on the other hand, they lament the fact that over and over again the previous administrations spent too much. So which is it? Was the previous administration spending too much or too little? They speak out of both sides of their mouth.

And as far as borrowing, that poor child that is born today, that poor child that is born today, he will realize that he will be burdened with upwards of over $30,000 in debt just because of the extra spending in this legislation. That's on top of the $57 trillion of indebtedness that's already incurred by that child being born.

So the child born today, before he can even think about putting a few pennies away, or his parents or his grandparents can put a few pennies away in his piggy bank, if you will, to start saving up for his college education or his marriage or a new car, first of all, they have to start putting away pennies to start paying for this indebtedness that the other side of the aisle is creating.

You know, I came down to this floor because I heard the chairman of the Budget Committee responding to the ranking member of the Budget Committee, and I appreciate the work of the ranking member and the points that you were making as to when you were saying that now is not the time when we are in such difficult equations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I yield the gentleman 1 additional minute.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. And we are in such difficult times, now is not the time to be putting further burdens on the American family. I appreciate that.

I believe you yielded, or the chairman then responded by saying, we're in this situation because the budget that we had previously was a budget that spent too much and had problems with that budget. Wasn't that the response that we heard?

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Yes.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. So the problem was, the reason we're here today, according to the other side of the aisle, was that the previous budget, the budget we're operating under right now, was spending too much. Is that what we heard from the other side of the aisle?

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. That's right.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I would ask then—I would yield some time to the chairman of the Budget Committee, if the chairman of the Budget Committee would yield to a question, if the chairman of the Budget Committee would yield to a question.

Mr. SPRATT. I beg your pardon. I was discussing something with another of our Members on the floor.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I certainly appreciate that. We were just discussing the reason that I was on the floor was, in part, response to your colloquy with the ranking member before, and you were saying that part of the reason we're here today is because of the budget problems that you experienced coming into this administration, the Obama administration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. And your comment was, it's a problem with the previous budgets. That was your comment on the floor.

Mr. SPRATT. I'd say we're cleaning up in the aftermath of the Bush administration's 8 years of fiscal policy that left us $5 trillion deeper in debt.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I appreciate that. Can you just tell me one question: Whose name appears on the current budget that we're operating under right now? Who submitted that to this Congress?

Mr. SPRATT. The budget before us now began with the President's submission, as it has since 1921.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Not the budget that's right before us, that we are operating under right now. Whose budget, for the last 2 years, has come before this House to be voted upon?

Mr. SPRATT. We voted upon it here. But who occupied the White House? Who sent us the budget?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I yield the gentleman an additional 15 seconds.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. The point is, and the chairman, I appreciate the gentleman, the point of the matter is we are operating under a Democrat budget, and I believe it would be Mr. SPRATT's name that would be on the budget that we're currently operating under for the last 2 years as the Democrat Party has been in control of this House for the last 2 years. So it's not that we're looking at a new administration. It's that for the last 2 years the budget that we're spending has come from the other side of the aisle.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) manage our time for a moment until I return.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 5 minutes to the gentlelady from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCHWARTZ).

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your important work.

When I was sworn into Congress in 2005, I reached out and wanted to secure a position on the House Budget Committee. I did so because I understood then, as I do now, that budgets are critically important. The Federal budget is not just abstract numbers on a page. It is a reflection of our priorities and our values and of the America that we want to leave to our children and our grandchildren.

The budget proposed by President Obama and modified by the Democratic Congress and before us today and going to conference committee is an economic road map that establishes the amount of money that Congress is authorized to spend in this year's appropriations bill. It does not set the level for specific programs, and it does not change current law. Both sides of the aisle understand this.

The budget looks forward; but before we do, we have to understand how we got where we are today and what we inherited. This administration, this Congress, inherited from the previous administration a record deficit of $5.8 trillion, doubling of the national debt in 8 years, tripling the amount of debt that's owed to foreign countries, and an economic recession the likes of which most of us have never seen.

The fact is that President Obama and Congress are dealing with enormous challenges, and that is why it is imperative that we pass a strong, responsible budget that addresses the immediate challenges before us and makes the investments that we need to make for our future economic competitiveness.

Our budget establishes a new fiscal framework. It includes a long overdue return to honest budgeting and fiscal responsibility. The budget embraces President Obama's goal to rebuild our economy and make those strategic target investments in health care, in energy and in national security. It is essential that we tackle the annual deficit, and we've laid out an ambitious marker that we are committed to cutting the deficit in half in 5 years.

First and foremost, then, we have an honest budgeting practice. The budget plans for spending in ways that we have not since I've been here and for the 8 years before for sure. It talks about spending and sets out spending for Iraq and Afghanistan, for domestic national disasters, for tax relief and for obligated entitlements.

Through the economic recovery and reinvestment plan, Congress has already taken action, significant action, to improve our economic competitiveness and well-being, and this budget builds on that by making investments again in education, in energy independence, and, yes, on health care for all Americans. Each of these areas requires us to find common ground. And this budget ensures that we are able, in Congress, working with the Senate, to define the specific means and the specific ways to accomplish these goals.

To compete in the 21st century global economy, we do need an educated and skilled workforce for the future, and this budget puts resources in early education initiatives and investments in basic education, K–12, and better enables Americans to afford to go to college with student loans.

Our economic and national security also depends on America being more energy independent, and this budget sets aside a revenue-neutral reserve fund that calls on Congress to find a way towards energy independence through alternative, home-grown, cleaner energy and energy efficiency.

And, of course, in health care: we have both a moral and economic responsibility to find a uniquely American solution to health care reform, to containing costs, to improving quality, to making sure that every American has access to health care. And, again, there is a revenue-neutral reserve fund with reconciliation language in this budget that calls on us to do the work in the next year to make sure that we can accomplish these goals.

These goals are shared by many Americans, and they are within our reach if we are to work together. We cannot continue the policies of the last 8 years. We need to change the way we do budgeting. We need to change our investments. We need to move forward with this budget.

Pennsylvania, and certainly all American families and businesses, need Congress to work with President Obama again to work together to address their concerns, as has been set out in this budget. Simply saying ''no,'' simply saying we should go back to the policies of the last 8 years that got us in this mess is not the way to go.

□ 1345

I call on all of us to work together to move forward on this conference report to make sure we are doing all that we can to make sure that America is strong, safe and more economically competitive. This budget does that, and I say we move forward.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) will resume control of the remaining time.

There was no objection.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY).

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my ranking member for yielding time on this important debate of the day.

Today, we are talking about the budget resolution. The budget passed by this Congress—I voted ''no''—increases spending at a rapid rate. We haven't seen such a rapid growth of government since Jimmy Carter was President of the United States in the malaise days of the 1970s, but I think it's equally interesting that we're debating the budget resolution today because, just yesterday, President Obama announced that he is finding savings in the budget, and they're trying to find savings of $100 billion out of our budget.

Well, today, this budget resolution will spend over $3 trillion, and so the savings that President Obama has announced is the equivalent of an average family of four in the United States deciding not to buy a Starbucks coffee—just one day, not for the year, just one day. The equivalent savings for a family is about $1.25. Actually, I don't even think you can buy a Starbucks coffee for $1.25 anymore; but instead of doing the hard work of paring down government spending and finding priorities and funding those priorities and finding those areas of government that are inefficient and ineffective and are not getting results for people, this budget simply taxes too much, spends too much and borrows too much.

In the end, with our borrowing costs going up as government, we'll see inflation in the coming years, inflation that will erode seniors' ability to purchase health care, inflation that will erode families' capacities to educate their children and fund their education. These things are real. Unfortunately, though a budget deals with people, we're not doing the right thing for the American people because we're going to see a massive tax increase in this budget. We're going to see a carbon cap-and-trade, a national energy tax. We're going to see health care changes where the government takes more capacity and control away from individual patients and doctors and puts it in the hands of government bureaucrats. Our tax dollars will continue to go up, and our tax rates will go up. Now, this is not for the rich. It's for everyone when you have the tax bills going up that much.

What I would urge my colleagues to do is to reject this motion to go to conference. I think it's time that we do the right thing for the American people and not increase spending to the rapid tune that this budget does, not tax them more and not borrow more. With that, I urge my colleagues to vote ''no.''

Mr. SPRATT. For the purpose of response, I yield 90 seconds to the gentleman from New Jersey.

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

Mr. ANDREWS. I thank my chairman for yielding.

My neighbor from New Jersey, Mr. Speaker, asked the source of the statistics I used. Here is the answer:

One job for every 108 is the source of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. In the Bush administration, the average number of private-sector jobs created per month was 2,000 per month. Under our strategy, it was 217,000 jobs per month. The economic growth figure is from the Bureau of Economic Analysis. It is derived by looking at the average rate of GDP growth during the 1990s and during the sunny years of the last 8 years we've just endured. The source of the purchasing power of middle class families is the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Bureau of the Census is derived this way.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Will the gentleman yield for a clarifying question on that?

Mr. ANDREWS. I have only 90 seconds.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Is it not the case that the Republicans controlled Congress from 1995 to the year 2000, controlling the appropriations and the tax bills that came through Congress at that time?

Mr. ANDREWS. Reclaiming my time, it is also the case that every single Republican voted against the plan that created that economic growth.

The source of the median family income is the BLS, the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Bureau of the Census is derived by looking at the real family income of the median American family from when the prior President took office to when he left and a similar comparison in the 1990s. We'll put it in the RECORD. Those are the facts. They're very uncomfortable for the minority, but they speak for themselves.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. At this time, I would like to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON).

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, the TEA parties that took place across this country on April 15 represent the tip of the iceberg of intense frustration among taxpayers and Americans of all walks of life. Everyone in America feels instinctively that this Congress and President are spending too much money and are growing the government too fast. We are on the brink, Mr. Speaker, of what is literally a fork in the road for the United States.

We will either on the path laid out by the budget proposed by the majority, the liberal majority—and I try to avoid party labels because this is about what's in the best interest of America being fiscally conservative or fiscally liberal. The fiscally liberal majority has laid out a budget that will put America on a path to become Argentina. The fiscally conservative minority, led by the very able ranking member of the Budget Committee, Mr. RYAN, has laid out a very thoughtful, fiscally conservative alternative.

Mr. RYAN recognizes, as do those of us in the minority—those fiscal conservatives who are working together to lay out thoughtful alternatives—that America needs a little dose of Dave Ramsey, the financial guru, who, in our personal lives, recommends and knows, as we all know, that you can't pay off borrowed money with borrowed money. Dave Ramsey quite correctly points out, when you've run up too much debt, you stop.

Those TEA parties across America, Mr. Speaker, were the American people speaking out and telling Congress, ''Stop it. No new taxes. No new debt. No new spending.'' Any elected official

who neglects that very sincere and heartfelt message from their constituents is in serious trouble in the next election.

This country is in serious trouble. Let's deal with it in a thoughtful, fiscally conservative way by controlling spending, by cutting spending, by cutting taxes, by letting Americans keep more of their own hard-earned money so they will invest it to create jobs and to create wealth as we know works. Historical fact shows that keeping more of my own money allows me to invest it in the way I see best that will lead to job creation, that will lead to personal growth.

America needs a strong dose of Dave Ramsey's good medicine, and that's what the alternative budget—the motion to recommit by Mr. RYAN—attempts to do, which is to get America back on a path toward fiscal prosperity. If we don't act in a fiscally conservative way immediately, the Comptroller of the United States has said in a letter sent to my office last March that, in a short 12 years, the American Treasury bill, the American T-bill—the safest investment in the history of the world—will be graded as junk bonds. Now, that's an incredible assertion from the auditor of the United States. The Comptroller of the United States says that the cumulative unfunded liabilities created by this Congress are so massive that, if we don't stop spending and start to control spending, T-bills will become junk bonds.

Mr. Chairman and Mr. Speaker, I urge the Members to listen to their constituents. Just say ''no.'' Thank you. No new spending. No new taxes. No new debt. Support Mr. RYAN's motion to recommit.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, so I reserve the right to close.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Is the chairman reserving the right to close? Do I infer that he has no more additional speakers?

Mr. SPRATT. Does the gentleman have further speakers?

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I have one additional speaker.

Mr. SPRATT. Why don't you proceed with that speaker. Then I'll proceed with closing.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. All right. I will yield the remainder of our time, 3½ minutes, I believe——

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Three and a quarter minutes.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I will yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina, who doesn't want the 3 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I just recognize the eloquence of the gentleman from Wisconsin, and want to make sure that he has some time at the end, and I appreciate it very much.

I want to talk about Debt Day for just a minute. I want to show you some things, some figures. We don't have a bar graph which would show this a little bit better; but in the year 2002, Debt Day occurred on September 2, 2002. This year, Debt Day is going to occur on 4/26/09. Debt Day is an illustration of the size of government spending relative to the revenue the government receives and is calculated by taking the ratio of the Federal revenues to the Federal outlays projected by the Congressional Budget Office.

So we are going to have the earliest Debt Day we have ever had in this country. In large part, it's due to the Democrats' $1 trillion stimulus spending bill, the more than $400 billion omnibus spending bill, loaded with 9,000 unscrutinized earmarks, and another $350 billion in bailout funds Democrats have green-lighted since the beginning of the year.

This is an abomination for our country. We should never be in this shape. John Adams said there are two ways to conquer a country—one is by the sword and the other is by debt. We are being conquered from within by our own people who have no sense of shame and no sense of shame for what they're doing to our children and grandchildren, and they should have because, in years past, they've criticized Republicans. Majority Leader HOYER said $350 billion in deficit back on March 17, 2005, was wrong. Even the chairman of the Budget Committee made comments over and over again in 2005 that we had a terrible deficit. It's nothing compared to what they have proposed to us, and as I said, it is a shame.

This budget that they have increases spending by over $1 trillion over 5 years. It increases taxes by $1.2 trillion. They have done nothing to work with us, and this is an abomination.

Mr. SPRATT. I reserve the right to close. Does the gentleman have further time?

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Yes, I'll consume the remainder of our time. May I inquire, Mr. Speaker: We have 2 minutes left, I believe, or 1½ minutes?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. One and a quarter minutes.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I yield myself the rest of the time.

Mr. Speaker, I'll just simply close this portion of our debate by saying this: Let's all admit that both parties have made mistakes in the past. That happens. The question is: Are we going to make things worse or are we going to make things better?

It is so clear, so obvious to just about any observer out there that piling on a new mountain of debt, a new gusher of spending and the largest tax increase in American history is not going to make things better; it's going to make things worse.

Now, the one thing that the American people do get out of this is they get a choice. We disagree with this budget, and so rather than just simply criticizing, we proposed an alternative, an alternative that keeps taxes down and helps small businesses, an alternative that controls and cuts spending, an alternative that gets our debt under control and that puts us on a path to pay our debt off. It is a stark difference than this budget, which is making its way through Congress, being steamrolled through to give us the largest expansion in government we've seen in the history of this country, the third and final great wave, the building on the New Deal and the Great Society, which will give us a larger Federal Government unlike any we have seen in the history of this country in the past.

It is a budget that doubles the national debt in 5½ years and triples it in 10½ years. It is a budget that gives us a huge tax increase in the middle of a recession and that makes everybody pay more for energy, and it's a budget that basically is borne upon the philosophy that the government must grow for society to grow. We reject that idea. That's why we're not supporting this budget.

Mr. SPRATT. I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this is where we are. Bobby Jones, a great golfer once said, ''You play the ball where it lies.'' The fact of the matter is that after 8 years of the Bush administration this, sadly, is where the ball lies.

When President Obama came to office less than 100 days ago—and remembering that, I think everyone would have to fairly concede these are not problems that he created. When he came to office, he found awaiting him on the doorstep of the White House a budget that was $1 trillion, nearly $800 billion in deficit for this year and substantially in deficit for the forthcoming year.

□ 1400

He didn't create it; he didn't ask for it. It was thrust upon him and left to him by the Bush administration.

He found an economy in crisis and he found that remedial steps had been taken that cost the country hundreds of millions of dollars, a good portion of which is being spent out—the TARP program is an example, the takeover of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae is an example. All of these things cost substantial sums, and they were policies taken before this administration came to office. They have swollen the deficit to the unprecedented size of $1.7 billion this year.

The budget that we are proposing—which I now seek to have sent to conference so we can wrap it up, put it to bed and make it enforceable—the budget that we are proposing is a deficit-reduction budget. How can I say that? I can say that because we show credibly, I believe, that the budget deficit declines from $1.752 trillion under our resolution to $586 billion in the year 2013. In 4 fiscal years, we will reduce the deficit by a trillion dollars.

How can we do that?

One of the reasons we can do it is that quite a few of the items that have swollen the deficit in this and next fiscal year are nonrecurring, and when they are finally played out, the problem of debt reduction will be much,

much more manageable. That is, if we have a plan, it will be manageable. We cannot simply leave it to some open-ended plan. And so what we have proposed here is a plan that will systematically, methodically move the deficit down, down, down by $1 trillion over the next 4 to 5 fiscal years.

Now, it's a deficit reduction budget. No question about it. But it is not so committed to deficit reduction that it overlooks and postpones other priorities. For example, national defense will grow by 4 percent, a healthy growth rate that means national defense, including what is spent on supplementals for Iraq and Afghanistan, will be $686 billion next year.

Veterans. Let's not forget our veterans. We appreciate them more than ever. We will be putting $5 billion more into veterans health care, raising it to $53 billion.

Health care reform. This budget tackles issues that other administrations have either ignored, dodged, avoided, or failed to implement. Health care reform. Tough nut to crack, but it takes it on.

The environment. Energy independence, critically important. We've seen it with the spike in energy prices over the last year. This is something we need to do and do now. This bill provides for that.

Education. If you want to be able to say to a small child the next time you go in an elementary classroom, You can go to college. Yes, you can. You can go to college like anybody else. Yes, you can, then you should vote for this resolution because it strengthens Pell Grants by more than any bill we've passed in a long time to come.

So this is a deficit reduction bill, which is a bill with a conscience, with priorities, that carefully laid out here and carefully provided for here, and, therefore, I would submit that everyone interested in education, the environment, energy independence should take a close look at this bill.

Now, it's been said that we have substantially increased taxes in this bill. That's not true. Read CBO's report. Over the next 5 years, there is a net reduction in tax revenues of some $480 billion and $1 trillion more than that over the next 5 years after that. There is deficit reduction left here. The marital penalty provisions, the middle class, middle-income tax cuts that we passed in 2001 and 2003 are, for the most part, all reenacted and extended by this resolution.

So 233 Members, a very solid majority of the House, listened to the arguments pro and con, read and listened to the debate and decided this is a better way to go. I submit, let's stick with the course we set for ourselves several weeks ago. Let's send this budget on to conference where we can make it an enforceable piece of legislation.

I yield back my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time has expired.

The question is on the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON S. CON. RES. 13, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct conferees.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Ryan of Wisconsin moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the House amendment to S. Con. Res. 13 be instructed, within the scope of the conference, to:

(1) Recede to the Senate on reconciliation instructions by striking title II of the House amendment which includes reconciliation instructions for health care reform to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means and a separate instruction to the Committee on Education and Labor, investing in education.

(2) Recede to the Senate on section 316 entitled ''Point of order on legislation that eliminates the ability of Americans to keep their health plan or their choice of doctor'' to provide for a point of order against any legislation that eliminates the ability of Americans to keep their health plan or their choice of doctor.

(3) Recede to the Senate on section 202(c) of the Senate resolution, providing that the chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may not adjust the allocations and aggregates of the concurrent resolution for climate change legislation that would decrease greenhouse gas emissions if such legislation is reported from a committee pursuant to section 310 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(4) Recede to the Senate on section 310 of the Senate resolution, setting forth a point of order against legislation that increases revenue above the levels established in the applicable budget resolution.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the motion be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XXII, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, Republicans offered the American people a budget that would not only fund our priorities but also support economic growth and job creation, get the Federal spending and debt under control and begin the critical reforms of our largest and least sustainable entitlement programs. And the Republicans budget did this all without the job-killing tax hikes that are required by the budget that we are here discussing today.

The budget we are here to discuss today, the Obama Democratic budget, exploits the current financial crisis to rush through a sweeping expansion of the Federal Government. This motion to instruct aims at ensuring this budget resolution doesn't trigger a fast-track process, otherwise known as budget reconciliation, to jam through a government takeover of health care and education or a cap-and-trade tax that will hurt families, kill jobs, and put America at a severe competitive disadvantage with China and other countries.

As a background, the House-passed resolution includes reconciliation instructions for three committees, two of which, Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means, share jurisdiction over health care and cap-and-trade. These reconciliation instructions trigger fast-track procedures limiting debate and amendments on a subsequent reconciliation bill. In other words, it's a way for Congress to sweep this legislation through with very little debate, no amendments, get it into law without the public seeing what is happening.

In the House, reconciliation is much less important because the House has what we call the Rules Committee.

It is critical in the Senate, however, because there legislation can be jammed through with little debate or no amendments. The Senate does not want reconciliation. The Senate-passed budget resolution did not include reconciliation instructions. In fact, it included a number of protections against using reconciliation. This motion to instruct instructs the House conferees to recede to the Senate on four items.

Number one, drop reconciliation instructions from the resolution; number two, block legislation that eliminates Americans' ability to keep their health care plans or choose their own doctor; number three, adopt a Senate provision that keeps reconciliation from being used for cap-and-trade legislation; and, number four, adopt a Senate provision that would prevent taxes from being raised to even higher levels than those that are assumed in this budget resolution.

To reiterate, the Senate does not want reconciliation. This is what Senate Budget Committee chairman Senator CONRAD said yesterday about reconciliation: ''Once you have unleashed reconciliation, you can't get it back in the barn. And it could be used for lots of different things that are completely unintended at this moment. People need to think about that very carefully.''

Chairman CONRAD is not alone. Twenty-eight Senators wrote Chairman CONRAD urging him not to use reconciliation for cap-and-trade legislation because reconciliation fast-track procedures ''would be inconsistent with the administration's stated goals of bipartisanship, cooperation, and openness.''

Senator BYRD, the best author we have among us of the budget process, the author of the reconciliation process

said this: ''Reconciliation is not designed to create a new climate and energy regime and certainly not to restructure our entire health care system. Woodrow Wilson once said that the informing function is the most important function of Congress. How do we inform? We publicly debate and amend legislation. We receive feedback which allows us to change and improve proposals. Matters that affect the lives and the livelihoods of our people must not be rushed through the Senate using a procedural fast track that the people never get a chance to comment upon or fully understand.''

But even more important, Madam Speaker, Americans are concerned about all of the spending that's going on here in Washington. And we should not underestimate how well the people understand. Like just about everybody else, last week I held 25 listening sessions throughout the First Congressional District in Wisconsin. My district falls right in the middle among the political spectrum so it's a good microcosm of the attitudes across the country.

They are worried about this new gusher of spending. They are worried about the government taking over health care. They are worried about the increased cost of energy, the effect that it's going to have on our manufacturing jobs. And, in fact, at one of my town hall meetings, a woman in her mid-sixties came up to me and said, Is Congress going to use reconciliation to push through all of this government and health care reform legislation? I was floored by that. I don't think I have ever heard anybody outside the Beltway talk to me about reconciliation.

The American people are watching this process. The American people know what is happening. The American people want a say in this.

Why are we here? We are here to deliberate. We are the people's representatives. Should we take this largest proposal to increase the size and reach and scope of our government, the largest—in the words of the administration—since the New Deal and just sweep it through with almost no debates, with no amendments, stifling the voices of the people's representatives or not?

At the end of the day, we could confiscate about 25 percent of our economy, energy and health care together, with less than a hundred hours of debate and no amendments. It's baffling, it's mind-boggling that this could actually happen. This is not America, this is not the deliberative process, and this is not a process the Senate itself even wants.

So the question is if we're going to have debate about nationalizing the health care system in America, if we're going to have a debate about having a brand-new energy tax, if we're going to have a debate about tax increases and spending increases doubling and tripling our national debt, let's have that debate. Let's not just sweep the thing through.

Unfortunately, the philosophy that is at play here, Madam Speaker, is this—and it's a philosophy that we need to talk about. It's a philosophy that we need to debate. The philosophy behind this budget, with all of its class warfare, with all of its class accusation is basically they are telling the American people in the budget that your station in life is static and we're going to have to grow government to help you cope with it.

We reject that. That is not what America is about. That is not the ideal of this country. People are not stuck with their current station in life.

The goal of this country, the goal of our government is to help people become upwardly mobile; it is to give the people the tools that they need so they can seize the opportunity to make a better life for themselves. We need to protect people's rights to achieve their dreams, to get the opportunities to make the most of their lives and to seek happiness as they define it for themselves so long as it doesn't infringe on another person's right to do the same. That is the philosophy that has taken this country so far, that has made it the most prosperous Nation in the world, the envy of the world, and that is the philosophy that is being debated right here with this budget as to whether it should continue or not.

I think we should have more than just about 100 hours of debate on whether or not we trash this philosophy that brought our country this far. We should have amendments as to whether or not we're going to do all of this government. Do we want Europe, or do we want America? It should be more than a hundred hours of debates. We might want to consider an amendment or two to this philosophy.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 2½ minutes.

I think it would be useful for everybody, Members in particular, to understand exactly what the Republican motion to instruct is.

There are four items. First of all, they would effectively move to drop, discard the House reconciliation provisions that deal with health care. That's health care reform. That's our initiative we're launching to try to encompass and provide some form of health care to the 46 million Americans unfortunate enough not to have it. This would thwart our plans to move on that front. And education, which basically deals with Pell Grants and guarantees student loans trying to provide them to more students at lower costs, why would anybody want to thwart those objectives?

Secondly, they would remove reconciliation as a vehicle to enact climatic change. Well, that's not even envisioned in the House budget. Cap-and-trade is not mentioned, not in the budget resolution, not in the report accompanying it. It's not mentioned. We took it out. It is not specified.

The reconciliation instructions to which they refer go to the Energy and Commerce Committee and to the Education and Labor Committee and the Ways and Means Committee but not for purposes of dealing with climate change. That is not even briefed as one of the purposes. It's not part of the intention. These instructions go to health care and education.

□ 1415

Thirdly, to retain a Senate point of order against legislation that ''eliminates the ability of Americans to keep their health plan or their choice of a doctor.'' I support that. You support that. We all support that. This budget supports it, the House supports it. It is totally unnecessary. This is creating a straw man and knocking it down by creating an argument as to facts that simply don't exist. We don't have anything in our legislation that would in any way impede the choice of Americans to keep their own health plans or choose their own doctor.

And finally, ''to eliminate Congress' ability to develop comprehensive reform packages by restricting future offsets only to spending cuts.'' In other words, if we wanted to do something worthy, we think, of undertaking and we would propose to pay for it by raising taxes—let me give you an example, cigarette taxes and CHIP, Children's Health Insurance Program. We just passed the second iteration of the CHIP bill that will extend medical coverage to millions of children who never had it, never lived in families who could afford it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas). The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. SPRATT. I yield myself 30 additional seconds.

We did that by increasing the taxes on a pack of cigarettes and other tobacco products, a fair tradeoff. But we were only able to do it and say that we were staying deficit neutral and well within the balance of the budget because we were able to use this offsetting revenue to cover the cost of the program. This particular amendment would have thwarted that particular strategy.

So these are four different items they are proposing now, none of which will stand muster. They should be defeated. This motion should be defeated.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. At this time, Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND).

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I want to thank the gentleman from Wisconsin for his hard work that he has put forth in this budget. And hopefully one day soon we will have an opportunity to vote on the budget that the gentleman has put forward in a clear way.

I want to talk a little bit about what my friend from North Carolina talked about, about Debt Day. You know, it is

pretty interesting. I think we need to make this, Madam Speaker, so the American people can understand exactly what we are talking about when we are talking about tripling the debt over a 10-year period, doubling our deficit. I think we need to understand that in 1998, after 365 days we had a surplus, and this was during the Clinton administration. In 2002, it was not until the second of September that we actually started borrowing money. And if you can imagine, we were coming out of the 9/11. In 2003, it was the 29th of July before we started borrowing money. In 2004, it was the 27th of July before we actually started borrowing money. Madam Speaker, the people will realize this, we had spent by that date all the money we had, and then we started putting it on our credit card.

In 2005, it was August 14. In 2006, it was August 27. In 2007, it was September 9. In 2008, it was the 5th of August. This year it is the 26th of April. So the 26th of April, we will be finished spending the revenues that we have in, and now we are going to start putting everything on our credit card. So understand this, that with just that short of a period of time, we are out of cash.

We are spending way too much money. And I think that that is what the American people need to understand, that we are spending money that we don't have. We are spending money that is our children's. And I used to always say this, that we were putting our children in debt, the next generation. Now I have to include our grandchildren. We are putting our grandchildren in deep debt.

And so what are we doing? I keep listening to the opposition, the majority party talk about that this is something that we've got to do. And they keep talking about the Bush administration and the deficit spending. Two wrongs don't make a right. Let's do something for the American people. Let's have some fair, open, honest debate and make this to where we can have some amendments.

I represent approximately 750,000 people in Georgia's Third Congressional District, yet I am not able to offer any ideas that the people from my district may have about the budget and too much spending.

Madam Speaker, this is not the way to run a railroad. We need to do things to open up the process rather than to close the process. And we need to make sure that the people understand that we are spending our future.

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of New York. I thank the chairman for yielding, and I thank him for his really extraordinary leadership as we work our way through a very difficult process.

I want to speak first obviously in opposition to the motion to instruct, and I am going to focus primarily on the implications for that with respect to the Committee on Education and Labor. But before I do, we should be clear; the argument that is made by our friends on the other side of the aisle is very much a situational argument. I do not recall in 2001 or in 2003 or in 2005, when the Republicans used reconciliation to push through policies that increased our deficit over 10 years by about $1.8 trillion, I don't remember them saying that they needed to ''jam this through,'' I don't remember them saying that they needed to ''rush it through,'' I don't remember them characterizing it as ''sweeping it through.'' They felt that they were passing legislation that was responsive to the American people. We feel we are passing legislation that is responsive to the interests of the American people.

Let me speak with specific reference to education. We intend to enact policies that will save $47 billion over 5 years and allow us to use that money to help students and families, particularly needy students and families so that they can get their slice of the American Dream so that college attendance can be a realistic and realizable aspiration for them.

Who wants to argue against increasing the Pell Grant maximum? Who wants to argue against indexing that maximum to the rate of inflation plus 1 percent so that it preserves its buying power? I certainly don't, and I would hope that my friends on the other side of the aisle don't want to either.

I would hope that we can look at a low or moderate income student and say that you have every chance to have the same access to higher education as a student in the top 1 or 2 percent of our Nation's wealth. This budget resolution and the legislation that we will need to pass to put in place the legislative underpinning for these policies will allow us to do that.

And who doesn't want to save $94 billion over 10 years, $47 billion over 5 years by having the government take over a student loan program that they can run, that we can run every bit as efficiently, every bit as effectively as the privately run program now, and do it in a fashion that will be invisible to students, and do it, as I say, by saving taxpayer money to the tune of $47 billion over 5 years and taking that money and putting it into the hands of needy students? That is a worthy aspiration. That is an aspiration that deserves the support of every person in this Chamber, and hopefully we will realize that.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. At this time, Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING), the vice ranking member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. HENSARLING. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Again, we have two different budgets before us. The Democratic budget, again, it spends too much—the largest budget in American history; taxes too much—national energy tax, tax on small business, tax on capital gains; borrows too much—greatest amount of debt in our Nation's history. We are going to run up more debt in the next 10 years than in the previous 220. Budget deficit up tenfold in just 2 years under their watch. A crushing level of debt that I don't know if the next generation will ever recover.

It borrows too much, it spends too much, it taxes too much. And then, Madam Speaker, it gets worse from there. It gets worse from there. This thing called reconciliation, kind of this inside-the-beltway term of art, is really nothing more than a budget sleight of hand that will facilitate cramming through policies that need to be debated on this House floor and in the Senate under regular order.

The Senate itself, Madam Speaker, apparently doesn't want this in the budget. Again, Senator CONRAD, the Democratic Budget Committee chairman, has said, ''Once you've unleashed reconciliation you can't get it back in the barn. It could be used for a lot of different things that are completely unintended at this moment.'' That's the Democratic budget chairman. Senator BYRD—frankly, the author of reconciliation—said, ''not designed to create a new climate in energy regime, and certainly not to restructure our entire health care system.''

I mean, reconciliation means that the American people are going to have to reconcile themselves to a new national energy tax imposed by the Democratic majority through this budget sleight of hand. It means that the American people are going to have to reconcile themselves to more job loss as American small businesses are taxed even more and have to lay off even more workers. It means that the American people are going to have to reconcile themselves to rationed health care with a Federal Government bureaucrat helping choose their health care provider and whether or not they even receive the health care that they desire. That's what reconciliation in this context means.

Now, it was meant for something different. And it has been used on a bipartisan basis to actually save jobs, to actually save hope, actually save the future of the American people and be used for budget savings. It is being used for a completely different purpose. And if these ideas of the Democratic majority are so meritorious, then why can't they be debated in regular order? That's what I question. Why use this budget sleight of hand? We need to reject that and accept this motion.

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BOYD).

Mr. BOYD. I thank my friend, the chairman, Mr. SPRATT.

Madam Speaker, I am always intrigued by the rhetoric that comes when we start talking about budgets. And I am so grateful for a gentleman like Mr. SPRATT who is not a rhetorical person, but he is a person who wants to

practically get things done and get a budget that makes sense for the American people and how we collect and spend and do our government functions.

Madam Speaker, a budget is supposed to be a roadmap that shows where you are going, how you are going to get there, what your priorities are, how you are going to pay for those priorities. Unfortunately, over the last 8 years, under the leadership of the previous administration and the other party, we didn't have that. A budget was used as a sort of rhetorical tool to say we are going to balance the budget, but then they would come back a day later and say, well, we have got all this emergency stuff that we didn't put in the budget, but we knew all along we needed to do.

For the first time in 8 years you have before you an honest document, which is an honest roadmap that explains our situation and lays out an avenue to get to a better place. Now, honestly, it's not a pretty picture, but it is an honest picture. We haven't had an honest picture in 8 years. It is an ugly picture when it comes to the numbers. But the numbers are honest, and it lays out a roadmap to get us out of this economic mess that President Obama has inherited. I am proud of Mr. SPRATT and the work that he has done, and the House of Representatives, and their work in passing this budget.

Now, what does that roadmap say and what does it do? It says, first of all, we are in an economic mess; revenue collections are going to be down, economic activity is down, we all know about that. That wasn't the fault of this sitting President; he inherited that mess. But what it does is say, these are the problems that exist and have to be resolved for us to come to a better place.

President Obama believes strongly in a couple of things, and we are trying to outline how we deal with those things in this budget.

□ 1430

Number one is he thinks that you can't really fix the economic mess until you deal with the health care issue. Health care accessibility is a problem in this Nation when you have 48 or 50 million people who cannot access the health care system, and it's also a problem in that costs are rising at the rate of 3 to 5 percent above inflation. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that doesn't work too long.

It only carries us deeper into the economic mess. So he says we got to deal with that problem, and this budget lays out that avenue, that blueprint to deal with that problem.

Secondly, and this is another important factor relative to how we got into this economic mess, and that is the energy crisis, the energy situation. When you got a run up in the cost of oil to $145 a barrel when it traditionally had been below $30, that was one of the catalysts that took us into this economic collapse. And we have known for a long time as a Nation that we had to deal with this energy crisis, climate change, energy, all sort of interconnected.

So this budget also lays out an avenue or a roadmap to get to this energy legislation. It doesn't go into details. The President hasn't even talked too much about details. He wants to leave that to Congress.

I do know one thing. To solve those two problems, Madam Speaker, it has to be a bipartisan work. Madam Speaker, Mr. RYAN knows that every major piece of legislation that has ever come out of this Congress to be effective must be bipartisan. We need bipartisan cooperation and support. We need constructive ideas.

We, as a minority, need to be inclusive, but the majority party, when it comes to the table, needs to be constructive and not obstructive. And I think that's what we, as Blue Dogs, who consider ourselves the most fiscally conservative, constructive folks in the Congress, 51 of us—and I serve, have been a part of that group for a long time—we would like to work with the people on the other side of the aisle in a constructive manner. But up to this point our attempts have been thwarted.

So we again thrust out that olive branch to work on both sides of the aisle to solve these problems. You can't get out of this economic mess without dealing with the health care problems and the energy crisis that we have in this Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SPRATT. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. BOYD. So in that process the President believes in health care reform, he believes in energy reform, he believes in education reform, and, fourthly and most importantly, fiscal responsibility.

As the folks, Mr. RYAN and others have said consistently, we have to get back to being fiscally responsible. It's something we completely threw out the window over the past 8 years. We have to go back to a path that leads us down to a balanced budget.

Can't get there overnight, but this budget developed by Mr. SPRATT, which we would like to get in a conference mode, will do that. And I want to be a part of that.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

The gentleman from Florida, I agree with much of what he said. He and I are friends. We both love turkey hunting. We have a lot in common.

And the gentleman was right when he said that they are using honest numbers. They are being candid with their numbers, that's correct.

The Congressional Budget Office is showing that this budget resolution doubles our publicly held debt in 5½ years and triples it in 10½ years. This budget resolution raises taxes on the American people by $1.5 trillion, the largest tax increase in American history. This budget resolution brings the size of our government to levels we haven't seen since 1945 at the end of World War II.

And the gentleman is right where he says to get big things done we ought to do it with bipartisanship. All the more reason, Madam Speaker, why we should not have reconciliation.

What is reconciliation? It's a method by which the majority can fast track legislation through to law without any participation from the minority.

In order to have bipartisanship, you have to have collaboration. Both sides of the aisle sit down, hammer out compromises, work together to pass legislation.

That is not what reconciliation is being used for here. Reconciliation is saying one-party rule, one party can do it all.

In the Senate, no filibuster, 50 votes plus one can get it through, no amendments, 100 hours of debate, done. No involvement from the minority party. It is the prerogative of the majority party to do that.

The majority party has the power and they can do it. And apparently they are not supportive of this motion to instruct to make sure that that reconciliation doesn't occur, to make sure that we agree with the Senate, with the majority party and the Senate that we don't do reconciliation.

Unfortunately, I think the truth of this matter is being revealed here today. And where we are seeing this majority in the House is basically saying no, we are not going to follow the Democrats in the Senate. We are not going to have a bipartisan procedure. We are going to ram this stuff through with reconciliation.

Mr. BOYD. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. BOYD. You make a fair point, but I would remind the gentleman again that reconciliation is probably being insisted upon because of the obstructive nature, the ''just say no'' nature of the minority party.

And what we would like to see is some constructive engagement in the process about how we solve some of these problems.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Reclaiming my time, and I believe the gentleman from Florida is very sincere on what he says in that, and I believe he is true to that.

I would like to insert into the RECORD a question and answer I had with the chief counsel of the Budget Committee and the majority staff during our markup where the majority counsel said that if, in fact, reconciliation instructions do go to the Commerce Committee—which they do in this budget reconciliation—nothing stops that from going toward cap-and-trade legislation.

MARKUP OF THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2009

The Committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:40 a.m., in Room 210, Cannon House Office Building, Hon. John M. Spratt, Jr. [Chairman of the Committee] presiding.

Present: Representatives Spratt, Schwartz, Kaptur, Becerra, Doggett, Blumenauer, Berry, Boyd, McGovern, Tsongas, Etheridge, McCollum, Melancon, Yarmuth, Andrews, DeLauro, Edwards, Scott, Langevin, Larsen, Bishop, Moore, Connolly, Schrader, Ryan, Hensarling, Garrett, Diaz-Balart, Simpson, McHenry, Mack, Conaway, Campbell, Jordan, Nunes, Aderholt, Lummis, Austria, Harper.

Chairman SPRATT. For simplicity, just simply address your question to the staffers at this time.

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Chairman, I will begin. I do not know if we are going to take a lot of their time because we realize we have a lot of amendments. It is going to be a long day and we want to get to it. And we have had a good chance to pore through this budget.

I do have a question, I guess for you, Ms. Millar (Gail Millar, majority staff General Counsel), on reconciliation. The Chairman's mark includes reconciliation instructions of three Committees, to each produce one billion in deficit reduction over the six-year period from 2009 through 2014, to the Ways and Means, the Energy and Commerce, and the Education and Labor Committees, under the subsection including healthcare and investing in education.

Here is my basic question. Am I correct that the only binding aspect of these instructions is that each of the Committees are directed to produce $1 billion in deficit reduction in their jurisdiction?

Ms. MILLAR. That is correct.

Mr. RYAN. And so while the Budget Committee can make assumptions about policies, education, healthcare, energy, we cannot bind these Committees to certain policies? It is up to those Committees to determine what policies are within those instructions and they simply have to meet that goal of achieving one billion in deficit reduction; is that correct?

Ms. MILLAR. That is correct, sir.

Mr. RYAN. Okay. So serving on Ways and Means, that is how we always interpreted it. I just want to make sure that the reconciliation discussion we are having here is consistent with what it has always been in the past which is these Committees are free to do what they choose to do, they have just got to meet that $1 billion number?

Ms. MILLAR. That is correct.

Mr. RYAN. All right. Thank you. That is really all I have.

So let's be very clear here. Reconciling to the Commerce Committee——

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I yield myself 1 additional minute.

It means the Commerce Committee can choose to put in that reconciliation package anything within its jurisdiction, cap-and-trade, health care, whatever the case may be.

The point is this, reconciliation in the past has been used to reduce government, to reduce taxes, to reduce spending, to contain the growth of entitlement programs. That's not what it's being used here today.

Reconciliation is being used here today in a new and unique way to dramatically increase the size and cost of government, to dramatically increase the level of taxation, to dramatically increase the liabilities upon future generations.

That's not its intent. Don't listen to me, listen to Senator BYRD, one of the Democrat leaders who helped write the law in the first place. Listen to Senator CONRAD, the chairman of the Budget Committee, who is saying this is not what reconciliation was ever intended to be used for.

Please, we are simply saying join us in agreeing with the Democrats in the Senate to not have reconciliation, so that we can have the people's representatives speak their mind so we can really truly have a collaborative process, have amendments, have open debate. That's why we are trying to do this.

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCHWARTZ).

Ms. SCHWARTZ. I thank the chairman again for his extraordinary work as Chair of the Budget Committee.

Let's be clear what we are talking about here. I mean, a lot of us, I think, to those who might be listening don't really quite understand what a motion to instruct is and what reconciliation language is.

Simply put, what we have before us is a decision. Are we going to tackle health care reform, energy independence and an educated repaired workforce in the next year. We are going to make significant progress. The budget allows us to do that.

There is no question that we would like to see it done in a bipartisan way. The budget sets out language that says let's work on this in a bipartisan way. It sets us even out till September, gives us most of the time to do that.

And all we hear from the other side is, no, let's not do this. Let's not do anything about the high cost of health care for American families, the high cost of health care for our businesses, the fact that it affects our economy and job growth.

We have all heard from businesses that say I would hire another employee, a small businesswoman said to me, but I can't afford to pay for their health benefits. Story after story of families that can't pay for needed health care.

We know it is time to find a truly American solution to containing costs, improving access to health care for all Americans. It has long been a moral imperative. It is now an economic imperative as well for our Nation's people and our Nation's businesses.

Let me say what we hear from the other side is just let's not do it. Let's not do it. They would rather discuss process. And instead of debating the issue, which we could do, they are busy discussing process.

We heard over and over again—and let's read the language in the reserve fund. It's revenue neutral. We are going to find the money to do this.

We are going to debate this. Our committees are holding hearings, we are talking to our constituents.

It is time for us to finally set out the path to do this. Let's be clear. In the first 8 weeks of this administration, we did more on health care than the prior 8 years before, and I am proud of what we have done.

We had little cooperation from the other side to get it done in spite of our President and our leadership and many of us reaching out to the other side.

What did we do? We made sure that 11 million children of working families, whose parents simply cannot afford or have access to health care coverage, have health care coverage for their children, 11 million American children.

I think that's great. We should make sure that every child in this country has access to health care coverage, and we can.

We moved ahead on funding for NIH, for health information technology, to do stem cell research, to find the cures and the treatments that all of us know family members need for their future. We made sure that those who are recently unemployed, who can't afford health care coverage, get a subsidy the next 9 months, the first time we have ever done that.

It is clear that we have before us a choice. Do we actually tackle the health care costs for Americans, do we tackle it for economic competitiveness. This is the decision we are making. We say we should move forward.

The other side is simply saying ''no.''

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. At this time, Madam Speaker, I would like to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN).

(Mr. BROUN of Georgia asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

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

This budget that we are considering steals our grandchildren's future. We are spending too much, we are taxing too much, we are borrowing too much, and it has to stop.

My dear friend, Mr. BOYD from Florida, said we have to be fiscally responsible as a Nation, and I could not agree more. But this budget is being forced down the throats of the American people. It's a steamroll of socialism being shoved down the throats of the American people, and it's going to strangle the American economy. It's going to slay the American people, choke them to death economically, and we have got to stop it.

The majority is using this reconciliation in a dictatorial manner to try to force their philosophy of big government, of socialistic government, of total control of everything.

I am a medical doctor, and the health care issues that we hear, the speaker just prior to me, was talking about offering health insurance to 11 million children. I want to see everybody in this country have health care provided to them.

In fact, they can today, but the health care policies that are being fostered by the Democratic majority are

going to destroy the health care system. The cost is going to be enormous. The quality of care is going to go down. We are going to have tremendous rationing of health care all over this country.

It's going to take the decisionmaking process out of the hands of doctors and patients, and it's going to put it in the hands of Federal bureaucrats who have no medical training, and it's morally wrong. We have got to stop this.

I rise today in objection to this Democratic process and to this Democratic budget, a budget proposed by the administration that is going to destroy our economy.

We have got to stop this steamrolling. We have got to put up speed bumps and stop signs. This steamroll is going to roll over doctors and patients, and it's going to smash them, and it's going to destroy the health care industry.

It's going to force through the cap-and-tax policies of this administration. And this Democratic majority is proposing it is going to send jobs overseas. It's going to markedly increase the costs of all goods and services in America, food, drugs. Every single good and service in America is going to go up because of the policy that's being forced down the throats of the American people.

The American people need to rise up and say ''no'' to this budget, to this process. It's totally wrong. We are stealing our grandchildren's and our children's future.

We have got to stop this. We need to be fiscally responsible. The Bush administration was not—but this markedly forces things down the throats of the American people, and we must stop it.

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

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

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Several million Americans have lost their jobs since the fall. We are saying let's get to work to try to fix that problem.

The minority is saying no, not now, not this way. Wages have gone up only one-third as fast as health care costs have gone up for the typical American family in the last decade or so. And we are saying let's get to work together to fix that problem and, in the process, let's say to people who are working in convenience stores and gas stations and mowing lawns and store clerks, that they have to have health insurance too for themselves and their children.

□ 1445

We are saying let's get to work on that. The minority is saying no, not now, not this way.

We all suffered the ravages of $4-a-gallon gasoline last summer. It will probably go back up again because we are so addicted to imported energy from overseas. We're saying let's get to work on solving that problem, on building windmills and hydrogen engines and solar farms and other ideas. The minority is saying no, not now, not this way.

There are American families whose sons or daughters are going to come home from school today and receive the thick envelope that says they got into the college they've always wanted to go to. And the parents are going to have to say no, not now, not this way because we can't afford the cost of a college education. We say let's get to work on solving that problem by moving $94 billion away from corporate welfare to student financial aid. Let's get to work on that. The minority says no, not now, not this way.

This is a choice between ''yes'' and ''no.'' It's a choice between optimism and pessimism. It's a choice between working on the country's problems and just watching them metastasize. We can do so much better. We should do it together. But we should do it.

So I would urge a vote against this motion to instruct. I would urge that we work with the other body and get started on this budget and get started on solving these problems.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Thank you, Mr. SPRATT, for the courtesy in permitting me to speak on this, and thank you for your leadership, providing to the House of Representatives a budget blueprint that was reflective of the challenge that President Obama laid before us all a scant 3 months ago in his first State of the Union speech.

The budget outline we have before us is an opportunity to do something constructive for those who want to legislate. There are some that say some Members of the House shouldn't be legislators; they should just be communicators, throwing up speed bumps and ignoring the reality of the problem that we face that the President inherited from a former dysfunctional administration that was enabled by my Republican friends when they were in charge: massive budget deficits, serious problems hollowing out the economy, a housing bubble that burst, problems overseas, and ignoring climate change not just in this country but global leadership. What we have seen in 3 short months is an opportunity in this Congress to do something about it.

There is a positive choice that is brought forth in the budget resolution that would be undercut by the motion to instruct to give almost $100 billion over the next 10 years to students instead of bankers, to students instead of bankers. In States like mine with an unemployment rate of over 12 percent, and I know my colleague and friend from South Carolina has a high unemployment rate, we have a chance to help students and their families that are struggling, putting more money in their pockets, not into the pockets of bankers. This budget resolution gives us more leverage to deliver on that promise. It is a blueprint to work with the President and the legislators here who want to legislate, not just talk, to provide alternative choices to American families dealing with health care.

Already in the first 100 days of the President, we have acted to extend health care to 11 million children across the United States. We have dealt in the economic recovery package with bridge financing to help them keep their health insurance if they are laid off. These are things that are part of a constructive program that's available to all who take seriously their responsibilities to roll up their sleeves and legislate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SPRATT. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I appreciate that.

Madam Speaker, there is a concern that is talked about time and time again about reconciliation instructions dealing with climate change. I'm one of the people that would like to have strengthened the hand of the House of Representatives in this vital debate on the future of the planet and the health of our economy to give more leverage to deal with carbon pollution and to put more green jobs into the economy and money in the hands of consumers, not utilities that are polluting. But that's not there.

I would strongly urge my colleagues to reject this motion as they rejected an ill-considered 5-year freeze on some of the most important spending on behalf of our constituents that the Republicans offered up. We rejected that, wisely, and I'm pleased that many Republicans voted against it because it was so ill considered and draconian. It is time to reject this motion and get to work.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Let me see if I can go at it in a different direction.

Under reconciliation, the total debate on the reconciliation bill here, 4 hours on a bill, 1 hour on a conference report. In the Senate, 20 hours on a bill, 10 hours on a conference report. That means total debate on reconciliation in Congress, 35 hours. Let's assume that they break up the bill into three reconciliation vehicles, as could be the case with this, 105 total hours, total hours, of debate between the House of Representatives and the United States Senate.

Wow, 105 total hours of debate in this Congress to determine the largest and the most sweeping transformation of our Federal Government we have not seen since the New Deal. These aren't my words. These are words from the

administration who claimed that that's the ambition of this budget.

We are being presented with a new budget with such awesome ambition, with such an enormous increase in spending, taxing, and borrowing, a virtual takeover of 25 percent of our economy in just the health care and energy sectors alone, the largest tax increase we have seen ever in the history of this country, the largest debt increase proposed under this Presidency than all prior Presidencies combined, all rushed through with a simple majority vote in as little as 35 hours and no more than 105 hours of debate. Is that democracy? No. Is that what reconciliation was meant to be? No.

Reconciliation, the spirit and the idea behind it, was to get our fiscal house in order, was to get spending and borrowing under control, not out of control.

Unfortunately, this rule is being twisted, contorted, distorted to achieve these ends as quickly as possible to ramrod it through Congress without giving many voices to it, without having any bipartisan collaboration, and just moving through the gauntlet.

This is the problem with this, Madam Speaker, which is when the American people voted for change, and I heard this at my 25 listening sessions, I don't think a lot of them thought this was the kind of change they were voting for. They didn't think they were voting for the kind of change to more mortgages on their children's future. They didn't think they were voting for a brand new national energy tax on their livelihoods, on their heating bills, on their gas bills, on their electricity bills. They didn't think they were voting for a new tax on the manufacturing jobs in America when our own competitors in China and India will not do this to themselves. They didn't think they were voting for the largest tax increase in history. They didn't think they were voting for the kind of change that gives us a sea of red ink, a mountain of debt, a government that is the biggest we have seen in a generation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I yield myself an additional 30 seconds.

The whole idea of ramming all of this government, this gusher of spending and taxing and borrowing through, in as little as 105 hours of debate is not democracy. It is not the way this House is supposed to work. Unfortunately, that is precisely what the majority aims to do. And that is why we agree with the Democrats in the Senate to stop that from happening.

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE).

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

Mr. ETHERIDGE. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, H. Con. Res. 85 builds on the work this Congress has started on to get our economy back on track, address the current crisis, and build for future needs.

Just so folks will understand, a budget in Congress is not like the budget we think about. It really is a framework. It's a blueprint.

I'm sure my colleagues on the other side of the aisle talk about all the things that are in it, but what they don't say is this doesn't do any of the things they are talking about. We'd like for our friends across the aisle to join us. This really should not be a partisan issue. The issue of getting our economy on track shouldn't be partisan. The issue of investing in education for our children's future shouldn't be a partisan issue. The issue of fixing health care for the American people, in my home State one of the largest numbers of people unemployed are in North Carolina because our unemployment rate right now is fourth in the Nation. These people don't care who gets it for them. They want health care fixed. And certainly I remember $4 a gallon of gasoline that got us where we are. We need to fix that.

This bill lays out a plan to cut the deficit by nearly two-thirds by 2013 and create jobs with investments in those areas I have just talked about: health care, clean energy, and in education.

And, yes, reconciliation is about getting a budget in balance. That's what the Democrats have used it for, what we used it for last time. And I think it's appropriate when it's used that way. But I will remind you that a budget is more than just a document. It is a statement of our Nation's priorities and our values. And this budget is about that. It's about the future. It's about the people's needs, and it's about creating jobs with investments and reform in health care, clean energy, and education to make sure that we are prepared for the 21st century economy.

Our efforts in this budget are about protecting families. And it's really about three things and three things only: jobs, jobs, jobs. We have to remember that. At the end of the day, there are a lot of people in this country who are looking to us to help. Yes, the business community needs our help, and we are going to try to do it. It takes the first step in restoring America's financial strength. And we will get there by growing our economy in areas like health care, education, and energy, which will pave the way for a sustained recovery and get our people back to work and our economy back on track. And, yes, I am very pleased that this budget makes room for those areas. But it makes room for critical investment in education in the future of our children and not just children but for those who want to go to college and, yes, for those who want to go back to school and make a difference as the economy changes and get an education so that they can make a way for their family.

I would encourage you to vote for this resolution and vote against the motion to instruct.

As the only former state schools chief serving in Congress, I am particularly pleased that the budget prioritizes education and innovation. In recent months, first with the economic recovery legislation and then as we finished the 2009 appropriations process, Congress devoted significant funding to education to create quality jobs now and in the future. This budget resolution provides a blueprint to follow through on these priorities.

Education is the key to economic growth, future success, and access to opportunity for our citizens, and this Budget Resolution makes a clear statement that education is a top priority.

We are a nation of great resources that has proven time and again that we are the world leader in innovation and progress. With time, and with continued effort, we will break with the failed policies of the recent past and restore our strength and global competitiveness.

□ 1500

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield one of the remaining minutes on my side to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCHWARTZ).

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, just as I listened to this debate, and it is a debate, and while the other side is primarily debating process and the concerns they have about how much they will be able to be heard, I would suggest that they be heard on their solutions for energy independence, for fiscal responsibility for our Nation, and for growing those jobs through health care reform and education.

This is a moment when in fact the American people did call on us to take action on this these critical issues. They understand the enormous challenges facing their own families, their communities and our Nation. And they are calling on us to take action, to do it in a fiscally responsible way, but to face America's challenges, to make the investments in our future.

That is what this budget does. It sets out a path for us to tackle these major challenges. That is what we want to do. We would like to do it in a bipartisan way. We are certainly going to have hours and hours of debate, both here in Congress, in our committees and at home. And that is what we should do. The American people and American businesses are counting on us.

Vote for this budget, vote to proceed and vote for America.

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Let me clarify just a few things, because we have heard repeated on the floor today arguments made several weeks ago when the concurrent resolution first came to the floor that this was the biggest spending bill in the history of the country.

The truth of the matter is simply this: spending is unprecedentedly large. The reason is we are in the midst of one of the worst recessions since the Great Depression and we have taken remedial steps which have been costly to the Federal Government, quite a few

of which were launched under the Bush administration. So that has swollen the total spending and the total deficit for this year.

But listen to this: total outlays for 2009, fiscal year 2009, total outlays, the whole budget, is $3.8 trillion. Next year under this budget total outlays will be $3.5 trillion. You have heard it said repeatedly over there that spending is going up. It is coming down. It will come down further, just as will the deficit, because this is a deficit reduction budget resolution which reduces the deficit from $1.752 trillion to $533 billion in 3 or 4 fiscal years. That is a matter of truth.

If you care to take the time and pick up a copy of the committee report, you will see on page 5 this simple sentence about the tax situation: ''This budget resolution calls for reducing the revenues provided under CBO's baseline forecast, reducing them by $613 billion between 2009 and 2014 and by $1.48 trillion between 2010 and 2019.''

These are facts. They haven't been refuted. Every time we have asked that their arithmetic be explained to back up their rhetoric, we have not gotten an answer.

Now, let me say a word or two about reconciliation. Reconciliation has been since the outset of the budget process in 1974 an essential part of making a budget. If you listened to the argument here on the floor, what you heard were a lot of red herrings.

For example, it was suggested that this is going to be an impediment to choice; this is going to get in between patients and their doctors or patients and the insured and the insurance companies in choosing health insurance. There is nothing in here, nothing whatsoever that even breathes a word about either of those subjects.

There is talk here that this would in fact deal with cap-and-trade, even though we took cap-and-trade out of the President's budget request, removed it completely. It is not spoken of or mentioned there. And you heard EARL BLUMENAUER just on the floor a minute ago. He would love to see it there, but it is not. He made an honest examination of it. It is not there. But you wouldn't know it to listen to the other side.

You will also however thwart the passage of some things that we think are worthy and vital. Certainly we want to improve higher education and the access to higher education for all children in America, thinking that it is their birthright if it is something they can attain.

And we definitely, decidedly, clearly need to do something about 46 million Americans who do not have health insurance. If we were to pass this resolution and then take out the reconciliation provision, we would have a very difficult time ensuring ourselves that legislation to that effect would be produced on a timely basis.

That is what reconciliation is all about, simply this: we can say that the committees of jurisdiction on the Budget Committee through action on the floor by a certain date do a certain thing to raise a certain sum of money or to lower revenues by a certain sum. That doesn't get the bill off the floor. You still have to command a majority on the floor. That doesn't get the bill out of conference. You still have to confer with the Senate, work out your differences and get it passed again by both Houses. And that doesn't get you past go. You still have got to get the President to sign the bill. All those hurdles are still in place. It is not like we are going to go off running to the races if we adopt this. We simply assure ourselves that by a date certain, certain action will be taken.

Finally this: there is some seemingly simple language here about offsets, saying if you want to increase a program, you have got to actually cut spending to offset it. There is nothing wrong with that.

I was one of the sponsors of and supporters of, and still am, of something we call PAYGO. But if we want to provide that everything must be offset by commensurate spending decreases, you will kill the opportunity we have had to pass programs like CHIP, the Children's Health Insurance Program, the expansion of which, the creation of which, was allowed by use of tobacco taxes and cigarette taxes.

So this motion to instruct is unnecessary, unwarranted, and it will impede the passage of what we believe is a good budget resolution. Therefore, we would urge all Members to vote against it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

The gentleman from Wisconsin has 5½ minutes remaining.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I would like to start off by, first of all, saying, and I comment on this a lot, I have tremendous respect for the chairman of the Budget Committee, Mr. SPRATT. He is an admirable man who has a very difficult job.

I would like to hearken back to a day where bipartisanship on the budget worked, the year before I came into Congress, and Mr. SPRATT was a key part of this. That was the 1997 budget agreement. That is when reconciliation was used for its intended purpose. In that 1997 budget agreement, where you had a Democratic President and a Republican House, they came together in bipartisan fashion to reduce spending and to reduce taxes, and it is that budget agreement that paved the way for the surpluses that then occurred and followed that helped us pay down debt.

The fact is, Madam Speaker, that both parties should claim credit for that job and that improvement in our fiscal situation, for bringing those surpluses, for balancing the budget and for having a substantial contribution to debt reduction. Both parties did that. Both parties should get credit for that.

But here we are today, taking this process that has been used to good effect in the past, fulfilling the spirit of the process, and we are just turning it upside down.

Let's review the contents of this. We very well might have, with as little as 35 hours of debate between the two Chambers and no more than 105 hours of debate because of this fast-track procedure, the greatest transformation of our Federal Government since the New Deal. Let's review the issues.

Taxes: What this budget proposes to do is to impose a new national energy tax on everybody who consumes energy: a tax on manufacturing, a tax on coal-burning States like my own, a tax that is bad for our economy. Higher taxes on small businesses. Higher taxes on investments. Higher taxes in a recession.

We proposed an alternative in our budget. We said, no, let's not raise taxes in a recession. Let's make our businesses more competitive in the global economy so we can create jobs in this recession. That was rejected. Now there they are steamrolling these tax increases through with very little debate and very few amendments.

Let's talk about cap-and-trade. The chairman gave an articulate defense for how cap-and-trade is not happening here. It is not in this budget. Well, then why on Earth is the Commerce Committee marking up cap-and-trade legislation next week? They are having hearings right now, and they are marking this bill up next week, and they are bringing it to the floor.

Here is the problem with cap-and-trade. We don't think it works. Even if you think you have a carbon problem, hitting our economy with this while our very competitors in China and India won't do it will not even reduce carbon in the atmosphere. It will actually increase carbon, but from China and India. For every one ton of greenhouse gases we reduce in America, China increases theirs by three or four tons. We lose our manufacturing jobs. They get the jobs. They emit carbon in the atmosphere. There is more carbon in the atmosphere and America has fewer jobs. How is that a good idea?

We proposed an alternative in our budget. We said let's drill for oil and gas in our own country, where we have a lot of it; and let's invest the proceeds of it in a clean energy trust fund so we innovate our way toward a clean energy system, so we innovate our way for nuclear, clean coal, renewables, biomass, wind, solar, all these things, fuel cells.

Americans are innovators. Let's not hit ourselves with a huge energy tax that costs jobs. Let's innovate our way out of this problem through a cleaner energy economy. That is our alternative. That was rejected. Now this cap-and-trade thing could get swept through with as little as 35 hours of debate.

Let's talk about health care. I just came from the Ways and Means Committee, another committee I serve on,

before coming to the floor here today, where they are discussing how in the budget reconciliation they are going to have a new health care plan that has a government-run plan option. The problem with the government-run plan option is it quickly becomes a government-run plan monopoly.

One of the leading health insurance actuaries in America, the Lewin Group, is telling us that as many as 120 million Americans would lose their private health insurance under this government-run plan option. This is government-run health care. It may not say it in name, it may not be what it says it is going to do tomorrow, but it is clearly what all the actuaries and the economists are telling us what it becomes.

The advocates in the Ways and Means Committee are already telling us, why have private health insurance in the first place? Let's just have the government run it all. So clearly the intention is being made known, and this confiscation of 17 percent of our economy will run through Congress with as little as 35 hours of debate.

This is what we are talking about. Should we have a government takeover of health care in America? Let's have a debate about that. Let's not have 35 hours of debate.

Should we impose the largest energy tax in the history of this country on our manufacturers, on seniors, on the upper Midwest where we have cold winters, or should we just ram this thing through with 35 hours of debate?

Should we hit our economy in the middle of a recession with the largest tax increase in history, ram it through with no amendments with as little as 35 hours of debate?

Should we transform the Federal Government, the largest transformation we have seen since the New Deal, with as little as 35 hours of debate?

We think no. And we agree with the Democrats in the Senate who agree with us that the answer should be no.

Let's concur with the Senate Democrats. Let's pass this motion to instruct and let's give America democracy and debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Wisconsin's time has expired.

Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

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

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules with regard to H.R. 1679 and H.R. 586;

Motion to instruct on S. Con. Res. 13; and

Motion to suspend the rules on H.R. 957.

The vote on H. Res. 247 will be taken tomorrow.

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

HOUSE RESERVISTS PAY ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2009

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1679, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1679.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 432, nays 0, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 196]

YEAS—423

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boccieri
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lynch
Mack
Maffei
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Massa
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Paulsen
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—9

Boswell
Butterfield
Campbell
Gingrey (GA)
Jackson (IL)
Kingston
Lungren, Daniel E.
Reyes
Smith (TX)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1548

Messrs. CAPUANO and MASSA changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHOOTINGS AT COLUMBINE

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

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I know that the whole House joins the Colorado delegation in their sorrow at the tragic events of 1999. The Nation was horrified. This was an event that changed the Nation and still casts a shadow on our culture. The community around Columbine still deals with this event, and I believe it is appropriate for us to pause and reflect on what happened that terrible day.

I would now yield to my colleague, Ms. DEGETTE.

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, 10 years ago this week as I sat in my office in the Longworth Office Building, I watched the horrific events of the Columbine shooting occur. Sadly, that was not the first time we've had a high school shooting. And even more sadly, it was not the last time we've seen a shooting of this nature.

Every time this happens, for those of us in Colorado the memory of the horrific events in April 10 years ago floods back to us. I am joined today with the entire Colorado delegation, as Mr. COFFMAN said, in mourning the loss of the teacher and the students at Columbine. Mr. PERLMUTTER had constituents who were killed in the shooting. I had constituents attending Columbine at that time, and we still do today.

All of us share the hope that Principal Frank DeAngelis, who was the principal then and now, shared with the country Monday this week at a ceremony commemorating the 10th anniversary of Columbine. Principal DeAngelis said on Monday—and we all agree with this—''My hope is that school violence comes to an end, and that our Nation is not mourning the loss of more of our children and educators; and that the members of our society come together to stop the senseless deaths that are occurring. Our children are our future, and we must continue to pave the way for a safe and successful journey.''

Let's remember Columbine, and let's remember these words.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, to my colleagues, please join me in a moment of silence for the victims and their families.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the Members please rise for 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.

CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY PROJECT ACT OF 2009

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 586.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 586.

The question was taken.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 422, noes 0, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 197]

AYES—422

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boccieri
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lynch
Mack
Maffei
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Massa
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner

Welch
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—10

Boswell
Butterfield
Campbell
Gingrey (GA)
Jackson (IL)
Kingston
Lungren, Daniel E.
Paul
Reyes
Smith (TX)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1603

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED FOR BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK TRAGEDY

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

Mr. HINCHEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in the context of a deep tragedy that struck the 22nd Congressional District in New York, and particularly the wonderful city of Binghamton.

Less than 3 weeks ago, this proud community suffered a devastating tragedy. On the morning of Friday, April 13, 2009, a single gunman entered the office of the American Civic Association and murdered 13 innocent people. He murdered 13 innocent people, and wounded four more. This was a horrendous act of violence, one that no community should ever experience.

Next week, I will be presenting a condolence resolution on the floor which will convey sympathy to the families of these victims, express hope that those wounded and touched by this tragedy are on the path to recovery, and to thank all of those who responded to the scene and secured the security and helped the victims.

Today, I would like to take a moment to honor the 13 individuals who lost their lives that day. The victims ranged in age from 22 years to 72 years. They included a mother of three, a newly wedded bride, a student, a teacher, and many others, all of whom were hardworking individuals who had the same goal of being able to offer a better life for themselves and their family.

At this time, Madam Speaker, I would be very grateful to request that Congress take a moment of silence to reflect on this senseless loss of life, and to pray for the victims and their family and friends.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members please rise for 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.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON S. CON. RES. 13, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on the motion to instruct on S. Con. Res. 13 offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) which the Chair will put de novo.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 196, noes 227, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 198]

AYES—196

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Chaffetz
Childers
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Emerson
Fallin
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Griffith
Guthrie
Hall (TX)
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hill
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Lamborn
Lance
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (NY)
Lewis (CA)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Marshall
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Minnick
Mitchell
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Olson
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Perriello
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rehberg
Reichert
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Souder
Space
Stearns
Sullivan
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walden
Wamp
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOES—227

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Adler (NJ)
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Driehaus
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Foster
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Giffords
Gonzalez
Gordon (TN)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kratovil
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney
Markey (MA)
Massa
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McMahon
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis (CO)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richardson
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—9

Boswell
Butterfield
Campbell
Gingrey (GA)
Jackson (IL)
Kingston
Lungren, Daniel E.
Reyes
Smith (TX)

□ 1617

Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. HARMAN and Mr. ENGEL changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GREEN ENERGY EDUCATION ACT OF 2009

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 957, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 957.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 411, nays 6, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 199]

YEAS—411

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boccieri
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Mack
Maffei
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Massa
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCollum
McCotter
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Richardson
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

NAYS—6

Broun (GA)
Flake
McClintock
Paul
Shadegg
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—15

Boswell
Butterfield
Campbell
Gingrey (GA)
Higgins
Jackson (IL)
Kingston
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
McDermott
Radanovich
Reyes
Roe (TN)
Rush
Smith (TX)

□ 1627

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON S. CON. RES. 13, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSTER). Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees on Senate Concurrent Resolution 13: Messrs. SPRATT, BOYD, Ms. DELAURO, Messrs. RYAN of Wisconsin, and HENSARLING.

There was no objection.

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 incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken tomorrow.

COPS IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2009

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1139) to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the COPS ON THE BEAT grant 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. 1139

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 ''COPS Improvements Act of 2009''.

SEC. 2. COPS GRANT IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1701 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd) is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

''(a) GRANT AUTHORIZATION.—The Attorney General shall carry out grant programs under which the Attorney General makes grants to States, units of local government, Indian tribal governments, other public and private entities, multi-jurisdictional or regional consortia, and individuals for the purposes described in subsections (b), (c), (d), and (e). Grants under this subsection shall be awarded on a competitive basis.'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking the subsection heading text and inserting ''COMMUNITY POLICING AND CRIME PREVENTION GRANTS'';

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking '', to increase the number of officers deployed in community-oriented policing'';

(C) by amending paragraph (4) to read as follows:

''(4) award grants to pay for or train officers hired to perform intelligence, anti-terror, or homeland security duties;'';

(D) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

''(5) award grants to hire school resource officers and to establish school-based partnerships between local law enforcement agencies and local school systems to combat crime, gangs, drug activities, and other problems in and around elementary and secondary schools;'';

(E) by striking paragraph (9);

(F) by redesignating paragraphs (10) through (12) as paragraphs (9) through (11), respectively;

(G) by striking paragraph (13);

(H) by redesignating paragraphs (14) through (17) as paragraphs (12) through (15), respectively;

(I) in paragraph (14), as so redesignated, by striking ''and'' at the end;

(J) in paragraph (15), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(K) by adding at the end the following:

''(16) establish and implement innovative programs to reduce and prevent illegal drug manufacturing, distribution, and use, including the manufacturing, distribution, and use of methamphetamine;

''(17) hire and rehire civilian forensic analysts and laboratory personnel;

''(18) establish criminal gang enforcement task forces, consisting of members of Federal, State, and local law enforcement authorities (including Federal, State, and local prosecutors), for the coordinated investigation, disruption, apprehension, and prosecution of criminal gangs and offenders involved in local or multi-jurisdictional gang activities; and

''(19) award enhancing community policing and crime prevention grants that meet emerging law enforcement needs.'';

(3) by striking subsection (c);

(4) by striking subsections (h) and (i);

(5) by redesignating subsections (d) through (g) as subsections (f) through (i), respectively;

(6) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) TROOPS-TO-COPS PROGRAMS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Grants made under subsection (a) may be used to hire former members of the Armed Forces to serve as career law enforcement officers for deployment in community-oriented policing, particularly in communities that are adversely affected by a recent military base closing.

''(2) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, 'former member of the Armed Forces' means a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who has been honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States.

''(d) COMMUNITY PROSECUTORS PROGRAM.—The Attorney General may make grants under subsection (a) to pay for additional community prosecuting programs, including programs that assign prosecutors to—

''(1) handle cases from specific geographic areas; and

''(2) address counter-terrorism problems, specific violent crime problems (including intensive illegal gang, gun, and drug enforcement) and quality of life initiatives, and localized violent and other crime problems based on needs identified by local law enforcement agencies, community organizations, and others.

''(e) TECHNOLOGY GRANTS.—The Attorney General may make grants under subsection (a) to develop and use new technologies (including interoperable communications technologies, modernized criminal record technology, and forensic technology) to assist State and local law enforcement agencies in reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime and to train law enforcement officers to use such technologies.'';

(7) in subsection (f), as so redesignated—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''to States, units of local government, Indian tribal governments, and to other public and private entities,'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''define for State and local governments, and other public and private entities,'' and inserting ''establish'';

(C) in the first sentence of paragraph (3), by inserting ''(including regional community policing institutes)'' after ''training centers or facilities''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) EXCLUSIVITY.—The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services shall be the exclusive component of the Department of Justice to perform the functions and activities specified in this part.'';

(8) in subsection (g), as so redesignated, by striking ''may utilize any component'', and all that follows and inserting ''shall use the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services of the Department of Justice in carrying out this part.'';

(9) in subsection (h), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking ''subsection (a)'' the first place that term appears and inserting ''paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b)''; and

(B) by striking ''in each fiscal year pursuant to subsection (a)'' and inserting ''in each fiscal year for purposes described in paragraph (1) and (2) of subsection (b)'';

(10) in subsection (i), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking ''the Federal share shall decrease from year to year for up to 5 years'' and inserting ''unless the Attorney General waives the non-Federal contribution requirement as described in the preceding sentence, the non-Federal share of the costs of hiring or rehiring such officers may be less than 25 percent of such costs for any year during the grant period, provided that the non-Federal share of such costs shall not be less than 25 percent in the aggregate for the entire grant period, but the State or local government should make an effort to increase the non-Federal share of such costs during the grant period''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''The preceding sentences shall not apply with respect to any program, project, or activity provided by a grant made pursuant to subsection (b)(4).''; and

(11) by adding at the end the following:

''(j) RETENTION OF ADDITIONAL OFFICER POSITIONS.—For any grant under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (b) for hiring or rehiring career law enforcement officers, a grant recipient shall retain each additional law enforcement officer position created under that grant for not less than 12 months after the end of the period of that grant, unless the Attorney General waives, wholly or in part, the retention requirement of such grant.

''(k) TREATMENT OF GRANT FOR HIRING CIVILIAN FORENSIC ANALYSTS AND LABORATORY PERSONNEL.—A grant awarded under this section for hiring and rehiring of civilian forensic analysts and laboratory personnel (in accordance with paragraph (17) of subsection (b)) shall be subject to the same treatment, limitations, and renewal requirements under this part as grants awarded under this section for hiring and rehiring of career law enforcement personnel (in accordance with paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b)).''.

(b) APPLICATIONS.—Section 1702 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting '', unless waived by the Attorney General'' after ''under this part shall''; and

(B) in paragraph (8), by striking ''share of the cost'' and all that follows and inserting ''share of the costs during the grant period, how the applicant will maintain the increased hiring level of the law enforcement officers, and how the applicant will eventually assume responsibility for all of the costs for such officers;''; and

(2) by striking subsection (d).

(c) RENEWAL OF GRANTS.—Section 1703 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd–2) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 1703. RENEWAL OF GRANTS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), a grant made under this part may be renewed, without limitations on the duration of such renewal, to provide additional funds if the Attorney General determines that the funds made available to the recipient were used in a manner required under an approved application and if the recipient can demonstrate significant progress in achieving the objectives of the initial application.

''(b) GRANTS FOR HIRING.—Grants made under this part for hiring or rehiring additional career law enforcement officers may be renewed for up to 5 years, except that the Attorney General may waive such 5-year limitation for good cause.

''(c) NO COST EXTENSIONS.—Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), the Attorney General may extend a grant period, without limitations as to the duration of such extension, to provide additional time to complete the objectives of the initial grant award.''.

(d) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Section 1704 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd–3) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''that would, in the absence of Federal funds received under this part, be made available from State or local sources'' and inserting ''that the Attorney General determines would, in the absence of Federal funds received under this part, be made available for the purpose of the grant under this part from State or local sources''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''The preceding sentence shall not apply with respect to funds made available under this part by a grant made pursuant to subsection (a) for the purposes described in subsection (b)(4).''; and

(2) by striking subsection (c).

(e) STUDY OF PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS.—Section 1705 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd–4) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) STUDY OF PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall provide for a scientific study of the effectiveness of the programs, projects, and activities funded under this part in reducing crime. Such study shall include identified best practices for community policing that have demonstrated results for building and strengthening the relationship between police departments and the communities such departments serve.

''(2) STUDY.—The Attorney General shall select one or more institutions of higher education, including historically Black colleges and universities, to conduct the study described in paragraph (1).

''(3) REPORTS.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of the COPS Improvements Act of 2009, the institution or institutions selected under paragraph (2) shall report the findings of the study described in paragraph (1) to the Attorney General. Not later than 30 days after the receipt of such report, the Attorney General shall report such findings to the appropriate committees of Congress, along with any recommendations the Attorney General may have relating to the effectiveness of the programs, projects, and activities funded under this part in reducing crime.''.

(f) ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS.—Section 1706 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd–5) is amended—

*(1) in the section heading, by striking ''**REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF FUNDING**'' and inserting ''**ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**''; and*

(2) by striking ''revoke or suspend'' and all that follows and inserting ''take any enforcement action available to the Department of Justice.''.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1709(1) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd–8(1)) is amended by inserting ''who is a sworn law enforcement officer'' after ''permanent basis''.

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 1001(a)(11) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)(11)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''1,047,119,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2009'' and inserting ''1,800,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2014''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''3 percent may be used for technical assistance under section 1701(d)'' and inserting ''5 percent may be used for technical assistance under section 1701(f)''; and

(B) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following: ''Of the funds available for grants under part Q, not less than $1,250,000,000 shall be used for grants for the purposes specified in section 1701(b), not more than $200,000,000 shall be used for grants under section 1701(d), and not more than $350,000,000 shall be used for grants under section 1701(e).''.

(i) PURPOSES.—Section 10002 of the Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking ''development'' and inserting ''use''; and

(2) in the matter following paragraph (4), by striking ''for a period of 6 years''.

(j) COPS PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 109(b) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3712h(b)) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (1);

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively; and

(C) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated, by inserting '', except for the program under part Q of this title'' before the period.

(2) LAW ENFORCEMENT COMPUTER SYSTEMS.—Section 107 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3712f) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply to any grant made under part Q of this title.''.

(k) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to grants awarded under part Q of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd et seq.) on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. REPORT BY INSPECTOR GENERAL REQUIRED.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall submit to Congress a report on the Public Safety and Community Policing (''COPS ON THE BEAT'') grant program authorized by part Q of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd et seq.), including the elements described in subsection (b).

(b) ELEMENTS OF REPORT.—The report submitted under subsection (a) shall include information on the following, with respect to the grant program described in such subsection:

(1) The effect of the program on the rate of violent crime, drug offenses, and other crimes.

(2) The degree to which State and local governments awarded a grant under the program contribute State and local funds, respectively, for law enforcement programs and activities.

(3) Any waste, fraud, or abuse within the program.

(c) RANDOM SAMPLING REQUIRED.—For purposes of subsection (a), the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall audit and review a random sampling of State and local law enforcement agencies. Such sampling shall include—

(1) law enforcement agencies of various sizes;

(2) law enforcement agencies that serve various populations; and

(3) law enforcement agencies that serve areas of various crime rates.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WEINER. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous matter on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WEINER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we have some examples of transition moments where we acknowledge here in Washington that there are some problems that cross the line between not a purely local problem becoming a national problem.

When the COPS program and the crime bill was passed in the mid-1990s, we made an acknowledgment here in Washington that was widely cheered around the country when we said we were going to get off the sidelines in fighting crime, and we were going to go into the business of directly helping States and localities hire police officers. We said the crime was a national challenge as well as a local one.

Well, September 11 proved that point again. It reminded us that while there are needs to make sure that our localities are safe, we don't want to substitute control for local police departments.

There is a Federal role, and it's hard to dispute, in helping localities defend themselves against terrorism, deal with the challenges of immigration, and, basically, help fight crime.

□ 1630

The COPS program that was passed was an unqualified success. It provided police to localities large and small all throughout the country. I like to say that it was a classically democratic, with a small ''d,'' success in that small police departments, 80 percent of all the funds went to the smallest of police departments, and it also went to the big cities. Everyone benefited. Now 110,000 police officers have been hired, and it's time to reauthorize this program, and that's what we are proposing to do here.

A similar bill was passed with broad bipartisan support in the last Congress, but, unfortunately, it was too late to pass the other body, and now we are trying to do it again.

This is fully funded in President Obama's budget. It's $1.8 billion a year for the total authorization for the COPS program. It will provide 10,000 cops per year for 5 years. It makes improvements over the last program by allowing technology grants for local police departments and also hiring funds for prosecutors so we're not just arresting people but we are making sure that the prosecutions are done expeditiously. We also take some steps to recognize the reality that we have today by allowing funds to be used for police officers expressly on terrorism duty. Also we take something and create the Troops-to-Cops program, which makes sure that troops that come back from the front get priority in hiring. And we also use some innovative programs to make sure that illegal drug manufacturing and distribution, particularly of the methamphetamine problem, are addressed.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill.

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

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. KING of Iowa asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1139, the COPS Improvements Act of 2009, increases the authorization for the COPS ON THE BEAT Federal grant program by a whopping 72 percent. Why is the question I ask. Are crime rates up 72 percent? According to the FBI, they are not. Overall crime rates are down nationwide.

In the first 6 months of 2008, violent crime decreased by 3½ percent and property crime decreased by 2½ percent. From 1997 to 2006, the violent and property crime rates fell by 22 percent. Clearly, the crime rate is not a justification for dramatically increasing the expenditure of taxpayer dollars. If crime hasn't increased, why are we increasing spending on a law enforcement program that has mixed results?

Both the Justice Department's Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office found that thousands of hires funded by the COPS program never occurred because law enforcement agencies used COPS funding to cover their budget shortfalls, backfilling the holes in their budgets rather than putting cops on the street in some cases.

A 2005 GAO report concluded that factors other than COPS funds accounted for the majority of the decline in crime from 1994 until 2001. The crime rate did drop during this time period. It dropped by 26 percent, Mr. Speaker, and the COPS program did contribute to this decline. It contributed only 1.3 percent of the 26 percent decline. That 1.3 percent decline only cost the American taxpayers, and I emphasize the word ''only'' satirically, $7 billion. If you do the math on that, it works out to be this: The COPS funding, even though we've had a significant decrease in crime, was only accountable for 5 percent of the reduction in crime, according to the GAO report. That's one-half of the solution, and here we have a 72 percent increase. And if you do the math on the 72 percent increase, the 5 percent solution becomes an 8.6 percent solution presuming all other factors remain the same.

This is not a good return on investment. Perhaps the increase in COPS

spending is designed to generate jobs instead. The majority of cities' budget shortfalls and officer layoffs in police departments around the country are the justification, I think, for spending yet more money that we don't have. The fact is that roughly there is a 2- to 3-year lapse from the time Congress appropriates money to when a police officer actually reaches the street; so money appropriated under this new authorization will not even reach the streets until 2012 or 2013.

Congress just appropriated $1 billion for the COPS program in the economic stimulus bill, and we gave this money to the States with no strings attached, Mr. Speaker. We removed the 25 percent State matching requirement and the cap on grant awards. So this $1 billion will fund fewer than 6,000 police hires. You heard right. According to the Justice Department, we spent $1 billion of taxpayer money to hire fewer than 6,000 police officers. That works out to be $167,000 per officer. We send them a check, and they convert $167,000 into one officer when we take the strings off.

If my colleagues in the majority were truly interested in helping police departments maximize the number of officers they can hire, they would have kept the matching requirement and cap in place; then the $1 billion would have hired approximately 13,000 officers but not fewer than 6,000.

The COPS program is currently authorized at $1.04 billion, Mr. Speaker. Last Congress the sponsor of the bill, Mr. WEINER of New York, proposed increasing the authorization by only 10 percent to $1.15 billion. I say only 10 percent because in today's context, it's 72 percent. But even that more modest increase was too much for our colleagues in the Senate, who rejected such an idea. I would have supported this bill on the floor this year if it reauthorized the COPS program with the same 10 percent that was offered by the gentleman from New York last year. And I supported an amendment in committee offered by my colleague from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) to fund the program at that level. But in the last Congress $1.15 billion was good enough; this year it's not, for some reason. This year it must be $1.8 billion, although the Judiciary Committee had held no hearing, received no evidence or testimony for this dramatic increase, which is a proposal under suspension before this Congress, Mr. Speaker.

The bill before us today increases Federal spending without any demonstrated need. It's like giving huge bonuses to AIG executives. There is no justification rather than an insatiable desire to spend taxpayers' money and funnel resources off the backs of the taxpayers in America, the workers in America, into the inner cities where these jobs would be created at the cost of $167,000 a job by record, and the efficiency level that would be increased, taking us from a 5 percent of our 26 percent reduction in crime, 5 percent of that coming direct by the COPS program now might take it to 8.6 percent at this huge, huge cost.

It's interesting to me to hear the gentleman from New York State that they need help at the local level, and I believe I heard him saying enforcing local laws but also enforcing immigration laws. So I would be also more amenable to this legislation if it were directed to 287(g) programs. At least then we'd have a Federal interest and something that I think would be helpful to all citizens in this country. But it is encouraging to me to hear from the gentleman from New York that we need to use Federal money to enforce immigration laws at the local level through local officers.

I oppose this legislation.

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

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1139, the COPS Improvements Act of 2009. I want to thank my colleague Mr. WEINER, who understands the significance, the history, the data, and even the science of the success of this bill and this law.

Mr. Speaker, after September 11th, as we as a Nation, as a Congress, made a new commitment to homeland security protecting our communities, the fact is that for years under the Republican-led Congress, cops hiring grants were gutted for more than $1 billion a year in the late 1990s to only $10 million in fiscal year 2005 and then zeroed out, zeroed out. Not only do they want them to be outgunned, Mr. WEINER; they want them to be outfunded. That's what they want. They want to take pictures with cops, pat them on the back, and not support them.

As a longtime member of the Homeland Security Committee, I have always believed strongly that real homeland security begins in our streets, in our communities, and that means funding for our cops. The whole purpose of the COPS program was to provide community officers to be trained in the streets. Read the legislation. When President Clinton created the COPS program in 1994 with the goal of putting 100,000 new officers out on the streets, it was met with some skepticism, but today it's clear that this program helped turn the tide against crime. In fact, the GAO isolated the effect of the COPS program and estimated that there was a 2.5 percent decline in the violent crime rate between 1993 and 2000 because of this program alone. When you think about it, that's tens of thousands of violent crimes that weren't committed simply because we did the right thing and provided our officers with more support on the streets and the proper training.

So I stand here on behalf of the police officers of this country and I stand here on behalf of those folks who work in prosecutors' offices all across America. We're going to help you. We are going to make sure you have assistance and resources to do the job.

So three times the current amount and it comes at a time when our States and municipalities need it most. In my district alone, 324 police officers on the streets because of these grants.

I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this vital bill and pass this legislation.

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. PIERLUISI).

Mr. PIERLUISI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1139. I want to commend my colleague on the Judiciary Committee, Congressman WEINER, for introducing this bill.

As I remarked during the committee markup, this bill has special significance for me. In 1994, as Attorney General of Puerto Rico, I worked alongside the Clinton administration to secure passage of the legislation that established the COPS program. As someone whose own family has been deeply touched by violent crime, I'm unbending in my belief that the most basic human right a government owes to its citizens is a right to personal security. The COPS program is rooted in this premise.

Thanks to the COPS program, over $160 million in grants have been awarded to law enforcement agencies in Puerto Rico to hire new officers, improve school safety, and purchase crime-fighting equipment. No statistic, however, can capture the true impact the COPS program has made. The numbers of lives saved, crimes prevented, and families spared the pain of losing a loved one, these numbers are beyond calculation.

All we hear from our colleagues from the Republican side are concerns about the cost of this bill. Well, all I should say is that if there is any cost that is justified, it's the cost of protecting our people. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, in response to the gentleman from Puerto Rico, who I believe comes here very sincerely and brings himself to this floor for this discussion, I hear him say the most important human right is the right to personal security. And I would ask if the gentleman from Puerto Rico could address the situation as where do human rights come from, if they exist at all? Where's the list of human rights that exist?

I would submit that we don't have any human rights in law. I would submit that we have natural rights that come from God that flow through the Declaration of Independence and are clearly defined in the Constitution itself, but that the idea of human rights just simply doesn't exist in law. They exist in the imagination of judges. So the gentleman's response from Puerto Rico, although I see he's leaving the floor, it may be for a particular reason.

The other gentleman's comments about the COPS program that today it's clear that there has been a 2½ percent reduction in crime from 1993 until the year 2000, Mr. Speaker, I have a report here. This is a GAO report and I will give you the date in a minute, but it's a current GAO report, and I presume it's the same report the gentleman is referring to. It says this:

''While we find the COPS expenditures led to increases in sworn police officers above levels that would have been expected without these expenditures and though the increases in sworn officers led to declines in crime, we conclude that the COPS grants were not the major cause of the decline in crime from 1994 through 2001.''

□ 1645

I think this report doesn't support the gentleman's position. The data that I laid out in my opening statement does.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KING of Iowa. I will yield to the gentleman.

Mr. PASCRELL. First of all, that is a total report. There have been many reports on the effectiveness of the COPS program, not just that one. But the accuracy of that report is not being questioned by me by any stretch of the imagination.

It is a contributing factor to the decline in violent—violent—crimes. That is what we are talking about. There is a very basic difference between the stealing of an automobile and a violent crime of armed robbery, for instance. When you break down the crimes, sir, you will see that this had a very effective part.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Reclaiming my time, I will concede the gentleman's point, to a degree. And the point is this, that there has been a minimal decline in crime. But this report, by the way, for the record is October 2005, and I don't think it contradicts the statement that I made in my opening statement. But 5 percent of the decline in crime is attributable to COPS, and that is a study I have identified.

If we appropriate an additional 72 percent, one could calculate you could have of that decline in crime, 8.6 percent of that might be attributable to COPS.

I would then at this point, Mr. Speaker, reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WEINER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First let's get some clarity on the GAO report. The gentleman artfully pulls a line out of it. Let me tell you the conclusion. This is from page 11 of the GAO report. You can follow along with me, I say to the gentleman from Iowa.

''For the years 1998 to 2000, we estimated that the COPS grant expenditures that were associated with the reduction in indexed crimes from their 1993 levels ranged from 200,000 to 225,000 indexed crimes, while one-third of these were violent crimes, two-thirds property crimes.''

That is the GAO. If you want another authority that says that this has worked, you can ask the 381 Members of Congress that voted for it last year. If you want only partisan Republicans, how about John Ashcroft, not someone I am fond of quoting, who said the COPS program is a success. Attorney General Gonzales, every attorney general has said, you know what? The COPS program has been a remarkable success.

I say to the gentleman from Iowa, put your money where your mouth is. In the stimulus bill, which I believe you voted against, there was $1 billion for COPS. They are taking the grants now, and contrary to your opening statement, not only will it not take two or three years, they are going to be on the street this year.

In Iowa, there have been 110 police departments, large, small, intermediate, that have applied for this stimulus money to hire police under the COPS program.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WEINER. I haven't raised the challenge yet, and then you will get an opportunity to give a one-word answer.

The challenge is this: Are you willing to write to the COPS office at the Justice Department and say please deny these police officers, who you acquaint with the criminals at AIG, and that is a shame and I think goes too far, will you say, don't grant any of these applications to Iowa? We don't need the cops. Our crime is not like crime elsewhere. Or despite the fact that I campaigned about the crimes being committed by illegal and undocumented immigrants, we don't need any further help.

Are you prepared to write a letter to the COPS program saying we don't want any money from the COPS stimulus money?

Mr. KING of Iowa. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. WEINER. I would be glad to yield.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I would be happy to write that to your chiefs of police. This is a nationwide piece of legislation.

Mr. WEINER. Reclaiming my time, ''reclaiming my time'' is not something I am asking permission for.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Both gentlemen will suspend.

Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. WEINER. It is noteworthy that you point out my chiefs of police. Well, maybe you should ask the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Police Organizations, the National Sheriffs Association, International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Association of District Attorneys, National Narcotics Officers Association, U.S. Conference of Mayors, National League of Cities. These are all people that support the Weiner position, not the King position.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, at this time I would yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, where but Washington would there be such an atmosphere of arrogance that when in the nineties there was a drop in the crime rate we would start lauding ourselves and saying we did that here in Washington?

Let me tell you who did that. I know in Texas they raised taxes. They built more prisons. They elected judges like me. We started having longer sentences, juries worked longer and harder, law enforcement worked longer and harder through the nineties. They brought more people to justice. There were more trials. People went from serving just a month on a year in many cases to serving one-third, one-half or more of their sentences before they were paroled, and many much longer than that. We were keeping people longer.

There was a 1,000 case backlog in my one district court, but because of the hard work of hundreds of people, that got cut by 80 percent, even though the number of cases rose each year. It wasn't Washington that got that accomplished.

That is why the report from the GAO says a 1.3 percent decline in overall crime rate could be attributed to the COPS grants. And when you consider what my friend Mr. KING pointed out, it took 166,000 Federal dollars to get one policeman? Man, we would be better off if we had a program that said, you know, for every dollar of local taxes or State taxes that are raised to go in law enforcement, we will cut the Federal taxes, because I can promise you the States and the local governments can do a whole lot more efficient job than hiring law enforcement for $166,000 apiece.

That is where the difference was made. It wasn't made in Washington. It was made by the hard-working law enforcement officers and court officials back in the States and local governments.

Mr. WEINER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I hope the gentleman did not dislocate his arm patting himself on the back for bringing down crime. Perhaps he should offer a little bit of credit to the 171 officers hired in his district.

Do you know why crime went down, I say to the gentleman? Crime went down because there were police officers doing their job, putting their lives on the line every day. And while some people might have been sitting behind a bench feeling very proud of themselves, those police officers deserve our credit and honor.

I have now heard two speakers in a row, one who has equated police officers to the AIG criminals and another

who said it is not the cops, it is one judge who happened to get elected to Congress. Both of them are wrong. It was a successful piece of legislation. And if the gentleman doesn't think so, maybe he wants to give his 171 police officers to the next speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman for the time.

It is interesting to hear my good friend from Texas speak on the basis of lowering crime in one part of the State for lowering crime in all parts of the State. Coming from the fourth largest city in the Nation, let me suggest to him that we have ready evidence that COPS ON THE BEAT in fact are probably as constructive or more constructive than the lock-them-up, throw-away-the-key concept. It is interesting as well that I heard my good friend mention and support raising taxes. I have never heard him support and celebrate the idea of raising taxes.

We did build a lot of prisons in Texas. It gave us the name of being renowned for locking up more people than probably a lot of nations around the world. I don't know, however, how effective you could argue that was without strong law enforcement.

Law enforcement provides for the prevention of crime. That is why I am a strong supporter of the COPS ON THE BEAT program, and particularly glad that in March our Attorney General through the administration offered $1 billion to our police departments across America to ensure that there would be stimulus dollars being used for the COPS grants.

We note that in the 1990s crime did go down, and whatever the GAO study says that is confusing, it is clear that in 1998 and 2000, the hiring grants are responsible for reducing crimes by about 200,000 to 250,000 crimes, one-third of which are violent.

Mr. Speaker, in the backdrop of the loss of lives of several of our law enforcement officers from California to the east coast, this is no time to bash police. This is a time to join in and support small departments, large departments, medium-sized departments who are supporting the idea of the COPS reauthorization. I want to thank Mr. WEINER for his leadership.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. WEINER. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 45 seconds.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I thank the gentleman.

We offered in the committee an amendment that would allow us to study the best practices so that we could help departments utilize these COPs grants in an effective way. In the 18th Congressional District, some $56,857,000 in grants were awarded and 875 additional police officers and sheriffs deputies were welcomed into the 18th Congressional District. Ten local and State law enforcement agencies in our congressional district were beneficies of these. We have more constables and sheriffs and police departments, $2 million was added to provide for 19 school resource officers, and $9 million was awarded for crime fighting technologies.

Mr. Speaker, the COPS reauthorization bill is the right way to go. We cannot have a criminal prevention system that does not have preventive law enforcement. That is what we get with the COPS program. I rise to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1139, the Community Oriented Policy Services (COPS) Improvement Act of 2009. I would also like to thank Representative WEINER of New York for introducting this important legislation. This legislation was introduced last Congress and I was a co-sponsor last term. I uge my colleagues to support this bill.

The COPS program was designed to help bring about fundamental changes in policing by drawing officers closer to the citizens they protect. And, in scores of communities across the nation, the COPS program did just that.

The idea of community policing is to get away from the traditional "call and response" model, in which officers run from one emergency call to the next. It involves sending officers into the streets and into the neighborhoods to build relationships with residents, identify the sources of crime problems, and solve them before they get worse. The success of the COPS approach to policing is dependent upon the relationships built between the police and the members of the communities they serve.

Since 1995, COPS has awarded more than $10 billion to advance community policing, including grants awarded to more than 13,300 state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to fund the hiring and redeployment of nearly 117,700 officers. In addition to funding law enforcement positions, the Office of Community Policing Services has been the catalyst for innovations in community policing and broad implementation of effective law enforcement strategy. Presently, departments that employ community policing serve 87 percent of American communities.

On March 16, 2009, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder announced that the Department of Justice will be accepting applications for $1 billion in Recovery Act Funds for the COPS program. Approximately 5,500 law enforcement officer jobs will be created or saved in law enforcement agencies across the country through funding provided by the Department of Justice.

Recently, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, H.R. 1, included $4 billion in Department of Justice grant funding to enhance state, local, and tribal law enforcement efforts, including the hiring of new police officers, to combat violence against women, and to fight against internet crimes against children.

Similar to Edward Byrne Justice Act Grant (JAG) awards, Recovery Act funds that are authorized for COPS can also be used to hire new officers or rehire recently laid off officers, fill unfunded vacancies and help prevent scheduled layoffs within law enforcement agencies.

COPS funds are allocated directly to the local level governments and law enforcement agencies and provide a three-year period of funding.

Specifically, H.R. 1139, the "COPS Improvements Act of 2009," reinvigorates the COPS program's ability to accomplish its critical mission by establishing three grant programs: (1) the Troops-to-Cops Program, (2) the Community Prosecutors Program, and (3) the Technology Grants Program. The Troops-to-Cops Program would fund the hiring of former members of the Armed Forces to serve as law enforcement officers in community-oriented policing, particularly in communities adversely affected by recent military base closings.

The Community Prosecutors Program would authorize the Attorney General to make grants for additional community prosecuting programs that would, for example, assign prosecutors to pursue cases from specific geographic areas and to deal with localized violent crime, among other crimes.

The Technology Grants Program would authorize the Attorney General to make grants to develop and use new technologies to assist State and local law enforcement agencies reorient some of their efforts from reacting to crime to preventing crime.

The investment in COPS through the Recovery Act although crucial is a one-time investment limited to the purpose of hiring officers. The reauthorization of COPS is necessary for the program to continue past the investment of the Recovery Act.

Reauthorization is also necessary so that the COPS program can include the innovative aspects of the program as explained above.

The Houston area has made great strides in reducing crime. I am confident that with programs like COPS Houston can better combat crime.

CRIME STATISTICS

According to Houston Police Department statistics: Violent crimes

Violent crimes in Houston increased less than 1 percent in 2008 compared with 2007.

Homicides dropped by 16 percent.

The number of homicides dropped from 353 in 2007 to 295 last year.

Sexual assaults increased more than 8 percent from 2007.

Aggravated assaults increased at 9.1 percent.

Domestic violence

Of the 1,092 additional aggravated assault cases in 2008, more than half were reports of domestic violence.

Nonviolent crimes

Nonviolent crimes declined more than 10 percent in 2008.

Property thefts dropped by more than 10 percent.

Auto thefts decreased last year, dropping more than 21 percent to 15,214, down from 19,465 in 2007.

While Houston has made great strides in combating crime, more must be done to ensure the safety of Houstonians in their communities and their respective neighborhoods. I believe that the COPS program will be of benefit to the people of the 18th Congressional District as well as other communities in Texas and in communities around the United States.

To date, $56,857,827 in COPS grants were awarded to law enforcement agencies in the 18th District of Texas. COPS grants have

funded 875 additional police officers and sheriff's deputies to engage in community policing activities, including crime prevention, in the 18th District. 10 local and state law enforcement agencies in the 18th District have directly benefitted from funding made available through the COPS Office. $2,091,064 has been awarded to add 19 school resources officers to improve safety for students, teachers, and administrators in primary and secondary schools throughout the 18th Congressional District. $9,026,291 has been awarded for crime-fighting technologies. This funding has allowed officers to spend more time on the streets of the 18th Congressional District of Texas fighting and preventing crime through timesaving technology, information-sharing systems, and improved communications equipment.

AMENDMENT

The COPS program was designed to help bring about fundamental changes in policing by drawing officers closer to the citizens they protect. And, in scores of communities across the nation, the COPS program did just that.

The idea of community policing is to get away from the traditional "call and response" model, in which officers run from one emergency call to the next. It involves sending officers into the streets and into the neighborhoods to build relationships with residents, identify the sources of crime problems, and solve them before they get worse. The success of the COPS approach to policing is dependent upon the relationships built between the police and the members of the communities they serve.

Because the success of the COPS approach to policing is dependent upon the relationships built between the police and the members of the community it served, I offered an amendment at the Judiciary Committee markup. My amendment was accepted and was included within this legislation.

H.R. 1139 requires that the Attorney General shall provide for a scientific study of the effectiveness of the programs, projects, and activities funded under this Act in reducing crime. The study is to be completed within four years of enactment of this bill.

My amendment, which was accepted at the Judiciary Committee markup, specifically requires that

"Such study shall include identified best practices for community policing that have demonstrated results in building and strengthening the relationships between police departments and the communities such departments serve."

The requirement that the study identify "best practices" in community policing is important because the enumeration of these best practices will serve as an unequivocal benchmark by which the successes of the COPS program can be measured.

These "best practices" would establish bright line rules to analyze community policing and the derogation of which will require retooling and adjustment of the community policing measures involved. Moreover, the Attorney General is in the best position to complete this study and certainly is in the best position to determine what constitutes "good" community policing. My amendment would support and strengthen the development of good community policing methods.

I believe that H.R. 1139 is strengthened with the inclusion of my language. Again, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1139

OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS

Page 11, line 7, insert after "crime." the following: "Such study shall include identified best practices for community policing that have demonstrated results for building and strengthening the relationship between police departments and the communities such departments serve.".

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I will go back to this October 2005 study since I think there has been some confusing verbiage that has emerged here with a regard to a number of different studies. I don't think I have heard anyone actually directly rebut the study that I have referenced, but I want to just go back to the concise language.

It says, it concludes, "COPS grants were not the major cause of the decline in crime from 1994 through 2001." I find nothing in this report or any report that says that COPS grants are the major cause of the decline in even violent crime, although they were a contributing factor, and I stipulated those contributing factors.

Another point is I didn't equate any AIG executives as criminals. In fact, I voted against that bill that sought to reach back. It was a mistake made by Congress and people were looking for cover. That is what that was about. I opposed both components of that. I will continue to do so. In fact, I defended that they be able to keep those bonuses, because Congress made a huge mistake and we shouldn't interfere with the relationship between employers and employees.

Mr. Speaker, what I am having trouble getting my mind around is the image of data analysis that has emerged as I listened to the gentleman from New York, Mr. WEINER. He has argued all this data as to why we need to increase the COPS grant by 72 percent.

It surely couldn't be because police departments want more Federal funding. It surely couldn't be because they want to build empires. It surely couldn't be because crime has gone up. No one has said crime has gone up. In fact, it has gone down. Violent crime, nonviolent crime, has all gone down.

So what is this? Is this Mr. WEINER sitting in a loft somewhere analyzing data, divining away, maybe from the emanation from numbers, maybe it was something heretofore unimaginable, but calculating that we need to take another $1 billion into COPS, which we did, this Congress did, and now reach for an additional 72 percent, Mr. Speaker?

I cannot quite get that image fixed in my mind, that Mr. WEINER independently reached a conclusion off of data that would support this great big growth in COPS funding. There has to be something else. I don't think it has been clear. But I think the gentleman from Texas does understand this, and I hope he can illuminate us.

I would be happy to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, to say that we may want to pat ourselves on the back sitting behind the bench, I didn't ask for the words to be taken down. I don't believe they quite violate the rule.

□ 1700

But I can tell you what sitting behind the bench did for those years. It gave me a great vantage point to see what was doing good and what wasn't.

Now, I never kept a jury past 3 a.m., so I can't say I kept anybody all night. But I can tell you that the prosecutors, the defense attorneys, the law enforcement people, the parole boards, the confinement officials, the taxpayers that kept coming up with more and more money, they did an incredible job. They worked incredibly hard. They didn't get paid enough.

And I know the gentleman has referred to 170 or so law enforcement in my district that were added. And I really do need to get to the background information and figure out exactly where all those people were and for whom the Federal Government is taking credit for hiring.

But, you know, obviously the local governments had to take over that share, and so it was an incentive to start hiring more people. But the audit indicates that, looking at only 3 percent of the COPS grants, Federal auditors have alleged $277 million in misspent funds. The studies have shown that spending on the COPS program has not led to an increase in the overall spending by local law enforcement, so it hasn't increased law enforcement spending. That's what the studies show.

So if the overall spending on law enforcement programs, even with the additional Federal increase, has not increased law enforcement spending, then it's pretty clear that the money spent here did not do the trick of reducing crime. It came from lots of other sources.

And I come back to my original point. There is nobody that does a more efficient job than the local governments and the State governments in addressing these problems, because once that money comes through Washington, it is incredible the slice that this place takes out of the money before they send it back, whether it's education, whether it's law enforcement, whatever it is. And if we could come to a bipartisan agreement that would say, for every dollar you raise local and State taxes, we're going to reduce your Federal taxes, I think we could then hit that increase in law enforcement that obviously both sides want to see. It's just that that would be far more efficient. It would get to the people back in the State and localities who are really doing the job and from which my vantage on the bench allowed me to see, not pat myself on the back, but to see who was doing the job, and not bureaucrats up here in Washington talking a good game.

That's where the difference is made and that's where we can help.

Mr. WEINER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I'm not really sure where to begin. First let's start where the statistics came from that 171 police officers and sheriff deputies in the First district were hired. That's the COPS office. Those grants came from your constituents.

And I would say to the gentleman, all of those things and all of the moving parts in the criminal justice system, of course, they're very valuable. But why do you dismiss the 171 police officers? Why aren't they valuable? Why aren't they something that's of value?

And the gentleman said he wants the taxes reduced here in Washington. He had a chance for that. He voted against the stimulus bill which offered a tax cut to 90 percent of all of his constituents.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN).

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, during the break, the director of police in Memphis, Tennessee, Director Larry Godwin, called me. He called me to thank me for the COPS bill. He called me to thank me because he was going to hire 125 policemen in the next fiscal year and 125 in the following fiscal year and those would be hired because of COPS monies that were in the Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Director Godwin and I have known each other for a long time because I started my career as the attorney for the Memphis Police Department, attended International Association of Chiefs of Police meetings, and know that the patrol is a deterrent to crime. Patrol is the first way to stop crime.

These COPS programs hire more policemen, put them on the street, and oftentimes in innovative community policing activities.

The Afro American Police Association, Lieutenant Curry, and others have talked to me about community policing and how it helps my community reduce crime.

My Mayor, Willie Harrington, has asked me to come to Washington and work to get more COPS money and help him with putting more cops on the street; and that was one of the first things I wanted to do here. I'm a cosponsor of this bill. I am a proud supporter of it, and voted for the Recovery and Reinvestment Act because crime is a serious issue all over this country.

We support policemen in Afghanistan and Iraq. We need to support policemen all over this country and protect our citizens from crime.

The crime rate is going up. And by supporting this COPS bill you can make a difference. You can keep citizens alive and reduce crime. This is an effective deterrent to crime. It's what the policemen on the street tell me. It's why the Office of the United States Mayors has endorsed this bill.

I rely on the United States Mayors, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, my cops on the street, and my experience as a police legal advisor.

And I appreciate Mr. WEINER for bringing this bill, and I'm proud to be a sponsor, and urge this House to pass it.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time remains for each side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Iowa has 3½ minutes. The gentleman from New York has 7¼ minutes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I would reserve.

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I will yield myself the balance of the time.

Mr. Speaker, it's curious to me now that I find the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN), I guess it's a matter of public record, is a cosponsor of the legislation. I have two gentlemen here on the floor of the House of Representatives that, theoretically, at least, shaped this legislation and this policy that weren't satisfied with an additional $1 billion in previous legislation, but had to bring forward an expansion of the 72 percent increase, this 72 percent increase.

And again, the image of the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER) or the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) calculating out the data to conclude, and I'd ask the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN), before he leaves the floor, I'd be real happy to hear from him and yield to the gentleman from Tennessee, if he could tell me how many police officers are enough, per capita, for 100,000, say, citizens. What is the average in the Nation? What is enough? How does a person arrive at this requested 72 percent increase of $1 billion tossed into this, $167,000 a job, 100 percent federally funded, no copayment, completely grants, and presuming the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER) is right, and some, if not all these jobs will actually be in uniform on the streets within a year. But what is an appropriate number of police officers? What's your goal? Is there such a thing as too many police officers? That's really my question.

I would be happy to yield to the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I depend on my mayor, my police director and the citizens of my community who have emailed me and told me, we want more policemen; we want more deterrent. We need a safer community and a neighborhood. We want our children safe. We want our old people safe, and I'll respond to them. That's the number of policemen that we need is enough to satisfy my mayor.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I didn't ask the gentleman for some opinion of wanting more police officers. I recognize that if one's in uniform defending the streets in this country, that you're always going to want more help. I can't imagine a Police Department saying I don't need another officer, and I can't imagine a local jurisdiction, the taxation at a local jurisdiction saying no, we'd rather tax at home than we would at the Federal Government. I don't have a police chief saying to me that they want to reject the Federal funding and they want to tax their local citizens. And I've never known anyone that didn't need more help in what they were doing.

My question to the gentleman was, out of 100,000 people, how many police officers should we have? What is optimum? How many are too many? And if the gentleman can answer that specifically, then I'd like to hear it. And if not, I hope you wouldn't ask me to yield.

But do you have a specific answer?

I would yield to the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. COHEN. It's not as simple as math. But I know this: There were funds that were voted for Iraq that I voted against to protect the people in Baghdad. I want to protect the people in Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Reclaiming my time, I oppose this legislation for the reasons that I have said. It's an outrageous growth in Federal spending. It is a transfer out of the pockets of the taxpayers into the inner cities, the jurisdictions that would be the biggest beneficiaries of this. And everyone in government is going to have the instinct to try to grow their empire, Mr. Speaker. And we don't have data that says what is the optimum number. We don't have even the admission that there's such a thing as too many government employees in any category. And I would not either submit that too many police officers would be the first category that I'd want to reduce in government. It is not.

We need to be prudent. We need to be responsible. I'm looking at a national debt and a national deficit and a budget that has grown to be a $9.3 trillion deficit out of this President's budget, $9.3 trillion. That's all the corn we can raise in Iowa for the next thousand years, just to deal with President Obama's deficit. And if we are going to retire the debt, it's everything since the time of Christ, Mr. Speaker.

I oppose this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WEINER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, in answer to the distinguished gentleman's question, how many is enough, I think 214 for the State of Iowa, going to 110 police departments and agencies. Do you know why I believe that? I believe that because that's the number of applications and that's the number of police officers that small sheriff's departments, you see, it's an average of only two police officers per jurisdiction, has requested of the recovery money that you voted against. I mean, that's how much.

Now, you can say that there's no Federal role in policing, and you'd be

in a minority. You'd be in a tiny minority. You wouldn't even be in a majority in your own caucus, let alone in your State.

But I give credit to my colleagues who stand up on the floor who say there's too many cops. I give credit to my colleagues who have the audacity to stand up on the floor and say, you know what? Everyone wants police officers. They're not so important. Why don't we not hire police officers? I give them credit for that.

If you believe there is no Federal role in local law enforcement, you should vote ''no'' on the COPS program. But then, do not be inconsistent. You should make every effort to ensure that Iowa and Texas and the other States don't get this money, don't apply for this, because they obviously disagree with you.

The fact of the matter is there is a Federal responsibility for crime. We do have a Federal—there is a Federal role for this. And it's been successful.

Now, you can say that it is not the primary or the major. The fact of the matter is the GAO was asked to study a very basic question: Did the COPS program succeed in its objectives in reducing crime? And the answer is, you can read the conclusion. You don't have to pick a line here and a line there. You can read the conclusion. It says that it did. And now we want to make sure that this program lives for five more years.

And the gentleman's made a lot—This is a dramatic increase over what we've had in the past. Yes. It was zeroed out in the Bush years. Zero, nada, zippo.

Now, despite the fact that John Ashcroft and Gonzalez and police officials and Tom Ridge all said this program was a success, I mean, there is a time, and I have to say to my good friend from Iowa that I enjoy the ideological debates that sometimes go on on our Judiciary Committee and here on the floor. But these are human beings. These are officers of the law who every day put their lives on the line. And what we are saying is we want to help localities ease that burden.

And you know, not long ago the National Sheriffs Association weighed in and said that they support this expansion. And not long ago, an organization of police agencies called the Police Executive Research Forum did a survey of its police department membership. 62 percent said they're cutting overtime spending because of the fiscal downturn. A quarter of them said that they're reducing employment through attrition in order to deal with the fiscal downturn. 47 percent of them said that they were discontinuing officer training because of the fiscal downturn.

Now, you can say hey, it's not our problem; things go up, things go down. Or you can say we want to help. We want to do something about it. We want to help localities.

And I would say to the gentleman that if he is going to go home and do what the gentleman from New Jersey suggests, and pose with police officers and say we honor your service, do more than honor their service. Help them not get laid off. Help keep them on the job. Help expand police departments.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WEINER. I would be glad to yield.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I thank the gentleman for yielding. I just want to ask if it was his intention to infer erroneously that I had said that there are too many cops.

Mr. WEINER. Well, actually you mean imply. The answer to the question is, yes. You clearly did suggest that you know what—how many is too many, you said. I mean, I don't want to get the—I don't know how you get someone to say exactly what you said. But you said how many is too many? And the answer is very clear. The police departments in Iowa disagree with the Member from Iowa, and so do I. I believe—if I can just conclude, I believe that this is a program that works. You know, we don't have a lot of them in the Federal Government. We have some that work. This one, on a broad bipartisan way Members have said that, you know, this has been a success.

You can go to any police department in your district, and forgive me for not having the number at my fingertips, and say hey, has the COPS program helped you reduce crime? See what they say. See what these 110 police agencies in Iowa say. Ask them. Say, has this program been successful? And they'll say yes. And they'll say something else. They'll say please, help us keep this local agency a success story moving forward.

□ 1715

And if the gentleman doesn't believe that we should have a Federal role, by all means, he should vote ''no,'' but I do believe that overwhelmingly we do, and what we're trying to do here is to keep up with the times and say, you know what? If you've got to cut things on the local level now, you won't have the need to cut law enforcement. Ask people in any townhall meeting in Iowa or anywhere else if they think it's a good idea if we protect law enforcement funding with all the challenges that we have today. Let me conclude with this final thought.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Will the gentleman yield for a brief point?

Mr. WEINER. Let me just finish this because this is now more than one time that this has been quoted incorrectly.

There is a GAO report from June 3, 2005. Make sure we put this up on our Web site. You can go to house.gov/weiner, anyone who wants to. It's the Government Accountability Office. They'll tell you that it worked.

I'll be glad to yield.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I thank the gentleman.

I appreciate the opportunity to make the point that asking a question, which is what I asked, which was ''how many are too many?'' does not infer a position by any form of logic that I know of.

Mr. WEINER. Reclaiming my time, generally speaking, I think the lady doth protest too much. When someone says, ''How many is too many?'' they don't mean that they want more. They mean that they want less. If you want to withdraw that comment, I would if I were you because I'm concerned.

I think most of the citizens of Iowa—and I represent Brooklyn and Queens, so maybe I don't speak for the people of Iowa, but I do know 110 police departments, sheriff's departments and agencies in Iowa have applied for the first billion dollar grant. By the way, there's $8 billion worth of applications for that billion dollars. It's clearly a demand. So it's not your colleagues who are saying it. It's not Congress who is saying it. It's not the cops' office. Those police officers and those sheriff's offices are voting with their pens. They're saying, ''Please, help us. Don't listen to our Congressman. Listen to the Congressman from Brooklyn and Queens. Please expand this program.''

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Congressman WEINER for his outstanding work on this bill.

In 1994, the COPS program changed the way we fight crime in this country, by giving local jurisdictions the support needed to put more than 100,000 new officers on the street.

The results were clear: a nationwide drop in crime, and safer streets in our rural and urban areas alike.

The COPS program is needed now more than ever. States, counties, and cities struggling to balance their budgets have made cuts to law enforcement programs even as the threat of terrorism has put new burdens on our first responders, and recent news reports show violent crime in our cities is again on the rise.

This bill will help us face those problems, by putting thousands more officers where they can do the most good: on the streets of our communities.

I am a Co-Chairman of the Law Enforcement Caucus, which was founded to advocate for the law enforcement community, ensure our law enforcement officers are provided the resources they need and build on key programs—such as COPS—to keep our communities safe.

The COPS program is a proven concept that has the full support of the law enforcement community, and this bill will improve the program by expanding the utility of grants and increasing its authorization amount level by nearly $800 million.

I thank the Chairman and the Committee for their work on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes.''

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank my good friend from New York (Mr. WEINER) and his involvement in getting this bill to the floor today. I am pleased to support its passage, and am proud to be the lead Republican on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, not to date myself, but the Community Oriented Policing Services

(COPS) program was established the year I had the privilege of being elected to this body, in 1994, by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act (the '94 Crime Act).

The COPS program has aged better than me, enabling more officers to be hired, contributing to lower crime rates than would otherwise be the case, and increasing the technology and equipment available to our law enforcement officers to do the job we ask of them. According to the Department of Justice, the COPS program has helped state, local and tribal governments hire more than 117,000 officers and has awarded more than $11.4 billion to over 13,000 law enforcement agencies across the United States. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has estimated that COPS funding contributed a 2.5% decline in the violent crime rate between 1993 and 2000. In my own district, nearly 300 officers have been hired since the program started. Statewide, the COPS program has funded more than 3,700 officers and sheriff's deputies, more than 225 school resource officers, and has provided more than $55 million in technology grants for departments. It's hard to argue with fighting crime, lowering crime rates, hiring trained officers in our local communities, and providing equipment and technology upgrades otherwise not available to cash-strapped communities.

As my colleagues know, the recent stimulus bill contained $1 billion to hire or rehire laid-off officers. Some may say: Why are you authorizing this program again when you just gave it a considerable amount of money in the stimulus bill?

Mr. Speaker, last week was the deadline for departments to apply for a slice of that stimulus money to hire officers. The COPS office tells me that the $1 billion in the stimulus bill will pay for 5,500 new police positions nationwide. The COPS Hiring Recovery program—the stimulus program—received applications from a staggering 7,200 departments nationwide! That's $8.4 billion in requests for 40,000 officers. Again, the stimulus program contained $1 billion and will fund just 5,500 officers. So, when the funding is doled out, departments in every corner of the country are going to be greatly disappointed because more than 34,000 of the officers requested will not be funded.

Also, the COPS office tells me that the vast majority of applications for the stimulus funding were for new officer positions, not to replace laid-off officers, so clearly there is a need for this program. To give you some perspective on the number of applications just received by the COPS office, when the program started in the mid-1990s, the office received about 6,000 applications. When the application period ended last week, there were 7,200 applications, so clearly police departments are in need and the COPS office is swamped.

Mr. Speaker, this popular community policing program will reauthorize through Fiscal Year 2014 the COPS program. I am pleased to see it includes Mr. WEINER's Troops-to-Cops Program, which would fund the hiring of former members of the Armed Forces to serve as law enforcement officers in community-oriented policing, particularly in communities adversely affected by military base closings. It also includes technology grants and authorizes up to $350 million a year for grants to departments to obtain or upgrade technology and equipment.

Mr. Speaker, the COPS program has advanced community policing in all jurisdictions across the United States by enabling law enforcement to hire and train law enforcement officers to participate in community policing, purchase and deploy new crime-fighting technologies, and develop and test policing strategies. You'd be hard pressed to find a program that is better liked by the law enforcement community and city officials. More importantly, the COPS program is well run and an effective use of taxpayer money. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. WEINER. I yield back my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1139, 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. KING of Iowa. 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.

STATUTORY TIME-PERIODS TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2009

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1626) to make technical amendments to laws containing time periods affecting judicial proceedings.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1626

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 ''Statutory Time-Periods Technical Amendments Act of 2009''.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS RELATED TO TITLE 11, UNITED STATES CODE.

Title 11, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 109(h)(3)(A)(ii), by striking ''5-day'' and inserting ''7-day'';

(2) in section 322(a), by striking ''five days'' and inserting ''seven days'';

(3) in section 332(a), by striking ''5 days'' and inserting ''7 days'';

(4) in section 342(e)(2), by striking ''5 days'' and inserting ''7 days'';

(5) in section 521(e)(3)(B), by striking ''5 days'' and inserting ''7 days'';

(6) in section 521(i)(2), by striking ''5 days'' and inserting ''7 days'';

(7) in section 704(b)(1)(B), by striking ''5 days'' and inserting ''7 days'';

(8) in section 749(b), by striking ''five days'' and inserting ''seven days''; and

(9) in section 764(b), by striking ''five days'' and inserting ''seven days''.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS RELATED TO TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.

Title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 983(j)(3), by striking ''10 days'' and inserting ''14 days'';

(2) in section 1514(a)(2)(C), by striking ''10 days'' each place it appears and inserting ''14 days'';

(3) in section 1514(a)(2)(E), by inserting after ''the Government'' the following: '', excluding intermediate weekends and holidays,'';

(4) in section 1963(d)(2), by striking ''ten days'' and inserting ''fourteen days'';

(5) in section 2252A(c), by striking ''10 days'' and inserting ''14 days'';

(6) in section 2339B(f)(5)(B)(ii), by striking ''10 days'' and inserting ''14 days'';

(7) in section 2339B(f)(5)(B)(iii)(I), by inserting after ''trial'' the following: '', excluding intermediate weekends and holidays'';

(8) in section 2339B(f)(5)(B)(iii)(III), by inserting after ''appeal'' the following: '', excluding intermediate weekends and holidays'';

(9) in section 3060(b)(1), by striking ''tenth day'' and inserting ''fourteenth day'';

(10) in section 3432, by inserting after ''commencement of trial'' the following: '', excluding intermediate weekends and holidays,'';

(11) in section 3509(b)(1)(A), by striking ''5 days'' and inserting ''7 days''; and

(12) in section 3771(d)(5)(B), by striking ''10 days'' and inserting ''14 days''.

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS RELATED TO THE CLASSIFIED INFORMATION PROCEDURES ACT.

The Classified Information Procedures Act (18 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) in section 7(b), by striking ''ten days'' and inserting ''fourteen days'';

(2) in section 7(b)(1), by inserting after ''adjournment of the trial,'' the following: ''excluding intermediate weekends and holidays,''; and

(3) in section 7(b)(3), by inserting after ''argument on appeal,'' the following: ''excluding intermediate weekends and holidays,''.

SEC. 5. AMENDMENT RELATED TO THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT.

Section 413(e)(2) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 853(e)(2)) is amended by striking ''ten days'' and inserting ''fourteen days''.

SEC. 6. AMENDMENTS RELATED TO TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE.

Title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 636(b)(1), by striking ''ten days'' and inserting ''fourteen days'';

(2) in section 1453(c)(1), by striking ''not less than 7 days'' and inserting ''not more than 10 days''; and

(3) in section 2107(c), by striking ''7 days'' and inserting ''14 days''.

SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on December 1, 2009.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WEINER. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WEINER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Statutory Time-Periods Technical Amendments Act changes the court filing deadlines in a number of statutes so that they correspond with new Federal court rules that are scheduled to go into effect on December 1, 2009.

Cosponsors of this bill include the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, JOHN CONYERS; as well as the full committee ranking member, LAMAR SMITH; the Courts Subcommittee chairman, HANK JOHNSON; and the Courts Subcommittee ranking member, HOWARD COBLE.

As anyone who has practiced law knows, calculating court deadlines can be extremely confusing. Even experienced lawyers have to expend considerable time and effort determining deadlines for filing. This can be especially problematic when there is a holiday or a deadline falls on the weekend. Calculating deadlines is also complicated by the fact that the Federal court rules for banking, civil and criminal proceedings currently do not use one standard method for determining time periods.

Unfortunately, because of the confusion and discrepancies involved with calculating deadlines under the current system, parties can too easily lose their right to their day in court because of procedural mistakes, regardless of the merits of the case.

The Judicial Conference has sent Congress amended rules for calculating these deadlines. The new rules are easier to understand and apply, and are also the same across the board.

Under the new rules, deadlines will not fall on weekends, and every calendar day will be counted when calculating deadlines—a commonsense ''days are days'' approach. The new rules will also standardize deadline calculation for very short time periods, taking weekends into account. This bill complements the Judicial Conference's rules package by changing the deadlines in several important statutes so that the statutes match up with the Judicial Conference's rule changes.

The bill is widely supported by judges and by the lawyers who practice before them in court. It will help ensure that courts are able to reach the merits of the cases before them rather than having to dismiss them due to an inadvertently missed deadline filing.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

(Mr. KING of Iowa asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KING of Iowa. After thorough study and deliberation, the United States Judicial Conference developed draft language that slightly alters time deadlines in 28 statutory provisions that affect court proceedings. This text is incorporated in H.R. 1626, the Statutory Time-Periods Technical Amendments Act of 2009.

These statutory provisions are limited to those that have short time periods, that use a rules method for calculating time periods, that are frequently applied or are otherwise important, and that do not prescribe a method to calculate time.

These legislative changes are necessary to account for the effect of amendments to the time computation rules in the Federal Rules of Practice and Procedure that are due to take effect on December 1, 2009, unless Congress acts to modify or reject them.

The rules amendments simplify the provisions for calculating deadlines and make those rules consistent in each set of the Federal rules. They respond to years of complaints by practitioners that the present rules are confusing and can lead to missing deadlines and to losing important rights.

To simplify calculating deadlines, the amended rules count intermediate weekends and holidays for all time periods rather than excluding them for some short time periods and including them for longer time periods. This simple ''days are days'' approach can have the effect of shortening a time period.

A large number of statutory time periods could theoretically be affected by the proposed shift in the Federal rules' time-computation approach. However, the number of statutory provisions to which case law has applied the rules' time-computation method is much smaller. An even smaller number of statutes is either frequently used or has time periods that could hopefully be adjusted to avoid inconsistency and confusion when the rules' time-computation method changes.

The proposed legislation provides short extensions of short time deadlines in a small number of statutes to offset the effective shortening caused by the new rules approach.

Mr. Speaker, the proposed statutory amendments are noncontroversial. They were the subject of extensive study and public comment during the Rules Enabling Act process. They have been vetted by numerous legal and bar organizations, including the Department of Justice. The Judicial Conference, led by District Judge Lee H. Rosenthal, Chair of the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure, provided bipartisan staff briefings on the need for the legislation.

H.R. 1626 addresses obscure but important subject matter that will allow our Federal courts to operate more smoothly. I urge the Members to support the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I inquire of my colleague:

Do you have any more speakers?

Mr. KING of Iowa. I have no more speakers.

Mr. WEINER. In that case, I just want to offer my thanks to all of the Members and the staff who worked on this bill, including Talia Wenzel, who did a great job working on this and who wrote my opening remarks.

I urge a ''yes'' vote, and I yield back my time.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I will just recognize that the gentleman from New York, in spite of the fury of our previous debate, has significant confidence that I won't close with anything except an endorsement of the passage of the bill. I appreciate that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1626.

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.

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN JUDICIARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert in the RECORD at this point an exchange of letters between Judiciary Chairman JOHN CONYERS and Energy and Commerce Chairman HENRY WAXMAN on the bill that we just debated.

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

There was no objection.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, April 20, 2009.

Hon. JOHN CONYERS, Jr.,
Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CONYERS: I am writing to confirm our understanding regarding H.R. 1626, the ''Statutory Time-Periods Technical Amendments Act of 2009.'' As you know, this bill was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, which has jurisdictional interest in provisions of the bill. In light of the interest in moving this bill forward promptly, I do not intend to exercise the jurisdiction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce by conducting further proceedings on H.R. 1626. I do this, however, only with the understanding that foregoing further consideration of H.R. 1626 at this time will not be construed as prejudicing this Committee's jurisdictional interests and prerogatives on the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation.

In addition, we reserve the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation. I would appreciate your including this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of the bill on the House floor. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Sincerely,

HENRY A. WAXMAN,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, April 20, 2009.

Hon. HENRY A. WAXMAN,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding your Committee's jurisdictional interest in H.R. 1626, the Statutory Time-Periods Technical Amendments Act of 2009.

I appreciate your willingness to support expediting floor consideration of this important legislation. I acknowledge that H.R. 1626 contains provisions under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and understand and agree that your willingness to waive further consideration of the bill is without prejudice to your Committee's jurisdictional interests in this or similar legislation in the future. In the event a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation is convened, I would support your request for an appropriate number of conferees.

I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Congressional Record in the debate on the bill. Thank you for your cooperation as we work towards enactment of this legislation.

Sincerely,

JOHN CONYERS, Jr.,
Chairman.

RECOGNIZING EARTH DAY AND REINTRODUCING NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE ACT

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

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Earth Day and to reintroduce the No Child Left Inside Act, which will strengthen environmental education in our Nation's schools. By enhancing environmental education, we can teach our youth how to be environmental stewards and grow the next generation of scientists and innovators to solve our energy and environment challenges.

This Earth is the only home we have. If we do not put ourselves on a more sustainable path, if we do not reach across party lines, if we do not reach out across culture, faith, class, and race to meet these challenges, our children and grandchildren will pay the price. They will inherit a planet in peril with increasingly diminished resources and even less time to act.

I rise today to call on all Americans to think locally about how they can have a positive impact on our environment, and I urge my colleagues to think globally when we consider a long-term responsible and sustainable energy strategy.

THE BOYCOTTING OF DURBAN II

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

Mr. ENGEL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Just the other day, the United Nations, shamefully, had a so-called ''conference'' on racism, dubbed Durban II, held in Geneva. The United States boycotted this charade, rightfully so, and I want to commend President Obama for making the decision to boycott because Durban I turned into a tirade of racism against Israel, of racism against the Jewish people, anti-Semitism, and we knew that so-called ''Durban II'' would be the same. Sure enough, it was.

When that lunatic, the President of Iran, Ahmadinejad, got up and made hateful speeches against Jews, against Israel, anti-Semitic speeches, it really made a mockery of this whole so-called ''Durban II.'' This conference was supposed to attack racism, not deal and aid and abet racism. Ahmadinejad, shamefully, was the only President of any country to address this charade.

The United Nations, unfortunately, only discredits itself when it has conferences like this, and I'm glad. It was the right thing to do that the United States boycotted. As for the European nations, many walked out in disgust, and that was also good because that showed that racism, anti-Semitism and beating up on Israel was not going to be tolerated.

I commend the President, and I am glad the United States stood tall.

THE CLOSING OF GUANTANAMO BAY

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

Ms. JENKINS. Just days after taking the oath of office, President Obama signed an Executive order calling for the closure of the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay within 1 year. Since then, despite requests to the House Armed Services Committee, no congressional hearing has been held.

I'm concerned that President Obama is willing to request $80 million in the fiscal year 2009 war supplemental to fund closing Guantanamo Bay but won't work with Congress on a strategy on where to transfer the detainees after closing it.

As a Representative of Fort Leavenworth, which has been discussed as a potential relocation site for the Guantanamo detainees, I am very troubled that $50 million of the funds are earmarked for the relocation to an unknown site. Moving suspected terrorists to the United States will place an unnecessary risk on Americans. It's my priority to look out for the safety of the Leavenworth community, and I cannot in good conscience say to the people in and around Leavenworth that they would be secure with suspected terrorists nearby.

If the President is serious about closing Guantanamo, he should work directly with Congress on a comprehensive plan.

□ 1730

REJECT THE PLAN TO ELIMINATE PRIVATE LENDING

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

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, this past work period that I was home, I visited with some folks with Sallie Mae and Texas Guaranteed Loans. These are two private programs that have been providing student loans for our students in Texas and for the rest of the country. Over 80 percent of the students chose a private lender as their choice to finance their school program. But now, the Democratic party is, by their action, forcing us into a government-only program. And I looked into a room that a year and a half ago was full of hundreds of people, it now stands empty, not because of a recession but because of the action of the Federal Government as led by the Democratic majority.

It is a shame not to give the choice to our students, and when they make that choice, they choose private industry to the tune of 80 percent. This is estimated to cost 30,000 jobs in the Nation this year. And I don't have a problem with jobs in my district unless the government takes those jobs away. This is a shame. I think they should apologize to those hardworking people, most of whom are spouses of fighting soldiers.

HONORING MITCH KING IN HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mitch King, a government relations manager at the U.S. Postal Service, who, on May 1, is retiring after 36 years of work for the Postal Service, for Congress, and our Nation.

Mitch King began his postal career in 1973 as a letter carrier in Falls Church, Virginia, just a few miles from here, and then became supervisor of letter carriers before becoming an instructor in the delivery service branch of the Postal Management Academy in Potomac, Maryland.

In the spring of 1982, he began working in the government relations department at Postal Service headquarters in Washington, D.C. In 1992, he was promoted to the position of government relations manager, a postal career executive position equivalent to the executive branch's senior executive service. During the latter part of his career, he managed postal service congressional liaison activities for the States of Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, and the District of Columbia. He also served on the Election Mail Task Force.

Mitch has managed government relations activities with many Members of Congress, addressing an ever-expanding variety of postal-related issues. He has also served as the principal postal contact for the House Appropriations Committee and the Financial Services Subcommittee. When I chaired the Treasury Postal Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, I dealt with Mitch on a regular basis.

Since that time, as whip and majority leader, I have continued to deal

with Mitch King and have found him very responsive, very knowledgable, and very conscientious. He was, in short, a model of an employee that the citizens of this country would want to have.

For years, Mitch worked with me to help ensure my constituents the level of service they have rightfully come to expect from the Postal Service. Indeed, he's done that for all of our Members. He was a true and dedicated public servant. He did his work well and faithfully for decades with no expectations of great rewards or renown. For 36 years, Mitch King helped keep the mail going. He was part of a collective accomplishment that is no less impressive for the fact that it happens 6 days a week.

The United States Postal Service handles millions and millions of pieces of mail a day. Does it make some mistakes? Yes. But an extraordinarily small percentage. In fact, it's the most productive mail service in the world. And 40 percent, frankly, ahead of number two.

At the same time, Mitch's humor, intelligence and consummate skill help make him entirely unique in many ways. I know I speak for all of us when I say he will be missed from public service. I am sure that he will go on to continue to contribute to his community, to his family, to his State, and to his country.

Good job, Mitch King. Godspeed.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, 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 Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

THE CIA'S QUESTIONING WORKED

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. Mr. Speaker, these pictures I have here are to remind my colleagues of what's happened to the United States in the past by terrorist attacks.

This first one is the Pentagon of the United States. Several hundred people were killed. There's a memorial over at the Pentagon that shows that these people gave their lives on the plane and in the Pentagon for this country, a terrorist attack on 9/11.

This here is the World Trade Center. More people were killed in this attack than any attack in the history of the United States by an enemy. Even the attack on Pearl Harbor didn't even come close to this, although that was a terrible thing as well.

And this here, just to let you know that the worldwide threat of terrorism by al Qaeda is worldwide, this is what happened to a train where they set a bomb off in Spain by al Qaeda. That was in Madrid.

Now, the reason I bring this up is because the President of the United States, in just the last few days, said that the techniques that we have used to extract information from terrorists is something that we in the United States should not use. There are many of us in the body who believes that we should use any technique possible, as long as it is not completely inhumane, to extract information from these terrorists so that they don't do these things to American citizens.

Now, many of my colleagues, I understand they're humanitarians and they don't want to do things to people that shouldn't be done. But we're talking about killing Americans. Killing Americans. And these terrorists have no compunction whatsoever about killing Americans.

I have over here that I am not going to show tonight where they have cut the heads off of Americans and held them up, and where they've cut the heads off of Americans and hung them from an overpass so that everybody driving by could see them. And yet, the administration is saying, you know, that we shouldn't use tactics such as waterboarding in order to extract this information from terrorists.

Now, there is a man named Khalid Sheik Mohammed who was the mastermind of the September 11 attack on the United States of America. He was waterboarded several times. And he said that he didn't think the United States of America—and others that were waterboarded, there were three of them that I recall—they didn't think the United States and the citizens of this country had the intestinal fortitude, the guts, necessary to do what was necessary to stop terrorist attacks. And so we used waterboarding on them. That's where they put a board on them and pour water over you to give you the sensation that feels like you're drowning, and you keep doing it until they give up the information that they want. He finally gave up the information.

The information that he gave up was there was going to be another attack in Los Angeles, and it was going to be similar to the attack on the World Trade Center, and it was going to be the Library Tower in Los Angeles. And the only reason he gave up that information was because he was waterboarded.

Now, you know, nobody wants to be waterboarded. We had a newsman that was waterboarded to show what it was like. He said it was terrible, it was horrible, but he survived, and he was showing what it was all about. And every time they did waterboarding, they had a doctor right there to make sure the person would survive. It was done just to elicit information from them that would save American lives.

And the only time they did it, the only time they used these ''enhanced techniques of interrogation'' was when they thought it was going to be imminent that the United States was going to be attacked, and they only did it three times that I know of. And every time it was necessary, and every time it ended up with results that saved American lives.

And yet the President of the United States said, ''We're not going to do that any more because it is not something that we in America approve of.''

In my opinion, if we're going to save American lives, we ought to do whatever is necessary to save American lives. We went to war with Japan and Germany because Americans were being killed. And millions of people died in that war because of the attack on Pearl Harbor and because of what Nazi Germany did. And yet we can't use waterboarding, a technique to get information from terrorists, to stop things like this?

You know, I don't mind being goodhearted but not where the lives of good Americans are concerned.

And there are other times where they got information from the terrorist organizations here in the United States that were planning an attack.

Vice President Cheney—who is being vilified all the time anymore—he was on television the last two nights and he said that while they are stopping waterboarding and saying that anybody that used that technique is a horrible person, he said he had seen documents that showed that the waterboarding was effective in saving American lives and stopping attacks like the World Trade Center and the one that was going to take place in Los Angeles. He said he saw those documents. And yet the White House released documents that showed that there were these tactics used to get information but they didn't show—they didn't release the documents that showed that it was effective in stopping the attack in Los Angeles, California.

My time is up, folks. I'll be back tomorrow night.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 875

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 875.

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

There was no objection.

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

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

HONORING THE MEMORY OF BRUCE ROY

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

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, the State of Maine and the working families across the Nation lost a determined advocate when Bruce Roy passed away on April 7. I rise tonight to honor my dear friend. My heart goes out to his wife for over 29 years, Nancy; his two daughters, Jessica and Joanne; and his five grandchildren, Courtney, Britney, Logan, Isabell, and Cooper, as well as his extended family during this very difficult time.

□ 1745

Bruce reminds us all of how short and precious life can be, but unlike most people who let life pass by them, Bruce lived in the moment. He gave everything he had to the betterment of his family's life and those around him.

I believe that a true measure of a man should always be the size of his heart. And God knows, and everyone who knew Bruce knew, that the size of his heart was enormous. He loved so many, and he was loved by so many, and there is nothing more important in life than that.

Bruce's idea of family far extends beyond the traditional norm; it includes his fellow mill workers, his union brothers and sisters, and his neighbors. He devoted his life to helping struggling families all across the State of Maine. And in the weeks preceding his death, helping the laid-off workers at Wausau Paper Mill get the assistance that they deserved.

Bruce also was a member of PACE International Union, known today as United Steelworkers Local 11 of Jay. He also served as Treasurer/Recording Secretary and President of the Maine Labor Council of the United Steelworkers, and Secretary/Treasurer of the Maine AFL–CIO. He was recently appointed and confirmed to the Maine Workers' Compensation Board.

But in no way can Bruce's resume encapsulate who he was and what he stood for. When I first ran for Congress, many people did not believe that a mill worker could be elected. I was in a six-way primary in 2002, and the odds were stacked against me. Bruce devoted his life full-time to my campaign. And even though he wasn't a paid staffer, he was very much part of our campaign team. Bruce would get up at the crack of dawn to do mill gates, and spent long evenings plastering neighborhoods with campaign signs and literature. He was instrumental in my ''Get Out the Vote'' effort in the Katahdin region. I know he did all this at the expense of spending time with his loving family. He made an enormous sacrifice, but it was for a cause that he believed in. And that is how Bruce lived his life, he devoted his whole heart to the cause he believed in. When I won the seat to the United States Congress, my victory was not just for me, but for people like Bruce.

Bruce always reminded me that you can't stop fighting for the working men and women of this country. He lived that pledge in everything that he did. I have never forgotten those words. They are the words that we all should live by today.

Bruce always made a decision based on what was right. His approach to life was a combination of good humor, high ideals, and honor. He lived by that example. His son-in-law said about Bruce, ''He was the nicest guy I ever met,'' and I couldn't agree more.

There are no words to express the pain we all feel with his passing away. We love you, Bruce, and we know that you are among the angels. Your work here on Earth will never be forgotten from your brothers and sisters in the labor movement, and from your families and friends who lived and worked by you each and every day of your life.

May God bless you and your wonderful family.

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

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY, CARL LINDNER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SCHMIDT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th birthday of one of Cincinnati's greatest citizens, Carl H. Lindner, Jr. I have the privilege and honor of calling Carl a constituent of mine.

For more than 70 years, the greater Cincinnati region has come to admire and appreciate Carl's business and philanthropic skills. Carl Lindner is a living example of the American Dream and proof positive that anything is possible in the United States.

At the age of 14, Carl left school to work in the family dairy business, along with his brothers, Robert and Richard, and his sister, Dorothy. They operated a cash-and-carry dairy market in Norwood, Ohio. The store was the origin of United Dairy Farmers, and so began Carl Lindner's storied career.

Throughout his career, Mr. Lindner has touched thousands of lives in southwestern Ohio. His generosity has built schools, cured the sick, and changed the face of a city. Be it supporting the arts or building a new hospital, Carl has contributed mightily to the economic and cultural lives of his fellow Cincinnatians.

Carl remains active in his varied business ventures as chairman of the board and chief executive of the American Financial Group. Mr. Lindner has been married to his beautiful bride, Edith, for well over 50 years. And United Dairy Farmers continues to make the best ice cream in Cincinnati, including my favorite homemade brand, chocolate chip.

Mr. Speaker, if a man is truly judged by his deeds, then there can be no higher example than set by Carl Lindner. Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Carl's 90th birthday.

Happy birthday, Carl. I hope you have 90 more. God bless you.

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

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING CLAUDE ''TAPPY'' MOLLOY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, once again the people of my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands, have lost a beloved political leader who for the past half century has selflessly given of his time and talents to the betterment of our community.

Claude A. Molloy, a native of St. Croix—''Tappy,'' as he was affectionately known to one and all—served this country in the U.S. Air Force during the 1950s and later went on to obtain a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting from the University of Puerto Rico in 1962, and then subsequently an MBA, with a specialization in economics, finance, and industrial relations from the Columbia University School of Business in 1976.

He served our territorial government with dedication and distinction in many capacities over the years in the Departments of Finance, Property and Procurement, Labor, and the Board of the VI Water and Power Authority in crucial and vital positions. But according to those who knew him best, his most significant contributions were in his service to the Virgin Islands Legislature and the Government Employee Retirement System. He was elected to the Virgin Islands Legislature for three terms and served as Senate President in the 10th Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

As a legislator, he made his mark as chairman of the Committee of Agriculture and Procurement, Tourism and Advertising, Labor and Veterans Affairs, the Cost of Living Commission, and Banking and Interest Rates. He also served on the Second Constitutional Convention's Committee on Taxation, Finance and Federal Relations, as well as the Cultural Heritage Commission.

As administrator for the Virgin Islands Employees Retirement System, he fought to preserve the integrity of the system, even so far as going to court to ensure that the system's assets were protected and that government contributions were submitted on time. That was quintessential Tappy—fiercely protecting the people of the Virgin Islands in any instance where he felt they or their rights were being threatened.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, many in my community have fond memories of a man who cared for his family, his people, and his islands. His contributions to the formative years of the young democracy that is the U.S. Virgin Islands will be a prominent part of our history.

I extend my condolences to his wife, Juel, his sisters, his children and his grandchildren. I know that his wit and wisdom will remain an indelible part of their and our memories in the days to come, and we thank them all for sharing this lion of a man with us so generously.

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

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

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

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

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

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

HONORING JAMES BARTON ''MICKEY'' VERNON

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

Mr. SESTAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of one of the finest athletes and men ever to call the Seventh Congressional District of Pennsylvania home. James Barton ''Mickey'' Vernon, a native of Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania, passed away on September 24, 2008, having lived a life of great success and purpose. Today is the anniversary of his birthday.

Long before he became an exceptional professional baseball player, Mickey Vernon's character and work ethic were shaped by his parents, Clarence and Katherine Morris Vernon, his sister, Edith, and the good people of Marcus Hook, the cornerstone of Pennsylvania.

In addition, he benefited from the dedicated faculty and coaches of Eddystone High School and Villanova University. Ranked among the best players of baseball's golden era, Mickey was twice the American League's batting champ and, over a career that included time with the Washington Senators, Cleveland Indians, Boston Red Sox, Milwaukee Braves and Pittsburgh Pirates, he played in 2,409 Major League games. In each, he played with skill, determination, and a complete commitment to his team and teammates.

More important than his skills on the diamond, Mickey Vernon stands apart for his modesty and unfailing service to our Nation and to our community. I am especially proud to call him ''shipmate.'' Mickey Vernon served in the U.S. Navy during World War II in the brutally hot and dangerous South Pacific. Following that conflict, he continued his brilliant career, and with his lovely wife, Anne, raised a lovely daughter, Gay.

In a year when the Seventh Congressional District lost both Mickey Vernon and Harry Kalas, there is a temptation to feel great pain and sadness, that is understandable; but it is more in keeping with the lives of both men that we celebrate their greatness and decency.

I ask that our Chamber and our Nation pause to honor James Barton ''Mickey'' Vernon as a model athlete, a veteran, husband, father and friend, an inspiration to us all. He was some man.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

RECKLESS OVERSPENDING BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. AKIN. Good evening, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for recognizing me.

I am interested tonight in talking about a subject that I think is on the minds of Americans everywhere and has gotten people not just on their minds, but on their hearts as well. They're exercised, they're concerned, they're worried. And that is the subject of taxes, and really reckless overspending on the part of the Federal Government.

We have heard over the past about 6 years or 7 years the high cost of the war, particularly in Iraq. People say, hey, we are spending a tremendous amount of money every day in Iraq, what are we getting for our money? This thing is breaking our budget. We're spending too much money. This is terrible. And then what we see here in the first 5 weeks of the Congress meeting, we saw them passing what was supposed to be a stimulus bill—or I call it a porkulus bill—and that bill, at $840 billion, was more money than we spent in 6 and 7 years, respectively, in the war in Iraq added to the war in Afghanistan. So we were really burning some serious money just in the first 5 weeks.

Now, let's add to that, turn forward a little bit, and the American public is becoming exercised about this subject. And just this last week, on the day when filing of taxes is due, we saw all across our country a massive turnout of people, just average citizens, largely—at least certainly that's what it was in the St. Louis area—having these TEA parties. And they were very upset. And they carried all kinds of signs to express their concern about this problem of reckless overspending on the part of the Federal Government. Some of the signs read—and they were fairly clever—''Give Me Liberty, Not Debt,'' obviously taking off of Patrick Henry. And it said ''No More Pork.'' Here's one, ''Got Taxes? Got Government? Get Liberty.''

□ 1800

Then there was a 6 year-old that carried the sign, ''I am 6 years old and I

owe $36,400 in taxes.'' And there were a number of other ones that were fairly pointed, ''Freedom, not socialism'' and things like that.

People are really getting very concerned and with very good reason about our reckless overspending.

In fact, there was enough pressure from all of these different events that happened all over the country that the President felt like he had to make some kind of a statement or gesture. And so he said, very graciously, look, I will tell you what we are going to do. We are going to try to find $100 million in the budget of wasted spending, to get rid of $100 million.

Well, we have illustrated that point here graphically to my left.

This first circle is $410 billion, and that was called an omnibus bill. That was just finishing up the spending for this year.

Then we had two of this supposedly stimulus bill, which is what I was just talking about, at $787 billion in its final version, and then on top of that is the proposed $3.69 trillion, so these graphically represent the amount of money we are overspending and Obama's requested budget cuts represented by this spot, even on this chart, the size of an eraser.

To try to put that into perspective, let's say that your family budget is $100,000. You have a $100,000 budget for the year, but you are $34,000 behind. That's like calling the whole family together and saying to them, now, here is what I am going to do. I am going to give up a $3 Starbucks coffee. That's what this $100 million is equivalent to: $3 on a $100,000 budget.

So these numbers show the fact that the administration and the current Congress just doesn't get it. This overspending problem is really serious, and the public is getting, as I said, very concerned about it.

I have a statement from one of my constituents here, this is what he wrote to me.

He said, this is William from the Saint Louis area, ''I am a small businessman in Union, Missouri, employing 12 people. I built my business from practically nothing to a company worth enough to retire on, or so I thought. I am 62 years old and plan to sell my business in 3 years and to retire on the proceeds.

''In the year I sell my Federal tax rate will be 39 percent, that is assuming that Obama does not raise it even further by then, and my Missouri tax rate will be 6 percent. Since I am a service company, we have no real assets to sell. Virtually all of the proceeds will be taxed as ordinary income.

''That means that I worked a good part of my life to build a future and the taxing authorities are going to take 45 percent.

''Since my IRA accounts have been decimated thanks to,'' I believe he is talking about Congressman FRANK and Senator DODD,'' it looks like I will have to work until I die.''

And then, bitterly, ''Only in America.''

People around America are very upset about what's going on.

I have a good friend, a Congressman from Georgia, Congressman LYNN WESTMORELAND, I believe that you have a chart also depicting in a different way the seriousness of what's going on with our excessive overspending.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Well, I want to thank my friend from Missouri for yielding some time, and I just wanted to ask one question to the gentleman about the chart that he just had up, and that was the fact that the chart that he just had up, you are telling me that what the President has asked of his cabinet members, if I am hearing you correctly, is that they are to cut, in the next 90 days, they are to cut $100 million.

Mr. AKIN. That's correct. Yes.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. So the other thing you are pointing out there with your chart is that would be like calling in a family that had a budget of $100,000, and they had a $34,000 shortfall—

Mr. AKIN. You are talking about one-third of that $100,000, they are overspending $34,000, right.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I want to make sure we understand this. They had $100,000 annual spending, they have got a $34,000 shortfall. If from what I am hearing you say, they would only have to cut $3?

Mr. AKIN. That's correct. That's why when you say $100 million with a $3.69 trillion proposed budget, it's almost a joke. It's almost a joke. By comparison, that spot is $100 million. That's the size of a pencil.

This looks like the sun. It looks like a small Moon falling into the sun. That's what we are talking about here. Three dollars, they would laugh you out of the family meeting.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. That's what I would call a drop in the bucket or a spit in the ocean or something. I mean, I can barely see the little dot from here.

But that's interesting, and I wanted to show one thing, because I think that's something that everybody can get their head around is the amount of money that the President has asked his Cabinet members to save over next 90 days is equal to $3 of a family that had $100,000 spending that had a $34,000 shortfall.

But to the gentleman from Missouri, this is a debt day, and debt day is when we actually start ringing things up on the charge card that we can't pay for. And so in 2002, and after we went through the 9/11, on September 2 is when we actually started charging things. We had run out of the money, and we had to start putting it on a charge card.

Mr. AKIN. What you are saying is that right after September 11, we are already starting to spend some serious money there. And what you are saying is that by the time we got to September, we had pretty much used up all the taxpayers' money that had paid their taxes that year, and beyond that point, every day beyond that where we are spending money, that's all becoming part of our debt. Is that what you are saying?

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Yes, I am. And what I am saying, too, is that then the minority party, the Democrat party, was hollering at the loudest point saying we would have deficit spending, that we did not need to have deficit spending, we did not need to increase the debt. They were hollering about that.

And then in 2003 it went to July 29 to when we actually started having to borrow money; 2004 it was July 27; 2005, August 14; 2006, August 27; 2007, September 9; 2008, August 5th, and then we come to this year.

Mr. AKIN. Gentlemen, what was going on there was starting about 2003 or 2004 we started to benefit from the fact that the recession had turned around because of the tax cuts and the economy was doing well and the Federal revenues were coming in pretty strong.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Yes.

Mr. AKIN. That's why we were able to hold things up into that August-September kind of timeframe, even though there was some spending going on.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Absolutely. Remember we were funding the military and the war on terror or now, as it is called, the human catastrophe or something. But in 2009, this year, 2009, debt day comes next week on April 26.

So imagine this, after April 26th, everything that this government does is going to be put on a charge card. After April 26th almost 160 days——

Mr. AKIN. Gentleman, that number really stands out, because what you are saying is we got all the way through the summer all these previous years when we were screaming about spending too much money. And you and I agreed we shouldn't have been spending as much as we did.

But that being the case, what you are saying is this year we barely got the taxes in on April 15, and by the time we get to April 26th, which is that next week——

Mr. WESTMORELAND. That's next week.

Mr. AKIN. We are out of money already.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Absolutely.

Mr. AKIN. I am surprised they haven't put us in jail.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Well, I don't know they haven't pulled our credit card, and I think that could happen, because we are charging this on a credit card to China, to the Middle East, to foreign nations. This is not something that we are borrowing it from ourself.

This is money that we are borrowing from foreign countries. So at the end of next week, all the money, all the revenues, all the revenues that's going to come into our Treasury are going to be

spent, and we are going to be ringing it up on a charge card.

How many families or small businesses could survive on that? There is not any. We can't do that, and that's the reason that we have given an alternative to this budget that has been proposed by the current administration. That's the reason today that we——

Mr. AKIN. You were talking about the budget, the study committee, which is actually a balanced budget, a certain number of years out, it balances out.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. In 10 years, it balances out in 10 years.

Mr. AKIN. Don't you think that's what the people at these tea parties were trying to say, hey, what's wrong with the concept like every other American, you have to balance your budget. What's the problem with us getting this concept down here in Washington D.C.?

Mr. WESTMORELAND. And that's the point that we have been trying to make. It spends too much, it borrows too much, and it taxes too much.

Mr. AKIN. Well, we are going to get into that a little bit too. We are joined this evening by my good friend from Indiana, Congressman BURTON, a longtime leader in this House, a very respected gentleman.

I would like to yield to him to talk on the same subject. I know it's something you know quite a bit about.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The thing that bothers me is the kind of legacy that we are leaving for our kids and grandkids. The amount of money that we are spending right now, $3.69 trillion in the budget, $410 billion in the omnibus, $14 billion for the auto companies; $700 billion, which we spent last year on TARP, $787 billion on the stimulus package.

We are spending trillions and trillions of dollars that we don't have, as my colleague just said.

I would just conclude by saying that we are spending trillions of dollars that we don't have. Our kids and grandkids are going to be paying taxes that they shouldn't have to bear. In addition to that we are going to have an inflationary problem that is going to rival anything that we have seen in the past. In the 1970s and the early 1980s we had inflation that was 14 percent and we ended up raising interest rates to 21 percent to slow down the rate of inflation to get the economy back in shape, and we ended up with another major recession because of it.

We have got to control our spending. We can't spend 8 or $10 trillion like we are doing. And the thing that bothers me the most is the legacy we are leaving to our kids and grandkids.

I want to thank my colleague for taking these. He comes down here almost every night or every other night talking about these things. The American people owe you a debt of gratitude for doing this. I really appreciate it.

Mr. AKIN. I appreciate the gentleman from Indiana.

Congressman, before you go, just let me ask you a question, you know, both of us grew up and we saw our parents, that had come out of the World War II time period, and they were people that worked very, very hard. They had been called the Greatest Generation, and one of the things that I remember that was just ingrained in my own parents, and I want to ask you whether you had the same experience, but it was the attitude that they were going to do something better for us than they had been able to have for themselves. It was this driving ambition to leave something better, to leave America a better place, a freer country, a safer country.

And so they would say, and their words were, yes, I am going over to Europe or to the Pacific to do my bit, that they were going to give their lives or their limbs. And they had this ideal of leaving America a better place.

And what you are talking about is the opposite. Is that not right, Gentleman?

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Yes, I would say to my colleague briefly, that my mother worked 18 years as a waitress, my stepfather worked in a foundry. And I think that he made, before he paid child support, $75 a week.

And they were very concerned about living within their budget, and they worked very hard to make sure that our family did well without having to depend on the government. And unfortunately today we have a different mindset, and that is that the government can handle everything for us from cradle to grave.

And this attitude that's prevalent in this society right now really bothers me because it has taken such a hold of us that we are now spending trillions of dollars that we don't have. And the things that you and I had as young people and our parents gave to us, even though we had rough times, it's going to be worse in my opinion, because of the inflation we are going to leave our kids and the high taxes that we are going to have to pay to keep pace with the spending that's going on.

Once again, thank you very much. I really appreciate it.

Mr. AKIN. Congressman BURTON, the distinguished guest from the State of Indiana. We are very thankful for the good people that Indiana sends.

We also have joining us here tonight a judge from Texas. When you get a judge from Texas you're talking about somebody that kind of keeps an eye on things. I would like to yield to Judge CARTER, a good friend of mine and a great and patriotic American and an American, as I understand, with some pretty good stories to boot.

□ 1815

Mr. CARTER. I thank my friend for yielding.

I'm proud to join my colleagues in speaking up against this horrendous amount of spending that's going on in the country today, and it's all done by the Obama administration. They're calling it ''stimulus,'' they're calling it ''save the economy,'' all these things. But I just got back from a trip where I was meeting with some parliamentarians from the European Union. And, you know, I will admit, I will confess that I viewed the European Union—my wife is from Europe. In my experience, the fact that my wife is from Holland, we have visited Europe on many occasions, and I really thought they were much more towards the socialist side of the calendar and that their ideas were much more leaning to the left. And then I went to listen to these folks talk about what they called an economic stimulus package in the EU and what they were calling upon their member countries to do for economic stimulus. And, amazingly enough, it was exactly what the Republicans have been saying we should do to have an economic stimulus. And that is cut taxes, especially on those categories of people that create jobs like employers and business taxes, and cut spending.

Mr. AKIN. Let me reclaim my time. What you're saying is kind of radical here. What you're saying is a bunch of socialistic Europeans are telling us that what we should be doing is providing liquidity for small business to create jobs and to pull our Nation out of recession. That's what I'm hearing you say. You're telling me that these people in Europe are telling us this?

I yield.

Mr. CARTER. Actually that's just it. I wouldn't, after having these conversations, classify them as socialist nearly as much as I might classify the administration we are dealing with today as socialist because their ideas are more that we've got to let the free market work; so we are, meaning the Europeans, cutting taxes, we are cutting spending.

Then, amazingly enough, I think this should be a surprise to everybody: The United States of America could not join the European Union if they wanted to. Why couldn't they? Because our debt ratio is too high. And it's going higher.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, what you're saying is America could not join the European Union now because our debt is so high?

Mr. CARTER. That's right. They have no more than 3 percent of gross domestic product and we're bumping up against 6 with the Obama plan here.

Mr. AKIN. I see my friend from Georgia here wanting to get a word in.

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I don't know much about the European Union, but I think that's a real wakeup call for the American people if they understand that.

But I guess the whole thing that gets me is that we heard from the Blue Dogs today that the reason this budget was okay and the reason this debt was okay and the reason this deficit spending

was okay was because it was the total picture. It was all put out there. And their complaint was in the past that with the deficit spending and the reason they criticized it so badly is because it was not an open process. It wasn't open, that this money had been some kind of sleight of hand.

Well, I would like to ask the gentleman from Missouri or my friend from Texas, are you aware that they are including in the revenue the alternative minimum tax, $50 billion of this alternative minimum tax that we have patched that we are not even going to get? So this is revenue that they are using and spending that we're not even going to get in.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, the alternative minimum tax, usually we have rolled that back every year. Are you saying they're not going to do that this time?

Mr. WESTMORELAND. No, they are rolling it back. But they are claiming the revenue to use in the spending as if they were going to collect the tax.

Mr. AKIN. That's kind of a unique accounting principle.

If you did that in the free market, judge, and let me just yield, what would happen if a businessman were to do to that? What would you do to him if he came in your courtroom?

Mr. CARTER. When we saw voodoo accounting in the Enron case, look what it has done to accounting principles and to accounting firms. That makes no sense, but then there is a lot of this thing that doesn't make an awful lot of sense. That surprises me, but it's kind of the old shell game. Look under this shell. Now, which way is it going? Which way is it going? There it is. We gave it to you. No, wait, what is this? That's what this whole thing is about.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, I would like to ask a question whether either of you when you were in maybe first or second grade ever saw these workbooks and they had the pictures, what is the line that doesn't fit in? And they'd have a couple of dogs and they'd have a cat in the line or something like that.

Well, let me just ask you, if you take a look at this chart to my left, can you see the thing that doesn't fit in here? These are either budget deficits or surpluses by year, all through these different Presidents here. This is when you had a Republican Congress and a Democrat President and we actually had a couple of surpluses here. This is September 11. We had the war in Iraq; so we were running some deficits. Do you see the line that doesn't quite fit in there?

I yield to my friend from Texas.

Mr. CARTER. If I may answer, of course, the stuff above the line, the surplus, is a little different. But on the below-the-line side, it's clearly the last four lines because there's this one gigantic line which looks like it's this year and then every year thereafter is bigger than the other lines all the way going back to 1990 or something. What year is that?

Mr. AKIN. This goes back to 1980.

Mr. CARTER. So basically the last four lines are bigger than anything that we've seen since 1980.

Mr. AKIN. Those are the actual economic facts of where we are.

I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I would like to point out to my friend from Missouri and to, Mr. Speaker, anybody that, if we could talk to them, ask the people that might be watching to understand that that is deficit spending, and that's what I was talking about on this chart. That's the deficit spending that we are doing. We are borrowing the money. After April 26 we are going to be going into debt, and that's what that long line is.

But what we don't realize and what's not on that chart is the amount of debt that we are accumulating. Not just the deficit spending but the amount of debt. And I believe the gentleman has got a chart there that shows the amount of debt.

When I would speak to groups at home or have a townhall meeting, I used to talk about the amount of debt that our children were inheriting. I'm having to include grandchildren now and may very soon have to pick up with great grandchildren. But I think what we need to look at is what this budget does is not just look at the deficit spending but look at the amount of debt. This thing increases our debt to $14.5 trillion. And I will let the gentleman explain the chart, but as this chart points out, we are almost doubling the amount of debt that it took us 232 years to accumulate in 1 year.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, sometimes you can talk about big numbers and when you get past a certain number of thousand dollars, it's hard for me to imagine what we are talking about. But here is a different way to look at it: You go from George to George. That's George Washington to George Bush. And you go through all of that, and they accumulated by overspending $5.8 trillion. That's a lot of money. We shouldn't have that much overspending. I know you gentlemen have voted with me against doing that kind of overspending. But that's the reality of where we are, $5.8 trillion. But now we're taking a look at this President, and just using the numbers he gave us, these are his numbers, and he has got $8.7 trillion he's going to add on top of this. So in other words, he's proposing to spend in the next 7 years $8.7 trillion, which is more than what we had from George Washington to George Bush. Now, that is some serious level of spending.

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. To the gentleman from Missouri, now, that is not just spending; that is accumulated debt. This is debt. This is not spending. The spending's going to be way more than that. We're doing 3.6 trillion next year. That is the amount of debt that he's adding to our national debt. And I'm not sure and I don't want to quote it, but it's a good percentage of our GDP that we are going to be in debt.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, I appreciate the gentleman's pointing that out, and I misspoke. You're absolutely right.

Mr. CARTER. If the gentleman would yield.

Mr. AKIN. I do yield.

Mr. CARTER. It is certainly enough of a percentage of our gross domestic product that if we were a nation trying to join the European Union, we would be above their joining point.

Mr. AKIN. In fact, what you just said, I think, gentleman, was we are like twice over it.

Mr. CARTER. I was in Estonia, which is protected by NATO but wants to join the EU, and their problem is they are 1 percentage point above 3 percent of their gross domestic product. So they're cutting programs and reducing taxes because they've learned they get more revenue that way so that they can get to the point that they will be able to be admitted to the European Union. It's embarrassing that Estonia is doing better on debt than the United States of America.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, that's not a good scenario when Estonia is better on their economics than what we are doing in this country. And I think that's what generated these TEA parties and things. I will tell you people in my district, St. Louis, they were mad. They were very upset about this.

I am delighted that we are joined here by Congressman COFFMAN from Colorado. Colorado is a good solid State, and they have elected a great Congressman here. And I look forward to your joining our discussion here tonight.

Congressman COFFMAN, I yield.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Thank you. I think that what is most alarming about the level of borrowing, as a freshman Congressman, in our orientation process, we had economists of all ideological stripes, and I think that they differed on what was stimulative spending. They maybe differed on the amount of deficit spending that might be required for the recession. But one thing that they were all in agreement with is that we had to close that deficit gap. We had to control our spending within certainly the next 2 or 3 years because if we don't, and this plan that we're talking about that you have just referenced does not in any way close that spending gap, then we are going to have government borrowing competing with private sector borrowing as we try to move out of this recession and it's going to lead to high interest rates, high inflation rates. And if you overlay these taxes that are envisioned in this budget plan, you've really got a recipe for 1979/1980: stagflation, double-digit interest rates, double-digit inflation, slow to no growth in the economy.

Only my worry is, again, unless we control spending, it's not going to be temporary as it was in 1980 and then, of course, we got the Reagan tax cuts and we moved out of it, but that we are not going to return to prosperity and we are going to have some real problems.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, I appreciate your joining us for the discussion this evening.

Sometimes people want to claim that Republicans don't have any solutions and are just always complaining about the excessive spending or what we really should do about it. But the fact of matter is that there are proven ways of getting the economy back on track when you start into a recession. And one of the things that's absolutely critical, and it works a couple of different ways, but what it does is it increases the amount of revenue that the Federal Government takes in, and that's a way to get a budget balanced. There are two ways to do it: cut spending or take in more revenue. The only trouble is if you tax too much, you kill the economy and you take in less revenue and you create something that's even worse than what you had before.

Now, the way to do it is you want liquidity available for the free markets. You want the people who are the investors and the inventors, the small business people, you want those people to have the liquidity so they can run and manage their businesses. A lot of people don't realize that if you take a business that's got 500 employees down, and that's what we call a small business, they employ half of the people in our country but create almost 80 percent of the new jobs. So you want to make sure those guys have got the liquidity that they need, and that's what the Republicans understand.

□ 1830

That is why we are completely opposed to a whole series of things that the Democrats are doing which are going to make it hard for small businesses. It is exactly what you are saying. You have to get off of this spending, and it seems like our administration just does not understand that and we are going to take a recession and turn it into the Great Depression.

I don't mean to cut in on you, but what you are talking about is the livelihood, the potential jobs that people in America wouldn't have access to because they were never created, because we have just vacuumed the liquidity out of the private sector.

I want to yield to my friend from Texas, Judge Carter, for just a minute.

Mr. CARTER. This spending and this debt record, I am sitting here thinking and contemplating while you all were talking, my children haven't rewarded me with any grandchildren yet, but they will. They don't even come close to taking care of this while my grandchildren are alive. We are talking about my great-grandchildren. In fact, there are people that estimate with the amount of interest that we will have to bear on this debt, that this goes on for generations not even conceived of today. It could be generation after generation after generation.

When you take what we already considered a troublesome debt of $5.8 trillion, there was an amazing amount of criticism of the Republican administration under George Bush when that number popped up. Of course, they blamed it all on George Bush. He did certainly increase it, but I am not here to go into that. But that number seemed to concern the Democratic now-majority quite a bit when they were in the minority.

But their President, the new President, Barack Obama, our new President, $8.7 trillion on top of $5.8 trillion, and this means that that number that we were talking about could be the downfall of humanity is now almost tripled. People have to just realize what is happening.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time a little bit, first of all, who was it that supported this $410 billion for the omnibus? Was that the Democrat party? Yes. And then this bill here, this stimulus or ''porkulus'' bill for $787 billion, do you recall here in the House Chamber when we voted on this bill, do you recall how many Republicans supported that number?

Mr. CARTER. None.

Mr. AKIN. Not one.

Mr. CARTER. By the way, I didn't support that first one either, or the one before that.

Mr. AKIN. Neither did I, gentleman, and that is why we are here, I believe. So people want to say, well, you know the Republicans, we got a few liberal Members and all that kind of stuff and they want to beat us up for two or three Republicans that might vote for something like this. But there wasn't one Republican that supported that number, is there?

Mr. CARTER. Not one.

Mr. AKIN. All these people have been talking about the cost of the war in Iraq. They didn't seem to worry about spending more than that in the first 5 weeks we were here. I don't understand exactly how that works.

Congressman COFFMAN from Colorado.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Congressman AKIN, you know, I think that it is best categorized as generational theft. I had a high school senior when I was back home over this Easter recess and met with a high school, with a government class, and she said something very interesting. She said, I don't think this is fair to me, what the Congress is doing.

I tried to describe it to the class as saying it is like if your parents with their credit cards were given no limit on their credit cards and signed you up as the guarantor for that debt. So in trying to put it in something they can relate to, it is very hard to relate to this extraordinary amount of debt that I think the majority in the Congress is thinking about today, and not thinking about tomorrow. To use the financial crisis as an excuse for their going into debt in the third year and the fourth year and the fifth year and the sixth year absolutely doesn't make sense.

Mr. AKIN. If I could reclaim my time, piggy-backing on what you said, we should take a look at what you said. You said using the financial crisis as an excuse. Of course, that is what we have been doing here. We said, oh, look, there is this mortgage crisis that was created where all of these Freddie and Fannie mortgages were made to people who couldn't afford to pay and the Wall Street community played some funny games with the securities business and we end up in this big mess that was really started by this mortgage crisis. So now we have got the recession started.

So there are really two schools of thought as to what you do when you got a recession going. One of the schools of thought is, and it goes back to FDR and Little Lord Keynes, he was a little weird, he had this idea if you spent enough money you could ''stimulate demand'' and everything would be fine. It was a little bit like reaching down, grabbing your bootstraps and lifting yourself up and flying around the room.

So they tried this theory about the Federal Government spending tons of money. It was called Keynesian economics. And at the end of 8 years of this experiment of the Federal Government spending tons of money, this guy, the fellow who was FDR's Secretary of Treasury, comes before the Congress, the Ways and Means Committee, and he made this statement. This is exactly his words, Henry Morgenthau. He says, ''We have tried spending money. We are spending more than we have ever spent before and it doesn't work.'' It also shows that we don't learn much from history. ''I say after 8 years of the administration, we have just as much unemployment as when we started, and an enormous debt to boot.''

Now, this theory is what we are doing, the idea we can fix a recession with excessive Federal spending. If that were such a good idea, with the amount of debt we just saw at $5 trillion, we should be doing great anyway, if lots and lots of debt is what makes things better. Yet, here we have Henry Morgenthau speaking to us from 1939 like he is out of the grave saying, hey guys, this doesn't work.

The other solution, of course, is that you could do what we said, which is get the liquidity into the hands of the business people. Let's talk just for a minute about small business. One of the worst things you can do for small business, let's sort of tick the things off.

The thing you want to do is you want to tax them so much they can't run their business, right? So where would you start if you were trying to harm small business?

I yield to my friend from Colorado.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Well, thank you Congressman AKIN. I think

if you wanted to hurt small business, unfortunately, where you would start is certainly by increasing their tax burden.

Mr. AKIN. First off, you are going to increase their taxes. So what is the first thing that the President said he is going to do? Anybody making over $250,000 a year, he is going to increase their taxes. I don't know if he realizes that more than half of the small business owners make over $250,000 a year. So if he increases their taxes, then what are they going to have to spend money to help build up their small business? So, right off the bat, he is doing one of the first things to hurt a small business person.

There are other taxes he is proposing. Do you recall some of the others? What else would you do?

I yield.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Well, Congressman AKIN, I think one of the issues we are going to be debating very soon in the Congress that is in the budget plan is certainly cap-and-trade, that tax on carbon, putting a burden across America from the standpoint of consumers as well as businesses in terms of a carbon tax. I think that is going to lead to the greatest export of America will continue to be jobs overseas. It is an economic development tool for India and China.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, what you are saying is absolutely fundamental for us to understand. What we are talking about is that the President has said that he is going to increase the cost of energy.

He also said he wouldn't tax anybody making less than $250,000. He said that. But then he turned around and said, oh, no, but we are going to tax energy. How much are we going to tax energy? They call it cap-and-trade. It is really cap-and-tax.

So he is going to tax energy. So who is that going to affect? Well, the MIT people took a look at the proposal and said we are talking $3,100 for the average household in America. The average household doesn't make any $250,000. So he is going to run the tax of energy up. And what else is that going to be? Of course, as you are absolutely right, the astute gentleman from Colorado points out that small business, if it costs more money for energy, it makes it harder to do the business. So we are going to do that.

First of all, we are going to tax them if they are making over $250,000. Then we are going to tax their energy. Any truck driver or anybody that has to bring supplies to their business is going to pay more money for it, because that is going to be taxed.

So have we let off there or not? No, in fact they thought of some other innovative things.

Mr. CARTER. If the gentleman will yield, let's not forget all the taxes you just rattled off, who is really going to pay those taxes? They are going to be put in the price of goods and services that are provided, and then those goods and services are going to go to the American people. So they are going to wake up in the morning and they are going to get delivered to their house this month's electricity bill, and, holy cow, where did all this come from? Everybody in America. It is not going to discriminate on whose bill is going to go if you are making $250,000 a year. No. It is going to every American that is burning electricity, every American that is consuming gas, if they have natural gas in their home.

The American public is going to pay the price. And this cost that we have added to the manufacturers or to the retailers, these small business owners, they are going to put that on the price of their goods and services, and guess who is going to pay that? The people that need and purchase the goods and services. So the price of shirts and suits and shoes and T-shirts and baseball gloves and all of the things we want for our family are going up by the cost of that carbon tax, which that means who is paying the tax? The American people. All of the American people.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, there are kind of two scenarios, aren't there? Let's say you have a small business that is making a product in this country. They are paying an increased cost of electricity, so they have to raise the price of their product. One of two things happens: Either the American consumer buys the higher cost product or they buy a foreign competitor's product that the foreign competitor didn't have to pay that tax on, so they can sell it cheaper. So then what happens is a foreign job replaces an American job and the jobs disappear in this country. Either scenario is not good policy for our country.

I yield to the gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Well, thank you Congressman AKIN. We are truly in a challenging time, and the American people have to hope that this budget is not fully implemented, that we in the Congress wake up and stop this madness of spending and taxing. I think it has been certainly said before that this budget spends too much, taxes too much and borrows too much. Again, it is a generational theft.

Mr. AKIN. It is a generational theft. It is a budget that taxes too much, spends too much and borrows too much.

The other thing that is kind of interesting to me was, reclaiming my time, if you take a look at this map of the country, these are manufacturing jobs. These are those businesses that are going to be hurt by this cap-and-tax. If you take a look, the ones that are the most orange are the ones that are hurt the most by this.

You notice that our friends in New England and out on the West Coast don't seem to be affected by this tax very much. But somehow, the Midwestern States are going to get clobbered by this tax. And the tax is justified on the worry about global warming. But it is not popular to say ''global warming'' anymore because the world isn't really warming, so we call it climate change.

So the problem is they are claiming we are making too much CO_2. So we are going to then tax nuclear reactors for the CO_2 they generate. That doesn't make a whole lot of sense, does it, because they don't generate any CO_2. Yet we are going to tax them anyway.

So a lot of these manufacturing States where there are a lot of jobs tied to energy, they are going to get hammered with this proposal. So not only is the budget out of control, but now we are trying to raise money with this hair-brained scheme of taxing energy, which is just going to really hurt our productivity, and that is the thing that either chases jobs overseas or it prevents jobs from being created in the first place.

I yield to my good friend from Texas.

Mr. CARTER. And they are taxing energy. If you look at that map, you see that the energy-producing States, right now I am from Texas, my neighbors Oklahoma, Louisiana and New Mexico are all energy-producing States, as is Mississippi to some extent, until you get over to the blackout area around Florida on the coastal offshore productions.

□ 1845

And so we're looking at those States that everybody's been calling, you know, the evil monsters of the oil and gas industry, that that's who we're going to get even with. The tax burden on those States is going to be less than the tax burden on our Midwestern States and some of our Southern States. This has been conceived with a program of attacking people that you can—it's easy, they think it's easy to get mad at. And the reality is this is going to hurt the very people that they're calling upon to get mad. It's going to hurt the Midwest and the Southern States. It's embarrassing how much the public is being fooled by this particular tax. This is just the beginning. We're talking about carbon, not necessarily energy. There will come a time when we figure out other carbon producers that we will tax.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, I'd just like to try and tick off—I should have a list of them here tonight. Let's tick off what we're doing for our small business people.

First of all, if you're making $250,000 a year or more we're going to increase your taxes. That's more than half the small businesses. So first we're going to increase the taxes of the people that own the small businesses.

The next thing we're going to do is we're going to tax heavily energy, not only the energy they use to run their own homes, but the energy used to run their business and to buy supplies and things for their business.

Next thing we're going to do is we're going to let the death tax come back.

So now we have the death tax so that the guy that creates a business can't pass it on to his kids, and so he's going to have to sell his business in order to pay taxes when he dies. So some guy dies. The business needs a certain amount of capital goods and equipment to work. You've got to sell the business in order to pay the tax. Now the business isn't viable and the business goes away. Oh, that's wonderful for business, for small business.

And then we're going to do—what else are we going to do with the thing? Well, the other thing we're going to do is dividends and capital gains. Now we reduced dividends and capital gains tax to put liquidity into the small businesses at the beginning, in 2003. And the whole recession turned around to a very strong economy for a number of years, greatly helped by the dividend and capital gains money being plowed back in to investors and inventors and small business people. Now, that tax it is going to go away.

So we're hammering them on the $250,000. We're hammering them on the energy; we're hammering them on the death tax; we're going to get them on dividends and capital gains. I mean, how can a small business survive?

And then people are going to wonder, gosh, gee, I wonder where all the jobs went?

We're doing the wrong things, and yet we don't have to. We can learn from history.

I yield to the gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Congressman AKIN, I think what the budget fails to realize is how much the American people are suffering, that the level of stress on small business and the level of stress on the average American family, that it is Congress' first responsibility to stabilize this economy, to end this steep descent into a recession. And then afterwards, we ought to have a debate on energy policy. We ought to have a debate on health care. We ought to have a debate on global warming. We ought to have a debate on all these other things. But our first and foremost responsibility is to stabilize this economy.

And I think that the President's Chief of Staff said it well; that a crisis is a terrible thing to waste, and words to the effect that we need to use it as an opportunity to do other agenda-driven items. And in doing so, I think they compromise the value of the stimulus and stabilizing this economy.

Mr. AKIN. Well, I appreciate your thoughts on that. And again, where we're coming from in this deal is this faulty idea that somehow we could fix the economy by excessive spending. And Henry Morgenthau really shot that thing full of holes. But if he didn't, certainly the Japanese in the 1990s did the exact same thing and it just didn't work. It's really crazy.

And you know, you talk about people suffering. You know, sometimes you think the upside down world in Washington, D.C. just doesn't seem to get it.

Here's a letter I got from one of my constituents, and it just kind of reflects a little bit of the tone. This is Shannon from Baldwin, which is part of St. Louis County. ''You asked how I would be affected by the Obama budget. I'm self-employed with my own small business, professional organizer, personal assistant. I do not earn a large amount of money, but it's been enough to live a simple but comfortable life. I do not have credit card debt, and I have always made it a point to live within my means. Yes, my business has been affected by the economic downturn of the last year. Many of my clients have cut back on their spending, which means less work for me. So whether it be increased taxes, spending that affects me directly, or increased taxing of my wealthier clients, it reduces my overall income. But more than anything else, I think the most negative effect of all the spending, bailouts, irresponsibility, etc cetera, has had on me is that I no longer have any faith in my own government to do what is fiscally right for the country.''

We are destroying the faith of our constituents that this government is in any kind of control whatsoever fiscally. That's what she's saying.

''The government produces nothing. It has no money to spend except for what it takes from taxpayers. I am disgusted with the enormous spending and bailing out of irresponsible or downright negligent behavior. It seems that while I have worked hard to be responsible and follow the rules, I'm now being punished by being forced to clean up the mess of those who choose not to with my tax dollars.''

There's a sense of anger. There's a sense of resentment out there. I think you're absolutely right. And it's interesting that you're sensing that in Colorado.

We also have our very distinguished Congresswoman FOXX from North Carolina. She's maybe not huge, but powerful things come in small packages like atoms, and I would like to yield some time to my good friend, Congresswoman FOXX.

Ms. FOXX. Well, I want to congratulate my colleague from Missouri and my colleagues from Texas and Colorado for spending the time that they have on this special order tonight. And I said I would come over and help a little bit, but you guys have been doing such a wonderful job, you don't need a lot of help.

But I have been interested in talking about what our colleagues in the House said in the past about deficit financing and deficit spending. And I'm wondering, at times, whether they've been on the road to Damascus in terms of the revelations that they've had and the changes that they've made.

I have a quote here from the chairman of the budget committee that I think we ought to talk about. He has talked about betting the budget on a blue sky forecast, and saying that he was concerned about these minor deficits under the Bush administration, a record deficit of $413 billion. And now they're talking about deficits of trillions and trillions of dollars, and that seems not to bother them in the very least. And I think that the chart that you have, the bar graph there shows the problems that we're facing in this country.

And I've said once before, I went home after we voted for the bailout, and said to my grandchildren when they asked me what were we doing in Washington. And I said, well, we're putting you and your children and your grandchildren in debt. And my granddaughter said to me with the wisdom of a child, Grandma, why do you want to put little children into debt? And I said, you know, I don't want to put little children into debt. But we know now that we have Debt Day the earliest that it's ever been in the history of this country. This coming Sunday is going to be Debt Day. It shows the size of government spending relative to our revenue. Never before has Debt Day come in April. It's coming up several months from when it used to come up. I mean, the earliest that it's ever come up before was in July 2004.

And I think what we also have to remind the American people is that up until the year 2007, there was a Republican Congress and a Republican President. They blame all that's happened in the last 2 years on President Bush. And I find that very intriguing. But when you ask——

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, I think he's the one that created that hurricane, isn't he?

Ms. FOXX. I think he created the hurricane too. He gets blamed for everything.

But when you point out to them that they were in charge in 2007, 2008 and now they're in charge in 2009 they just don't like to talk about that.

And they want to give President Clinton all the accolades for the budget that he had. But let's point out again, it was a Republican Congress that reined in spending under President Clinton.

So as I pointed out in the Rules Committee one day to the chairman of the Budget Committee, it's so convenient for them to give all the credit to a Democratic President with a Republican-controlled Congress, and all the blame to a Republican President with a Democratically-controlled Congress.

Mr. AKIN. Well, reclaiming my time, what we've got now very clearly is a huge majority of Democrats running the House; they're running the Senate, and they control the administration. So they have everything.

And now what you are saying is, this is the equivalent, I mean, this is really hair-raising what you're saying, the gentlelady from North Carolina. What you're suggesting is that essentially we're like a family and we've been given some money to spend for a year. And we've only gotten to April, April

28th. That's just a little after the deadline that taxes are due, and we've already spent it all. In other words, by April 28, that's next week, we're going to have spent all the money that comes in in taxes in the year 2009. And that's what these different charts are showing in very different ways.

But, you know, you've got the tax day, when you have to have your income taxes in, April 15. And now we've got Debt Day, which is April 28. My goodness.

Ms. FOXX. It's April 26.

Mr. AKIN. 26 is it? Yeah.

Yielding to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CARTER. Well, I'm very sad to say that, to learn that Debt Day, the day we don't have any money that we raise from taxes, is my daughter's birthday. I wish her a happy birthday. But, quite frankly it's coming up this weekend. And you know, it's mind boggling that taxes are paid on the 15th, and basically we'll have spent all the money that we've gotten from tax revenues by the 26th. That's spending some money, folks. That's doing it better than anybody's ever done it.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, and I note that you are not so different in age than I am, and I'm just asking the same question I asked earlier this evening about our parents' generation. They've been called by some people the greatest generation. And they were called the greatest generation, because, among other things they had this intrinsic compass that said, we're going to leave our Nation better than it was when we were here. And they went to Europe, and they went to the China Seas and they did their bit and they left us a freer country. And they may not have gone through college themselves, but they saved their money so we could go through college, so that we could have a little bit better lifestyle.

Some of those people now are like my own parents. They're just still alive, but they still have that attitude of making this a better country.

And it breaks my heart to say, when I take a look at these numbers, that instead of leaving it a better country, we're leaving debt as an inheritance for our children. And that's tragic.

I thank everyone for joining us this evening; look forward to next Wednesday night.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1145, NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ACT OF 2009

Mr. ARCURI (during the Special Order of Mr. AKIN), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111–82) on the resolution (H. Res. 352) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1145) to implement a National Water Research and Development Initiative, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

VACATING 5-MINUTE SPECIAL ORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the 5-minute special order of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) is vacated.

There was no objection.

□ 1900

RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. CARTER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for recognizing me for this hour. I'm very pleased to be here.

I'm here to talk about a subject that, I think, is very interesting, and I don't think the American people have really gotten their hands on this subject yet, but it's also extremely concerning. It really concerns me a great deal.

I happen to serve on the Subcommittee on Appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security. We have spent an awful lot of time and an awful lot of effort trying to make sure that we keep our country safe from clearly identified terrorists who, if you have any question of do they mean us harm, then just look back at the Pentagon and the World Trade Center, and then ask yourself: Do they mean us harm?

We have been diligently trying to defend our borders, diligently trying to stop terrorism and trying to catch it before it gets here and trying to deal with these people who have identified themselves and who have told everyone publicly they're here to hurt us. Now we have a new administration, and we have a new memo that has come out from Ms. Napolitano over at the Department of Homeland Security. It would just shock you to know that she is warning not of al Qaeda, not of the Taliban, not of Osama bin Laden. She is warning people about right-wing radical domestic terrorism.

Now, this would be almost humorous, but those of us who have a little age on us, like I do, can think back to the Clinton administration and can remember how many times when anybody ever criticized the Clinton administration you would hear the First Lady then and now Secretary of State say, ''Well, it's all a plot by those right-wing extremists, those right-wing extremist organizations.'' President Bill Clinton would say, ''Well, they don't agree with my party and with what we're saying here, but it's really the people you're hearing from who are right-wing extremists.'' They label talk show hosts as right-wing extremists. All this fear was generated about right-wing extremists. Now we're not even 6 months into the Obama administration, and the people who are supposed to be protecting our homeland are warning us against right-wing extremists.

This is the intelligence briefing right here. Now, I'm not trying to be mean about all of this. I'm just trying to tell you what they tell me is a right-wing extremist. I just took the things that they tell people who fall into that category, and then I put those classifications in with a poll that we did to identify the nature of my congressional district. Believe it or not, based upon accurate polling data that has been done in my district, 81 percent of the registered voters in my congressional district would qualify as right-wing extremists under Ms. Napolitano's memo—81 percent. They're probably going to come up with a category to cover the other 19 percent. I'm not being facetious about this. I happen to have Fort Hood, Texas in my district. Fort Hood, Texas is the largest military base on the face of the Earth. It has two field divisions of the corps headquarters.

One of the things they tell us in this report is very sad in light of what our Army has been going through, which is to watch out for returning, disgruntled military veterans coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan in that they have the potential to be right-wing terrorists. These young men and women, some of whom have done four and five deployments overseas, some of those deployments for as much as 15 months, have served our Nation as heroes, as the next great generation, and our government is labeling them: At the time they finish their service, we should consider them potential right-wing extremists and terrorists. They are defining them as people the government had better keep an eye on. Veterans who have served in other wars are in here. They classify them as right-wing extremists.

Are you opposed to abortion? It says right here at the bottom of this page: ''It may include groups and individuals that are dedicated to a single issue, such as opposition to abortion or immigration.''

It's just shocking. It basically says, if you disagree with the Obama administration, you could be a right-wing terrorist. Now, I hate to say that. It talks about people who believe in the right to keep and bear arms: right-wing terrorists. It talks about people who disagree with the stimulus package: right-wing terrorists. It talks about people who disagree with the economic path of recovery that this Nation is taking: potential right-wing terrorists. This is what this report says. I'm sure it's available. It's unclassified. It's for official use. We got it off the Internet. There's more, a lot more.

I have friends here who have joined me on this shocking thing that's going on in this country. I'm going to start with my good friend, VIRGINIA FOXX, who was with us here in the last hour, and I'm very pleased to have her again.

I'll yield to her what time she may need to consume.

Ms. FOXX. Well, I want to thank the gentleman from Texas for his willingness to take this hour and to bring attention to this report.

I had a chance to skim over this report today for the first time. I, frankly, was appalled when I read it. I didn't think I would live to see the time when Representatives of this government would be characterizing the good people of this country, who love this country and who have served this country so well, as extremists and terrorists. We can't even get the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to use the word ''terrorism'' anymore for real terrorists. What she wants to do, though, is to characterize very, very patriotic Americans as terrorists, and I am simply appalled by it.

As somebody pointed out today to me, when the President was campaigning, he promised to transform this country, but you know, I don't think people really understood what that meant. He never said he was going to improve the country. He said he was going to transform it. I think that these folks are on their way to doing that, and I don't think people are going to like, primarily, the way they transform it.

You've done a great job, Congressman CARTER, of highlighting this really, really scary definition of ''right-wing extremism.'' I want to highlight a couple of parts of that definition. I want to talk about rejecting Federal authority in favor of State or local authority or rejecting government authority entirely.

I guess that what these people in the Department of Homeland Security mean is that the 10th amendment of the Constitution, which I consider an integral part of our system of federalism, is part of the danger that they see in this country, and I'm going to read the 10th amendment just so we're all clear on it.

''The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.''

I tell people when I speak to them, particularly to school groups, that the three most important words outside the Bible, in my opinion, are the words ''we the people.'' That begins the preamble to the Constitution.

These folks see the American people as right-wing extremists in their concern for terrorists. So, as for those of us who are members of the Constitution Caucus, who for the last 4 years have come here on a fairly regular basis and who have talked about the 10th amendment in order to bring attention to the overreaching of the Federal Government, we're those right-wing extremists. So many patriots who have served in this House and in the Senate before us who felt very strongly about the 10th amendment and who did everything that they could to hold down the reach of the Federal Government are considered right-wing extremists.

I just cannot understand how we have put in power in this country the kind of people who have so little regard for our Constitution.

You and I and all of us in this body, who come here every day to vote, are sworn to uphold the Constitution. Many of my ''no'' votes are based on the 10th amendment, rejecting Federal authority in favor of State or local authority. When I say that on this floor, then these people consider me a right-wing extremist. I don't consider myself a right-wing extremist. I consider myself a person who believes in this 10th amendment, which, by the way, we understand from history that the Constitution probably could not have been ratified had that amendment not been in this because the Founders understood so well what a dangerous country this would become if we gave too much power to the Federal Government.

I also fail to see how someone who holds fast to the Constitution and to the Bill of Rights should be lumped into a category with homegrown terrorists and violent racist groups. This is an affront and an insult to the millions of law-abiding and taxpaying citizens who long for a return to limited Federal Government and to a restoration of limited Federal power.

The question that must be answered in light of this document is: Since when does being a small government conservative make one a right-wing extremist?

The claims in this report that limited government activists pose a threat are completely unsubstantiated and paint law-abiding citizens with the broad brushstrokes of extremism.

I have to say that, I think, most of us who consider ourselves conservatives see this as a real slap in the face because we consider ourselves patriots for this country. I think also offensive—and I want to highlight another part of the definition of ''right-wing extremists''—are those groups and individuals who are dedicated to a single issue, such as opposition to abortion or immigration.

You know, I'm not opposed to immigration. All of us come from people who immigrated to this country, but I am very much opposed to abortion, and that does not make me a right-wing extremist. That makes me, I believe, a person who celebrates life, and I believe that it is completely wrong to say that those of us who cherish life and who oppose abortion on demand pose a security risk to the United States. Such an assertion not only insults the moral beliefs of countless Americans but threatens their very right to freedom of expression. I've been on this floor many times in the past few months saying that I believe we're going down a slippery slope in this country in terms of how our right to freedom of expression may be impinged upon.

I think, again, this report—which, by the way, I'm going to post a link to it on my Web site because I want every American to have the right to read this and to make some judgment for themselves.

Opposition to abortion is a profoundly moral issue to those of us who oppose abortion. The willful taking of innocent human life is not a matter of right-wing extremism. It's a matter of conscience and of deep personal conviction. When we belittle our conscience and our deep personal convictions, we've come to, I think, a very, very bad place in our country. There is also not a shred of evidence anywhere to back up the claim made here that pro-life Americans who hold deeply rooted beliefs in the immorality of abortion are a threat to our Homeland Security. There is not a shred of evidence.

When people read this, they're going to see all kinds of assertions made in here that I do not believe they can back up. I think that, again, those assertions undermine our ability to have freedom of speech and are a real threat in the opposite way to our country.

Again, I want to commend the gentleman from Texas for taking on this Special Order tonight and for highlighting this report. I do hope that millions and millions of Americans are going to read this report. I believe they will judge for themselves that this is a bad definition for ''right-wing extremism.''

I yield back to the gentleman from Texas.

□ 1915

Mr. CARTER. I thank the gentlelady for her excellent comments on what we're dealing with here.

You know, I think these—every kid that ever graduated from high school and took, whether they call it civics now or whether they call it government, and just had a brief study of the Constitution, knows that every single provision of the United States Constitution is equal and that these amendments have a purpose. They define what is our governing body. Remember, every person elected in this Congress and every person who serves in the Federal Government and every person who serves in the State government takes an oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution, all parts of the Constitution.

The 10th amendment, the part that says all those things that are not specifically given to the Federal Government or aren't specifically excluded from the State government, those powers belong to the States.

Now, to say that because a person believes that they ought to support what is written in the Constitution in the 10th amendment, that makes them a right-wing radical, then does somebody who thinks they ought to be able to—that we should support the right of free speech in the First Amendment, does that make you a right-wing radical? Does supporting any amendment or

any provision of the Constitution make you a right-wing radical?

I had one of my friends today say to me, They are radicalizing the war. If you are a right-wing radical because you're opposed to abortion and you're passionate on that issue, then does that make you a left-wing radical if you favor abortion and are passionate on that issue? If you are a right-wing radical if you believe that our Constitution clearly says that our citizenry has the right to keep and bear arms, do you become a left-wing radical when you believe that the government should regulate and take away the right to keep and bear arms?

I mean, at what point does disagreement on issues make you a radical?

I see the gentlelady from Minnesota, Mrs. BACHMANN, has risen to speak on this issue, and I will yield her such time as she may wish to consume.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank you, Judge CARTER, for holding this important forum this evening.

I think, just as Mrs. FOXX said of North Carolina, we absolutely can hardly believe that we're in this day and time when our own United States Government and our own Secretary of Homeland Security is illustrating a very different definition of words.

I think a lot of us were shocked when about a month ago the Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano, came out and said that she would no longer call terrorists, what we know as terrorists, what the average American knows as terrorists—Osama bin Laden, people who actually committed and planned terrorist attacks on American soil and have, in fact, committed those attacks on American soil—she said for purposes, and I quote—she was in an interview with a German paper, and she was asked about the word ''terrorism'' and she said that she never—the questioner said, ''You never mentioned the word 'terrorism.' Does Islamic terrorism suddenly no longer pose a threat to your country?'' And the Secretary said, ''Of course it does. I presume there is always a threat from terrorism. In my speech although, I did not use the word 'terrorism.' I referred to man-caused disasters.'' And I think it's important for the record to note she said that with a straight face. She decided not to use the word ''terrorism'' but ''man-caused disaster.'' ''That is, perhaps,'' the Secretary said, ''only a nuance, but it demonstrates that we want to move away from the politics of fear toward a policy of being prepared for all risks that can occur.''

Now, that's pretty interesting because the Secretary of Homeland Security was very careful to nuance her words. She didn't want to upset other countries, she didn't want to upset the terrorists by calling them ''terrorists.'' So our Secretary of Homeland Security was very, very careful that she would no longer use the word ''terrorism'' and that she would very carefully nuance her words.

Well, while she was making that statement, we could only presume a report was being issued, and the report that was being issued by Secretary Janet Napolitano's Department and it's called—we have it here. It's available to Americans now, and we will all be linking to it on our Web sites, I am sure—Right-Wing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment.

Now, this is interesting. Here we have the specter of our own Homeland Security Secretary who is very reluctant to call actual terrorists ''terrorists,'' so we're all told now we have to wipe that dictionary definition clean. We have to call them manmade disasters, and we have to call acts of war ''overseas contingencies.'' So we're now being told to alter and change our definition of words. While on the same hand she, under her authority, is issuing a right-wing extremism guide. This is an assessment. This was just released. I was really curious about this. It was released the day before all of the TEA parties occurred here in the United States talking about right-wing extremism.

What is very interesting is there was no reluctance to have any nuancing of any words in this report. I didn't see any, and I am sure that the judge from Texas, Judge CARTER, I don't see you saw any extremist, any willingness to have nuance of these words. As a matter of fact, as I was going through this document—and I invite every American to please go through this document—I am reading the words, ''domestic right-wing terrorists.'' She is presuming that those who are on the right wing who hold conservative views apparently are not only terrorists, they are domestic terrorists here in this country.

And she goes on in item after item in this document, right-wing extremists, right-wing extremists, domestic terrorists, right-wing extremists. This sounds pretty serious. It must be that Osama bin Laden's guys got through the border. They are here. That must be the domestic terrorists she is talking about. Or maybe she is talking about those violent Mexican gangs. Maybe they got over the border. Maybe those are the domestic right-wing terrorists. Or perhaps the Secretary of Homeland Security is talking about those detainees down in Gitmo that are going to be released from Gitmo and put here on American soil. Maybe that's who the Secretary of Homeland Security is talking about.

But I don't think so. And the reason I think Mrs. FOXX doesn't think so and why Mr. CARTER doesn't think so, why Mr. BRADY doesn't think so, why Mr. BURGESS doesn't think so is because of the words that the Homeland Security Secretary states in this article.

Now, it's unclassified, but it is for official use only. I don't think the Department of Homeland Security had any idea that the American people were going to have access to this document because it says quite simply this, that who they are concerned about are returning military veterans.

Now can you believe this? Every one of us, I think, are horrified when we hear this. Probably some of the most patriotic people that we know of are returning military veterans. They laid their lives down for you and for me and for this great country. No one has more love for this country than a returning military veteran. And here we have our own Department of Homeland Security calling these people potential domestic extremists, terrorists? This is unbelievable. I don't think any of us can believe it.

And I think we're at the point now where we need to have a hearing, we need to have our Director of Homeland Security in front of the Members of Congress, call her to account, ask her why on multiple occasions in this document she calls people who believe in the sanctity of life, who believe in owning firearms, who believe in serving their country in the military and coming back who are very concerned about the policies that this Nation is embarking on, spending too much money, taxing too much, it's all listed right here. These are the domestic right-wing extremists. That is so frightening that we need to have the Secretary of Homeland Security before the Members of Congress and ask her, does she really believe this? Is this really her opinion?

But if it is, I think it would be imperative and incumbent upon us to ask for her resignation. It is not too soon to do that. Because to consider whole blocks of the American electorate somehow a threat to American security—because I didn't notice any nuance in this document. There was no being careful. There was no saying, you know, we need to recognize and understand that there might be a difference of opinion, that there might be diversity of public opinion on these issues. There is no nuancing about that in this document. It is like a hammer coming down on interest group after interest group that apparently the Obama administration perceives as a threat.

Mr. CARTER. If I could reclaim my time to point out to the gentlelady what we've got in this definition that I have got on this board right here. And it says, ''right-wing extremism,'' I like this right here where it says ''those that are mainly anti-government, rejecting Federal authority in favor of State and local authority.

Then, if I understood what the TEA parties were all about, the TEA parties were all about all of these millions of people that came out to express their right to free speech and to demonstrate and to step up and petition their government and say, ''You know what? We don't like what the Federal Government is doing. We don't like the way you're taxing. We don't like the way you're spending.'' Guess what? The Obama administration just classified them as right-wing extremists, terrorists.

Now, if the gentlelady needs to conclude her remarks and then—or maybe

I will let Mr. BRADY take over and then we will come back to you.

KEVIN BRADY, my good friend from Texas. I will yield you as much time as you need.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Congressman CARTER, thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Look at the board that you're standing next to. They are basically saying—our government is saying that right-wing extremists in the United States fall into two groups: those who hate others, hate-oriented groups, and those who are anti-government. So those who hate people and those who just don't think we ought to have a big government—according to our Department of Homeland Security—there is no difference. None. What kind of country are we becoming?

I, like you, was in front and participated in two of our TEA parties in Montgomery County. Hundreds of people attended downtown Conroe, thousands in the Woodlands at Creekside Park waiting hours to get to the park. Average people. Americans. The type that built this country.

I took a good look at this crowd and didn't see an extremist in the bunch. And don't you know I was looking for it after reading all about Secretary Napolitano's memo who paints them as the new national security threat in our country.

But let me tell you what I did see. I saw Americans who are fed up with the government spending their money hand-over-fist, Americans who live within their means and pay taxes to a government that, starting this Saturday, will run out of money for the entire year. We just paid our taxes on the 15th. The government is already out of money, living on a credit card. They are asking why. What is extremist about that?

I saw Americans who want secure borders, Americans who welcome immigrants who are seeking a better life. They are just asking that they come in through the front door of legal immigration rather than the back door of illegal immigration, just like generations of Americans before them.

I saw veterans, veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, veterans home from Iraq and Afghanistan. They didn't look extreme or maladjusted or dangerous. They looked concerned for a country they put their lives on the line for. As Mrs. BACHMANN said, they put their lives on the line. And now this country is at a crossroads, and these veterans who are willing to fight for it overseas, they are also willing to fight for their country here at home by speaking out. And my brother, who I am so proud of, a master sergeant in the Army, served in Iraq, has been deployed overseas as well, he's not extremist. He's my hero.

□ 1930

And I would say that goes for every family that has someone who served in our wars; they are not the threat to America, man, they are the solution for America.

I think Americans are waking up all across this country—we saw this this past week—they want to know if Congress, they want to know if Washington hears them. And it seems to me that not only do they not believe they are extreme, they believe the Constitution gives them the right to disagree, respectfully and forcefully, with their government, that the Constitution actually allows them to question these decisions, to question reports like you, Congressman CARTER, have brought to light, rightfully so. They want and are speaking out for lower taxes. They are speaking out for families. They are speaking out for the unborn. They want all the rights afforded them in the Constitution under the Bill of Rights, including the right to keep and bear arms, and they simply ask that it be protected.

In case anyone hasn't noticed, there are a lot of people in America who think that solutions to our country come from individuals, families, neighborhoods, local communities, even States. And they don't get anointed from Washington and then passed on to—Washington doesn't know best. And just because people believe in those rights, they shouldn't be labeled as extremists.

The Secretary's comments were offensive. She apologized to veterans, sort of.

Mr. CARTER. Not really.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Not much, not much at all. And she absolutely ignored everyone else. And it seems to me that she should recant this report forcibly. She should apologize to everyone who was offended. As you said, 80 percent of Americans are now a national security threat. She should apologize to them. She should commit to the American people that she will not confuse the patriots within our country who want to build it up with extremists outside who want to tear it down. There is a huge difference. And if our government doesn't know, I really am frightened. Some pundit said, you know, maybe the snake is out of the box. Maybe this really is the attitude of our government about those who simply disagree with it. If it is, then the TEA parties will only continue to grow to be more valuable, to be critical to where we go.

I appreciate Congresswoman BACHMANN, Congressman BURGESS—you, especially, Congressman CARTER—for bringing this issue to us tonight so the American public can see that we are as outraged and angry at this report as they are, and we intend to hold those accountable who drafted and support it.

With that, I would yield back.

Mr. CARTER. I thank the gentleman from Texas, and my good friend, very much for his comments. As you were saying that, you know, I had to think, if you are first classifying people who disagree with you as terrorists, or dangerous, then the next step is dealing with those people. The next step may be, we'll read headlines like this, ''Venezuelan Government arrests Chavez opponent.'' ''Equatorial Guinea: Arrest and torture of political opponents.'' ''Zimbabwe arrests opposition leaders.'' ''Britain tells Pakistan Government don't arrest political opponents.'' ''Obama administration issues warning over right-wing extremists.'' What is the next headline going to say? I am not trying to be a scare factor, but when you start classifying ordinary Americans who disagree with you as an extremist, we have to be concerned.

I am not going to change my position on State's rights and the right of our States under our Constitution. I am not going to change my position on abortion. I am not going to change my position on the right to keep and bear arms. And if I have to go to prison for it, I am going to do it because that is what our Founding Fathers would have done. And that is where we have got to be.

I yield back to Mrs. BACHMANN.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank the gentleman from Texas, and I also thank Mr. BRADY for his remarkable words as well.

I think, in answer to where do we go from here? We need look no further than the statements that were made by then candidate Obama during the election when he said this—this is a statement of President Obama during last year's election campaign that got remarkably little attention in the media, but he suggested the creation of a Federal police force comparable to the size of the military. And he made that statement, I believe, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. And so the question that we need to ask is, why would you need such an organization? There is no constituency calling for a Federal police force, there is no one out there doing it. But yet, Barack Obama made the suggestion himself that we needed to create and fund a domestic army that would be a Federal police force. Why would we need a Federal police force the size of the U.S. military? For what purpose? Would it be for this purpose?

It is intriguing to me, we have a report now that says—as Mr. BRADY said and as Judge CARTER said—80 percent of the American people would be classified as ''right-wing extremists'' under this report. Couple that with a statement made by President Obama during the campaign that we need to have a Federal police force the size of the military. Add it up. No wonder people right now who are gun owners, who cherish their second amendment rights, are purchasing weapons and are purchasing ammunition. They see the handwriting on the wall. They know the Obama administration is looking at weapon bans and is looking at pulling back on gun ownership and registration of firearms, and they are rightly concerned about that. So what? They are purchasing firearms lawfully. They are purchasing

ammunition lawfully. And yet this document would categorize these law-abiding citizens, which our Founders—as Judge CARTER correctly stated, are exercising their second amendment right to own and bear arms. They are doing that, and now our government is calling them right-wing extremists?

We need to be on this floor tonight. We need to be outraged. And furthermore, we need answers, as Mr. BRADY said, from the Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano. What did she really mean? Does she agree with this report? Does she recant this report? If not, she should resign.

Mr. CARTER. Reclaiming my time, I am going to yield just briefly to Mr. BRADY.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Congressman CARTER, again, I appreciate your leadership on this issue, but it begs the question of the discussion tonight; in America, we don't tolerate racial profiling, so why are we tolerating values profiling? Why are we allowing this government to profile people based on those who believe in smaller, limited government, who believe in pro-family issues, who believe in their constitutional right, the second amendment, or who just believe they ought to be able to disagree with their government? Why is our government profiling those with values at a time when we ought to be encouraging all Americans to raise their values, to speak out, to be engaged? It seems to me we have got the gun pointed at ourselves when we really ought to be, again, protecting this country against the real terrorists who threaten our way of life, not those inside who are trying to preserve it.

I just want to thank you and our other speakers tonight for their very insightful remarks on this issue.

Mr. CARTER. Reclaiming my time for a moment, the other thing that is very offensive to me—and I think it should be very offensive to every American—is that this report, when you read it—and we haven't even touched it, but I am going to tell you I am going to touch it right now—almost every paragraph begins, ''Due to the election of an African American President.'' They are lumping everyone who disagrees politically with them, they are lumping them all into a racist category. And that is offensive to me. That should be offensive to every single free American that breathes a breath on this soil because disagreeing with your government does not make you a racist against electing an African American. With all that we have done and this great victory of an African American President that everybody recognizes as a turning point in the history of America, and then to say, but anyone that disagrees with anything he says or anything he does or anything anybody under his auspices does is a racist and a domestic terrorist?

I agree with the gentlelady from Minnesota; it is time to talk seriously about who is in charge of the new Obama department that we have got that is supposed to be protecting our Nation, Homeland Security.

I have my very good friend and colleague, one of my classmates, and a very intelligent gentleman, Mr. BURGESS from Texas, who has been my buddy since we got here, and I am glad to yield the time he needs.

Mr. BURGESS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

You know, home on the 2-week recess that we just had, you are so busy—recess is a misnomer, you are so busy going from one place to another that oftentimes you don't even have an opportunity to keep up with the current events of the day. And I did what I was doing so often as I drive through my rather long and narrow district, I was listening to talk radio, a subversive station there in the Dallas/Fort Worth market, and they started talking about this report that had just come out from the Secretary. Well, I was so upset about what I was hearing on the radio that I got on my phone and I called the staff up here in the Washington office and I said, we need to get a letter to the Department of Homeland Security, to the Secretary right away. So I am going to read to you a few excerpts from the letter that I wrote last week to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. And Judge, it actually goes back to something that you were saying.

Within the letter, the report states that ''the economic downturn and the election of the first African American President present unique drivers for right-wing radicalization and recruitment.'' The report goes on to connect associations with right-leaning ideology with the Oklahoma City bombing, the murder of law enforcement officials, bank robbery, attacks on infrastructure, racism, and bigotry in general. This report claims that, ''high unemployment leads to alienation, increasing an individual's susceptibility to extremist ideas.''

This report appears to claim that high unemployment amongst Caucasians, Christians, second amendment supporters and Armed Forces veterans has a causal relationship with radicalism and violence against the State. I call into question this underlying assumption and baseless claim. The implication that veterans returning home from serving our country are at risk of becoming domestic terrorists or assassins is sensational at best, but dishonorable and disrespectful of their service.

Profiling based on race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, or life experiences is always wrong. I believe the Department of Homeland Security owes an apology to the Americans that are offended by this report, especially to the men and women of our Armed Forces. Furthermore, the Department should rescind this report so that those local, State and Federal law enforcement officials who received it are not compelled to profile individuals as terrorists simply because they associate themselves with conservative organizations. I ask that you enact these recommendations on behalf of the constituents of the 26th District of Texas.

And just briefly, I want to read some lines from a stack of mail that I got from my constituents back home. Some of them are pretty outspoken. A resident from Flower Mound, Texas put it pretty simply; ''Fire Napolitano immediately. The United States is not a police state.'' Another resident wrote, ''The only acceptable response is to fire Secretary Napolitano immediately. No apology should be accepted. Even her resignation should not be allowed. All Americans should demand that the Secretary be fired without delay.''

Another resident from Mound, ''Dear Congressman Burgess: Americans are repulsed by the leaked DHS Anti-Terrorism Security Assessment Summary that clearly targets mainstream Americans as dangerous extremists.''

A resident from Keller, Texas, ''The report issued yesterday by the Department of Homeland Security was reprehensible and insulting to tens and millions of Americans. The statement issued today by Secretary Napolitano standing behind the report is absolutely inexcusable. Secretary Napolitano should resign.''

A resident from Hurst, quoting from the body of the letter, ''I ask you to speak out against this kind of rhetoric, Congressman, and to call for the immediate resignation of the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano.''

Another resident writing from Hurst said, ''In fact, I am considering calling the Department of Homeland Security and giving them my name and address so they can keep an eye on me and my radical ideas, like a smaller Federal Government, more control back to the States. Maybe we should start a list for them.''

A resident from Corinth, Texas stated, quite simply, ''Fire Janet Napolitano immediately. I viewed her so-called apology on Fox and Friends in the morning on Thursday; that was no apology as she stands by the report.''

Another one writing in said, ''I have spent over 20 years of my life serving my country as an officer in the United States Navy fighting to protect the Constitution and America from the very likes of this. I joined during the Cold War, and I know firsthand how Communists act and what they do to political dissenters. Now to have this said of me and my family, my children, my friends, my neighbors, my church, and everyone else I know by my own government makes me''—I'll use a colloquial term here, I'll just say ''sick to my stomach.''

□ 1945

I demand Janet Napolitano's immediate firing. She has demonstrated she is unfit for service in any capacity in the U.S. governments. Another resident of Flower Mound. ''This is disgusting. Of all the departments and

agencies in our government which should be apolitical, Homeland Security is one of the most, if not the most critical, to remain apolitical. They are tasked with defending all Americans. I implore you to call for a congressional investigation immediately. I urge you to call immediately for the resignation of Secretary Napolitano. If she is so concerned with advancing a political agenda, let her go work for ACORN, whoever they are.''

A resident from Pilot Point, ''Warmest regards from Pilot Point. We are former U.S. Army officers. One of us is a West Point graduate. We are both veterans of Desert Storm. Both of our fathers and my grandfather are veterans. My father was a career Army officer and my uncle a Navy fighter pilot. My little brother, a U.S. Army officer, has served tours in Afghanistan and just returned from a tour in Iraq last month.

''Forgive my tedious intro, but in the spirit of full disclosure, I thought you should know that we are biased. We bleed red, white and blue. I cannot find the words to share with you, how repugnant we find the justification of discriminatory governmental directives and a complete lack of rational government demonstrated by the DHS Secretary.

''Someone can be given knowledge, but unless they truly accept and internalize the error of their actions they cannot be taught good judgment. She must be held accountable with a full investigation. Short of that, please demand her resignation.

''There is no apology that will change the discriminatory character that she demonstrates and apparently supports. Please make an outspoken stand on principle. I feel we cannot change her character.''

Well, to the two Army officers from Pilot Point, consider it done.

Resident from Lantana, ''Why have Republicans not been screaming for Janet Napolitano's firing? My employees would be fired in this situation.''

It goes on to say ''I love you, and I went to the Denton TEA party.''

A resident from North Richland Hills, ''Returning veterans are being subjected to unjust scrutiny by the DHS Secretary.''

A resident from Denton, ''Her pronouncements are an insult to every American and probably 95 percent of hardworking citizens. To hear such word from a high-ranking Federal employee, language that denigrates those who defend our country and every patriotic American makes me one that Napolitano, I suppose, would consider a threat even though I have always thought that nothing in my personal life and belief system would so delegate me.''

Well, I have a few more, but in the interest of time, I am going to stop there. Those are some of the most poignant that were submitted to the office.

Certainly this is something that has gotten people's attention and appropriately so. I think, Judge, you are doing the correct thing by having this special hour tonight, giving many of us a chance to come down to the floor and talk about this.

I can't say it any better than my constituents have said it, an investigation, to be sure, a replacement of the Secretary, I think, is certainly in order, and I do have to question the sincerity of an administration that would not undertake these measures after the types of very, very painful words that have been included in that report, and how it has affected those that we have depended upon to fight for us and maintain our freedom.

APRIL 16, 2009.

Hon. JANET NAPOLITANO,
Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY NAPOLITANO: I am writing to express my concerns regarding a recent Department of Homeland Security (DHS) report entitled, ''Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment.'' This report claims to provide law enforcement officials with the tools to help them deter, prevent, preempt, correspond to terrorist attacks against the United States. I understand the purpose of shared intelligence, however, I am concerned that by broadly characterizing those who support a conservative ideology with terrorism the DHS may have mischaracterized and offended several million Americans and placed them at risk of profiling bylaw enforcement officials.

This report states, ''The Economic downturn and the election of the first African American president present unique drivers for rightwing radicalization and recruitment.'' The report goes on to connect associations with right-leaning ideology with the Oklahoma City bombing, the murder of law enforcement officials, bank robbery, attacks on infrastructure, and racism and bigotry in general.

This report claims that ''high unemployment leads to alienation, increasing an individual's susceptibility to extremist ideas.'' This report appears to claim that high unemployment among Caucasians, Christians, Second Amendment supporters, and Armed Forces Veterans has a causal relationship with radicalism and violence against the state. I call into question this underlying assumption and baseless claim. The implication that veterans returning home from serving our country are at risk of becoming domestic terrorists or assassins is sensational at best and is dishonorable and disrespectful to their service.

Profiling based on race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, or life experiences is always wrong. I believe the Department of Homeland Security owes an apology to the Americans that are offended by this report, especially the men and women of our Armed Forces. Furthermore, the Department should rescind this report so those local, state, and federal law enforcement officials who received it are not compelled to profile individuals as terrorists simply because they associate themselves with conservative organizations.

I urge you to enact these recommendations on behalf of the constituents of the 26th District of Texas.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL C. BURGESS, M.D.

Mr. CARTER. I thank my good friend for his comments. Let me read something just for a moment from this report, let me read something. As we recall, we have had a lot of discussion on this floor by our friends on the other side of the aisle, the Democrats, about some of the things that they are concerned about in manufacturing.

Let me read you another definition of right-wing extremists. ''Right-wing extremist views bemoan the decline of the U.S. stature and have recently focused on themes such as U.S. manufacturing capability going to China and India. Russian control of interview resources and the use of these to pressure other countries, and China's investment in the United States real estate and corporations, are part of the subversive strategy.''

Wait a minute, we have been arguing on the floor of this House with Democrats bemoaning China taking jobs away from the manufacturing industry. Good Lord, they are domestic terrorists. Good Lord, you know, I am pretty dad gum mad about this, and I agree with my colleagues.

Mr. President, fire that woman. Ms. Napolitano, this is inexcusable to go on television and say, your apology would be, ''I am sorry you were offended by this report.

That's no apology. That's saying I am sorry, you have got a chance to read it, and know what our plans were for you in the future.

Mr. President, respectfully, this woman deserves firing. I think it's time we act.

I yield to my friend from Minnesota.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Again, I agree with Judge CARTER of I think he is exactly right. I think the question we need to ask now is what's next, political show trials? That's the concern.

When you have disagreement of political opinion, and then you set up the grounds for punishment for disagreement with political opinion, then the government creates what's called political show trials. In other words, kangaroo courts where people are put on trial for their political beliefs.

So what's next? Is it political show trials? Well, shazam, wouldn't you know it, just this week President Obama, together with MoveOn.org, MoveOn.org running television adds by the way, this week calling for political show trials of those in the Bush administration that worked so hard to keep the American people free from terrorist acts, real terrorist acts, like trying to blow Americans up on American soil.

The problem is the Homeland Security Secretary has now redefined real terrorists as foreign victims with Miranda rights and access to American courts with lawyers paid for by the American taxpayer, while at the same time the Homeland Security S has redefined pro-life gun-owning veterans who like smaller government and who believe America should secure our borders against invasion from illegal aliens as domestic right-wing extremists, as you have in the report upon the stand.

Homeland Security, I think we should also note, has the Transportation Security Administration. Any of our constituents that go to the airport, they see people that have TSA on their shirts.

You can't get on a plane in the United States, a commercial aircraft, without going through security. What's going to happen now? Will the Federal Government start IDing returning veterans, start IDing gun owners, start IDing pro-lifers and then pull us out of line for special searches at the airports before we are allowed to get on a plane because we could be considered a domestic right-wing terrorist while we would see Osama bin Laden and his friends skate by because they are not, because maybe they would be involved in a manmade disaster. But those who are pro-life gun owners, returning veterans on the other side, they are the real threat?

This is an upside down Alice in Wonderland world. I can see why the American people are so upset right now. They are so upset. They look at what's happening. They shake their head. They say, is this America? Is this what we are used to? We are normal God-fearing people who love this country, and now we are the threat while Osama bin Laden and the people who seek to really bring us harm are let off scot free. And we are going to call them manmade disaster, we have got to be nuanced and so careful so we don't hurt their feelings?

Has this Homeland Security Secretary gone absolutely stark raving mad? She needs to come before Congress. She needs to answer a few questions.

I don't think Mr. BURGESS is the only one with constituents that want to know. I think all of us have constituents that want to get some answers to these questions.

Mr. CARTER. You know, I am just reading some more of our report, it just continues to be more and more offensive.

The category where this provision comes from, talking about right-wing extremists being our returning veterans, some examples given, after Operation Desert Shield/Storm 1990–1991, some returning military veterans, including Timothy McVeigh, joined and associated with right-wing extremist groups.

Yes, maybe Timothy McVeigh did, but the veterans that MIKE BURGESS just read about, they didn't. Okay? They served their Nation, and they have left the military service and have been good citizens of his congressional district, and yet they lumped them with Timothy McVeigh.

Another one says, a prominent civil rights organization report, without telling us who they are, ''that large numbers of potentially violent neo-Nazi skinheads and other white supremacists are now learning the art of warfare in the United States Armed Forces.''

That is so insulting, it's beyond belief, it's beyond belief. It is condemning every bit of our Armed Forces.

So basically they are there. We are not sure who they are. Watch them all. Watch they all. They have got a uniform on. If it says Iraq or Afghanistan or has that American flag, keep an eye on those guys. They might shave their head when they get home and be a skin head. What kind of paranoia is this? It's just beyond belief that there is this kind of thought processes beginning this term of an American President, someone he put in this position.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Less than 100 days, within 90 days.

Mr. CARTER. That's exactly right. This is his responsibility. He chose to be our leader, he needs to lead on this issue.

It is absolutely inexcusable to let a head of a major department, whose purpose is to protect the innocent of this country, to accuse possibly 80 percent of Americans of being right-wing extremists.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Judge CARTER, you are exactly right, because what you are doing is you are calling into question the judgment of President Obama by selecting this Secretary of Homeland Security to come out with a report. Insulting 80 percent of the American people within 90 days of assuming office? You are exactly right.

On page 4 of this report, ''It says prominent antigovernment conspiracy theorists have incorporated aspects of an impending economic collapse.'' Aren't we all worried about that? Economic collapse to intensify fear and paranoia.

But then it goes on to say this. This is for people of faith. This is where people of faith need to perk up their ears because the report actually says this.

It says, End Times prophesies could motivate extremist individuals and groups that stockpile food, ammunition and weapons. These teachings have also been linked with a radicalization of domestic extremist individuals and groups in the past, such as violent Christian identity organizations.''

I find this offensive.

Mr. CARTER. I do too.

Mrs. BACHMANN. The percentage of people who believe in this Book of Revelations, End Times prophecy, the Book of Daniel, the Book of Ezekiel, the Book of Isaiah, the people who believe in the teachings of Christ that talk about end-time prophecy? These are people that our government should be watching out for?

This administration needs to be ashamed of this. This is a piece of religious bigotry. That's what this is. This is religious bigotry.

As a matter of fact, we were told we were going to deal with hate crime laws this week. I think this document is an example of hate crimes on the part of the Federal Government labeling its own citizens, practically calling American citizens criminals to be tracked down by an American government.

And we have to keep in mind the statement that President Obama said on the campaign trail that he believed that a Federal police force should be created, just the same size of the U.S. military, unbelievable, and the media didn't pick up on it. The American people need to know.

Mr. CARTER. What was the exact term that you said that he was calling those that are outside the country, rather than terrorists? Now Ms. Napolitano calls them something nebulous.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Yes. What she said in her interview exactly, ''I did not use the word 'terrorism,' I referred to man-caused disasters. That's perhaps only a nuance, but it demonstrates that we want to move away from the politics of fear,'' from the politics of fear.

Mr. CARTER. So a person who believes in an interpretation of the Book of Revelations in the Bible is, by her definition, labeled as a terrorist.

But a man who, live on television, on videotape, cuts another man's head off on television in the name of another religion is a what?

Mrs. BACHMANN. That's right, a man-caused disaster.

Mr. CARTER. Man-caused disaster.

Mrs. BACHMANN. That's skewed thinking. We had a man who beheaded his wife in upstate New York. Not a word was said about that. The media didn't cover it, I didn't see anything here about religious groups where maybe something like that would happen, it's unbelievable the accusations that are made in this document.

Mr. CARTER. Before we finish here, because we are about to run out of time, I want to say something else. When we are talking about immigration, we are not talking about people who come to this country legally.

Mrs. BACHMANN. That's exactly right.

Mr. CARTER. We are not talking about people who came here illegally and meet their obligation to the country, get in line and become good American citizens.

Mrs. BACHMANN. That's exactly right.

Mr. CARTER. We are talking about people who break this law in this country. We all, every one of us support immigration, good legal immigration in this country, because that's who we are. Every one of us, unless we are an American, a Native American is an illegal immigrant.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. REYES (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week on account of death in family.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of illness.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for April 21 after 6 p.m. and today on account of illness.

Mr. BACHUS (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for April 21 on account of 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. ENGEL) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BOYD, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MICHAUD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SESTAK, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BOCCIERI, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, April 29.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, April 29.

Mr. REICHERT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CARTER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCHENRY, for 5 minutes, today, April 23, 27, 28 and 29.

Mr. HUNTER, for 5 minutes, April 23.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. SCHMIDT, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, April 23, 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:

1291. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Swine Health Protection; Feeding of Processed Product to Swine [Docket No.: APHIS-2008-0120] (RIN: 0579-AC91) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1292. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report on the use of Aviation Continuation Pay (ACP) during Fiscal Year 2008, pursuant to 37 U.S.C. 301(b); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1293. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Global Security Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report on National Guard Counterdrug Schools Activities, pursuant to Public Law 109-469, section 901(f); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1294. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology, Department of the Army, transmitting the Department's report on the implementation of the Product Improvement Pilot Program (PIPP), pursuant to Public Law 110-181, section 330; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1295. A letter from the Vice Chair and First Vice President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Saudi Arabia pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

1296. A letter from the Vice Chair and First Vice President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to the United Arab Emirates pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

1297. A letter from the Vice Chair and First Vice President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on a transaction involving a credit facility that will support U.S. exports to various countries pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

1298. A letter from the Acting Chairman, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities, transmitting the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities' thirty-third annual report on the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program for fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

1299. A letter from the Regulation Coordinator, HHS-ODRM, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicaid Program; State Flexibility for Medicaid Benefit Packages [CMS-2232-F2] (RIN: 0938-AP72) received April 6, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1300. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Commonwealth Virginia: Discontinuance of Certain Commission Regulatory Athority Within the State; Notice of Agreement Between the NRC and the Commonwealth of Virginia; Notice of Waiver Termination [NRC-2008-0607] received April 14, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1301. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period December 1, 2008 through January 31, 2009, pursuant to Section 620C(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1302. A letter from the Auditor, District of Columbia, transmitting a report entitled, ''Responses to Specific Questions Regarding the Department of Employment Service's 2008 Summer Youth Employment Program,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 47-117(d); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1303. A letter from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs, Agency for International Development, transmitting the Agency's Year 2008 A-76 Inventory of Commercial Activities for Fiscal Year 2007, pursuant to the Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1304. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Annual Performance Report for Fiscal Year 2008; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1305. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information Systems and Chief Information Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's report for fiscal year 2008 on the Acquisition of Articles, Materials, and Supplies Manufactured Outside the United States, pursuant to Public Law 110-28, section 8306; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1306. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's 2009 Annual Performance Plan, pursuant to the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1307. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting draft legislation on the electronic filing of Senate reports; to the Committee on House Administration.

1308. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting draft legislation on fraudulent misrepresentation of campaign authority; to the Committee on House Administration.

1309. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting draft legislation on the conversion of campaign funds; to the Committee on House Administration.

1310. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting draft legislation on senior executive service; to the Committee on House Administration.

1311. A letter from the Acting Director, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''Mineral Commodity Summaries 2009''; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1312. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish Managed Under the Individual Fishing Quota Program [Docket No.: 0910091344-9056-02 and 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XN73) received April 14, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1313. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Catch Sharing Plan [Docket No.: 0812311655-81657-01] (RIN: 0648-AX44) received April 14, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1314. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries; 2009 Scup and Black Sea Bass Specifications; Correction [Docket No.: 090311306-9309-01] (RIN: 0648-XN88) received April 14, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1315. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Closure [Docket No.: 001005281-0369-02] (RIN: 0648-XL91) received April 14, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1316. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule —

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Atka Mackerel in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XO11) received April 14, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1317. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A318, A319, A320, and A321 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-1327; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-161-AD; Amendment 39-15859; AD 2009-06-22] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1318. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 767-200 and 767-300 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0898; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-200-AD; Amendment 39-15856; AD 2009-06-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1319. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (RRD) BR700-715A1-30, BR700-715B1-30, and BR700-715C1-30 Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0224; Directorate Identifier 2007-NE-44-AD; Amendment 39-15860; AD 2009-07-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1320. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''24th Annual Report of Accomplishments Under the Airport Improvement Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007,'' pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 47131; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1321. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A310 Series Airplanes and Model A300-600 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0018; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-145-AD; Amendment 39-15842; AD 2009-06-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1322. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL-600-1A11 (CL-600), CL-600-2A12 (CL-601), and CL-600-2B16 (CL-601-3A, CL-601-3R, and CL-604) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-1216; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-111-AD; Amendment 39-15841; AD 2009-06-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1323. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. (EMBRAER) Model ERJ 190 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0668; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-088-AD; Amendment 39-15847; AD 2009-06-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1324. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Model F.27 Mark 050 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0224; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-302-AD; Amendment 39-15852; AD 2009-06-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1325. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 727-100 and 727-200 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-1103; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-048-AD; Amendment 39-15846; AD 2009-06-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1326. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 767 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2006-25390; Directorate Identifier 2005-NM-224-AD; Amendment 39-15844; AD 2009-06-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1327. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; 328 Support Services GmbH Dornier Model 328-100 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-1043; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-036-AD ; Amendment 39-15845; AD 2009-06-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1328. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747-100, 747-100B, 747-100B SUD, 747-200B, 747-200C, 747-200F, 747-300, 747-400, 747SR, and 747SP Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-1072; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-109-AD; Amendment 39-15838; AD 2009-06-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1329. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of the Ryan Haight Online Pharmacy Consumer Protection Act of 2008 [Docket No.: DEA-322I] (RIN: 1117-AB20) received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary.

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. ARCURI: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 352. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1145) to implement a National Water Research and Development Initiative, and for other purposes (Rept. 111–82). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. GORDON of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. WU, Mrs. BIGGERT, and Mr. LUJÁN):

H.R. 2020. A bill to amend the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 to authorize activities for support of networking and information technology research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

By Mr. BOEHNER (for himself, Mr. CAMP, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. HELLER, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. LATTA, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. DREIER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. LEE of New York, Mr. HERGER, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. CARTER, and Mr. PENCE):

H.R. 2021. A bill to help rebuild retirement, college, and personal savings; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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. MURTHA (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. KANJORSKI, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mrs. BONO MACK):

H.R. 2022. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for tax preferred savings accounts for individuals under age 26, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCDERMOTT:

H.R. 2023. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the estate and gift tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SHULER, Mr. DREIER, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. JONES, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. PETERS, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, and Mr. WATT):

H.R. 2024. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit against income tax to facilitate the accelerated development and deployment of advanced safety systems for commercial motor vehicles; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MINNICK (for himself and Mr. SIMPSON):

H.R. 2025. A bill to ensure public access to Federal land and to the airspace over Federal land; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. KLINE of Minnesota (for himself, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BARTLETT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. LATTA, Mr. MARCHANT, and Mr. CONAWAY):

H.R. 2026. A bill to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to make non-union training programs eligible for Federal funding under the ''Green Jobs'' program; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. CHAFFETZ:

H.R. 2027. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish limitations on the use of whole-body imaging technology for aircraft passenger screening, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on 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. SAM JOHNSON of Texas (for himself, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. BRADY of

Texas, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and Mr. MITCHELL):

H.R. 2028. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to prevent unauthorized earnings from being credited toward benefits under title II of such Act and to make improvements in provisions governing totalization agreements, to amend the Social Security Act and the Immigration and Nationality Act to prevent unauthorized employment, and to improve coordination of the provisions of such Acts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Rules, and Ways and Means, 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. ABERCROMBIE:

H.R. 2029. A bill to authorize the Marine Mammal Commission to establish a national research program to fund basic and applied research on marine mammals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WAMP):

H.R. 2030. A bill to provide 100,000,000 people with first-time access to safe drinking water and sanitation on a sustainable basis by 2015 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to fully implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BOREN (for himself, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. MILLER of Florida, and Mr. ROSS):

H.R. 2031. A bill to amend Public Law 106-206 to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to require annual permits and assess annual fees for commercial filming activities on Federal land for film crews of 5 persons or fewer; to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. BURTON of Indiana:

H.R. 2032. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to make nondischargeable debts for personal injuries that result in permanent disability; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. CAO, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. MELANCON, and Mr. SCALISE):

H.R. 2033. A bill to apply an alternative payment amount under the Medicare Program for certain graduate medical education programs established to train residents displaced by natural disasters; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CLAY (for himself, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. WATERS, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. MEEKS of New York, and Mr. HODES):

H.R. 2034. A bill to permit refinancing of certain loans under the Rural Housing Service program for guaranteed loans for rural housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Mr. SHULER, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. BERRY, Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. CARTER, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. PETERSON, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. CAO, and Mr. DAVIS of Alabama):

H.R. 2035. A bill to provide for programs that reduce abortions, help women bear healthy children, and support new parents; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, and 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. GALLEGLY (for himself and Mr. MATHESON):

H.R. 2036. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to expand grant programs for gifted and talented students; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN (for herself and Mr. FORTENBERRY):

H.R. 2037. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exception to the reduction of renewable energy credit for certain authority under the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HODES (for himself, Ms. GIFFORDS, and Mr. PERRIELLO):

H.R. 2038. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit an authorized committee of a candidate who is a Member of Congress from accepting contributions from any entity for which the candidate sought a Congressional earmark; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself and Mr. HARE):

H.R. 2039. A bill to clarify the applicability of the Buy American Act to products purchased for the use of the legislative branch, to prohibit the application of any of the exceptions to the requirements of such Act to products bearing a Congressional seal, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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. LARSEN of Washington:

H.R. 2040. A bill to authorize a process by which the Secretary of the Interior shall process acquisitions of certain real property of the Samish Indian Nation into trust, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 2041. A bill to establish a program to provide child care through public-private partnerships; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 2042. A bill to authorize additional appropriations to the National Institutes of Health for research on the early detection of and the reduction of mortality rates attributed to breast cancer; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 2043. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize capitation grants to increase the number of nursing faculty and students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 2044. A bill to reduce childhood obesity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. CLARKE):

H.R. 2045. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for expenses paid for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment and to increase, and make refundable, the credit for such expenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts (for himself and Mr. MORAN of Virginia):

H.R. 2046. A bill to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to require a refund value for certain beverage containers, and to provide resources for State pollution prevention and recycling programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. OLSON, Mr. BILBRAY, and Mr. MARCHANT):

H.R. 2047. A bill to authorize appropriations for Operation Stonegarden of the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. OLSON, Mr. BILBRAY, and Mr. MARCHANT):

H.R. 2048. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Office of Detention and Removal of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MEEK of Florida (for himself and Mr. HERGER):

H.R. 2049. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modernize payments for ambulatory surgical centers under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. 2050. A bill to prohibit the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of novelty lighters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 2051. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize extended benefits for certain autistic dependents of certain retirees; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MORAN of Kansas:

H.R. 2052. A bill to provide for special rules relating to assistance concerning the Greensburg, Kansas tornado; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. REYES (for himself, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. EDWARDS of Texas, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. GONZALEZ, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. HALL of Texas, and Mr. LOBIONDO):

H.R. 2053. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 525 Magoffin Avenue in El Paso, Texas, as the ''Albert Armendariz, Sr., United States Courthouse''; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SARBANES (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. STARK, Mr. HARE, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. TIERNEY, Ms. LEE of

California, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. OLVER, Mr. HOLT, Mr. KIND, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. POLIS of Colorado, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. WU, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. FILNER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. HONDA, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. SIRES, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. EHLERS, and Mr. PERLMUTTER):

H.R. 2054. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mr. DICKS, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mrs. TAUSCHER):

H.R. 2055. A bill to establish a Salmon Stronghold Partnership program to protect wild Pacific salmon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. TIERNEY (for himself and Mr. PLATTS):

H.R. 2056. A bill to reform the financing of House elections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Oversight and Government Reform, 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. TOWNS (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 2057. A bill to protect the rights of consumers to diagnose, service, maintain, and repair their motor vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.J. Res. 43. A joint resolution proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. POE of Texas, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mr. COSTA, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. KIND, Mr. SESTAK, and Ms. MCCOLLUM):

H. Con. Res. 104. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MINNICK:

H. Res. 351. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a Federal statute requiring firearm registration would unduly burden the Second Amendment right of the people to keep and bear arms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. REYES, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MINNICK, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BOCCIERI):

H. Res. 353. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Days; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H. Res. 354. A resolution recognizing that the climate system of the Earth is warming and that most of the increase in global average temperatures is very likely due to the observed increase in human greenhouse gas emissions; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCCOTTER:

H. Res. 355. A resolution recognizing May 17-23, 2009, as National Dog Bite Prevention Week, and calling upon all municipalities to work with the American Veterinary Medical Association, the United States Postal Service, and the American Academy of Pediatrics to adopt and implement effective dog bite injury prevention programs to protect Postal Service employees, including laws encouraging responsible dog ownership; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

22. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the State Senate of Kansas, relative to SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1859 supporting the Airborne Laser program and urging the United States Congress to provide the necessary funding for the on-going development and operation of the program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

23. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of Illinois, relative to House Resolution No. 97 urging the U.S. Congress to fund the Illinois Community College Sustainability Network's request for $648,600,000 from the federal government for the training and development of a green-collar workforce and the creation of green-collar jobs through community college renewable energy and energy conservation projects; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

24. Also, a memorial of the State Senate of Oregon, relative to Senate Joint Memorial 5, respectfully urging the Congress of the United States to enact legislation creating the Office of the National Nurse; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

25. Also, a memorial of the Senate of Pennsylvania, relative to Senate Resolution No. 21 memorializing the President of the United States and members of the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives to work cooperatively to ensure that businesses located in the United States, and domestic employees, be the primary beneficiaries of economic-relief legislation by incorporating Federal and State Buy American and Domestic Content requirements in any taxpayer-funded economic recovery legislation; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

26. Also, a memorial of the Sixtieth State Legislature of Wyoming, relative to JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1 requesting Congress to preserve the exemption of hydraulic fracturing in the Safe Drinking Water Act and to not pass any future legislation which would remove the exemption; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

27. Also, a memorial of the Senate of Michigan, relative to Senate Resolution No. 30, expressing support for the people of India and constituents of Indian origin who may have been affected by the terrorist attacks in Mumbai and to urge the President and Congress to work with Indian authorities in both humanitarian and strategic capacities; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

28. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, relative to HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 7 Urging the support of the Congress of the United States for the State of Israel in the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian Conflict in the Gaza Strip; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

29. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, relative to HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 98 Memorializing the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee of the United States Postal Service to issue a commemorative stamp honoring coal miners; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

30. Also, a memorial of the State Legislature of New Mexico, relative to SENATE MEMORIAL 32 REQUESTING THAT CONGRESS BE URGED TO HOLD HEARINGS ON A NEW MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE VALLES CALDERA NATIONAL PRESERVE; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

31. Also, a memorial of the Sixtieth State Legislature of Wyoming, relative to JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2 expressing Wyoming's opposition to inclusion of the black tailed prairie dog on the list of candidate species to be considered for listing as a threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

32. Also, a memorial of the State Senate of New Jersey, relative to Senate Resolution No. 12 respectfully urging the United States Congress to remove the federal ban on sports wagering; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

33. Also, a memorial of the Sixtieth State Legislature of Wyoming, relative to JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3 to repeal requests made to Congress to call a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

34. Also, a memorial of the Sixtieth State Legislature of Wyoming, relative to JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1 requesting that Congress adequately fund Interstate 80; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

35. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of Michigan, relative to House Resolution No. 11 TO MEMORIALIZE THE PRESIDENT, THE CONGRESS, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES TO CHANGE REQUIREMENTS, AGREEMENTS, AND MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING RELATING TO THE CREATION OF ENHANCED DRIVERS LICENSES; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

36. Also, a memorial of the Sixtieth State Legislature of Wyoming, relative to JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2 urging Congress to oppose federal legislation that interferes with a state's ability to direct the transport or processing of horses; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Agriculture.

37. Also, a memorial of the State Senate of Oklahoma, relative to SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 8 commending the President and the Congress for their support of the State Children's Health Insurance Program; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Education and Labor.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 22: Mr. LUETKEMEYER and Mr. BUYER.

H.R. 104: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 186: Mr. OLVER and Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 197: Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. SPACE, Mr. BOREN, Mr. HERGER, Ms. JENKINS, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 211: Mr. STUPAK, Mr. HODES, Mr. ADLER of New Jersey, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, and Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 265: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 270: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SPRATT, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SPACE, Mr. PLATTS, and Mr. HOLDEN.
H.R. 303: Mr. BONNER, Mr. GRAVES, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. WOLF.
H.R. 333: Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. KISSELL, Mr. GERLACH, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 442: Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. PUTNAM, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 450: Mr. MCCOTTER and Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 481: Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 498: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 556: Mr. HODES.
H.R. 574: Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. MASSA, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. CARNEY, and Mr. BLUNT.
H.R. 581: Mr. WAMP.
H.R. 586: Mr. CLAY and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 593: Mr. GRIFFITH.
H.R. 595: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 622: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 627: Mr. LEVIN, Mr. STARK, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. KILROY, Mr. MASSA, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. KISSELL, Mr. BOSWELL, Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, Mr. WALZ, and Ms. GIFFORDS.
H.R. 645: Mr. DAVIS of Alabama.
H.R. 678: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 702: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN.
H.R. 745: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. SPACE, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. PITTS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. CAO, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. CARTER, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. BOUSTANY, and Mr. KLEIN of Florida.
H.R. 751: Mr. WAMP.
H.R. 847: Mr. WEXLER and Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.
H.R. 855: Mr. SARBANES and Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 874: Ms. FUDGE, Mr. HOLT, and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 950: Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 1066: Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. KIRK, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. SESTAK, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. CAPUANO, and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 1074: Mr. PUTNAM and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 1121: Mr. MICA.
H.R. 1136: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 1176: Mr. DREIER.
H.R. 1177: Mr. EDWARDS of Texas.
H.R. 1178: Mr. WALZ and Mr. KLINE of Minnesota.
H.R. 1191: Mr. HONDA, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 1194: Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. HERGER, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. LATOURETTE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. DRIEHAUS, and Mr. KAGEN.
H.R. 1203: Mr. KLEIN of Florida and Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 1207: Mr. ROONEY, Mr. MASSA, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. GRAVES.
H.R. 1209: Mr. LANCE, Mr. STEARNS, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 1210: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. REICHERT, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CALVERT, and Ms. Velázquez.
H.R. 1228: Mr. MORAN of Kansas.
H.R. 1270: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 1285: Mr. LANCE and Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1319: Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 1327: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. TITUS, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. REHBERG, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CARDOZA, and Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 1339: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 1354: Mr. FLEMING.
H.R. 1362: Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 1383: Mr. BOREN and Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 1392: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. REHBERG, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 1401: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 1402: Mr. COHEN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 1410: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 1454: Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 1460: Mr. TERRY.
H.R. 1476: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 1505: Mr. MASSA and Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 1547: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 1548: Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. SHULER, and Mrs. BIGGERT.
H.R. 1549: Mr. FATTAH and Mr. BERMAN.
H.R. 1557: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. CAO, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. DENT, Mr. HOEKSTRA, and Mr. CHAFFETZ.
H.R. 1570: Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan.
H.R. 1585: Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. POMEROY, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 1587: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 1588: Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 1615: Mr. PLATTS and Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 1616: Mr. HOYER, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 1618: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. WEXLER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 1628: Mr. SCHOCK.
H.R. 1640: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 1646: Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. KAGEN.
H.R. 1670: Mr. HODES, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mrs. MALONEY.
H.R. 1671: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1684: Mr. BLUNT, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. HENSARLING.
H.R. 1708: Mr. FARR, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MCCOTTER, and Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 1723: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 1724: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1737: Mr. BOSWELL.
H.R. 1739: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 1740: Mr. LEWIS of California and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 1744: Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. BONNER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. MANZULLO, and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 1748: Mr. GONZALEZ.
H.R. 1751: Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. STARK, and Mr. WU.
H.R. 1756: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 1759: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 1760: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 1761: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. SPACE, and Ms. FUDGE.
H.R. 1762: Mr. SHADEGG.
H.R. 1764: Ms. TITUS, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, and Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 1799: Mr. HASTINGS of Washington and Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 1802: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 1814: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 1817: Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Mr. WAMP, Mr. COOPER, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. TANNER.
H.R. 1820: Mr. CARDOZA and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 1826: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1827: Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 1835: Ms. FALLIN and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1836: Mr. BURTON of Indiana and Mr. THORNBERRY.
H.R. 1869: Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. SUTTON, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. BOSWELL, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. SIRES, Mr. MASSA, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. BERMAN, and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 1870: Mr. SABLAN, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. STARK, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 1872: Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. HALL of New York, and Mr. HEINRICH.
H.R. 1873: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 1877: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 1895: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 1913: Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. WU, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Ms. GIFFORDS.
H.R. 1933: Mr. COHEN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H.R. 1941: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona.
H.R. 1960: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 1970: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama and Mr. WAMP.
H.R. 1977: Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
H.R. 1993: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. MAFFEI, Ms. CLARKE, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 2000: Mr. WOLF, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 2001: Mr. DINGELL.
H.R. 2002: Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 2003: Mr. COHEN.
H.J. Res. 12: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H. Con. Res. 74: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.
H. Con. Res. 89: Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. KLEIN of

Florida, Mr. NADLER of New York, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.

H. Res. 81: Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. MELANCON.

H. Res. 160: Ms. DEGETTE.

H. Res. 174: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H. Res. 175: Mr. MORAN of Kansas.

H. Res. 185: Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan.

H. Res. 191: Mrs. MALONEY.

H. Res. 192: Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, and Mr. MOORE of Kansas.

H. Res. 193: Mr. KIRK and Mr. KIND.

H. Res. 209: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. DINGELL.

H. Res. 215: Mr. PAYNE.

H. Res. 232: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia and Ms. NORTON.

H. Res. 236: Mr. MCMAHON and Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H. Res. 241: Mr. SIRES.

H. Res. 259: Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. CARTER, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. LATTA, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. BARTLETT.

H. Res. 299: Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. REYES, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. MASSA, Mr. HOLT, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. BOSWELL.

H. Res. 300: Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. LAMBORN.

H. Res. 309: Mr. WEXLER, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. MCKEON.

H. Res. 311: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California and Mr. FILNER.

H. Res. 319: Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. AKIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. THORNBERRY, and Mr. KLINE of Minnesota.

H. Res. 321: Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CLAY, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. WATT, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. WATERS, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. ELLISON, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

H. Res. 323: Mr. MANZULLO.

H. Res. 329: Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. FILNER, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. SKELTON.

H. Res. 337: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. OLSON, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. NUNES, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. CARTER, Mr. ROONEY, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

H. Res. 338: Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. PETRI, Mr. MCKEON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. BURGESS.

H. Res. 341: Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. SHULER, Mr. KRATOVIL, Mr. TANNER, Mr. CHILDERS, Mr. KISSELL, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. MINNICK, Mr. HILL, Mrs. HALVORSON, Mr. BARROW, Mr. NYE, Mr. PERRIELLO, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, Mr. BOREN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. WALZ, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KOSMAS, Ms. TITUS, Mr. BOCCIERI, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. TEAGUE.

H. Res. 344: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. HARE, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CHILDERS, Ms. BEAN, and Mr. LINDER.

H. Res. 349: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. GRANGER, Mrs. BONO MACK, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. MACK, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. HERGER, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. DENT, Mr. LEE of New York, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. WOLF, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. TERRY, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. EHLERS.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

H.R. 875: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

27. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, relative to Resolution No. 73-09 Requesting San Francisco's Congressional and State Legislative Delegations Reform Laws Governing use of Public Education and Government Cable Access System Funds; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

28. Also, a petition of the Legislature of Rockland County, New York, relative to Resolution No. 124 of 2009 Requesting That The United States Postal Service Re-Issue The Purple Heart Stamp As A Forever Stamp; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

29. Also, a petition of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, relative to Resolution No. 72-09 urging Congress to pass the Uniting American Families Act and supporting the removal of legal barriers to immigration by permanent same-sex partners; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

30. Also, a petition of the Forest District Civic Association, relative to the Association's motion to table the Freedom of Choice Act and the New York bill called RHAPP, as they should not be voted into law as they both deny the right to life of the fetus; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

31. Also, a petition of the Legislature of Rockland County, New York, relative to Resolution No. 130 of 2009 Urging The Obama Administration To Reconsider Implementation Of The Federal Aviation Administration's Northeast Airspace Redesign Plan; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

32. Also, a petition of the City of Pembroke Pines, Florida, relative to RESOLUTION NO. 3214 SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE AND ADOPTION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE FEDERAL REGULATIONS ALLOWING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF TAX-EXEMPT BONDS TO HELP CITIES FUND THEIR PENSION OBLIGATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; to the Committee on Ways and Means.