served on the Committee in the 111th Congress consider recusal from further proceedings in this matter. After careful consideration, these six Committee Members have requested their voluntary recusal.

REASONS FOR RECUSAL

Mr. Speaker, the record should note that these recusal requests are not based on any indication of any wrongdoing/or inappropriate partisanship by the Members. In fact, Mr. Martin has advised the Committee that, to date:

1. He has not discovered any evidence to indicate actual bias or partiality by any current Member or staff of the Committee;

2. He has not discovered any evidence that should cause a mandatory recusal of any current Member or staff of the Committee; and

3. There is no conflict which would require the disqualification or recusal of any current Member or staff of the Committee.

Instead, these recusal requests come from Members of the Committee/Who voluntarily cooperated with Mr. Martin's review, voluntarily appeared for interviews with Mr. Martin, and voluntarily produced a voluminous number of documents in their possession. The Members requested recusal because:

1. They believe that, out of an abundance of caution and to avoid even an appearance of unfairness, their voluntary recusal will eliminate the possibility of questions being raised as to the partiality or bias of Committee Members considering this matter;

2. They want to assure the public, the House, and Representative Waters that this investigation is continuing in a fair and unbiased manner; and

3. They want to move this matter forward in a manner that supports the greatest public confidence in the ultimate conclusions of the Committee.

Both the Committee and Mr. Martin recognize that recusal is an extremely rare occurrence and should not be sought without careful consideration by the Members. While the Members believe that they each can render an impartial and unbiased decision in any proceeding related to this matter, the Committee takes this extraordinary measure—in this unique circumstance—to further the best interests of the House and to permit this matter to be brought to a conclusion.

VOLUNTARY RECUSAL OF SIX MEMBERS

Therefore, Members of the Committee who have requested recusal are: Representative Jo Bonner, Representative Linda T. Sanchez, Representative Michael T. McCaul, Representative K. Michael Conaway, Representative Charles W. Dent, and Representative Gregg Harper. The Committee has unanimously accepted and approved these requests.

Furthermore, outside counsel has discovered no evidence indicating bias or partiality on the part of former Members or requiring the exclusion of any former Members of the Committee from serving as substitute Members. However, out of an abundance of caution and for the same reasons as the current Members volunteering their recusal, Mr. Martin has recommended that no Member who served on the Committee in the 111th Congress should serve as a substitute Member in this matter. In addition, for the same reasons, no current Committee staff who had previously worked on the matter will be involved in further proceedings in the matter.

The Committee has taken these steps, pursuant to House Rule XI, clause 3(b)(5) and Committee Rule 9(e). Accordingly, I request that six substitute Members of the Committee be appointed. These substitute Members will serve the Committee only for the purpose of bringing the Matter of Representative Waters to a fair and just conclusion. The service of the substitute Members will end with the conclusion of the Matter of Representative Waters. I shall remain Chairman of the Committee, Representative Sanchez shall remain the Ranking Member, and all other recused Members will continue to serve on the Committee for all other purposes.

Sincerely,

JO BONNER,
Chairman.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 3(b)(5) of rule XI, the Chair announces the Speaker's designation of the following Members to act in any proceeding of the Committee on Ethics relating to the Matter of Representative MAXINE WATERS:

Mr. GOODLATTE
Mr. LATOURETTE
Mr. SIMPSON
Mrs. CAPITO
Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas
Mr. SARBANES

DIRECTING THE CLERK TO PROVIDE AUDIO BACKUP FILE OF DEPOSITION OF WILLIAM R. CLEMENS

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a resolution (H. Res. 558) directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to provide a copy of the on-the-record portions of the audio backup file of the deposition of William R. Clemens that was conducted by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on February 5, 2008, to the prosecuting attorneys in the case of *United States of America* v. *Clemens*, No. 1:10-cr-00223-RBW (D.D.C.), and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 558

Whereas on February 5, 2008, William R. Clemens voluntarily appeared in Washington, DC and was deposed by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives in connection with that Committee's investigation into the use of steroids and other performance-enhancing substances in professional sports, and in Major League Baseball in particular;

Whereas the written transcript of Mr. Clemens' deposition, prepared by the Official Reporters of the House, with an Errata Sheet prepared by Mr. Clemens' counsel included as an Appendix, is the official House record of that proceeding;

Whereas this deposition and Mr. Clemens' public appearance before the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on February 13, 2008, raised significant questions about Mr. Clemens' truthfulness, as a result of which the then Chair and ranking minority member jointly requested, on or about February 27, 2008, that the Department of Justice investigate whether Mr. Clemens committed perjury or knowingly made false statements in the course of the deposition or his February 13, 2008 public appearance;

Whereas the Department of Justice did in fact investigate whether Mr. Clemens committed perjury or knowingly made false statements in the course of his February 5, 2008 deposition and/or his February 13, 2008 public appearance before the Committee;

Whereas as a result of the Department of Justice's investigation, Mr. Clemens subsequently was indicted by a grand jury on one count of obstruction of Congress in violation of sections 1505 and 1515(b) of title 18, United States Code, 3 counts of making false statements in violation of sections 1001(a)(2) and (c)(2) of title 18, United States Code, and 2 counts of perjury in violation of section 1621(1) of title 18, United States Code;

Whereas the Department of Justice has requested via letter that the House voluntarily provide to it a copy of the on-the-record portions of an audio backup file of Mr. Clemens' deposition;

Whereas by the privileges and rights of the House of Representatives, an audio backup file of Mr. Clemens' deposition may not be taken from the possession or control of the Clerk of the House of Representatives by mandate of process of the article III courts of the United States, and may not be provided pursuant to requests by the court or the parties to *United States of America v. Clemens* except at the direction of the House; and

Whereas it is the judgment of the House of Representatives that, in the particular circumstances of this case, providing a copy of the on-the-record portions of an audio backup file of Mr. Clemens' deposition to the prosecuting attorneys in the case of *United States v. Clemens* would promote the ends of justice in a manner consistent with the privileges and rights of the House: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives directs the Clerk of the House to provide for use at trial a copy of the on-the-record portions of the audio backup file of the deposition of William R. Clemens that was conducted by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on February 5, 2008, to the prosecuting attorneys in the case of *United States of America v. Clemens*, No. 1:10-cr-00223-RBW (D.D.C.).

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1150

ADJOURNMENT TO TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2012

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Tuesday, February 21, 2012; when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, February 24, 2012; and, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, February 27, 2012.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3086

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 3086.

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