

would be required to develop a mechanism to measure the effectiveness of its prevention program.

While this bill is commendable and includes good steps towards eliminating rapists in the ranks, I believe we can do even more. We must build on these efforts and insist on real accountability from the chain of command. And a major step toward eradicating rape in the military is making sure that blue-on-blue attacks are punished.

Mr. Speaker, this is a force protection issue and a moral issue. Congress and DOD must do better. And when our colleague JOHN MCHUGH becomes Army Secretary, I urge him to pursue the issue and support the Army's impressive "I am strong" campaign initiated by his predecessor, our former colleague, Pete Geren. I urge an "aye" vote.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

Mr. FLAKE. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this rule.

This body at this time sits under a cloud. We have investigations from the Justice Department and an investigation by our own Ethics Committee into the intersection between campaign contributions and earmarks. More specifically, earmarks that go to for-profit companies, sole-source contracts, no-bid contracts, that's what earmarks basically are, that are going to, in particular, defense contractors. And then contributions come back from individuals who represent those groups and the lobbyists who represent those groups, so-called "circular fundraising." That's being investigated, as I mentioned, by the Justice Department and our own Ethics Committee.

And yet this rule will set in motion a process by which we will approve more than 300 in this bill alone, 300 earmarks, no-bid contracts, for private companies, for-profit companies. Again, in this legislation, if this rule is approved, this legislation will provide more than 600 earmarks, more than half of which, over 300 of which, represent no-bid contracts to private companies. We simply cannot continue to do this, Mr. Speaker.

I offered an amendment that would prohibit Members from giving earmarks or no-bid contracts to their campaign contributors. That amendment was not ruled in order. It should have been. We should as a body decide that we cannot continue this practice. We need to remove the cloud that hangs over this body that rains on Republicans and Democrats alike.

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY).

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I read this evening with interest the President of the United States has threatened to veto the Defense bill if the ad-

ditional funding exists for F-22 fighter planes.

Mr. Speaker, the President is absolutely right. And the real problem today is that opportunity to vote against those unnecessary planes are not allowed in this rule. In the end we have to stop spending more and start spending smarter.

I was extremely disappointed to learn that the administration's recommendation to halt the F-22 program was overriden. 187 F-22 Raptor fighter jets are not enough? The Raptor has not even been deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, our two largest military fronts.

While I am not an expert on defense procurement, our Defense Secretary, Robert Gates, is. So I tend to believe him when he said that the notion of not buying 60 more F-22s imperils the national security of the United States is "completely nonsense."

We are far and away the most superior air force in the world. Why would we pour billions more into an area where we already dominate and continue to support an aircraft that is not suited to the current battlefields in which we fight? We have to invest in low-tech equipment such as unmanned drones, which are effective in those areas of conflict.

And always remember that every defense dollar spent to bolster an area where we already dominate is a dollar we don't have to spend to take care of our soldiers, strengthen our forces, and improve in areas where we may be vulnerable and our soldiers may be vulnerable.

Again, we have to simply stop spending more and start spending smarter. Our soldiers deserve it. The taxpayers deserve it.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I thank my friend from Maine and I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your courtesy, and I want to thank all who have come to participate in this debate. This legislation enjoys extraordinarily wide bipartisan support.

It's unfortunate that the rule that brings it to the floor is not fair. As I pointed out, it makes about two-thirds of the amendments that were introduced to the Rules Committee from the majority party in order and only about one-third of the amendments presented or introduced, proposed for debate by Members of the minority party. That's not fair. And it maintains a pattern that obviously we have seen deepened, augmented significantly in a very worrisome way in the appropriations process, where for the first time all of the appropriations bills are being brought to the floor under restrictive rules. We have had significant debate, but that's something that is also unfair and unfortunate, and it diminishes the rights of each of the Members of this House.

So I do think it's important we get to debate on legislation, in this case, this authorization of the Armed Forces legislation that enjoys such widespread bipartisan support.

So once again, opposing the rule and opposing the previous question, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART) for the dialogue that we have had here on the floor tonight.

Mr. Speaker, the rule before us today will continue the open debate that was held on committee, some of which continue tonight, and further our efforts to find solutions to those pressing problems.

In particular, this rule adds the text of H.R. 2990 to the underlying bill, which funds a 1-year expansion of concurrent receipts for retired veterans, extends retention bonuses and special pay authorities for enlisted servicemembers and funds provisions in the Federal Retirement Reform Act of 2009. I would like to thank the Chair, Chairman SKELTON, Ranking Member MCKEON, and all my colleagues on the House Armed Services Committee for their tireless work on this bill.

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

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

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

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

Mr. LINCOLN 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, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

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#### APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST DECLASSIFICATION BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 703(c) of the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000 (50 U.S.C. 435 note) and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following member on the part of the House to the Public Interest Declassification Board for a term of 3 years:

Mr. David Skaggs, Longmont, Colorado

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#### CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO NORTH KOREA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-52)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*