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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 4, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JO ANN EMERSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We thank You for the joy, excitement, and ceremony of yesterday, when the 113th Congress convened. It was a celebration of the ongoing American experiment of participatory democracy.

Today begins, if not in full force, the work of the Congress, when the difficulties facing our Nation and some communities, especially, come into focus. We ask again an abundance of Your wisdom for the Members of the peoples' House.

May we be forever grateful for the blessings our Nation enjoys and appropriately generous with what we have to help those among us who are in need.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. GARRETT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. GARRETT. 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, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KING of New York 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.

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND AN ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following privileged concurrent resolution:

S. CON. RES. 3

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Friday, January 4, 2013 through Monday, January 21, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until 12:00 noon on Monday, January 21, 2013, or such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Friday, January 4, 2013, through Saturday, January 5, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2013, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and House, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TEMPORARY INCREASE IN BORROWING AUTHORITY FOR NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Mr. GARRETT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 41) to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 41

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

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SECTION 1. TEMPORARY INCREASE IN BORROWING AUTHORITY FOR NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM.

(a) Section 1309(a) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4016(a)) is amended by striking ''$20,725,000,000'' and inserting ''$30,425,000,000''.

(b) The amount provided by this section is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 403(a) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010, and as an emergency pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GARRETT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend the remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

The list of cosponsors to this legislation submitted this morning should be treated as original cosponsors, reflecting their intent to, in fact, be on the legislation when it was introduced last night.

I rise today to continue the process of this House of seeking to aid and help those American citizens who have been devastated by Hurricane Sandy. This storm has left literally millions without power, thousands without homes, and the total area is destroyed.

So the piece of legislation before us today is very simple. It temporarily increases FEMA's borrowing authority for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program. And so this legislation is really vital to ensure that the homeowners in my State of New Jersey, as well as in New York and Connecticut and any other affected areas, will be able to continue to have their contractual flood insurance policies with the NFIP honored.

So by temporarily increasing this borrowing authority, it will provide to both homeowners and insurance companies handling the claims that the Federal Government will meet its contractual obligations. People who have been devastated by the storm will be able to continue to move forward and onward with their lives.

I want to take a moment just to commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRIMM), who led a group of Members and other volunteers to help clean and repair some of the devastated areas. I was pleased to personally join the gentleman in their volunteer activity.

While we witnessed much devastation and destruction, we also saw determination and friendly faces of local residents and volunteers from across the country who are committed to restoring and rebuilding this area.

So while it's easy for Members to come to the floor and vote for a piece of legislation to help the area, it's a lot more difficult to be on the ground physically working, scrubbing, lifting, building, and cleaning. And while the Congress can and does help, it is the hard work, the grit, and the determination of the citizens of the area and the volunteers and the workers from all over the country that will ultimately be the driving force in this area.

So to conclude, I again commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRIMM) for his efforts, and the others around who have volunteered in this effort, and look forward to continue to work with him and others in the area, both here in Congress, for the people of New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut and the affected area.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I'm pleased that today on this floor, though it may be a little late, that we'll finally act on a piece of legislation that's vital to the Superstorm Sandy disaster relief legislation to increase the borrowing authority by FEMA on behalf of the National Flood Insurance Program.

By increasing financing by $9.7 billion, this bill will enable the provisions of a central relief of 120,000 flood victims who have waited for far too long for the payment on the claims.

□ 1010

I support today's bill as an important step for recovery from Superstorm Sandy. When taken as a whole, the House's actions today, I believe, still are slow—67, 68 days have gone by—and I know we've got some commitments, but we're moving forward, and I'm hopeful that we will get the full entitlement that the individuals from New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut vitally need. Some of the programs, of course, that need essential funding include the Army Corps of Engineers, who worked to protect New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut shorelines in coastal communities, and the Small Business Administration so they can provide loans to help small businesses.

But let me, before I yield back my time, take some special time to thank Mr. GARRETT. I want to thank every member of the New York, Connecticut, and New Jersey delegation for working collectively together to try to make sure that our people—because this is an issue that affects the American people—that our people receive the kind of aid that they need. I particularly want to say to my friends Mr. GRIMM and Mr. KING of New York, and I've seen several times that they've sat and worked together collectively with our Governor, whom I also want to give a special thank-you to, Governor Mario Cuomo, and Governor Chris Christie from New Jersey, for working cooperatively, not as a Democrat or a Republican, but working as an elected official to come together to the aid of people who need aid, aid from a terrible storm.

And so I'm hopeful as we move forward—we do the $9 billion today, and do what we need to do by January 15—that we get certain things done and finally the people of this region receive the kind of aid that they need.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GARRETT. I thank the gentleman for his comments and also recognize that this legislation helps not only those people in his neck of the woods, but across the country, as we resume the money in the fund for FEMA and for the Flood Insurance Program.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING), the chairman of the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. HENSARLING. There's no doubt that Hurricane Sandy rendered unspeakable damage to both lives and property on our east coast. It represents truly one of the great natural disasters of recent history.

For millions of our fellow citizens, the devastation has been unspeakable and unfathomable. It is time, obviously, to rebuild homes, buildings, and lives. For the victims who paid for flood insurance policies with the National Flood Insurance Program, their claims need to be paid, and paid now.

But, Madam Speaker, here's the tragic reality: The National Flood Insurance Program is broke. It is beyond broke. It is now taxpayer-bailout broke. Regrettably, not unlike our Nation, broke, trillions in debt—debt to the Chinese, the shameful bill sent to our children and grandchildren.

So right here, right now, Madam Speaker, Members are faced with a tragic choice of not paying contractual claims to victims who paid premiums or adding $9.7 billion to an insane national debt that threatens our national security, our economic well-being, and our children's future. Emergency bills like this should not come to the floor without offsets to pay for it or structural reforms to ensure that taxpayer bailouts are never needed again. Regrettably, less than 24 hours into a new Congress, there is simply not time for this.

As many in this body know, I have long been critical of the National Flood Insurance Program. For more than four decades, this experiment in government-provided flood insurance has proven to be ineffective, inefficient, and indisputably costly to hard-working American taxpayers.

Last Congress, we passed a reauthorization bill with modest reforms to begin eliminating outdated subsidies and get the program on a path towards actuarial soundness.

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

Mr. GARRETT. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. HENSARLING. But Sandy has hit before many of these provisions could take effect.

As chairman of the Financial Services Committee, I wish to inform all Members in this Congress our committee will take up legislation to transition to a private, innovative, competitive, sustainable flood insurance market, one that serves the needs of all of our countrymen but ends the unsustainable taxpayer bailouts once and for all. A great fiscal tragedy of today should never become an even greater fiscal tragedy for our children tomorrow.

Mr. MEEKS. I yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from New York, Mrs. CAROLYN MALONEY.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. I thank the gentleman for his leadership and for yielding.

Madam Speaker, the victims of Superstorm Sandy can wait no longer. It's been 11 weeks. Haven't they suffered and waited long enough? The people whom we represent, who sent us to Washington to serve and who are now not merely crying out for help but screaming for assistance, demand that we act without further delay and pass this bill to immediately increase the borrowing authority of FEMA and carry out the intended purpose of the National Flood Insurance Program. That help is, embarrassingly, overdue. Right now, if we fail to act and do not pass this bill, there's a total of 120,000 flood insurance claim payments that will be delayed and not paid.

This bill before us now will temporarily increase the borrowing authority for the National Flood Insurance Program by $9.7 billion—much more is needed—and a vote has been promised of $51 billion on January 15. That absolutely needs to happen. Funds for Katrina passed this House in less than 2 weeks. We have been waiting for 11 weeks. Funds for Ike and Gustav passed very quickly. Again, the northeast corridor has been waiting for 11 weeks.

It should not take much imagination to appreciate what it's like at this very moment for those who have been waiting who have been affected by the flooding caused by the superstorm. For 11 weeks, they have been waiting while this body sat on a bill that should have long ago been signed, sealed, and its help delivered to those in desperate need. They wait for the billions that they need to rebuild. They need it for the transportation system. They need it to make sure that this doesn't happen again and to prevent floods in the future. They wait, many shivering tonight in the cold of New York, where temperatures are, again, below freezing. They are in homeless shelters and hotels, staying with friends. They are waiting.

This body needs to act, and needs to act today. It is long overdue.

They wait on us to act, their lives on hold. They dream of re-building their homes, their businesses, their lives. And all the while we sit here comfortably and have failed to act.

They wait for our colleagues across the aisle to at long at last listen hear their cries and to the demands of decency. They wait for us to treat the storm tossed victims of an unprecedented natural disaster at least as well as we have always treated others when tragedy struck. They are becoming the forgotten while we bicker.

They wait for the help only this bill can bring.

How long must those suffering wait for help? I say no longer!!

It is with strong conviction and urgent concern that I support the bill currently before us, and urge my colleagues to act NOW and pass this bill.

Mr. GARRETT. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), who recognizes that the people from the area have not been waiting. Their insurance claims have been paid from day one. We are just here today to ensure that those payments continue, going forward.

Mr. KING of New York. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this legislation. This legislation is the first necessary step that's needed to provide the assistance and relief and aid that the people of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut require after the most devastating storm in the history of our region, in many ways, one of the top two or three, unfortunately, most severe storms in the history of our Nation.

This legislation is essential because people are suffering, and the suffering increases each day. And as I said, this is the first major step that we're taking. Hopefully, this process will be completed on January 15.

I want to thank the leadership of both parties for coming together on this.

I want to emphasize that this legislation is vital. This is not a handout. This is not something we're looking for as a favor. What we're asking for is to be treated the same as victims in all other storms, all other natural disasters have been treated.

Also, I think it's important to lay out, because this is part of a process, that, in the legislation that was originally going to be introduced in this House, there was never an earmark in the bill; there was never any extraneous spending the bill. I think it's important for the Members in both parties to realize that. The House of Representatives' bill was always targeted toward victims of Hurricane Sandy. It does not go beyond that. It's important to lay that out.

It's also important to realize that, again, as we are talking here today and as the vote goes forward and as we go forward toward January 15, the real suffering is out there. My own neighborhood in Seaford, homes are devastated. There's a woman who lost two sons in 9/11. She lost her home now. This is a crisis of unimaginable proportions unless you're there. The national media is not following it, but if you went to these homes, if you saw the suffering that's going on, if you saw the people who don't have food and shelter, you would realize how horrible this is.

So it's important we act. It's important we put past recriminations behind us. Let's all stand together as one, all as Americans, Democrats and Republicans. I think Governor Christie and Governor Cuomo have set that model and that tone in New York and New Jersey. So let's follow their example here. Let's go forward standing as one.

Again, I urge my colleagues to strongly support this legislation today and also as we go forward on January 15.

□ 1020

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I'd like to now yield 1 minute to a young man who has been a leader in this from New Jersey, the Honorable FRANK PALLONE.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from New York.

Madam Speaker, this action by the House Republican leadership is too little and too late. I have to say I'm still very upset—and I think it was deplorable—that the Speaker did not bring this bill up and the whole package that addresses Hurricane Sandy relief in the lame-duck session in the last 2 days of Congress. It would have been passed; we had the votes. It would have been on the President's desk; he would have signed it; and we would have started to rebuild the shore.

Now we have another delay. I don't know how many weeks—it's 9 weeks, 10 weeks, whatever it is. I have no idea what the Senate is going to do. My understanding is that the Senate is mired in filibuster over the next 3 weeks and isn't even coming back until after the inauguration. So that means we could be waiting another 3 weeks. The rest of the package—which is the most important part of it—might not even come up until we return after a week's break. We're going to be on recess, and then we come back on the 15th and—hopefully—the rest of the package comes out that day. But that means now that we have three separate votes on this package that could have been passed and signed into law over the last couple of days—three separate votes. It is not acceptable, Madam Speaker.

Mr. GARRETT. I yield 1½ minutes to the other young gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 41. I want to thank leadership for posting it today, and especially thank Chairman SCOTT GARRETT for authoring this critically important legislation, boosting the NFIP's borrowing authority by $9.7 billion, and I'm very proud to be a cosponsor.

Madam Speaker, the devastation unleashed by Sandy is without precedent, and the impacted communities are in

dire need of comprehensive assistance. Nowhere is this more evident than in the sheer magnitude of the housing damage and the subsequent housing need.

According to Governor Christie's office, Sandy damaged or destroyed 346,000 housing units. Of that number, some 72,397 were covered by the National Flood Insurance Program, whose owners have submitted claims and are awaiting the insurance payout for comprehensive repairs. Thus far, only 18 percent have received funds pursuant to their claims. Over 80 percent of my constituents are waiting in limbo—an intolerable situation that is making a bad situation worse. Moreover, Madam Speaker, throughout the region there are a total of 115,000 insurance claims related to Sandy; many of them are waiting as well.

This is must-pass legislation. We have an obligation—we have a duty to meet this compelling need and contractual obligation. This legislation takes us in that direction. Again, I want to thank Chairman GARRETT for his leadership.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I apparently missed it earlier; I want to thank Mr. GARRETT especially for his request earlier to make sure that we included on this bill every Member from the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut delegations as sponsors of this bill, and every member of the committee. I want to thank the ranking member, Ms. WATERS, for agreeing to be an original cosponsor on this bill. It shows that we're all working at this together. And I want to thank Mr. GARRETT for his cooperation in allowing everybody from this delegation, both Democrats and Republicans, to be a part of this bill.

Now I'd like to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished whip of the Democratic Conference, the individual who walked with me in Breezy Point and up and down Rockaway Beach, the Honorable STENY HOYER.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I want to congratulate all of the Members who represent New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and other jurisdictions who have been united in a bipartisan way to say, let us reach out; let us act now to help those who have been savaged by Sandy.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this bill that will help ensure flood insurance benefits will be available for those still struggling to recover from Superstorm Sandy. But I agree with FRANK PALLONE: while it is never too late to do the right thing, it is late that we are doing this thing—and we are doing only the bare minimum, because the flood insurance will expire. But FRANK PALLONE is absolutely right, the Senate, hopefully, can act by unanimous consent—hopefully—on this small portion. But as we did in Katrina, we should have acted almost immediately to meet the pain and suffering and loss of the citizens—our fellow citizens, our fellow Americans—who were the victims of Sandy, but should not have been the victims of our delay.

I support this legislation. I urge the Speaker and all of us on both sides of the aisle to ensure that on the 15th of this month we act for the balance of the initial dollars that will be available to assist those who have had this loss.

I will be very supportive on the 15th. I know that the people of Connecticut, of New Jersey, of New York, of Pennsylvania, and of all America will hold the Speaker and all of us to the promise that no later than the 15th of this month—some 11 days from today—that we will make a full contribution to those people.

Mr. GARRETT. I once again yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN), who also recognizes that there have been absolutely no victims of delay when it comes to the flood insurance program because their payments have been made continuously because that program has been funded and we continue to fund it today.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I thank my colleague from New Jersey for yielding.

Madam Speaker, it's been 70 days, and the residents of the Northeast have been—many of them—living in misery and heartache. I'm pleased that we are taking this step to support the National Flood Insurance Program, which has met the needs of Americans across our Nation when there has been flooding crises. We in the Northeast have been facing this crisis now for 70 days. I'm glad that this essential program is going to be supported.

There are about 125,000, from what I understand, Sandy-related claims that can be met by raising this cap, and I think it's good that we're about to do that. This, as others have said, is the first step of what we need to do to sort of rebuild lives, to put aside the misery that so many families and businesses have been suffering for this length of time. It's the right step.

On January 15, we will be considering a much larger supplemental, a total of $60 billion, which will meet the needs—not all the needs—of Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and the region. There are considerable needs. But the National Flood Insurance Program is a good program. It needs supports. This is a good first step. Let's get about it, and let's do it in a bipartisan manner.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the ranking member and the fighter for small businesses throughout America, the honorable NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ.

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, Hurricane Sandy has devastated New York, and thousands and thousands of my constituents lost their homes and their businesses. It is a shame—an embarrassment for this institution—that the House Republican leadership continues playing games with this essential assistance more than 2 months after the storm struck.

It is indefensible that as Americans continue to suffer from Sandy's impact, that the House majority could not get their act together to bring the entire aid, Senate-passed package to a vote. Talk about ''fiddling while New York City burns.''

This is also the case with today's legislation. While I fully support providing FEMA with additional funding, it is just another sign of the majority's dysfunction. With FEMA just days away from being unable to pay flood claims, the Republicans argue among themselves about what to do. That is a sad situation.

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

Mr. MEEKS. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 20 seconds.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. So today we're talking about flood insurance.

□ 1030

The job creators in our community are getting nothing. We, as an institution, come together when there are natural disasters across this Nation. My constituents deserve nothing less.

Hurricane Sandy has devastated New York and it is a shame—an embarrassment for this institution—that the House Republican leadership continues playing games with this essential assistance more than two months after the storm struck. It is indefensible that as Americans continue to suffer from Sandy's impact that the House majority could not get their act together to bring the entire aid Senate-passed package to a vote. Talk about "fiddling while New York City burns."

And this is also the case with today's legislation. While I fully support providing FEMA with additional funding for the National Funding Insurance Program, it is just another sign of the majority's dysfunction. With FEMA just days away from being unable to pay flood claims, the Republicans argued among themselves about what to do. This is a sad situation for those Americans that count on their government to have their backs after a disaster.

While this bill will help homeowners insured through the Flood Insurance program, it does nothing for our small businesses and infrastructure needs. Providing this broader assistance is so overdue that it is a disgrace, and even more so now, we are in the dawn of the 113th Congress, and about to vote on just a sliver of what was promised. To many who are already suffering from the impact of Sandy, this feels like a punch to the gut. And while I would have rather voted earlier this week on the entire $60 billion package approved by the Senate, the House majority has given us no choice. I hope that the additional funding to help our residents and small businesses—and to repair our infrastructure—will be brought to a vote as quickly as possible.

Mr. GARRETT. I'm now pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York, who has actually led the efforts on the ground putting the shoulder to the grindstone, so to speak, to

actually help and restore some of these people's homes.

Mr. GRIMM. Madam Chair, I'd like to just take 15 seconds to tell Chairman GARRETT how much I appreciate his bringing this bill to the floor today. He and his wife came to my district. He came to Midland Beach and was in one of the homes, several of the homes, that were completely devastated, pulling out moldy sheetrock and bringing a little hope to people in complete despair. For that, I will eternally be grateful. And I really do thank my chairman for that compassion in letting the people, even outside of his own district, know that he's there and he cares about them.

I would also like to share with you: I called someone this morning from Staten Island that lives in New Dorp Beach. They have a teenaged son named Dylan. And they haven't been back in their home since the storm. And I asked, ''How are your two sons doing?'' And they said, ''They are doing great, but Dylan, he hasn't gone back to the house to help with the construction because he gets choked up.'' And it's that that I want to emphasize here. These are human beings—human beings, children—that have been completely displaced. And it's up to us to get them back on their feet.

So today is one of those steps that I'm proud to be a part of and tell Dylan that he's going to be okay, we're getting him back in his house. And I would ask that as we go forward with the other parts of Sandy relief that my colleagues will stand with me and tell Dylan that he's going to be okay and we're going to get him back in his house.

With that, again, I want to thank all of my colleagues across the aisle. It's been a pleasure to work with you, and we have a lot of work to do. And I want to thank Chairman GARRETT one more time. Thank you, Chairman.

Mr. MEEKS. I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished ranking member from the Appropriations Committee and a hard fighter, the one and only NITA LOWEY.

Mrs. LOWEY. I thank the distinguished, distinguished ranking member, Mr. MEEKS, for your eloquence, as always.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation, and I would like to thank Chairman GARRETT for introducing this legislation and for his efforts to bring it to the floor with bipartisan support.

The National Flood Insurance Program has hit its limit. Without an increase in borrowing authority, it will be unable to pay for claims as early as next week. And that means that 120,000 flood insurance claims payments will be delayed, nearly all of which are due to Hurricane Sandy.

However, this bill is just not enough. It's not adequate. In December, the Senate passed an emergency assistance package to aid in the Sandy recovery, which included this legislation. Earlier this week, I expected, as did my colleagues, that the House would vote on a complete emergency assistance package to aid those in Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York who have lost homes, businesses, and their livelihoods. Sadly, the 112th Congress ended without action, and now we are starting over on important legislation which is absolutely critical to help storm-affected areas that should have and could have been signed. We know that there's no reason it wasn't signed in 2012.

However, we have now been promised a vote on the Sandy emergency assistance package by January 15, and families in my district and throughout the region are looking to Congress and asking, ''Why are you making it so difficult for us to rebuild? Why are you making us wait to rebuild?''

Today's legislation is a start, but only a first step, toward providing relief for those who suffered as a result of Hurricane Sandy. We don't need a piecemeal approach. That is not the way that Congress acts. We need a comprehensive Sandy recovery bill passed today.

We hold you to your commitment of January 15 and not a day later. We need this complete bill.

Mr. GARRETT. At this time, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. RUNYAN), who has seen firsthand the devastation to our State.

Mr. RUNYAN. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman GARRETT for yielding some time.

Madam Speaker, it's been 68 days since Hurricane Sandy devastated the Northeast and over 2 months of suffering for my constituents. While it is unfortunately long overdue, I'm pleased that we're finally here acting to help the people of New Jersey recover. This hurricane has caused billions of dollars in damage, uprooting individuals and families from their homes, forcing businesses to close and resulting in job loss and revenue loss.

My constituents need help now recovering. I've witnessed firsthand the devastation in places like Seaside Heights, Normandy Beach, Lavallette and Silverton, and I can honestly say that these places look like war zones after the storm. Whole communities have been wiped out.

Governor Christie estimated the damage in New Jersey to be over $36 billion. I applaud his swift action on Sandy recovery and join him and all local, State, and Federal leaders in New Jersey to ensure that all relief funds get to New Jersey families and businesses as quickly as possible. This includes adequate funding for the flood insurance program we are voting on today, and I urge passage of this essential legislation.

Mr. MEEKS. At this time, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey, a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. BILL PASCRELL.

Mr. PASCRELL. You would think, Madam Chair, that we're having a Sadie Hawkins dance here today and we're patting each other on the back. The real sponsor of this legislation are the people who have been hurt. And let's be honest about it. It took only 10 days after Katrina until President Bush signed $60 billion in Katrina aid passed by the Congress of the United States.

How dare you come to this floor and make people think everything is okay. In fact, one of the gentlemen from New Jersey said that we've not waited at all. Well, the insurance runs out in 1 week. What were we going to do, wait for 1 week and then act? We wouldn't even be here. Who the heck are you kidding?

So we all come together very nicely this morning for breakfast and eggs. And we know what has happened over the last 10 days. This is a total, total disaster in helping those people that we are pompously saying today and pontificating about we're helping them. Isn't that wonderful? What are our jobs? We're not doing anybody favors. That's why we were sent here. Try it once in a while. Democracy—you may like it.

Madam Speaker, it's now been 68 days since Hurricane Sandy landed. By the time the rest of the $60 billion in aid requested by Govs. Christie and Cuomo comes up for a vote, as the Speaker has promised, on Jan. 15th, it will be nearly 80. Who knows how much longer after that until the new Senate gives their approval?

$60 billion in Katrina aid was passed by Congress and signed by President Bush just 10 days after that storm.

Why is there a double standard? People in New Jersey, in my district, are suffering and they cannot afford to wait a day longer for the aid that they are entitled to as taxpayers of this nation? If we had just voted on Wednesday, it could already be on the way.

I'm pleased that today we are approving more funding for the National Flood Insurance Program, which is going to run dry within a week, but we need to approve the rest of this aid as soon as possible. To not do so would be cruel and unconscionable.

But this is only the beginning of rebuilding the most important economic region of our country.

Two weeks after Katrina, this House passed a serious tax relief measure dedicated to helping those that our disaster aid programs cannot reach, on a voice vote. I and many bipartisan cosponsors, introduced similar measure in the last Congress.

I call upon the Speaker to bring this legislation up for a vote as soon as possible. There are thousands of individuals, small businesses, municipalities and utilities that need our help to rebuild, and it's our responsibility to deliver.

Mr. GARRETT. At this point, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) who realizes it's not just what we do on the floor but it's also the volunteering and the dedication to help these people as well.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I want to thank the chairman for recognizing me. I just want to say that I support this bill not because I support the increased borrowing that we are doing

for our flood insurance program of $9.7 billion, but it is a contractual agreement that we owe to these policyholders to pay these claims. It's not their fault that we in the government are not good managers of our money.

In 1968, when this policy and this program was put into place, it had a borrowing authority of $1.5 billion. It wasn't until Katrina that we raised that borrowing authority up to $20 billion. We still owe $20 billion. We're now raising that borrowing authority to $30 billion. In 2017, which is 4½ years away, the borrowing authority goes back to $1.5 billion. Now I'm sure we'll address that at 11:59 on September 30 of 2017.

But I'd like to ask both sides, on both sides of the aisle, let's start working on that now. This cost to the government is $17,063 for every policyholder who has flood insurance. The average premium is about $600. We have paid people 10 and 20 and 30 times for claims that live in the same house in the same floodplain.

I had an amendment to the flood insurance bill that said if you had two claims due to flood and you did not take the payout, then you would have to pay a rate-based premium. It didn't pass.

□ 1040

We've got to get into reality what this flood insurance program is for. It's mandatory. If you have a government-backed loan and you live in a floodplain that's likely to flood in 100 years, you have to have the insurance.

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

Mr. GARRETT. I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. We need to make sure that what we're doing is something that can manage itself without continually having to raise the borrowing authority for this part of our government.

With that, I do support the bill. It's a congressional obligation that we have to these policyholders. I ask that everyone support it.

Mr. MEEKS. At this time, I yield 1 minute to the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, the Honorable ELIOT ENGEL from the great State of New York.

Mr. ENGEL. I thank my friend from New York, and I rise in strong support of this legislation.

I must say Tuesday night when I found out that we were not taking this legislation up in the previous Congress, it was the angriest I've been since I've been a Member of Congress.

In the last 20 years, this is the longest that people affected by natural disasters have waited for Congress to provide them the needed relief. It's really not acceptable. I have voted for aid for all areas of the country, wherever there has been a natural disaster. The Northeast now deserves the same. I would remind my colleagues that New York has been a donor State. We give more to the Federal Government than we take back. Now we need help. Politics should not be played with the help that we need.

We should be supporting the entire package. I'm sorry we are not voting for the entire package today. As was mentioned before, we now have to wait for the Senate to pass whatever we pass. This could have been done and gone on Tuesday night, and the aid would have been speeding to the people. This simply is not acceptable, and I hope there's no further delay.

My constituents are suffering. The people of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut are suffering. Congress needs to get out of the way now and send not only this $9.7 billion in flood insurance, but the entire package.

Mr. GARRETT. First of all, I yield myself 15 seconds just to set the record straight.

With regard to the legislation before us, which is a flood insurance program, the aid under this program is going and has been going to the recipients in the affected area because there was funding in this program before. What we're doing right now is to make sure that that aid will continue to go to those people who have contracts for insurance.

With that, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GIBSON), who also is very familiar with the devastation that was caused to constituents.

Mr. GIBSON. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the legislation.

Indeed, as was intimated moments ago, in the summer of 2011, my district was struck by Hurricanes Irene and Lee. We came together as a body to support my constituents; and with that assistance provided, we are in the process of rebuilding—and still rebuilding, I might add. Now we come together in the wake of this devastating natural disaster, Sandy. My State, along with our neighbor States, was struck again. Making certain that our communities have the resources they need has brought me to the floor today again to advocate for New York families, businesses, and farms.

Today's vote is a step forward, the National Flood Insurance Program exists for circumstances like this, but more remains. We must come together at the outset of this legislative session to address both the immediate recovery needs and the longer-term rebuilding efforts. I'm committed to this recovery effort. I'm proud of the work our delegations have achieved to date. We need to continue that.

I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for bringing this bill to the floor today, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. GARRETT. Madam Speaker, I inquire as to the time remaining on both sides.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey has 4¾ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from New York has 6¾ minutes remaining.

Mr. MEEKS. I yield 1 minute 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, the delay in helping the victims of Hurricane Sandy is obviously inexcusable and unjust, but it's equally obvious that the time has come to do what we can to help solve the problem. That's why I'm for the passage of this bill today. It will, in fact, help flood insurance claims be honored and paid so that people can go about the work of rebuilding their homes.

We've heard about the January 15 vote that is coming on the rest of the plan. I think we shouldn't be holding out false hope about that because here's the reality: I'm certain we will vote on January 15. Of course, the Constitution says the other body has to vote too. They have to start all over again, and then the President has to sign the bill.

It is my strong hope that the leadership between now and January 15 will reach out to the leadership of the other body and try to prenegotiate a bill that the Senate would quickly and expeditiously take up so we can solve this problem.

The House taking a vote on January 15 is lovely. It is also utterly meaningless if the other body does not act.

Mr. GARRETT. At this time, I yield 2 minutes to a gentleman from a State which is not immune to natural disasters, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, today we're doing the important thing, the critical thing. I wish today that this had been what we'd voted on in the previous session, to recharge the flood insurance that needs to be there so that men and women in Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and the like will not question whether or not their country can provide them with the resources that are expected to be there in the time of a natural disaster like that.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to say that January 15 is critical; and as the previous speaker said, we do need to prenegotiate with the Senate. We need to get the pork out. None of that pork we're talking about is in New York, New Jersey, or Connecticut. In fact, it's as far away as Alaska. The pork that we will not vote on today is, in fact, the pork that was in this bill from the Senate. My hope is that we will see on January 15 a negotiated and clean bill that only deals with the men and women and families on the eastern seaboard that need to be taken care of.

I think that it's the President's responsibility and our responsibility and the Senate's responsibility when we do emergency supplementals to make them only about the emergency. I believe today we are buying a little bit of

time; but I think for people on the eastern seaboard who are suffering, that time is running out and all of our leaders need to make sure that the next vote, the vote on January 15, as the previous speaker said, will be a vote that will be prenegotiated, that will run through the Senate, and will deal only with the people suffering on the eastern seaboard.

Mr. KING of New York. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ISSA. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. KING of New York. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I think it's important to point out that the House bill never contained any of those extraneous provisions. When the bill came over here, our leadership agreed that all that was taken out so that there was nothing about any other State other than those directly affected by Sandy.

Mr. ISSA. I reclaim my time to say the gentleman is absolutely right.

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

Mr. GARRETT. I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from California.

Mr. ISSA. Had we been able to pass what we intended to be the House bill and send it back to the Senate and the Senate would have then taken that up, although they had left town, we could have done this in the previous Congress.

The gentleman from New York has been a champion to make sure that's clearly understood. I want to be an equal champion that, in fact, whether it's Louisiana or California, when the next earthquake occurs or now our friends and colleagues from the eastern seaboard actually as far south as where we stand, we do need to make sure—we owe them that. And I want to thank the gentleman from New York for, in fact, working so hard to make sure that we do get to a clean bill.

With that, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Chair, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank the gentleman for yielding. I rise in support of Hurricane Sandy relief wherever it is needed.

I want to offer my voice of support to the people of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and all others impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Its devastation was vast.

Yesterday, President Obama declared Cuyahoga County, Ohio a federal disaster area as a result of the damage of Hurricane Sandy.

Cuyahoga County private, nonprofit groups, local governments and State agencies are eligible for more than $17 million to cover the cost of storm-related work caused by Hurricane Sandy on Oct. 29 and 30, the Federal Emergency Management Agency announced Thursday.

Cuyahoga County was the only one of Ohio's 88 counties to be eligible for the money from FEMA's Public Assistance Program.

Additionally, Hurricane Sandy did over $13 million in damage to the Lake Erie Ports of Cleveland and Lorain. Storm swells on Lake Erie were massive as the system rolled through and caused extensive damage. While the property damage and displacement was nothing compared to what our citizens in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut experienced and are living with, Congress must address these emergency needs brought on by Mother Nature. It is incumbent upon this Congress to rebuild and restore the might of our Nation's communities so severely impacted by natural disasters.

Mr. MEEKS. I now yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York on the Judiciary Committee, the Honorable JERRY NADLER.

□ 1050

Mr. NADLER. I thank the gentleman for yielding the time.

Madam Speaker, obviously, I support this bill today to replenish the hurricane insurance fund, which would otherwise run dry for the entire country next week, but it does not excuse the callous action of the House leadership the other night for taking the $60 billion of relief off the table. Now we're told we'll get a vote on the 15th, and I hope they're as good as their word, although they haven't been in the past. Even so, it will take God knows how long for the Senate because the bill they had passed is now dead, this being a new Congress. That action the other night delayed relief for the long suffering people, for the businessowners whose businesses are going under, for the homeowners whose homes are suffering from mold. All of this was delayed by at least 3 weeks, maybe longer, on top of the fact that we had gone already 9 weeks—Katrina was 10 days—with a lack of aid, and now it will be another 3 or 4 or 5.

This is the most callous action I've ever seen. The leadership of this House should be condemned for it. I hope they have the determination to make sure that this, indeed, comes to a vote on the 15th, that it passes and that the Senate is induced to match it quickly. That would be the least that decency would demand.

Mr. GARRETT. In recognizing that some on the other side of the aisle can't take ''yes'' for an answer, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey, the Honorable Mr. SIRES.

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, as I sat here, I was thinking that maybe there is a bias against the northeastern States of this country. This devastation can happen to any State, and no one State has the money to make sure that the people who were injured in this storm can move forward. I would remind all those Members who are not here supporting this bill that this could happen to your State. As I sat here and supported Alabama, as I supported Mississippi, as I supported Texas, I was hoping that, by now, with regard to the northeastern part of the country, this Congress would have acted. It has been 77 days. These people are hurting. People in my district still can't get back to their homes, and here we are. In the last Congress, we just didn't do anything about it. Now we are moving forward, and hopefully, on January 15, we can get the rest of this money so that the people who are suffering in all of these States that were hit by this storm can get their lives back together again.

Mr. GARRETT. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY, for his initial floor debate.

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, my name is SEAN PATRICK MALONEY. I'm new here. I don't know all the rules of Washington, but it sure seems like the rule here is to put off until tomorrow what should be done today—even when our fellow Americans are suffering.

A long time ago, I learned from my mom and dad, Jim and Joan Maloney, and our parish priest, Father Bill Nolan, a much better rule. It's called ''the golden rule.'' Americans by all parties live by it. The people of New York, New Jersey, and the Hudson Valley live by it. Bart and Diana Tyler of Kelloggs & Lawrence Hardware Store in Katonah, sure live by it. They led storm victims by flashlight through the darkened aisles of their hardware store for critical supplies at the hour of maximum danger and greatest need, and they consoled them as if they were their own family. Bart and Diana didn't make their neighbors wait 68 days for help, and they didn't say they could do more later. They acted with speed and with caring.

This new Congress can start anew today. We can act with speed and caring. We don't need to wait. I urge my colleagues to bring this additional relief to the floor as soon as possible and to support the bill today.

Mr. GARRETT. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York has 2¾ minutes remaining.

Mr. MEEKS. I yield 30 seconds to the gentlelady from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I thank the gentleman very much, and I thank the proponent of this legislation. It is obviously needed.

I come from the gulf region. We lost thousands and thousands and thousands from hurricanes. Hurricane Ike saw this Congress give us $3 billion. I stand here today to remind you that a police officer died, a 13-year-old died from debris falling on her, and a mother saw her two children drawn from her hands and drowned in Hurricane Sandy. It is long overdue.

I stand here as someone who has been a beneficiary, who has cried with those

who have lost. I demand that this money be passed today, but more importantly, I demand that we pass the total amount of money right now, today. Let's help the American people. Let's help those impacted by Sandy. Let's help my fellow Americans.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 41, "To Temporarily Increase The Borrowing Authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for Carrying Out National Flood Insurance Program."

I urge this new 113th Congress to start the New Year off right by acting swiftly in support of legislation to fund disaster relief assistance for the victims of Superstorm Sandy.

Since this historic storm devastated the east coast in late October, the people impacted by the storm, particularly those in the Tri-State area of New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut, have been waiting patiently for the federal government to act as they continue to engage in efforts to rebuild their communities.

However, the time for patience has long since expired, and these Americans can no longer wait for Congress to act.

68 days have passed since the storm surged onto the shores of Atlantic City, New Jersey. It has been a long 67 days for families without a home, and for businesses without a storefront or customers. For 67 days, these neighborhoods have struggled to pick up the pieces and put their communities back together, and Congress must step in—immediately—to lend a helping hand.

As the representative for the 18th District in Texas, I know the massive and protracted destruction that storms like this can cause both to property and, more importantly, to the lives of citizens who are left to rebuild their lives and restore all that they have lost.

After the initial disaster response and search and rescue phases, we must begin to rebuild, a process that calls for a long-term commitment from officials in state, local, and federal government.

We can all recall Hurricane Ike in 2008, which heavily impacted many constituents in my district. At least 74 people lost their lives in the State of Texas, with 28 in Harris County and 17 in Galveston. Over 200,000 homes in the Houston-Galveston region were left damaged or destroyed as a result of Ike.

Congress appropriated $3 billion to Texas to help finance the infrastructure and housing recovery, which included individual and household assistance, disaster unemployment assistance, public assistance grants to state and local government and nonprofit organizations to pay for debris removal, emergency protective measures and road repairs, and low-interest disaster loans provided by the Small Business Administration.

My visits to the affected areas fundamentally evidenced the need for long-term recovery and to get people back on their feet. My constituents and others in the affected areas needed and greatly appreciated the federal assistance they received, and so now that Americans in other parts of our nation need our help, we must move in a bipartisan fashion to provide it.

As a nation, we continue to mourn the loss of at least 125 people in the United States and a total of 253 people due to Superstorm Sandy (60 in New York, 48 New York City; 34 in New Jersey; 16 in Pennsylvania, 7 in West Virginia).

As devastating as Hurricane Ike was, the damage to property it caused (an estimated $29.5 billion) the costs associated with Superstorm Sandy are expected to be significantly higher. While we do not yet know the final numbers, the total amount of property damage resulting from Superstorm Sandy exceeds $62 billion. In terms of dollars of property destruction, this ranks Superstorm Sandy second only to Hurricane Katrina ($128 billion, adjusted for inflation)(note: Hurricane Ike ranks 3rd).

Food, shelter and clothing are basic necessities, and right now far too many people are without access to them during these holidays and in brutally cold weather. With more cold weather in sight, things are not going to get any easier for residents of those communities.

Economic conditions in many affected communities are stagnant; stalled because the federal government has yet to provide funding. It took 10 days for Congress to approve roughly $50 billion in aid for Katrina, but Congress has not provided aid for those affected by Sandy for more than two months.

We need to restore a sense of calm and stability in the lives of people affected by Superstorm Sandy. We need to ensure that small businesses in the affected areas are able to rebound as expeditiously as possible so that they can get the local economies moving again.

I am encouraged that relief for Superstorm Sandy has received bipartisan support, but now we must follow through with action. We know that disasters affect all of us at one point or another, and we must come together as one nation to give people access to relief that, realistically, only the federal government can provide. However, this should have been done no less than 5 days after the horrible Hurricane Sandy—now we are only during half way—let's vote today on the full 60 billion dollars in relief today. Let's not watch people died and people are suffering after hurricane! We can not wait until January 15, 2013—now is the time to help the people suffering in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

Mr. GARRETT. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from New York have any additional speakers?

Mr. MEEKS. I have one additional speaker.

Mr. GARRETT. I have no further requests for time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey has the right to close.

Mr. MEEKS. I yield 1 minute to the ranking member of the Financial Services Committee, a fighter for the people, the gentlelady from the great State of California, the Honorable MAXINE WATERS.

Ms. WATERS. Thank you very much, Congressman MEEKS.

I am so proud of the Members of this Congress from both sides of the aisle who have been real advocates—who have been on television, who have been fighting. Members on the opposite side of the aisle have criticized their own leadership for the delay.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am from California. I have witnessed earthquake disaster. I have been involved in trying to help with Katrina and in making sure that the people who were the victims of Katrina were compensated, were taken care of. This is unconscionable that this has had to take so long. I watched Congressman MEEKS up in Rockaway. I watched the people who cried. I watched the people who begged for help, who begged for assistance.

This is so late in coming, so I support this bill today. I am one of the coauthors of the flood insurance reauthorization bill, along with Mrs. BIGGERT, who reauthorized flood insurance for another 5 years. Let's put the money in it. Let's do what is right. Let's take care of this disaster.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) has 1¼ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) has 2¼ minutes remaining.

Mr. MEEKS. I yield myself the remaining time.

It's 70 days. It is unprecedented that this region has not been treated like the other regions when they were in need of help. It's 70 days. Now we are going with this bill today, and what we are receiving is a promissory note, a promissory note that on January 15 we will be able to say to the people from New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut who were victimized by this storm that their United States Congress—their House of Representatives—is going to be by their side.

So we have a promissory note. I will be concerned until we have the votes that are necessary for the people of this region and until the promissory note has been put into the bank and stamped with sufficient funds. The people have been suffering. They have suffered long enough. They need to hear from their government that their government is with them just as it has been with everybody else in this country.

I, for one, wherever the disaster may be, want to say that we've got the support. To this Congress, let's make sure we put forward this promissory note because I don't think a Democrat or a Republican can go back home after January 15 and say that the promissory check has bounced. We have to come back collectively and say to the people who are suffering that they, in fact, have been helped by their government, by their people.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GARRETT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the remaining time.

In closing, I thank all of those who have come to the floor to address this situation.

For those of us who live in the affected area, our heart goes out to the families—the moms, the dads, the little children, the senior citizens—who have lost everything: homes that have just been inundated with water so they're not recognizable anymore; homes that have to be totally knocked down or homes that have to be totally

refurbished, stripped down to their studs and started from the foundations back up again to rebuild them; homes that have been simply washed out to sea and will never be seen again; homes that have been destroyed; trees that have crashed through homes; electricity that has been out for weeks. Our heart goes out to the people who have suffered so much and for so long and who continue to suffer.

I commend Members from both sides of the aisle for coming to the floor today to support this legislation.

I also thank those people, the volunteers, who took it upon themselves without any government mandate or edict or pay, or what have you, to go out and to rescue these people and to work for these people day in and day out—from the very beginning, the OEM people, the management people, the fire department, the rescue squad, and just rank-and-file folks who came out and tried to help and continue to do so. They've run the food banks, groups liked Samaritan's Purse. They've been out there on the front lines and have supported these people in their hours of need.

□ 1100

And I extend an invitation to every single Member of Congress who has come to the floor and said that they, too, support these people, to put on their work shoes and their work boots and their jackets and to get out of this Congress and to get out of this city and to go into the affected area, and not just give speeches and not just pass legislation of other people's money, but to actually come to our State and to join us in the field and actually do the work that's necessary to get done. And so I extend that invitation to each and every one, and I look forward to hearing from each and every one of you, and I ask for your support of this legislation.

I extend an invitation to Ms. WATERS to work further on the legislation with regard to flood insurance because we heard the number earlier—this is a nonsustainable program. We're taking in something like 75 cents and we're paying out about a buck in claims. That can't go on. We need to work together on this, and I look forward to that, and I look for a ''yes'' vote on this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of House rules.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 41. I am a cosponsor of this must-pass bill and I urge my colleagues to vote for it.

FEMA announced yesterday that its ability to pay claims under the National Flood Insurance Program would be exhausted by the second week of January. Congress must act now to approve additional borrowing authority and bring much-needed relief to the hundreds of thousands of Americans who have suffered in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy flood-related damages to their homes and property.

While I strongly support passage of H.R. 41, I want to reiterate that our fellow citizens affected by Hurricane Sandy have already waited far too long for help from Congress. In other natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, Congress acted swiftly, and aid reached those in need. And yet earlier this week, the 112th Congress adjourned before passing a much-needed disaster relief package. The Senate had already acted to pass a well-constructed aid package bill. The only reason that this bill is not law today is that House leadership refused to act.

This devastating storm has left many people hurting in many different ways—shopkeepers, homeowners, fisherman, hotel and restaurant owners—and has damaged the entire economy. The Senate-passed Sandy relief package responds to this variety of needs and concerns. I urge Speaker BOEHNER to bring the Senate disaster relief package to the floor without delay.

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask all of my colleagues to support H.R. 41, a bipartisan proposal to replenish the National Flood Insurance Fund which will increase its borrowing authority and allow the program to continue paying claims from those affected by Hurricane Sandy.

Without the enactment of this bill, the NFIP might reach its ceiling and could no longer pay out claims. The families in my district and the States of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut are suffering.

Even as I am excited that we are considering this bill today, I am disappointed that there were seventy days of inaction by Congress. Congress has a history of providing assistance to the American people in times of disaster and devastation—in this country, we help our neighbors.

Since 1989, Congress has approved $290 billion in disaster relief aid. Indeed, only two weeks after Hurricane Katrina devastated parts of the Gulf Coast, Congress appropriated $62 billion in disaster aid. Those impacted by Superstorm Sandy have been waiting for more than two months, and cannot afford to wait any longer. The recovery depends on this emergency funding.

Again, I ask that all of my colleagues support the first portion of the Superstorm Sandy Disaster Relief package. Through enactment of this critical bill, many home and business owners flooded out by Superstorm Sandy will soon be able to get flood insurance payments.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of HR 41, a measure to increase by $9.7 billion the borrowing authority of the National Flood Insurance Program, enabling the program to continue paying the tens of thousands of claims related to the destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy.

Across this country from the Appalachians to the Great Lakes to northern coast of Maine, dozens of people have lost their lives, the homes of thousands of families were destroyed and millions of people have suffered from the cold and exposure of winter because they lost power. The suffering touched the people of my state of Maryland as well—hitting hardest the county of Somerset, where the poverty rate is among the highest in the State and where more than 500 homes were affected by the storm.

After more than two months of waiting, it is only now that the House has chosen to act. And by only considering a bill to increase the Flood Insurance Program's borrowing authority by $9.7 billion, we are only making a down payment on the problem. There are estimates that the full cost of recovery will be more than $60 billion.

I had hoped that we would have voted for a relief package during the last Congress. But it is only now that the House Leadership is bringing Sandy legislation to the floor. In the meantime, the people affected by the hurricane have had to wait and will continue waiting as the Senate passes what we pass here today.

Delaying for months the aid for the victims of Hurricane Sandy is unjust and I am disappointed that we are not meeting today to consider a bill to address the full cost of the Hurricane's destruction.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the swift passage of this bill so that those suffering around the country can get the relief they so desperately need. I also hope the Republican leadership follows through on its promise to consider additional legislation on this subject when the Congress reconvenes later this month.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 41, to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of FEMA for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program.

This bill would provide FEMA with an additional $9.7 billion in emergency funding to immediately assist those affected by the storm.

In late October 2012, Hurricane Sandy struck the East Coast of the United States, affecting millions of Americans and killing over 100.

The economic cost of the storm is still being assessed, but it has been estimated to be in excess of $60 billion, which would make it the second-costliest storm in history, after Hurricane Katrina.

Our nation has a responsibility to rebuild the areas that were devastated by this terrible tragedy and I am committed to making sure that Congress helps provide the necessary resources to help those individuals and communities which were harmed by this disaster.

It is important to recall that four years ago, Congress, with my strong support, provided nearly $23 billion in disaster relief for communities like our own due to the devastation from Hurricane Ike.

I stand with my colleagues from the East Coast, especially from New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut to get the funding necessary to aid the recovery from Hurricane Sandy. As Americans, we all have a responsibility to help each other during times of need.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 41.

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. GARRETT. Madam 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, this 15-minute vote on the motion to suspend

the rules on H.R. 41 will be followed by a 5-minute on approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 354, nays 67, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 7]

YEAS—354

Aderholt
Alexander
Amodei
Andrews
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barrow
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Bonamici
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Coble
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (NY)
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Granger
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
O'Rourke
Olson
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Radel
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Speier
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Yarmuth
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—67

Amash
Barr
Benishek
Bentivolio
Blackburn
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Broun (GA)
Chabot
Collins (GA)
Conaway
Cotton
Daines
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Fincher
Fleming
Flores
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Harris
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Jenkins
Jordan
Lamborn
Marchant
Massie
McClintock
Meadows
Mullin
Mulvaney
Neugebauer
Palazzo
Pearce
Perry
Petri
Pompeo
Price (GA)
Roe (TN)
Rokita
Rothfus
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Schweikert
Sensenbrenner
Stutzman
Thornberry
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho

NOT VOTING—8

Bonner
Clyburn
McGovern
Miller, Gary
Ribble
Schwartz
Smith (WA)
Young (AK)

□ 1122

Messrs. GOWDY, FLEMING, FINCHER, DESJARLAIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Messrs. ROE of Tennessee, NEUGEBAUER, WEBER of Texas, GRAVES of Missouri and BARR changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. ROONEY, HALL, and RUSH 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.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 17

Resolved, That following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: Mr. Goodlatte; Mr. King of Iowa; Mr. Neugebauer; Mr. Rogers of Alabama; Mr. Conaway; Mr. Thompson of Pennsylvania; Mr. Gibbs; Mr. Austin Scott of Georgia; Mr. Tipton; Mr. Southerland; Mr. Crawford; Mrs. Roby; Mr. DesJarlais; Mr. Gibson; Mrs. Hartzler; Mr. Ribble; Mrs. Noem; Mr. Benishek; Mr. Denham; Mr. LaMalfa; Mr. Hudson; Mr. Rodney Davis of Illinois; Mr. Collins of New York; and Mr. Yoho.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS: Mr. Young of Florida; Mr. Wolf; Mr. Kingston; Mr. Frelinghuysen; Mr. Latham; Mr. Aderholt; Mrs. Emerson; Ms. Granger; Mr. Simpson; Mr. Culberson; Mr. Crenshaw; Mr. Carter; Mr. Alexander; Mr. Calvert; Mr. Bonner; Mr. Cole; Mr. Diaz-Balart; Mr. Dent; Mr. Graves of Georgia; Mr. Yoder; Mr. Womack; Mr. Nunnelee; Mr. Fortenberry; Mr. Rooney; Mr. Fleischmann; Ms. Herrera Beutler; Mr. Joyce; and Mr. Valadao.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES: Mr. Thornberry; Mr. Jones; Mr. Forbes; Mr. Miller of Florida; Mr. Wilson of South Carolina; Mr. LoBiondo; Mr. Bishop of Utah; Mr. Turner; Mr. Kline; Mr. Rogers of Alabama; Mr. Franks of Arizona; Mr. Shuster; Mr. Conaway; Mr. Lamborn; Mr. Wittman; Mr. Hunter; Mr. Fleming; Mr. Coffman; Mr. Rigell; Mr. Gibson; Mrs. Hartzler; Mr. Heck of Nevada; Mr. Runyan; Mr. Austin Scott of Georgia; Mr. Palazzo; Mrs. Roby; Mr. Brooks of Alabama; Mr. Nugent; Mrs. Noem; Mr. Cook; Mr. Bridenstine; Mr. Wenstrup; and Mrs. Walorski.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE: Mr. Petri; Mr. McKeon; Mr. Wilson of South Carolina; Ms. Foxx; Mr. Price of Georgia; Mr. Marchant; Mr. Hunter; Mr. Roe of Tennessee; Mr. Thompson of Pennsylvania; Mr. Walberg; Mr. Salmon; Mr. Guthrie; Mr. DesJarlais; Mr. Rokita; Mr. Bucshon; Mr. Gowdy; Mr. Barletta; Mrs. Roby; Mr. Heck of Nevada; Mrs. Brooks of Indiana; Mr. Hudson; and Mr. Messer.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE: Mr. Hall; Mr. Barton; Mr. Whitfield; Mr. Shimkus; Mr. Pitts; Mr. Walden; Mr. Terry; Mr. Rogers of Michigan; Mr. Murphy of Pennsylvania; Mr. Burgess; Mrs. Blackburn; Mr. Gingrey of Georgia; Mr. Scalise; Mr. Latta; Mrs. McMorris Rodgers; Mr. Harper; Mr. Lance; Mr. Cassidy; Mr. Guthrie; Mr. Olson; Mr. McKinley; Mr. Gardner; Mr. Pompeo; Mr. Kinzinger of Illinois; Mr. Griffith of Virginia; Mr. Bilirakis; Mr. Johnson of Ohio; Mr. Long; and Mrs. Ellmers.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES: Mr. Bachus; Mr. King of New York; Mr. Royce; Mr. Lucas; Mr. Gary G. Miller of California; Mrs. Capito; Mr. Garrett; Mr. Neugebauer; Mr. McHenry; Mr. Campbell; Mrs. Bachmann; Mr. McCarthy of California; Mr. Pearce; Mr. Posey; Mr. Fitzpatrick; Mr. Westmoreland; Mr. Luetkemeyer; Mr. Huizenga of Michigan;

Mr. Duffy; Mr. Renacci; Mr. Hurt; Mr. Grimm; Mr. Stivers; Mr. Fincher; Mr. Stutzman; Mr. Mulvaney; Mr. Hultgren; Mr. Ross; Mr. Pittenger; Mrs. Wagner; Mr. Barr; and Mr. Cotton.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Mr. Smith of New Jersey; Ms. Ros-Lehtinen; Mr. Rohrabacher; Mr. Chabot; Mr. Wilson of South Carolina; Mr. McCaul; Mr. Poe of Texas; Mr. Salmon; Mr. Marino; Mr. Duncan of South Carolina; Mr. Kinzinger of Illinois; Mr. Brooks of Alabama; Mr. Cotton; Mr. Cook; Mr. Holding; Mr. Weber of Texas; Mr. Perry; Mr. Stockman; Mr. DeSantis; Mr. Radel; Mr. Collins of Georgia; Mr. Meadows; Mr. Yoho; and Mr. Messer.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY: Mr. Smith of Texas; Mr. King of New York; Mr. Rogers of Alabama; Mr. Broun of Georgia; Mrs. Miller of Michigan; Mr. Meehan; Mr. Duncan of South Carolina; Mr. Marino; Mr. Chaffetz; Mr. Palazzo; Mr. Barletta; Mr. Stewart; Mr. Rothfus; Mr. Hudson; Mr. Daines; Mrs. Brooks of Indiana; and Mr. Perry.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY: Mr. Sensenbrenner; Mr. Coble; Mr. Smith of Texas; Mr. Chabot; Mr. Bachus; Mr. Issa; Mr. Forbes; Mr. King of Iowa; Mr. Franks of Arizona; Mr. Gohmert; Mr. Jordan; Mr. Poe of Texas; Mr. Chaffetz; Mr. Marino; Mr. Gowdy; Mr. Amodei; Mr. Labrador; Mr. Farenthold; Mr. Holding; Mr. Collins of Georgia; Mr. DeSantis; and Mr. Rothfus.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES: Mr. Young of Alaska; Mr. Gohmert; Mr. Bishop of Utah; Mr. Lamborn; Mr. Wittman; Mr. Broun of Georgia; Mr. Fleming; Mr. McClintock; Mr. Thompson of Pennsylvania; Mrs. Lummis; Mr. Benishek; Mr. Duncan of South Carolina; Mr. Tipton; Mr. Gosar; Mr. Labrador; Mr. Southerland; Mr. Flores; Mr. Harris; Mr. Runyan; Mr. Amodei; Mr. Mullin; Mr. Stewart; Mr. Daines; Mr. Cramer; and Mr. LaMalfa.

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM: Mr. Mica; Mr. Turner; Mr. Duncan of Tennessee; Mr. McHenry; Mr. Jordan; Mr. Chaffetz; Mr. Walberg; Mr. Lankford; Mr. Amash; Mr. Gosar; Mr. Meehan; Mr. DesJarlais; Mr. Gowdy; Mr. Farenthold; Mr. Hastings of Washington; Mrs. Lummis; Mr. Woodall; Mr. Massie; Mr. Collins of Georgia; Mr. Meadows; Mr. Bentivolio; and Mr. DeSantis.

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY: Mr. Sensenbrenner; Mr. Hall; Mr. Rohrabacher; Mr. Lucas; Mr. Neugebauer; Mr. McCaul; Mr. Broun of Georgia; Mr. Palazzo; Mr. Brooks of Alabama; Mr. Harris; Mr. Hultgren; Mr. Bucshon; Mr. Stockman; Mr. Posey; Mrs. Lummis; Mr. Schweikert; Mr. Massie; Mr. Cramer; Mr. Bridenstine; Mr. Weber of Texas; and Mr. Stewart.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS: Mr. Chabot; Mr. King of Iowa; Mr. Coffman; Mr. Luetkemeyer; Mr. Mulvaney; Mr. Tipton; Ms. Herrera Beutler; Mr. Hanna; Mr. Huelskamp; Mr. Schweikert; Mr. Bentivolio; Mr. Collins of New York; and Mr. Rice of South Carolina.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Mr. Young of Alaska; Mr. Petri; Mr. Coble; Mr. Duncan of Tennessee; Mr. Mica; Mr. LoBiondo; Mr. Gary G. Miller of California; Mr. Graves of Missouri; Mrs. Capito; Mrs. Miller of Michigan; Mr. Hunter; Mr. Harris; Mr. Crawford; Mr. Barletta; Mr. Farenthold; Mr. Bucshon; Mr. Gibbs; Mr. Meehan; Mr. Hanna; Mr. Webster of Florida; Mr. Southerland; Mr. Denham; Mr. Ribble; Mr. Massie; Mr. Daines; Mr. Rice of South Carolina; Mr. Mullin; Mr. Williams; Mr. Radel; Mr. Meadows; Mr. Perry; and Mr. Rodney Davis of Illinois.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS: Mr. Lamborn; Mr. Bilirakis; Mr. Roe of Tennessee; Mr. Flores; Mr. Denham; Mr. Runyan; Mr. Benishek; Mr. Huelskamp; Mr. Amodei; Mr. Coffman; Mr. Wenstrup; Mr. Cook; and Mrs. Walorski.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS: Mr. Sam Johnson of Texas; Mr. Brady of Texas; Mr. Ryan of Wisconsin; Mr. Nunes; Mr. Tiberi; Mr. Reichert; Mr. Boustany; Mr. Roskam; Mr. Gerlach; Mr. Price of Georgia; Mr. Buchanan; Mr. Smith of Nebraska; Mr. Schock; Ms. Jenkins; Mr. Paulsen; Mr. Marchant; Mrs. Black; Mr. Reed; Mr. Young of Indiana; Mr. Kelly; and Mr. Griffin of Arkansas.

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS (during the reading). I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE TO COUNT ELECTORAL VOTES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 1, 113th Congress, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of two Members as tellers on the part of the House to count electoral votes:

The gentlewoman from Michigan, Mrs. CANDICE S. MILLER, and

The gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. ROBERT A. BRADY.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 12:55 p.m.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 29 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1305

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 1 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.

COUNTING ELECTORAL VOTES—JOINT SESSION OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE HELD PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1

At 1:06 p.m., the Sergeant-at-Arms, Paul D. Irving, announced the Vice President and the Senate of the United States.

The Senate entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, headed by the Vice President and the Secretary of the Senate, the Members and officers of the House rising to receive them.

The Vice President took his seat as the Presiding Officer of the joint convention of the two Houses, the Speaker of the House occupying the chair on his left. Senators took seats to the right of the rostrum as prescribed by law.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The joint session will come to order.

Mr. Speaker and Members of Congress, pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the United States, the Senate and House of Representatives are meeting in joint session to verify the certificates and count the votes of the electors of the several States for President and Vice President of the United States.

After ascertainment has been had that the certificates are authentic and correct in form, the tellers will count and make a list of the votes cast by the electors of the several State.

The tellers on the part of the two Houses will take their places at the Clerk's desk.

The tellers, Mr. SCHUMER and Mr. ALEXANDER on the part of the Senate, and Mrs. MILLER and Mr. BRADY on the part of the House, took their places at the desk.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, the tellers will dispense with reading formal portions of the certificates. After ascertaining that certificates are regular in form and authentic, the tellers will announce the votes cast by the electors for each State, beginning with Alabama.

The tellers then proceeded to read, count, and announce the electoral votes of the several States in alphabetical order.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Members of Congress, the certificates having been read, the tellers will ascertain and deliver the result to the President of the Senate.

The tellers delivered to the President of the Senate the following statement of results:

JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS FOR THE COUNTING OF THE ELECTORAL VOTES FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES—OFFICIAL TALLY

The undersigned, CHARLES E. SCHUMER and LAMAR ALEXANDER tellers on the part of the Senate, CANDICE S. MILLER and ROBERT A. BRADY tellers on the part of the House of Representatives, report the following as the result of the ascertainment and counting of the electoral vote for President and Vice President of the United States for the term beginning on the twentieth day of January, two thousand and thirteen.

Electoral votes of each State	For President		For Vice President	
	Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Joseph Biden	Paul Ryan
Alabama—9		9		9
Alaska—3		3		3
Arizona—11		11		11
Arkansas—6		6		6
California—55	55		55	
Colorado—9	9		9	
Connecticut—7	7		7	
Delaware—3	3		3	
District of Columbia—3	3		3	
Florida—29	29		29	
Georgia—16		16		16
Hawaii—4	4		4	
Idaho—4		4		4
Illinois—20	20		20	
Indiana—11		11		11
Iowa—6	6		6	
Kansas—6		6		6
Kentucky—8		8		8
Louisiana—8		8		8

Electoral votes of each State	For President		For Vice President	
	Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Joseph Biden	Paul Ryan
Maine—4	4		4	
Maryland—10	10		10	
Massachusetts—11	11		11	
Michigan—16	16		16	
Minnesota—10	10		10	
Mississippi—6		6		6
Missouri—10		10		10
Montana—3		3		3
Nebraska—5		5		5
Nevada—6	6		6	
New Hampshire—4	4		4	
New Jersey—14	14		14	
New Mexico—5	5		5	
New York—29	29		29	
North Carolina—15		15		15
North Dakota—3		3		3
Ohio—18	18		18	
Oklahoma—7		7		7
Oregon—7	7		7	
Pennsylvania—20	20		20	
Rhode Island—4	4		4	
South Carolina—9		9		9
South Dakota—3		3		3
Tennessee—11		11		11
Texas—38		38		38
Utah—6		6		6
Vermont—3	3		3	
Virginia—13	13		13	
Washington—12	12		12	
West Virginia—5		5		5
Wisconsin—10	10		10	
Wyoming—3		3		3
Total—538				

CHARLES E. SCHUMER,
LAMAR ALEXANDER,
Tellers on the part of the Senate.
CANDICE S. MILLER,
ROBERT A. BRADY,
Tellers on the part of the House of Representatives.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The state of the vote for President of the United States, as delivered to the President of the Senate, is as follows:

The whole number of the electors appointed to vote for President of the United States is 538, of which a majority is 270.

Barack Obama of the State of Illinois has received for President of the United States 332 votes.

Mitt Romney of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has received 206 votes.

The state of the vote for Vice President of the United States, as delivered to the President of the Senate, is as follows:

The whole number of the electors appointed to vote for Vice President of the United States is 538, of which a majority is 270.

JOSEPH BIDEN of the State of Delaware has received for Vice President of the United States 332 votes.

PAUL RYAN of the State of Wisconsin has received 206 votes.

This announcement of the state of the vote by the President of the Senate shall be deemed a sufficient declaration of the persons elected President and Vice President of the United States each for the term beginning on the 20th day of January, 2013, and shall be entered, together with the list of the votes, on the Journals of the Senate and House of Representatives.

The purpose of the joint session having been concluded, pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 1, 113th Congress, the Chair declares the joint session dissolved.

(Thereupon, at 1 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m., the joint session of the two Houses of Congress dissolved.)

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 1, 113th Congress, the electoral vote will be spread at large upon the Journal.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair would clarify that yesterday's announcement under clause 5(d) of rule XX should have been indicated that the whole number of the House is 430.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CLYBURN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of attending a memorial service.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 3, 113th Congress, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until Monday, January 14, 2013, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for the Portland Cement Manufacturing Industry and Standards of Performance for Portland Cement Plants [EPA-HQ-OAR-2011-0817; FRL-9758-6] (RIN: 2060-AQ93) received January 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Department's final rule — Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incineration Units: Reconsideration and Final Amendments; Non-Hazardous Secondary Materials That Are Solid Waste: Final Rule [EPA-HQ-OAR-2003-0119 and EPA-HQ-RCRA 2008-0329; FRL-9764-1] (RIN: 2060-AR15 and 2050-AG44) received January 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Determination of Attainment for the Nogales Nonattainment Area for the 2006 Fine Particle Standard; Arizona; Determination Regarding Applicability of Clean Air Act Requirements [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0752; FRL-9766-8] received January 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, San Diego APCD, Northern Sierra AQMD, and Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0587; FRL-9732-9] received January 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.R. 152. A bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 153. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the outreach activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 154. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a Department of Veterans Affairs Medal for Distinguished Public Service to honor veterans who make remarkable and distinguished contributions to their communities; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 155. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to allow workers who attain age 65 after 1981 and before 1992 to choose either lump sum payments over four years totalling $5,000 or an improved benefit computation formula under a new 10-year rule governing the transition to the changes in benefit computation rules enacted in the Social Security Amendments of 1977, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 156. A bill to provide for the withdrawal of the United States from the North American Free Trade Agreement; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 157. A bill to authorize a project for hurricane and storm damage reduction, West Onslow Beach and New River Inlet (Topsail Beach), North Carolina; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 158. A bill to authorize a project for hurricane and storm damage reduction, Surf City and North Topsail Beach, North Carolina; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 159. A bill to modify the project for the improvement of the Shallotte River, North Carolina, to change the authorized depth to 8 feet; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 160. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the 5-month waiting period for entitlement to disability benefits and to eliminate reconsideration as an intervening step between initial benefit entitlement decisions and subsequent hearings on the record on such decisions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 161. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1976 to direct the Secretary of the Army to evaluate the feasibility of continuing Federal participation in a beach nourishment project, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. BACHMANN:

H.R. 162. A bill to amend section 1932 of the Social Security Act to require independent audits and actuarial services under Medicaid managed care programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BENISHEK (for himself, Mr. CAMP, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. ROGERS of Michigan):

H.R. 163. A bill to designate as wilderness certain land and inland water within the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in the State of Michigan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 164. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit veterans who have a service-connected, permanent disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces entitled to such travel; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 165. A bill to authorize the placement at the former Navy Dive School at the Washington Navy Yard of a memorial to honor the members of the Armed Forces who have served as divers and whose service in defense of the United States has been carried out beneath the waters of the world; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. BOUSTANY (for himself and Mr. RICHMOND):

H.R. 166. A bill to prevent the evasion of antidumping and countervailing duty orders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 167. A bill to provide that rates of pay for Members of Congress shall not be adjusted under section 601(a)(2) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 in the year following any fiscal year in which outlays of the United States exceeded receipts of the United States; 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. GARRETT:

H.R. 168. A bill to permit small business concerns operating in the United States to elect to be exempt from certain Federal rules and regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 169. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to require the arbitration of initial contract negotiation disputes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 170. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to revise regulations concerning the recording and reporting of occupational injuries and illnesses under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 171. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize appointment of Doctors of Chiropractic to regular and reserve corps of the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 172. A bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to require 12-month continuous coverage under the State Children's Health Insurance Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 173. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require 12-month continuous coverage for children under Medicaid; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 174. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to remove the limitation upon the amount of outside income which an individual may earn while receiving benefits under such title, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 175. A bill to require labor organizations to provide the notice to employees related to fees collection required pursuant to the Supreme Court cases Teachers Local No. 1 v. Hudson and Knox v. Service Employees International Union; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 176. A bill to prohibit universal service support of commercial mobile service through the Lifeline program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 177. A bill to repeal the Federal estate and gift taxes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 178. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the termination of further retirement benefits for Members of Congress, except the right to continue participating in the Thrift Savings Plan, 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. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 179. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow certain veterans to use educational assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs for franchise training; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRIMM (for himself, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. REICHERT, and Mr. PIERLUISI):

H.R. 180. A bill to encourage, enhance, and integrate Blue Alert plans throughout the United States in order to disseminate information when a law enforcement officer is seriously injured or killed in the line of duty; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRIMM:

H.R. 181. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3031 Veterans Road West in Staten Island, New York, as the ''Leonard Montalto Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. GRIMM (for himself and Mr. BISHOP of New York):

H.R. 182. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to modify the final rule relating to flightcrew member duty and rest requirements for passenger operations of air carriers to apply to all-cargo operations of air carriers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GRIMM (for himself and Mr. MICHAUD):

H.R. 183. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on dog training therapy; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GRIMM (for himself and Mr. BISHOP of New York):

H.R. 184. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax incentive for the installation and maintenance of mechanical insulation property; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HALL:

H.R. 185. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 101 East Pecan Street in Sherman, Texas, as the ''Paul Brown United States Courthouse''; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 186. A bill 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; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 187. A bill to correct the boundaries of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit L06, Topsail, North Carolina; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 188. A bill to authorize the President to reestablish the Civilian Conservation Corps as a means of providing gainful employment to unemployed and underemployed citizens of the United States through the performance of useful public work, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 189. A bill to prohibit Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and Ginnie Mae from owning or guaranteeing any mortgage that is assigned to the Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems or for which MERS is the mortgagee of record; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 190. A bill to require the filing of certain information regarding a residential mortgage in any proceeding for foreclosure of the mortgage; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 191. A bill to assess the impact of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), to require further negotiation of certain provisions of the NAFTA, and to provide for the withdrawal from the NAFTA unless certain conditions are met; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 192. A bill to require that, in cases in which the annual trade deficit between the United States and another country is $10,000,000,000 or more for 3 consecutive years, the President take the necessary steps to create a more balanced trading relationship with that country; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 193. A bill to require persons who seek to retain seed harvested from the planting of patented seeds to register with the Secretary of Agriculture and pay fees set by the Secretary for retaining such seed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, 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 Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 194. 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 an official Congressional insignia, 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 Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 195. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit contributions and expenditures by multicandidate political committees controlled by foreign-owned corporations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, 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. LATTA (for himself, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. LANCE, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. MARCHANT, and Mr. LOEBSACK):

H.R. 196. A bill to eliminate automatic pay adjustments for Members of Congress, 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 Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 197. A bill to amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to repeal the denial of food stamp eligibility of ex-offenders; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. EDWARDS):

H.R. 198. A bill to repeal Public Law 107-40; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 199. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the deductibility of excessive rates of executive compensation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. JONES, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. CHU, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. NADLER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. WELCH, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. MOORE, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. HOLT, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Ms. EDWARDS):

H.R. 200. A bill to provide that funds for operations of the Armed Forces in Afghanistan shall be obligated and expended only for purposes of providing for the safe and orderly withdrawal from Afghanistan of all members of the Armed Forces and Department of Defense contractor personnel who are in Afghanistan; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 201. A bill to require poverty impact statements for certain legislation; to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. MCCLINTOCK:

H.R. 202. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to limit citizens suits against publicly owned treatment works, to provide for defenses, to extend the period of a permit, to limit attorneys fees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MULVANEY (for himself, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. JONES, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. OWENS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. AMODEI, and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia):

H.R. 203. A bill to direct the Attorney General to revise certain rules under titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 relating to accessible means of entry to pools; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 204. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to waive any emission standard or other requirement under section 112 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7412) applicable to the control of asbestos emissions in the demolition or renovation of a condemned building for which there is a reasonable expectation of structural failure; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:

H.R. 205. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the treatment of certain retirement plan contributions picked up by governmental employers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California (for herself and Ms. FOXX):

H.R. 206. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to the offense of stalking; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. SCHOCK (for himself, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. JONES, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. PITTS, Mr. POSEY, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. WESTMORELAND):

H.R. 207. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make members of health care sharing ministries eligible to establish health savings accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 208. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to provide greater access to the supplemental nutrition assistance program by reducing duplicative and burdensome administrative requirements, authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to award grants to certain community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger groups for the purpose of establishing and implementing a Beyond the Soup Kitchen Pilot Program for certain socially and economically disadvantaged populations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 209. A bill to authorize the appropriation of funds to be used to recruit, hire, and train 100,000 new classroom paraprofessionals in order to improve educational achievement for children; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 210. A bill to require retail establishments that use mobile device tracking technology to display notices to that effect; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 211. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to waive the requirement for proof of citizenship during the first year of life for children born in the United States to a Medicaid-eligible mother; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 212. A bill to permit members of the House of Representatives to donate used computer equipment to public elementary and secondary schools designated by the members; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 213. A bill to amend the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the egg, meat, and poultry inspection laws to ensure that consumers receive notification regarding food products produced from crops, livestock, or poultry raised on land on which sewage sludge was applied; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. SERRANO:

H.R. 214. A bill to lift the trade embargo on Cuba, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Oversight and Government Reform, 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. SERRANO:

H.R. 215. A bill to waive certain prohibitions with respect to nationals of Cuba coming to the United States to play organized professional baseball; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. SERRANO:

H.R. 216. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to designate income tax overpayments as contributions to the United States Library Trust Fund; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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. BLACK (for herself, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. PITTS, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. FLORES, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. AMASH, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. ROSKAM, Ms. FOXX, Mr. KELLY, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. REED):

H.R. 217. A bill to amend title X of the Public Health Service Act to prohibit family planning grants from being awarded to any entity that performs abortions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.J. Res. 12. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to limitations on the amounts of contributions and expenditures that may be made in connection with campaigns for election to public office; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.J. Res. 13. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States waiving the application of the first article of amendment to the political speech of corporations and other business organizations with respect to the disbursement of funds in connection with public elections; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.J. Res. 14. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States waiving the application of the first article of amendment to the political speech of corporations and other business organizations with respect to the disbursement of funds in connection with public elections and granting Congress and the States the power to establish limits on contributions and expenditures in elections for public office; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.J. Res. 15. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to repeal the twenty-second article of amendment, thereby removing the limitation on the number of terms an individual may serve as President; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KING of Iowa (for himself and Mr. WOODALL):

H.J. Res. 16. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to repeal the sixteenth article of amendment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H. Con. Res. 6. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Supreme Court misinterpreted the First Amendment to the Constitution in the case of Buckley v. Valeo; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H. Con. Res. 7. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should provide, on an annual basis, an amount equal to at least one percent of United States gross domestic product (GDP) for nonmilitary foreign assistance programs; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS:

H. Res. 17. A resolution electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H. Res. 18. A resolution honoring the memory of Poland's President, national leaders, and cultural leaders who were killed in the tragic plane crash at Smolensk, Russia on April 10, 2010; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. POLIS, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. MORAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RUSH, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. HONDA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. MENG, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. EDWARDS, and Mr. FATTAH):

H. Res. 19. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Senate should ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. RIGELL:

H. Res. 20. A resolution providing that the House of Representatives is committed to restoring America's financial foundation by achieving a Federal spending target of 20 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) and a Federal revenue target of 20 percent of GDP by the end of calendar year 2020; to the Committee on the Budget, 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.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas introduced a bill (H.R. 218) for the relief of Enrique Soriano and Areli Soriano; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.R. 152.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . . .'' In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: ''The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States. . . .'' Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 153.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 154.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 155.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 156.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 157.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 158.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 159.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 160.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 161.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Amendment XVI, of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. BACHMANN:

H.R. 162.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. BENISHEK:

H.R. 163.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 164.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution (clauses 12, 13, 14, and 16), which grants Congress the power to raise and support an Army; to provide and maintain a Navy; to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces; and to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 165.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution (Clauses 12, 13, 14, 16, and 17) which grants Congress the power to raise and support an Army; to provide and maintain a Navy; to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces; to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia; and to exercise authority over all places purchased for the erection of forts, magazines, dock-yards, and other needful buildings.

By Mr. BOUSTANY:

H.R. 166.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1; Section 8; Clauses 1 & 3:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 167.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this joint resolution rests is the power of Congress as enumerated in Article I, Section 9 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GARRETT:

H.R. 168.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (Congress shall have power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;) and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested).

This legislation, through Congress's power to regulate commerce with foreign powers and among the several states, gives small businesses the option to alleviate the burdens of onerous regulations that the federal government has imposed.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 169.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution (the Commerce Clause).

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 170.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution (the Commerce Clause).

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 171.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 172.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 173.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 174.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution (the Commerce Clause).

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 175.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 176.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 177.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 178.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 6, Clause 1, of the U.S. Constitution: The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States.

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 179.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14: To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.

By Mr. GRIMM:

H.R. 180.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The Congress shall have Power * * * To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. GRIMM:

H.R. 181.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7

The Congress shall have Power * * * To establish Post Offices and post roads.

By Mr. GRIMM:

H.R. 182.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The Congress shall have Power * * * To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. GRIMM:

H.R. 183.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 13

The Congress shall have Power * * * To provide and maintain a Navy.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 12

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.

By Mr. GRIMM:

H.R. 184.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. HALL:

H.R. 185.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 17 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 186.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution, which grants Congress the authority to make laws governing the time, places and manner of holding federal elections.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 187.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 188.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1; Article I, Section 8, Clause 3; Article I, Section 8, Clause 18; and Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 189.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I. Section 8. Clause 3. and Article I. Section 8. Clause 18

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 190.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1; Article I, Section 8, Clause 3; and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 191.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I. Section 8. Clause 3. and Article I. Section 8. Clause 18.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 192.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1; Article I, Section 8, Clause 3; and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 193.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 194.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 195.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. LATTA:

H.R. 196.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 6

The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 197.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 198.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 199.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 200.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 201.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. McCLINTOCK:

H.R. 202.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

As to Sections 1, 2 and 5, U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 9 (The Inferior Courts Clause), Article III, Section 1, and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (The Necessary And Proper Clause), which confer on Congress the power to establish and regulate the jurisdiction and rules of procedure of federal courts. As to Sections 3, 4, and 6, U.S. Constitution, 10th Amendment, which grants states all authority not explicitly given to the federal government, pursuant to which this bill seeks to return to the states authority previously and erroneously claimed by the federal government.

By Mr. MULVANEY:

H.R. 203.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18. ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3. ''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.''

The 14th Amendment to the Constitution. ''No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws . . . The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.''

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 204.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:

H.R. 205.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:

H.R. 206.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 207.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 208.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 209.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, which gives Congress the power ''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes,'' Article I Section 8, Clause 1, which give Congress the power to ''lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposets and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States,'' and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which gives Congress the power ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers.''

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 210.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The Congress shall have Power * * * To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

In addition, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The Congress shall have Power * * * To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 211.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: ''The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;'' and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: ''The Congress shall have Power To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 212.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 2 of section 5 of article I of the Constitution, which states: ''Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.'' Additionally, Congress has the power to enact this legislation under Clause 2 of section 3 of article IV of the Constitution, which states that ''The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.''

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 213.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 214.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, which gives Congress the power ''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations,'' and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which gives Congress the power ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers.''

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 215.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, which gives Congress the power ''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations,'' Article I, Section 8, Clause 4, which gives Congress the power ''To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization,'' and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which gives Congress the power ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers.''

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 216.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mrs. BLACK:

H.R. 217.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution; whereby the Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

Furthermore, this bill makes specific changes to existing law, in accordance with the Fourteenth Amendment, Section 5, which states that ''No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.''

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 218.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.J. Res. 12.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.J. Res. 13.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.J. Res. 14.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.J. Res. 15.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This proposed constitutional amendment is introduced pursuant to Article V of the Constitution, and seeks to repeal the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution.

By Mr. KING of Iowa:

H.J. Res. 16.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This joint resolution is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress to propose amendments to the Constitution under Article V of the United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 23: Mr. KLINE.

H.R. 24: Mr. JONES, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. MCINTYRE, and Mr. DEFAZIO.

H.R. 41: Ms. WATERS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. HIMES, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. MAFFEI, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. OWENS, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms ESTY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SIRES, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. REED, and Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 55: Mr. KING of New York.

H.R. 93: Ms. NORTON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. KEATING, Ms. MOORE, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 100: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. DINGELL, and Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 107: Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 134: Mr. LOBIONDO and Mr. BARROW.

H.R. 148: Mr. NOLAN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. HIMES, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. YARMUTH.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 152

OFFERED BY: MR. FRELINGHUYSEN

AMENDMENT NO. 1: Under the heading ''Department of Agriculture'' (but before the heading ''Domestic Food Programs''), insert the following:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount, to remain available until expended, for the Emergency Conservation Program under title IV of the Agriculture Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy and resulting from a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), $218,000,000, of which $15,000,000 shall be available for payments under sections 401 and 402 of the Agriculture Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201, 2202), $180,000,000 shall be available for activities under section 403 of such Act (Emergency Watershed Protection Program; 16 U.S.C. 2203), and $23,000,000 shall be available for activities under section 407 of such Act (Emergency Forest Restoration Program; 16 U.S.C. 2206): *Provided*, That the Secretary of Agriculture shall transfer these funds to the Farm Service Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

At the end of title I, insert the following:

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE

SEC. 101. The Office of Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture shall use unobligated disaster assistance oversight funds provided to such office in division B of Public Law 110–329 (122 Stat. 3585) for continued oversight of Department of Agriculture disaster- and emergency-related activities.

Following the matter in title I, insert the following:

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

For an additional amount for ''Operations, Research, and Facilities'', $290,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2014, as follows:

(1) $50,000,000 for mapping, charting, geodesy services and marine debris surveys for coastal States impacted by Hurricane Sandy;

(2) $7,000,000 to repair and replace ocean observing and coastal monitoring assets damaged by Hurricane Sandy;

(3) $3,000,000 to provide technical assistance to support State assessments of coastal impacts of Hurricane Sandy;

(4) $150,000,000 for Regional Ocean Partnership grants to coastal States impacted by Hurricane Sandy;

(5) $25,000,000 to improve weather forecasting and hurricane intensity forecasting capabilities, to include data assimilation from ocean observing platforms and satellites;

(6) $50,000,000 for laboratories and cooperative institutes research activities associated with sustained observations weather research programs, and ocean and coastal research; and

(7) $5,000,000 for necessary expenses related to fishery disasters resulting from impacts of Hurricane Sandy, and as declared by the Secretary of Commerce in calendar year 2012:

Provided, That the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

For an additional amount for ''Procurement, Acquisition and Construction'', $186,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, as follows:

(1) $9,000,000 to repair National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) facilities damaged by Hurricane Sandy;

(2) $44,500,000 for repairs and upgrades to NOAA hurricane reconnaissance aircraft;

(3) $8,500,000 for improvements to weather forecasting equipment and supercomputer infrastructure;

(4) $13,000,000 to accelerate the National Weather Service ground readiness project; and

(5) $111,000,000 for a weather satellite data mitigation gap reserve fund:

Provided, That NOAA shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $10,020,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $1,000,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $230,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For an additional amount for ''Buildings and Facilities'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SCIENCE

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

CONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

For an additional amount for ''Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration'' for repair at National Aeronautics and Space Administration facilities damaged by Hurricane Sandy, $15,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RELATED AGENCIES

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

For an additional amount for ''Payment to the Legal Services Corporation'' to carry out the purposes of the Legal Services Corporation Act by providing for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $1,000,000: *Provided*, That the amount made available under this heading shall be used only to provide the mobile resources, technology, and disaster coordinators necessary to provide storm-related services to the Legal Services Corporation client population and only in the areas significantly affected by Hurricane Sandy: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be expended for any purpose prohibited or limited by, or contrary to any of the provisions of, sections 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, and 506 of Public Law 105–119, and all funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be subject to the same terms and conditions set forth in such sections, except that all references in sections 502 and 503 to 1997 and 1998 shall be deemed to refer instead to 2012 and 2013, respectively, and except that sections 501 and 503 of Public Law 104–134 (referenced by Public Law 105–119) shall not apply to the amount made available under this heading: *Provided further*, That, for the purposes of this Act, the Legal Services Corporation shall be considered an agency of the United States Government.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army'', $5,370,000, to remain available until September 30, 2013, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy'', $40,015,000, to remain available until September 30, 2013, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force'', $8,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2013, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard'', $3,165,000, to remain available until September 30, 2013, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard'', $5,775,000, to remain available until September 30, 2013, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Ammunition, Army'', $1,310,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS

For an additional amount for ''Defense Working Capital Funds'', $24,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2013, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Strike the matter relating to title II and insert the following:

TITLE IV

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

INVESTIGATIONS

For an additional amount for ''Investigations'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $50,000,000, to remain available until expended to expedite at full Federal expense studies of flood and storm damage reduction: *Provided*, That using $29,500,000 of the funds provided herein, the Secretary of the Army shall expedite and complete ongoing flood and storm damage reduction studies in areas that were impacted by Hurricane Sandy in the North Atlantic Division of the United States Army Corps of Engineers: *Provided further*, That using up to $20,000,000 of the funds provided herein, the Secretary shall conduct a comprehensive study to address the flood risks of vulnerable coastal populations in areas that were affected by Hurricane Sandy within the boundaries of the North Atlantic Division of the Corps: *Provided further*, That an interim report with an assessment of authorized Corps projects for reducing flooding and storm risks in the affected area that have been constructed or are under construction, including construction cost estimates, shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than March 1, 2013: *Provided further*, That an interim report identifying any previously authorized but unconstructed Corps project and any project under study by the Corps for reducing flooding and storm damage risks in the affected area, including updated construction cost estimates, that are, or would be, consistent with the comprehensive study shall be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees by May 1, 2013: *Provided further*, That a final report shall be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees within 24 months of the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That as a part of the study, the Secretary shall identify those activities warranting additional analysis by the Corps, as well as institutional and other barriers to providing protection to the affected coastal areas: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall conduct the study in coordination with other Federal agencies, and State, local and Tribal officials to ensure consistency with other plans to be developed, as appropriate: *Provided further*, That using $500,000 of the funds provided herein, the Secretary shall conduct an evaluation of the performance of existing projects constructed by the Corps and impacted by Hurricane Sandy for the purposes of determining their effectiveness and making recommendations for improvements thereto: *Provided further*, That as a part of the study, the Secretary shall identify institutional and other barriers to providing comprehensive protection to affected coastal areas and shall provide this report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 120 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That the amounts in this paragraph are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

CONSTRUCTION

For an additional amount for ''Construction'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $3,461,000,000, to remain available until expended to rehabilitate, repair and construct United States Army Corps of Engineers projects: *Provided*, That $2,902,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading shall be used to reduce future flood risk in ways that will support the long-term sustainability of the coastal ecosystem and communities and reduce the economic costs and risks associated with large-scale flood and storm events in areas along the Atlantic Coast within the boundaries of the North Atlantic Division of the Corps that were affected by Hurricane Sandy: *Provided further*, That $858,000,000 of such funds shall be made available not earlier than 14 days after the Secretary of the Army submits the report required under the heading ''Investigations'' to be submitted not later than March 1, 2013, and $2,044,000,000 shall be made available not earlier than 14 days after the Secretary submits the report required under the heading ''Investigations'' to be submitted not later than May 1, 2013: *Provided further*, That efforts using these funds shall incorporate current science and engineering standards in constructing previously authorized Corps projects designed to reduce flood and storm damage risks and modifying existing Corps projects that do not meet these standards, with such modifications as the Secretary determines are necessary to incorporate these standards or to meet the goal of providing sustainable reduction to flooding and storm damage risks: *Provided further*, That upon approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate these funds may be used to construct any project under study by the Corps for reducing flooding and storm damage risks in areas

along the Atlantic Coast within the North Atlantic Division of the Corps that were affected by Hurricane Sandy that the Secretary determines is technically feasible, economically justified, and environmentally acceptable: *Provided further*, That the completion of ongoing construction projects receiving funds provided by this Act shall be at full Federal expense: *Provided further*, That the non-Federal cash contribution for projects using these funds shall be financed in accordance with the provisions of section 103(k) of Public Law 99–662 over a period of 30 years from the date of completion of the project or separable element: *Provided further*, That for these projects, the provisions of section 902 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 shall not apply to these funds: *Provided further*, That up to $51,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading shall be used to expedite continuing authorities projects to reduce the risk of flooding along the coastal areas in States impacted by Hurricane Sandy within the boundaries of the North Atlantic Division of the Corps: *Provided further*, That $9,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading shall be used for repairs to projects that were under construction and damaged by the impacts of Hurricane Sandy: *Provided further*, That any projects using funds appropriated under this heading shall be initiated only after non-Federal interests have entered into binding agreements with the Secretary requiring the non-Federal interests to pay 100 percent of the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation costs of the project and to hold and save the United States free from damages due to the construction or operation and maintenance of the project, except for damages due to the fault or negligence of the United States or its contractors: *Provided further*, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a monthly report detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $821,000,000, to remain available until expended to dredge Federal navigation channels and repair damage to United States Army Corps of Engineers projects: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

FLOOD CONTROL AND COASTAL EMERGENCIES

For an additional amount for ''Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $1,008,000,000, to remain available until expended to prepare for flood, hurricane, and other natural disasters and support emergency operations, repairs and other activities as authorized by law: *Provided*, That $430,000,000 of the funds provided herein shall be made available not earlier than 14 days after the Secretary of the Army submits the report required under the heading ''Investigations'' to be submitted not later than March 1, 2013, and shall be utilized by the United States Army Corps of Engineers to restore projects impacted by Hurricane Sandy in the North Atlantic Division of the Corps to design profiles of the authorized projects: *Provided further*, That the provisions of section 902 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 shall not apply to funds provided under this heading: *Provided further*, That the amounts in this paragraph are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Expenses'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended to oversee emergency response and recovery activities: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

Redesignate title III as title V, and insert after such title designation (but before the heading ''Small Business Administration'') the following:

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

REAL PROPERTY ACTIVITIES

FEDERAL BUILDINGS FUND

For an additional amount to be deposited in the ''Federal Buildings Fund'', $7,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, for basic repair and alteration of buildings under the custody and control of the Administrator of General Services, and real property management and related activities not otherwise provided for: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Under the heading ''Small Business Administration—Salaries and Expenses'' strike ''$10,000,000'' and insert ''$20,000,000''.

Strike the matter relating to ''Small Business Administration—Office of Inspector General'' and insert the following:

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for ''Office of Inspector General'', $5,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Strike the matter relating to ''Small Business Administration—Disaster Loans Program Account'' and insert the following:

DISASTER LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Disaster Loans Program Account'' for the cost of direct loans authorized by section 7(b) of the Small Business Act, $520,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That in addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program authorized by section 7(b) of the Small Business Act, an additional $260,000,000 to remain available until expended, of which $250,000,000 is for direct administrative expenses of loan making and servicing to carry out the direct loan program, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses, and of which $10,000,000 is for indirect administrative expenses for the direct loan program, which may to be transferred to and merged with appropriations for Salaries and Expenses: *Provided further*, That such amounts are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Redesignate title IV as title VI.

Under the heading ''Department of Homeland Security'' (but before the heading ''Coast Guard''), insert the following:

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $1,667,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That a description of all property to be replaced, with associated costs, shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate no later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $855,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That a description of all property to be replaced, with associated costs, shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate no later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $300,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That a description of all property to be replaced, with associated costs, shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate no later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Under the heading ''Department of Homeland Security—Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements'', strike ''$143,899,000'' and insert ''$274,233,000''.

Strike the matter relating to ''Federal Emergency Management Agency'' and insert the following:

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for the ''Disaster Relief Fund'' in carrying out the Robert T.

Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), $11,487,735,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided, $5,379,000,000 shall be for major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): *Provided further*, That the amount in the preceding proviso is designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided, $6,108,735,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 which shall be for major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided, $3,000,000 shall be transferred to the Department of Homeland Security ''Office of Inspector General'' for audits and investigations related to disasters; *Provided further*, That the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall publish on the Agency's website not later than 24 hours after an award of a public assistance grant under section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5172) that is in excess of $1,000,000, the specifics of each such grant award: *Provided further*, That for any mission assignment or mission assignment task order to another Federal department or agency regarding a major disaster, not later than 24 hours after the issuance of a mission assignment or task order in excess of $1,000,000, the Administrator shall publish on the Agency's website the following: the name of the impacted state and the disaster declaration for such State, the assigned agency, the assistance requested, a description of the disaster, the total cost estimate, and the amount obligated: *Provided further*, That not later than 10 days after the last day of each month until the mission assignment or task order is completed and closed out, the Administrator shall update any changes to the total cost estimate and the amount obligated: *Provided further*, That for a disaster declaration related to Hurricane Sandy, the Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, not later than 5 days after the first day of each month beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, and shall publish on the Agency's website not later than 10 days after the first day of each such month, an estimate or actual amount, if available, for the current fiscal year of the cost of the following categories of spending: public assistance, individual assistance, operations, mitigation, administrative, and any other relevant category (including emergency measures and disaster resources): *Provided further*, That not later than 10 days after the first day of each month beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall publish on the Agency's website the report (referred to as the Disaster Relief Monthly Report) as required by Public Law 112–74.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For an additional amount for ''Disaster Assistance Direct Loan Program Account'' for the cost of direct loans, $300,000,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized by section 417 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5184), of which up to $4,000,000 is for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed $400,000,000: *Provided further*, That these amounts are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Under the heading ''Department of Homeland Security—Science and Technology—Research, Development, Acquisition, and Operations'', strike ''$585,000'' and insert ''$3,249,000'', and strike ''September 30, 2013'' and insert ''September 30, 2014''.

Redesignate section 401 as section 601.

Redesignate title V as title VII.

Under the heading ''Department of the Interior—Fish and Wildlife Service—Construction'', strike ''$49,875,000'' and insert ''$78,000,000''.

Under the heading ''Department of the Interior—National Park Service'' (but before the heading ''Construction''), insert the following:

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

For an additional amount for the ''Historic Preservation Fund'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, including costs to States necessary to complete compliance activities required by section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and costs needed to administer the program: *Provided*, That grants shall only be available for areas that have received a major disaster declaration pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): *Provided further*, That individual grants shall not be subject to a non-Federal matching requirement: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Under the heading ''Department of the Interior—National Park Service—Construction'', strike ''$234,000,000'' and insert ''$348,000,000''.

Following the matter relating to ''Department of the Interior—Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement—Oil Spill Research'', insert the following:

DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Departmental Operations'' and any Department of the Interior component bureau or office for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $360,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds appropriated herein shall be used to restore and rebuild national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other Federal public assets; increase the resiliency and capacity of coastal habitat and infrastructure to withstand storms and reduce the amount of damage caused by such storms: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior may transfer these funds to any other account in the Department and may expend such funds by direct expenditure, grants, or cooperative agreements, including grants to or cooperative agreements with States, Tribes, and municipalities, to carry out the purposes provided herein: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed spending plan for the amounts provided herein within 60 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

For an additional amount for ''Environmental Programs and Management'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $725,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SUPERFUND

For an additional amount for ''Hazardous Substance Superfund'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $2,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK FUND

For an additional amount for ''Leaking Underground Storage Tank Fund'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $5,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For an additional amount for ''State and Tribal Assistance Grants'', $600,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $500,000,000 shall be for capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and of which $100,000,000 shall be for capitalization grants under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 604(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(a)(1)(D) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, funds appropriated herein shall be provided to States in EPA Region 2 for wastewater and drinking water treatment works and facilities impacted by Hurricane Sandy: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the requirements of section 603(d) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, for the funds appropriated herein, each State shall use not less than 20 percent but not more than 30 percent of the amount of its capitalization grants to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans or grants or any combination of these: *Provided further*, That the funds appropriated herein shall only be used for eligible projects whose purpose is to reduce flood damage risk and vulnerability or to enhance resiliency to rapid hydrologic change or a natural disaster at treatment works as defined by section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or any eligible facilities under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and for other eligible tasks at such treatment works or facilities necessary to further such purposes: *Provided further*, That the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may retain up to $1,000,000 of the funds appropriated herein for management and oversight: *Provided further*, That such amounts are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

For an additional amount for ''Capital Improvement and Maintenance'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $4,400,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER RELATED AGENCY

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $2,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Redesignate title VI as title VIII, and insert after such title designation (but before the heading ''Department of Health and Human Services'') the following:

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Training and Employment Services'', $25,000,000, for the dislocated workers assistance national reserve for necessary expenses directly related to Hurricane Sandy, which shall be available from the date of enactment of this Act through September 30, 2013: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Labor may transfer up to $3,500,000 of such funds to any other Department of Labor account for other Hurricane Sandy reconstruction and recovery needs, including worker protection activities: *Provided further*, That such amounts are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Strike the matter relating to ''Department of Health and Human Services—Office of the Secretary—Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'' and insert the following:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'' for disaster response and recovery, and other expenses directly related to Hurricane Sandy, including making payments under the Head Start Act and additional payments for distribution as provided for under the ''Social Services Block Grant Program'', $800,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015: *Provided*, That $100,000,000 shall be transferred to ''Children and Families Services Programs'' for the Head Start program for the purposes provided herein: *Provided further*, That $500,000,000 shall be transferred to ''Social Services Block Grant'' for the purposes provided herein: *Provided further*, That section 2002(c) of the Social Security Act shall be applied to funds appropriated in the preceding proviso by substituting ''succeeding 2 fiscal years'' for ''succeeding fiscal year'': *Provided further*, That not less than $5,000,000 shall be transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services (''HHS'') ''Office of Inspector General'' to perform oversight, accountability, and evaluation of programs, projects, or activities supported with the funds provided for the purposes provided herein: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the distribution of any amount shall be limited to the States directly affected by Hurricane Sandy and which have been declared by the President as a major disaster under title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act for Hurricane Sandy: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be included in the calculation of the ''base grant'' in subsequent fiscal years, as such term is defined in sections 640(a)(7)(A), 641A(h)(1)(B), or 644(d)(3) of the Head Start Act: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated in this paragraph are not subject to the allocation requirements of section 640(a) of the Head Start Act: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated in this paragraph for the Social Services Block Grant are in addition to the entitlement grants authorized by section 2002(a)(1) of the Social Security Act and shall not be available for such entitlement grants: *Provided further*, That in addition to other uses permitted by title XX of the Social Security Act, funds appropriated in this paragraph for the Social Services Block Grant may be used for health services (including mental health services), and for costs of renovating, repairing, or rebuilding health care facilities, child care facilities, or other social services facilities: *Provided further*, That the remaining $195,000,000 appropriated in this paragraph may be transferred by the Secretary of HHS (''Secretary'') to accounts within HHS, and shall be available only for the purposes provided in this paragraph: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided in this paragraph is in addition to any other transfer authority available in this or any other Act: *Provided further*, That 15 days prior to the transfer of funds appropriated in this paragraph, the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of any such transfer and the planned uses of the funds: *Provided further*, That obligations incurred for the purposes provided herein prior to the date of enactment of this Act may be charged to funds appropriated by this paragraph: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated in this paragraph and transferred to the National Institutes of Health for the purpose of supporting the repair or rebuilding of non-Federal biomedical or behavioral research facilities damaged as a result of Hurricane Sandy shall be used to award grants or contracts for such purpose under section 404I of the Public Health Service Act: *Provided further*, That section 481A(c)(2) of such Act does not apply to the use of funds described in the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated in this paragraph shall not be available for costs that are reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, under a contract for insurance, or by self-insurance: *Provided further*, That such amounts are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Redesignate title VII as title IX.

Strike title VIII and insert the following:

TITLE X

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For an additional amount for ''Facilities and Equipment'', $30,000,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM

For an additional amount for the ''Emergency Relief Program'' as authorized under section 125 of title 23, United States Code, $2,022,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the obligations for projects under this section resulting from a single natural disaster or a single catastrophic failure in a State shall not exceed $100,000,000, and the total obligations for projects under this section in any fiscal year in the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands shall not exceed $20,000,000: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the preceding proviso, the Secretary of Transportation may obligate more than $100,000,000, but not more than $500,000,000, for a single natural disaster event in a State for emergency relief projects arising from damage caused in calendar year 2012 by Hurricane Sandy: *Provided further*, That no funds provided in this Act shall be used for section 125(g) of such title: *Provided further*, That the amount provided under this heading is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

For an additional amount for ''Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation'' for the Secretary of Transportation to make capital and debt service grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation to advance capital projects that address Northeast Corridor infrastructure recovery and resiliency in the affected areas, $86,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds may be used to subsidize operating losses of the Corporation: *Provided further*, That as a condition of eligibility for receipt of such funds, the Corporation shall not, after the enactment of this Act, use any funds provided for Capital and Debt Service Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation in this Act or any other Act for operating expenses, which includes temporary transfers of such funds: *Provided further*, That the Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration may retain up to one-half of 1 percent of the funds provided under this heading to fund the award and oversight by the Administrator of grants made under this heading: *Provided further*, That for an additional amount for the Secretary to make operating subsidy grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation for necessary repairs related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $32,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That each amount under this heading is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the ''Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program'' as authorized under

section 5324 of title 49, United States Code, $10,900,000,000, to remain available until expended, for recovery and relief efforts in the areas most affected by Hurricane Sandy: *Provided*, That not more than $2,000,000,000 shall be made available not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That the remainder of the funds shall be made available only after the Federal Transit Administration and the Federal Emergency Management Agency sign the Memorandum of Agreement required by section 20017(b) of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (Public Law 112–141) and the Federal Transit Administration publishes interim regulations for the Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, the Secretary of Transportation may transfer up to $5,383,000,000 to the appropriate agencies to fund programs authorized under titles 23 and 49, United States Code, in order to carry out projects related to reducing risk of damage from future disasters in areas impacted by Hurricane Sandy: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall be notified at least 15 days in advance of any such transfer: *Provided further*, That up to three-quarters of 1 percent of the funds retained for public transportation emergency relief shall be available for the purposes of administrative expenses and ongoing program management oversight as authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5334 and 5338(i)(2) and shall be in addition to any other appropriations for such purposes: *Provided further*, That, of the funds made available under this heading, $6,000,000 shall be transferred to the Office of Inspector General to support the oversight of activities funded under this heading: *Provided further*, That such amounts are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Community Development Fund'', $16,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, for necessary expenses related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas resulting from a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) due to Hurricane Sandy and other eligible events in calendar years 2011, 2012, and 2013, for activities authorized under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.): *Provided*, That funds shall be awarded directly to the State or unit of general local government as a grantee at the discretion of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall allocate to grantees not less than 33 percent of the funds provided under this heading within 60 days after the enactment of this Act based on the best available data: *Provided further*, That prior to the obligation of funds, a grantee shall submit a plan to the Secretary for approval detailing the proposed use of all funds, including criteria for eligibility and how the use of these funds will address long-term recovery and restoration of infrastructure and housing and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall by notice specify the criteria for approval of such plans within 45 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary determines that a plan does not meet such criteria, the Secretary shall disapprove the plan: *Provided further*, That funds provided under this heading may not be used for activities reimbursable by or for which funds are made available by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the Army Corps of Engineers: *Provided further*, That funds allocated under this heading shall not be considered relevant to the non-disaster formula allocations made pursuant to section 106 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5306): *Provided further*, That a grantee may use up to 5 percent of its allocation for administrative costs: *Provided further*, That a grantee shall administer grant funds provided under this heading in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations and may not delegate, by contract or otherwise, the responsibility for administering such grant funds: *Provided further*, That as a condition of making any grant, the Secretary shall certify in advance that such grantee has in place proficient financial controls and procurement processes and has established adequate procedures to prevent any duplication of benefits as defined by section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155), to ensure timely expenditure of funds, to maintain comprehensive websites regarding all disaster recovery activities assisted with these funds, and to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide grantees with technical assistance on contracting and procurement processes and shall require grantees, in contracting or procuring these funds, to incorporate performance requirements and penalties into any such contracts or agreements: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information accounting for how all grant funds are used, including details of all contracts and ongoing procurement processes: *Provided further*, That, in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary may waive, or specify alternative requirements for, any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers in connection with the obligation by the Secretary or the use by the recipient of these funds (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment) pursuant to a determination by the Secretary that good cause exists for the waiver or alternative requirement and that such action is not inconsistent with the overall purposes of title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.): *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the preceding proviso, recipients of funds provided under this heading that use such funds to supplement Federal assistance provided under sections 402, 403, 404, 406, 407, or 502 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) may adopt, without review or public comment, any environmental review, approval, or permit performed by a Federal agency, and such adoption shall satisfy the responsibilities of the recipient with respect to such environmental review, approval or permit: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding section 104(g)(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5304(g)(2)), the Secretary may, upon receipt of a request for release of funds and certification, immediately approve the release of funds for an activity or project assisted under this heading if the recipient has adopted an environmental review, approval or permit under the preceding proviso or the activity or project is categorically excluded from review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.): *Provided further*, That a waiver granted by the Secretary may not reduce the percentage of funds that must be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income to less than 50 percent, unless the Secretary specifically finds that there is a compelling need to further reduce or eliminate the percentage requirement: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register any waiver of any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers pursuant to title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 no later than 5 days before the effective date of such waiver: *Provided further*, That, of the funds made available under this heading, up to $10,000,000 may be transferred to ''Program Office Salaries and Expenses, Community Planning and Development'' for necessary costs, including information technology costs, of administering and overseeing funds made available under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $10,000,000 shall be transferred to ''Office of the Inspector General'' for necessary costs of overseeing and auditing funds made available under this heading: *Provided further*, That the amounts provided under this heading are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 1001. For fiscal year 2013, upon request by a public housing agency and supported by documentation as required by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development that demonstrates that the need for the adjustment is due to the disaster, the Secretary may make temporary adjustments to the section 8 housing choice voucher annual renewal funding allocations and administrative fee eligibility determinations for public housing agencies in an area for which the President declared a disaster during such fiscal year under title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.), to avoid significant adverse funding impacts that would otherwise result from the disaster.

SEC. 1002. The Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development shall submit to the Committees on Approppriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act a plan for implementing the provisions in this title, and updates to such plan on a biannual basis thereafter.

SEC. 1003. None of the funds provided in this title to the Department of Transportation or the Department of Housing and Urban Development may be used to make a grant unless the Secretary of such Department notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not less than 3 full business days before any project, State or locality is selected to receive a grant award totaling $1,000,000 or more is announced by either Department or a modal administration.

Redesignate title IX and sections 901 through 904 as title XI and sections 1101 through 1104, respectively.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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Senate

(Legislative day of Thursday, January 3, 2013)

The Senate met at 12:30 p.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, sovereign of the nations, we place our trust in You. Infuse our lawmakers with a spirit of discernment that they may fulfill Your purposes for our Nation and world. Lord, stir them up with the fresh realization of the supernatural resources available to them to accomplish their tasks. As they seek Your guidance on all decisions, guard their hearts and minds with Your peace. Help our Senators to give one another kindness, patience, and encouragement as You saturate their hearts with Your grace and joy.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TOM UDALL 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter.

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 4, 2013.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. UDALL thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

JOINT SESSION FOR COUNTING OF ELECTORAL VOTES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate will recess for the joint session for the counting of electoral votes.

Following the joint session, we are hoping to complete action on part of the flood insurance of the Sandy supplemental, which the House just passed.

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:33 p.m., recessed to reassemble in the Hall of the House of Representatives for a Joint Session and at 1:56 p.m. reassembled in the Senate Chamber when called to order by the Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New York is recognized.

HELPING THE VICTIMS OF HURRICANE SANDY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I rise in support of the legislation we are about to vote on that will provide an additional $9.7 billion to the National Flood Insurance Program. Without these funds, the program would have run out of money next week, leaving over 100,000 victims of Hurricane Sandy in the lurch.

I would like to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for allowing this vote to go forward. They have acted honorably. The good news is the House passed this bill this morning and the Senate will pass it in a few minutes.

With the passage of this bill, hurricane victims from Staten Island to east Long Island, as well as in New Jersey, can rest assured their flood insurance will have enough money to pay out claims. We had no choice but to pass this provision because the Federal Government is obligated to reimburse when people have floods if they have paid in their flood insurance.

While this bill is important, it is something we were almost obligated to do, and we should not have parades down the street because this bill has passed.

The major work of helping the victims of Sandy is still ahead of us. The bad news is we even had to go through this dog-and-pony show in the first place.

Last month, the Senate passed a good, strong bill to help all victims of Hurricane Sandy, and the House simply could have taken it up and passed it. In fact, they promised to vote on a similar provision before the last Congress ended.

Unfortunately, this changed at the last moment. We do not need to get into the whys right now; we just want it to happen, and we are worried the second major portion of this relief bill will not get through the House in the form it should.

We need the House to pass not only the $9 billion they passed this morning but the $51 billion that contains the

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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bulk of the aid people need, without which we will not be able to recover. To be a bride and left at the altar once is bad enough. To be left twice would be unconscionable.

As I said, this is a good step that we are going to pass this $9 billion flood insurance bill. This is a good but small first step. It is a small downpayment on the much larger amount of aid we need to get through Congress.

Let me tell you what is not in this bill. What is not in this bill is help for every homeowner who does not have flood insurance and lost their home or suffered major damage.

Homeowners are waiting for Congress to pass relief the way we did for Irene and Katrina and so many other disasters so they can get a contractor to sign a contract, get a bank to make a loan until they know that the Federal Government will be there to reimburse, as it always has in the past.

What is not in this bill is aid to small businesses, small businesspeople who are hanging by their fingernails, who might not be able to restart their businesses unless there is Federal aid, which was already in the Senate bill. Unless it comes back from the House and we are able to pass it in the Senate, they will be hurt.

What is not in this bill is dollars to rebuild our highways and, most importantly, our mass transit systems that were flood, damaged. The MTA alone has taken out a $5 billion loan, but it will be in real financial jeopardy unless it is assured that it will be reimbursed for all the damage that Sandy caused to our railroads and our tunnels and our mass transit system—our amazing mass transit system that brings 3½ million people off and on Manhattan Island every single day.

What is not in this bill is help to bring the electricity system back up to snuff so there will not be major blackouts, so people can be assured of their electricity.

What is not in this bill is help for all of the communities that laid out hundreds of millions and billions of dollars for the cleanup. Their taxpayers will foot the bill unless Congress does what it has always done: step to the plate when a major disaster occurs and have the Federal Government help the locality. There has been a wisdom for 100 years that when an area is afflicted by a disaster, we unite as a nation and come together and help that part of the country whether it is New Mexico or California or Louisiana or Florida or Missouri or North Dakota or New York or New Jersey.

This bill is a first step to deal with flood insurance. It is the easiest part. The hard stuff is still ahead of us. We await the House returning in a week and a half, and we hope and expect, in fact, that they will vote the full $51 billion remainder. We hope and expect, in fact, that they will not put in legislative language that prevents money from getting to homeowners and communities that need it desperately right away.

The draft we have seen contains some major changes from the Senate bill that would make it very difficult for NIH, the Army Corps, and other parts of the government to spend the dollars that are needed efficiently and quickly and to place them where they go. We beseech the House to finish its business, to finish the major part of its business, and approve the $51 billion that will make up the rest of the $60.

We beseech them not to hamstring the local homeowners and businesses and governments with language that would prevent recovery. We beseech them to move quickly. Of course, the ideal would be for them to pass the same bill that the Senate passed in the waning hours of the last session. If they cannot, we will have to get legislation through the body again. But through the generosity of the majority leader, he has assured us it will be the first order of business when we return. So we have to move forward.

As we have seen, this is not going to be easy. There are many bumps in the road and obstacles that we cannot yet see. For sure they will arise and for sure we will have to grapple with them.

This vote needs to be the beginning of the process. It cannot certainly be the end, and it certainly cannot be the middle. We cannot just pass the $9 billion bill and then say that is it. We cannot let the House pass this and rest on its laurels. We in New York and New Jersey cannot let our guard down. Not until the full $60 billion arrives in New York and New Jersey can we stop working. So I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and then alert them to keep the victims of Sandy in New York, New Jersey, and elsewhere in their thoughts so that we can continue to support the region when we return.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHUMER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, in the years I have served in legislative bodies, which is quite a long time now, it is interesting to see how different people approach the legislative process. I have learned over the years there is nothing more important than people working hard. You have to be tenacious to get legislation passed.

The leader of passing Sandy over here—and I am confident when we get back in a couple of weeks after the House works on theirs, the same dynamic will be here—the senior Senator from New York has worked tirelessly to get legislation passed. He has led a team effort of Senators from New Jersey and his partner, Senator GILLIBRAND, but the leader, the quarterback, has been the Senator from New York.

The work he has done not only in the Senate, but having the many years of experience he had in the House of Representatives, the Presiding Officer, the senior Senator from New York, worked day and night making phone calls, personal contacts with people in New York and New Jersey who could call House Members and have them pass this legislation.

On the way back from the joint session dealing with the electoral vote count, he walked up and grabbed me—did not grab me, but we talked for several minutes walking back to the Senate—the majority leader from the House of Representatives. He worked extremely hard on this. He worked hard on it. I indicated to him that I had received calls from people in New York who appreciated very much his efforts to try to get this thing passed.

I really do believe it is important that I have the record reflect the reason we have gotten as far as we have on Sandy is because of the senior Senator from New York. It is too bad that it has taken so long. When we had that devastation from Katrina, we were there within days taking care of Mississippi, Alabama, and especially Louisiana—within days. We are now past 2 months with the people of New York and New Jersey.

The people of New Orleans and that area, they were hurt but nothing in comparison to what happened to the people in New York and New Jersey. Almost 1 million people have lost their homes; 1 million people lost their homes. That is homes, that is not people in those homes. So I think it is just unfortunate that we do not have the relief for New York and New Jersey and the rest already. It has to be done. We have to meet the needs of the American people when an act of God occurs.

So I, on behalf of the entire Senate, and certainly my Democratic caucus, express my appreciation to the legislative initiative and the legislative expertise of my friend from New York, an experienced legislator in the State of New York, the House of Representatives, and the Senate. He has done a masterful job.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

WIND ENERGY TAX CREDIT

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today marks my 28th time here on the Senate floor to talk about the Production Tax Credit for wind energy. Twenty-seven other times I stood here—oftentimes joined by like-minded colleagues from around the country—to urge Congress to extend this vital tax credit, which has helped the wind

industry create tens of thousands of jobs and spur tens of billions of dollars in investment. And Coloradans have been with me the whole way.

Well, Mr. President, 27 must be a lucky number—because today, I am thrilled to use my time to thank my colleagues for making the extension of the PTC a reality. Earlier this week, Congress came together across party lines to do the right thing to assist our fragile economic recovery.

Throughout my previous efforts here on the floor, I talked a lot about jobs. From Colorado to Kansas, Oregon and Maine and the Carolinas, my remarks always came back to one simple but true statement: the PTC equals jobs.

These are good-paying jobs for hard-working Americans. From gearboxes in Georgia to wind blades in Rhode Island to towers in Colorado, the construction of wind turbines has invigorated an entire supply chain. Factories in the Midwest have been retooled to make steel components that are shipped to places like Iowa, where cutting edge composite materials are used to make state of the art blades for turbines that ultimately create wind farms built with labor from local construction workers. That's thousands of jobs across this country.

Wind generates clean, renewable energy, which helps move our country toward a more secure energy future. This is clean, American energy that does not produce carbon dioxide pollution—and by making it here at home, it helps us become less reliant on foreign nations for our energy security.

These wind farms are also paying dividends to towns and counties across America, benefitting the families who live there and the small businesses that operate there. The tax revenues from wind turbines have allowed communities to build new schools and roads, as well as provide other basic services. These additional sources of income have been especially important during the recent economic downturn, where the budgets of many states and rural communities have been stretched thin. Quite simply, wind energy jobs have a positive ripple effect wherever they are.

I am relieved that after months of uncertainty as to whether or not the PTC would be extended, Congress has finally done the commonsense thing, making sure we did not lose this vital tax credit. Although it was my preference to have Congress act much sooner and prevent the thousands of layoffs that resulted from the uncertainty Congress created, I am pleased that we have finally acted for the good of our constituents.

With the passage of the PTC, the wind industry can get back to doing the important work of moving America toward a clean energy future, a direction that will benefit middle-class American workers and ensure America leads the world in clean energy manufacturing, even as foreign competitors like China work to surpass us.

And the final language passed by Congress will have an immediate and positive impact on the construction of new wind farms. This year, projects will be eligible to take advantage of the PTC if construction begins before the end of 2013, rather than racing to complete the project by the end of the year. This commonsense change in the law will encourage larger, longer-term projects over the course of the next few years as opposed to just in 2013, which is particularly important since Congress did not pass the extension until the very last minute.

I was not alone in this fight. Coloradans motivated me to keep up the battle the entire time. And many of my colleagues—both Republicans and Democrats—joined me. In particular, I would like to thank Senator GRASSLEY of Iowa—the ''father of the wind PTC''—for his efforts to get this done.

Senator BAUCUS and Senator BINGAMAN have also been long-time champions of the PTC on the Finance Committee, and were an integral part of the fight to extend it. My good friend and colleague from Colorado Senator BENNET has also been a strong supporter of the PTC, joining me in speeches, letters, and legislation. Senator MORAN of Kansas has been right there with us as well.

And many more members from both sides of the aisle and both sides of the Capitol supported these efforts. The broadly bipartisan and bicameral group was driven by a mutual commitment to creating jobs, simultaneously improving our economy and economic competitiveness while moving us toward a more secure energy future.

Despite the importance of the wind PTC extension, there is still much more work to do. This extension only lasts until the end of 2013. So, although we might want to take a breather, we cannot. Instead, we must begin work today on a path forward that will give the wind industry much-needed certainty over the long term. Without certainty, businesses cannot do the long-term planning that is necessary to robustly grow and add good-paying American jobs. And, this time, we cannot wait until the last minute to do it. We must work together to find a plan that allows this industry to reach maturity and thrive while also being fiscally responsible. Yes, that means a gradual phase-out of the wind PTC in the coming years—but my goal is to get Congress to also work together on comprehensive energy legislation that creates long-term certainty for all energy sources. I strongly believe that any national energy policy we develop should reflect the success Colorado has had as an all-of-the-above energy State.

Again, I want to thank my colleagues who worked alongside me to push the wind PTC extension over the finish line. This is hugely important to maintaining American jobs, manufacturing prowess, and energy security. It's a win for Colorado and it's a win for us all.

DYSFUNCTION OF THE SENATE

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about the dysfunction of the Senate, the rules of this governing body, and what we need to do to change them in order to take on the big challenges we face as a Nation.

These last 2 years have created an unprecedented sense among the American people that Congress isn't measuring up to the needs of our time.

This is especially troubling when we are up against tremendous challenges: the most profound jobs crisis in a generation; skyrocketing income inequality; and a tax system that unfairly rewards the wealthy and well-connected over working Americans who are struggling to make ends meet.

But unfortunately, we can't tackle this jobs crisis or the problem of inequality until this body, our revered Senate, restores the ability to debate, deliberate and decide on strategies to take our Nation forward.

I believe that reforming the filibuster is one of the most critical steps we can take to repair the Senate and rebuild confidence in Congress's ability to govern.

When I first came to the Senate, it was 1976. What I saw then could hardly have been farther from the Senate of today. Routine use of the ''filibuster''—or to put it differently, a routine use of an objection to a simple majority vote—has turned the U.S. Senate into a supermajority body.

In short, the U.S. Senate, which once claimed to be ''the world's greatest deliberative body,'' has possibly become ''the world's least deliberative body.'' The institution of the Senate will not function again until we end the abuse of the filibuster. We must put an end to the silent, secret filibuster that is paralyzing the Senate.

The use of this objection has expanded dramatically in recent decades. What was once used only to block legislation that conflicted with deep, personal principles is now used as a routine political strategy for deliberate paralysis. In the 6 years Lyndon Baines Johnson was majority leader, he dealt with one filibuster. Leader REID during his 6 years as majority leader: 391.

One casualty of the partisan filibuster is executive branch and judicial nominations. The Senate's power to advise and consent, as provided in the Constitution, was never intended to enable the legislators to inflict deep harm on the other branches of government. Yet that is exactly what has happened. Nearly one out of every eleven judgeships is vacant—triple the rate of 8 years ago. Our court systems are severely strained, with 27 vacancies rated as ''judicial emergencies'' at the end of 2012.

This is deeply damaging, for several reasons. It prevents the legislature from responding to the Nation's pressing problems and severely hampers the executive and judicial branches, which rely on the Senate to confirm their leaders. Because the Senate is unable

to fulfill, on a timely basis, its constitutional responsibility to ''advise and consent'' to nominations, judgeships and executive branch management positions simply go unfilled.

Now, you may wonder, if this system is so dysfunctional, why did our Founding Fathers ever design the Senate like this? The answer is that they didn't. The Founders envisioned the Senate and House passing legislation and confirming nominations by a simple majority, reserving supermajority for special purposes such as constitutional amendments and overriding a veto.

Alexander Hamilton, in fact, foresaw the current state of affairs in the Federalist Papers, observing that a supermajority requirement would have the ''tendency to embarrass the operations of government,'' and would create ''tedious delays, continual negotiation and intrigue, [and] contemptible compromises of the public good.''

As a result of the Senate's silent filibuster, the Senate failed to pass almost all of the appropriations bills in the last Congress. The number of bills the Senate passes has hit new lows, with fewer than 3 percent of bills introduced in the last Senate ever passing.

That is why yesterday, with my partner, Senator TOM UDALL, I introduced a resolution that will enhance debate and limit obstruction.

Core to these reforms is the ''talking filibuster.'' A Senator can still object but she or he must be continuously on the floor maintaining a debate on the subject. This still allows Senators to block a simple majority vote on a bill of profound consequence, but they have to spend a lot of time and energy to do so.

This reform would have two major consequences. By requiring time and energy to filibuster, it would strip away filibusters on noncontroversial issues that are currently used just to obstruct and delay, allowing the Senate to debate and decide issues. Second, it puts the filibuster on display before the American people, increasing transparency and accountability. If you filibuster, you must make your case before your colleagues and the public, so they know who is obstructing and what your arguments are, and allow the people to judge if you are a hero or a bum.

Senate dysfunction is compromising the Senate's ability to respond to major issues facing our Nation. I want to thank Leader REID for reserving the right to not adopt the rules of the previous Congress, so we can have this important debate on the rules of this body when we come back from the State work period.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SERGEANT CLINTON K. RUIZ

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, just a few weeks ago Americans gathered all across the Nation to commemorate Veterans Day. It is a day that we set aside to remember, and express our gratitude to, the men and women who have served in our Armed Forces. It is a day to honor the heroes among us, and those who, sadly, have left us.

Today I wish to pay tribute to an American hero, Army SGT Clinton K. Ruiz. Sergeant Ruiz died on October 25 while on patrol in Uruzgan Province, Afghanistan, from injuries sustained from small arms fire. He was just 22 years old. He leaves behind a wife, Kira, and a baby son, Caleb.

As we face the tragedy of this brave young soldier's death, it is important too that we remember his life. Sergeant Ruiz's journey on this Earth ended far too soon, but his memory among those whose lives he touched, and in a nation's gratitude, will endure.

Clinton Ruiz was born on March 14, 1990. He graduated from Murrieta Valley High School in Murrieta, CA, and enlisted with the Army in 2009. He was assigned to A Company, 9th Military Information Support Battalion, 8th Military Information Support Group. Sergeant Ruiz was deployed to Afghanistan in September.

In the decade that our military has been fighting in Afghanistan, thousands of our fellow citizens have volunteered to serve. These courageous men and women risk their own safety to protect the safety of others. They leave their homes and their loved ones to defend the freedoms that we hold dear. Over 2,000 of these heroes have paid the ultimate price, for our freedoms, in Afghanistan.

Words cannot lessen the sorrow of the loved ones who grieve for Sergeant Ruiz now. Words cannot fully express the gratitude our Nation owes this valiant soldier. We can only remember, indeed we must never forget, the sacrifice that SGT Clinton Ruiz made in service to our country.

President Kennedy said that ''stories of past courage . . . can teach, they can offer hope, they can provide inspiration. But, they cannot supply courage itself. For this, each man must look into his own soul.'' Sergeant Clinton Ruiz had such courage. In the face of great danger, at great risk to himself, he went where his country sent him. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. He kept the promise he had made to serve. Our Nation is forever in his debt.

Sergeant Ruiz loved his family. He loved his country. He made the ultimate sacrifice defending it. To Sergeant Ruiz's family, I offer my deepest sympathies. We honor Sergeant Ruiz's courage. We remember his sacrifice. And we mourn your loss.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING BEN EISEMAN, MD

• Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Dr. Ben Eiseman, a world-renowned surgeon, a true American and a great friend of mine. Dr. Eiseman was an accomplished man in every sense of the word and is survived by his wife of 67 years, his four children and five grandchildren.

Dr. Eiseman was an incredibly intelligent individual and an avid self-learner. He graduated from Yale University in 1939 and went on to receive his Medical Degree from Harvard University in 1943. Dr. Eiseman possessed extraordinary scientific ingenuity that led him to discover an astonishing number of medical complications and cures.

In addition to these discoveries, Dr. Eiseman also authored and coauthored over 450 scientific papers, was principal editor of seven books on general surgery and was a retired Rear Admiral in the U.S. Navy Reserves—he was very proud of his service to his country. Whenever I mentioned Dr. Eiseman to other surgeons, whether they live in another State or another country, he or she would instantly know his name.

I worked with Dr. Eiseman during my time as Executive Director of the Colorado Outward Bound School. At that time he was chairman of the Board of Trustees, and he was a major influence in my life, an incredible friend, and a wise mentor. One of the reasons Dr. Eiseman and I were so close had much to do with our shared love for the great outdoors. He was one of the few people I knew who had climbed all of the mountains in Colorado over 14,000 feet.

I recall a time almost three decades ago—while I was still with Outward Bound—when Dr. Eiseman accompanied me on a winter climbing trip for advanced climbers. He was always asking us to think through each and every step. In asking the right questions and challenging us along the way, he made me a stronger leader.

One reason we all respected Dr. Eiseman was because we all admired his unassuming ruggedness. On this trip, where it was at least 10 degrees below zero, none of us were surprised as Dr. Eiseman walked around comfortably in his Converse high-tops while the rest of us muddled around, freezing in our high-tech, insulated boots. When it was time to rest for the night, most of the team rolled out their latest and greatest sleeping bags, while Dr. Eiseman pulled out the equivalent of a lawn chair cushion to curl up on for the night. Always the task master, Dr. Eiseman was the first one up in the morning to make sure that everyone, including myself, was thoroughly prepared to take on whatever was in store for us each day. It was just the way he was tough, rugged and focused.

Dr. Eiseman inspired me by the way he commanded respect from all who interacted with him. Sure, he was seen as intimidating by some, but for those who knew him, they were treated to his wonderful sense of humor. He was a dedicated community leader, outdoorsman, and patriot.

I am deeply saddened by the loss of my friend Ben Eiseman, but I know

that his work here on this Earth changed the lives of thousands and that his legacy will not be forgotten.

May his memory live on for years to come.●

HONORING GEORGE SMITH

● Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, just a few weeks ago our Nation commemorated Veterans Day. It is above all a day of remembrance and gratitude. A time to remember the courage and sacrifice of the brave men and women who have served our Nation in the Armed Forces. It is a day when we pay tribute to the heroes among us. And to those who are no longer with us.

Today I wish to honor one of those heroes. On Tuesday, October 30, our Nation lost a great American, Navajo Code Talker George Smith. Mr. Smith was born on June 15, 1922, in Mariano Lake, NM, and was Salt People Clan, born for Black Streak Wood People Clan. In 1943, he enlisted with the Marines. He was trained as a Navajo Code Talker and achieved the rank of corporal while serving in the Pacific. Corporal Smith fought in battles in Saipan, Tinian, Ryukyu Islands. He also served in Okinawa, Hawaii, and Japan. His brother, Albert Smith, also trained as a Code Talker, and served with him.

The Marines who constituted the Navajo Code Talkers were small in number, but monumental in significance. Their skills were crucial to American victory in the Pacific during World War II. They turned their language into an unbreakable code. In battle after battle, in the thick of ferocious combat, they used that code as a powerful weapon in securing Allied victory. Our Nation will never forget what George Smith, and his brother, Albert Smith, and all of their fellow Code Talkers accomplished.

Their service is all the more poignant in that they fought for freedom in a world that did not always accord freedom to them. When America entered World War II, the U.S. government had only recognized Native Americans as citizens for 17 years. In some places, tribal members still did not have the right to vote. 45,000 of the 350,000 Native Americans in the U.S. at that time served in the war. This tradition of military service by Native Americans continues to this day. Native Americans have the highest rate of service of any ethnic group.

Mr. Smith was awarded the Congressional Silver Medal. After the war, Code Talker Smith returned home and dedicated himself to his family and community. He worked at Fort Wingate in disposing of old ammunition, and then as a mechanic at Fort Wingate Trading Post. Eventually, he went to Fort Defiance, where he served as a shop foreman. He later worked as a heavy equipment mechanic in Shiprock.

Code Talker George Smith was blessed with a long life. When he passed away last month, he was 90 years old. He will be missed by his family, his friends, and his community, and he will always be remembered by a grateful nation. I extend my deepest sympathies to his family. We are forever in his debt. I hope that those who mourn him now will find comfort in all that he accomplished. His life made a difference. His invaluable service during World War II saved lives. Our Nation is free because of heroes like Code Talker George Smith.●

HONORING VIRGIL WALLACE

● Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, in the annals of our Nation's military history, the story of the defenders of Bataan will long live in our collective memory. One of those great defenders, Mr. Virgil Wallace, recently passed away at the age of 99. Mr. Wallace survived the 4 month battle, the infamous Bataan Death March, and 3 years of horrendous captivity. He was the State of New Mexico's oldest Bataan veteran.

Our Nation is forever in debt to the extraordinary courage and sacrifice that Mr. Wallace and the ''Battling Bastards of Bataan'' demonstrated in the early days of World War II. Their heroic resistance helped slow the Japanese advance, allowing crucial time for the Allied forces to reorganize and eventually reverse Japan's progress. They played a crucial role in our Nation's history. I am proud to have sponsored legislation to award these valiant soldiers the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Japanese attack on the Philippines in December, 1941, just hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, led to 4 months of intense combat. Outnumbered, outgunned, Mr. Wallace and his fellow soldiers put up a desperate fight. For 4 months, they struggled, they valiantly fought, against impossible odds, and without hope of resupply, until they finally surrendered.

Their suffering was only just beginning. The brutal Bataan Death March was followed by terrible conditions in Japanese prisons and work camps. Starvation. Torture. Forced work. And, for so many of these brave men, death. By the time they were rescued, toward the end of the war, half of New Mexico's 1,800 soldiers serving in Bataan had died. Another 300 would die from complications related to their captivity within a year of returning to the U.S. Mr. Wallace was held captive for more than 3 horrific years.

Virgil Wallace was awarded the Bronze Star and numerous other commendations for his heroic service. After the war, he returned to New Mexico, where he worked for the Department of Transportation and later Carrie Tingley Hospital in Truth or Consequences.

Our Nation will long remember this courageous soldier, a man who gave so much in service to his country. Mr. Wallace is one of the last of a legendary band of brothers, who represented the very best of who we are. In the dark days of the beginning of World War II, they showed America's fighting spirit and inspired a nation.

I extend my deepest sympathies to Mr. Wallace's family and friends. I hope that you will find comfort in your memories of his long, and distinguished, life. We honor his valor and his example, and we mourn your loss.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:32 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 41. An act to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 1. Concurrent resolution to provide for the counting on January 4, 2013, of the electoral votes for President and Vice President of the United States.

S. Con. Res. 2. Concurrent resolution extending the life of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies.

S. Con. Res. 3. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 1. Concurrent resolution regarding consent to assemble outside the seat of government.

The message further announced that pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Joint Economic Committee: Mr. BRADY of Texas and Mrs. MALONEY of New York.

TO TEMPORARILY INCREASE FEMA BORROWING AUTHORITY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed

to the consideration H.R. 41, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 41) to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this is a small part of what we have needed to do for the people of New York and New Jersey.

I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and the Senate proceed to a vote on passage of this legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 41) was passed.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that from Friday, January 4, through Monday, January 21, the majority leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2013

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess under the provisions of S. Con. Res. 3 until 11:30 a.m. on Monday, January 21, 2013, for the Joint Session of the Inaugural Ceremonies, and that upon conclusion of the joint session, the Senate recess until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 22, 2013; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business for debate only until 12:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; and that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2013, AT 11:30 A.M.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:11 p.m., adjourned until Monday, January 21, 2013, at 11:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

THE JUDICIARY

ROBERT E. BACHARACH, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE TENTH CIRCUIT, VICE ROBERT HARLAN HENRY, RESIGNED.

CAITLIN JOAN HALLIGAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT, VICE JOHN G. ROBERTS, JR., ELEVATED.

WILLIAM J. KAYATTA, JR., OF MAINE, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FIRST CIRCUIT, VICE KERMIT LIPEZ, RETIRED.

JILL A. PRYOR, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT, VICE STANLEY F. BIRCH, JR., RETIRED.

PATTY SHWARTZ, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT, VICE MARYANNE TRUMP BARRY, RETIRED.

SRIKANTH SRINIVASAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT, VICE A. RAYMOND RANDOLPH, RETIRED.

RICHARD GARY TARANTO, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT, VICE PAUL R. MICHEL, RETIRED.

ELISSA F. CADISH, OF NEVADA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA, VICE PHILIP M. PRO, RETIRED.

VALERIE E. CAPRONI, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, VICE RICHARD J. HOLWELL, RESIGNED.

SHERI POLSTER CHAPPELL, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, VICE GREGORY A. PRESNELL, RETIRED.

PAMELA KI MAI CHEN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, VICE RAYMOND J. DEARIE, RETIRED.

BRIAN J. DAVIS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, VICE RICHARD A. LAZZARA, RETIRED.

SHELLY DECKERT DICK, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA, VICE RALPH E. TYSON, DECEASED.

JENNIFER A. DORSEY, OF NEVADA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA, VICE LARRY R. HICKS, RETIRED.

KATHERINE POLK FAILLA, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, VICE DENISE COTE, RETIRED.

KENNETH JOHN GONZALES, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO, VICE BRUCE D. BLACK, RETIRED.

ANDREW PATRICK GORDON, OF NEVADA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA, VICE KENT J. DAWSON, RETIRED.

KETANJI BROWN JACKSON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VICE HENRY HAROLD KENNEDY, RETIRED.

ROSEMARY MARQUEZ, OF ARIZONA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA, VICE FRANK R. ZAPATA, RETIRED.

MICHAEL J. MCSHANE, OF OREGON, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON, VICE MICHAEL R. HOGAN, RETIRED.

RAYMOND P. MOORE, OF COLORADO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO, VICE WILEY Y. DANIEL, RETIRING.

TROY L. NUNLEY, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, VICE GARLAND E. BURRELL, JR., RETIRED.

BEVERLY REID O'CONNELL, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, VICE VALERIE L. BAKER, RETIRED.

WILLIAM H. ORRICK, III, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, VICE CHARLES R. BREYER, RETIRED.

NITZA I. QUINONES ALEJANDRO, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, VICE RICHARD BARCLAY SURRICK, RETIRED.

LUIS FELIPE RESTREPO, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, VICE ANITA B. BRODY, RETIRED.

NELSON STEPHEN ROMAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, VICE RICHARD M. BERMAN, RETIRED.

JEFFREY L. SCHMEHL, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, VICE THOMAS M. GOLDEN, DECEASED.

WILLIAM L. THOMAS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, VICE ADALBERTO JOSE JORDAN, ELEVATED.

ANALISA TORRES, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, VICE NAOMI REICE BUCHWALD, RETIRED.

DERRICK KAHALA WATSON, OF HAWAII, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII, VICE DAVID A. EZRA, RETIRED.

MARK A. BARNETT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, VICE JUDITH M. BARZILAY, RETIRED.

CLAIRE R. KELLY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, VICE EVAN J. WALLACH, ELEVATED.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE EXEMPLARY CAREER OF SHERIFF RANDALL A. WELLINGTON

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of an exemplary public servant, Sheriff Randall A. Wellington. Sheriff Wellington will be retiring this year after serving the Ohio Mahoning County with distinction during a career that spanned seven decades.

After serving as a Sergeant in the United States Army during the Korean War, Sheriff Wellington joined the Youngstown Police Force as a cadet in 1957. He was later promoted to Sergeant in 1966, Vice Squad Chief in 1970, Lieutenant in 1972, Captain in 1973, and Police Chief in 1984. After four decades serving the people of the Mahoning County and its largest city, Youngstown, Mr. Wellington became the County Sheriff on August 28, 1999.

Sheriff Wellington, who is affectionately known as a soft-spoken, but firm leader, has many achievements to accompany his long and distinguished career. Among those achievements are the creation of the Senior-citizens Watch Program and the Day-Reporting Program. The latter program, initiated in 2006, allowed misdemeanor offenders to serve time doing community service rather than being incarcerated, which has saved the county about $1 million since enactment. Other initiatives introduced by Sheriff Wellington are the Reserve Deputy Program, Underwater Diving Team, Crisis Response Team, Hostage Negotiations Team and the Youth Explorer's Unit.

I want to extend my warmest thanks to Sheriff Wellington for his lifelong devotion to protecting and serving the people of Mahoning County. His long and illustrious career and will not be forgotten and I would like to wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement. The city of Youngstown and Mahoning County will forever be indebted to Sheriff Randall A. Wellington for his outstanding service.

IN RECOGNITION OF GUYER HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Guyer High School Wildcats of Denton, Texas upon their first state football title. Winning the Class 4A state championship takes great determination, discipline, and team work. The long hours of practice over many months helped the Wildcats win many games on the way to the state championship. I am impressed by the Wildcats' work ethic and skill, and know that they will continue to represent their high school well.

The Guyer football team has a talented and dedicated head coach, John Walsh, who to my understanding told the team the state title was theirs from the beginning. Jerrod Heard, the school's junior quarterback, seemed to believe his coach. During the state championship game, he lead the Wildcats to victory from behind with assistance from defensive end Conor Allen who forced a fumble towards the end of the game and from Ellis Jefferson with two touchdown throws, one for a 71-yard touchdown.

I am pleased to join their classmates, teachers, friends, family and the Denton community in honoring the athletic achievement of the Guyer Wildcats' football team for winning their first state championship. It is my privilege to serve you all in the U.S. House of Representatives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ELECTION OF NARENDRA MODI AS CHIEF MINISTER OF GUJARAT, INDIA

HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the election of Narendra Modi as third term Chief Minister of Gujarat, India. Running on a platform of economic prosperity for all, and having two terms of proven results behind him, Mr. Modi was elected by a diverse coalition of voters from every religion, education level, and class of society. His message cuts across dividing lines and highlights what unites, rather than what divides, those he represents.

In both the United States and India, every election is an affirmation, not just of those who the people choose to elect, but of the very foundation on which our societies are built—the idea that the power of government rests with the governed. Mr. Modi understands the great responsibility entrusted to elected officials, and he has used his position to advocate for sound economic policies that have grown the economy of Gujarat at an astonishing rate over his past two terms. Businesses flock to Gujarat, creating jobs and raising the standard of living for its citizens. The successes achieved through Mr. Modi's leadership have drawn praise from his countrymen and observers abroad, as well as from the Indian Diaspora around the world.

Indian-Americans who live and work in my district in Illinois and around the United States have contributed greatly to the culture and prosperity of our country. I join with them today in congratulating Narendra Modi on his election and extending my best wishes for his third term as Chief Minister of Gujarat.

THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORPHAN DRUG ACT

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, as we begin a new Congress with many disappointments behind us and many challenges before us, I'd like to take a moment to note legislation that has proven successful beyond all expectations—the Orphan Drug Act. And I'd also like to note the recent passing of one that bill's first champions—Jack Klugman.

Before 1983, people suffering from a rare disease had little or no hope that a treatment or cure would be developed, despite the fact that many potential treatments for those diseases existed. By definition, the market for a drug for rare disease was too small to attract drug companies to do the research and go through the approval process. It was a classic case of market failure. And, for better or for worse, pharmaceutical research usually depends on the market.

So we had to invent an incentive for the pharmaceutical industry to do something that was squarely in the public interest. We had to make the development of orphan treatments something companies themselves wanted to do.

To do so, we created incentives: intellectual-property protections, tax benefits, and regulatory advantages. But, like many good bills on complicated issues, the Orphan Drug Act got bogged down.

And that's when the unexpected champion emerged—the Hollywood actor Jack Klugman. He was a big star and he had read about the problems of people with rare diseases. He used his television show, Quincy, to highlight the issue. (The show even hired people with rare diseases to serve as extras in a fictional demonstration outside the Capitol.) He was a witness before the Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, which I chaired. He went on to bring national attention to this problem that affected many, many people—but people in groups so small that they could never on their own get the help they needed.

The bill passed the House. Ultimately, with the help of my friend and colleague, Senator Orrin Hatch, it also passed the Senate. President Reagan signed it into law on January 4, 1983.

And the rest, as they say, is history—good history. The Act has been very successful. Over the thirty years between then and now, hundreds of orphan drugs have been approved and millions of Americans with rare diseases have been helped.

There is still a lot to be done. There are thousands of rare diseases without treatments. The cost of many orphan drugs and many other drugs is still far too high. But this Act and the amendments made to it since then have made great progress.

I'm sad to say that Jack Klugman died last week. He'd had a great career in entertainment and he will be remembered for that. But

we can also all be grateful to him for his starring role in bringing this bill to the public and helping it become law. And we in the Congress can be proud of what the Orphan Drug Act has done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICK MULVANEY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 4 I missed rollcall No. 4 on January 3, 2013. I was with my family and unable to make it to the floor.

Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye''.

IN MEMORY OF MURRAY GALINSON

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great sorrow to mourn the passing of one of San Diego's greatest leaders and humanitarians, Murray Galinson.

Every city should have a Murray Galinson. On paper, Murray's impressive biography tells of a bank CEO and President, the head of a local synagogue, a former assistant U.S. attorney, a member of the board of trustees for California State University and a philanthropist playing a pivotal role in developing so many local charities.

But in life, Murray was so much more than that. Murray was San Diego's go to person. When you wanted to know anything you went to Murray. When you wanted to vent frustration, you went to Murray. When you wanted someone to talk to, you went to Murray.

He was a very, very special person at the center of everything. For someone so prominent Murray was not intimidating. He was open to me almost 40 years ago at the beginning of my career as he has been to so many other people starting careers in public service. He has mentored countless people who have gone to be great successes in the San Diego community.

Perhaps most striking was Murray's deep care for the city of San Diego and how translated that into political and charitable action. Murray was not involved in politics to be a power broker or to push an ambitious partisan agenda. Murray wanted to support whoever he thought would make the city stronger for the long haul. He really cared who was in office and supported people from the very beginning. He was a leading Democrat but he crossed the aisle and supported Republicans when he thought that was the right thing to do.

Murray was such a great listener. And he was supportive and insightful. And he was funny. He was warm and witty and never shy about telling it like it is. I never had a conversation with Murray that I didn't walk away from feeling generally better.

Originally from Minnesota, Murray never lost his Midwestern sensibility. We're so fortunate in San Diego that Murray left the Minnesota snow behind him and brightened the lives of so many people in our city.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, due to a medical emergency, I was unable to be present for three votes on January 3, 2013. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no'' on rollcall Vote 4, ''aye'' on rollcall Vote 5, and ''no'' on rollcall Vote 6.

113TH CONGRESS OPENING DAY STATEMENT

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, as we start the 113th Congress, I am honored to once again join my colleagues in serving the American people—especially my constituents in the Ninth District of New York. We have an opportunity to look forward, to end the partisanship that has undermined efforts to secure our future as a nation.

I am disappointed to say that I can hardly imagine a worse end to a session of Congress than the one we have just witnessed. In our labored efforts to avoid a disastrous tumble over the ''fiscal cliff,'' we lost sight of a far less figurative disaster.

The families harmed by Hurricane Sandy—those people whose homes and businesses were threatened by the storm—have the right to demand action from this Congress. Yet, this Congress was unable to enact a proposal for relief, to provide the assistance people need to start the recovery. I call on my colleagues to support emergency supplemental appropriations for areas affected by Hurricane Sandy.

Fixing the mistakes of yesterday, however, will be only part of the solution. We have a more important responsibility in this 113th Congress—to demonstrate to the American people that these failures were not examples of a serious problem within the Congress itself that prevents us from working with each other to fulfill our responsibilities.

We have opportunities in this session of Congress to work together, as Democrats and Republicans, but more importantly, as Americans, to resolve the issues that are important to people in every community in this nation. As the tragedy in Newtown demonstrated, we must enact gun control laws that prevent mass murder and re-institute the ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. We must end gun trafficking.

It is my hope that we address immigration reform, specifically the enactment of the DREAM Act. This act, which provides legal status and a path to citizenship to undocumented immigrants who arrived in the United States as minors, will benefit every person in our society. This act will allow millions of young Americans to participate in our economy, our system of higher education, and the society more generally.

Other legislation of importance that must be addressed immediately is the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, the Farm Bill, postal reform, cybersecurity, and sequestration legislation.

Let us come together, in this 113th Congress, to fulfill our duties as representatives of the people of the United States. Let us establish the foundations of a prosperity shared by every family in this nation, security from the threat of natural disasters and acts of terrorism, and a political process of which the American people are proud.

IN HONOR OF RITA LEVI-MONTALCINI

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory and the heroic example of Rita Levi-Montalcini, Nobel Laureate in Medicine and Senator-for-Life of the Republic of Italy. My constituents in our district's universities, research institutes and teaching hospitals join me in this homage. Dr. Allen Mitchell, Professor of Epidemiology and Pediatrics at Boston University, studied with her and with her mentor, Victor Hamburger. Everyone, he remembered, recognized the ''enormity of her contributions.'' ''But,'' he continued, ''those of us privileged to interact directly with her saw Dr. Rita Levi-Montalcini as a role model who combined scientific passion and rigor with a great sense of humanity.''

Edward A. Kravitz, George Packer Berry Professor of Neurobiology at the Harvard Medical School recalled that Dr. Levi-Montalcini was unfailingly kind and gracious to young researchers, welcoming them to her lab and her circle of distinguished colleagues. He was touched by her warmth and inspired by her eagerness always to know more.

Rita Levi-Montalcini was born in Turin in 1909, one of four children of an educated family, her father an engineer and mathematician, her mother, like her twin sister Paola, a gifted painter. The arts were thought appropriate pastimes for young ladies, but science was not, and her first struggle was convincing her father to let her study medicine. She graduated, summa cum laude, in Medicine and Surgery in 1936 and began a specialization in neurology and psychiatry. Two years later, Mussolini promulgated racial laws based on those already in effect in Nazi Germany, barring Jews from universities. Rita Levi-Montalcini's second and most remarkable struggle was to continue her research alone and in secret. She cultivated chick embryos in her bedroom and studied them closely. Her inspiration, she always acknowledged, came from a paper by Victor Hamburger, pioneer of experimental embryology. Hamburger, like many of the most prominent German and Italian scientists, was at that time already in the United States. She chose to remain in Italy, confident that her country would return to its democratic principles. She was associated with the struggle for Liberation and, in the time of greatest danger, moved her laboratory into the countryside where she and her family found refuge. When Florence was freed, she practiced medicine, for the only time in her

life, among refugees fleeing the fighting that still raged in northern Italy.

After the war, Dr. Levi-Montalcini joined Hamburger at Washington University in St. Louis. There began her collaboration with Dr. Stanley Cohen with whom she shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1986. Together they studied the biochemistry of nerve growth and revolutionized the study of cell growth and development. She flourished at Washington University but always maintained close ties to Italy and to a new generation of Italian scientists. She helped found the Institute of Cell Biology in Rome and became its first director. She died in Rome on December 30 at the age of 103. She continues to inspire us, and we do well to remember her brave advice, ''Above all, do not fear difficult moments. The best comes from them.''

IN HONOR OF CAROL WALTER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Carol Walter of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH). A tireless advocate for our State's most vulnerable citizens, Carol passed away on Thursday, December 27th.

Carol's dedication to people and service was apparent in her extensive achievements and contributions to our State. She began her career working in shelters in many of the largest communities across the State. Displaying a knack for leadership and an entrepreneurial spirit, Carol moved on to the Connecticut Aids Resource Coalition where she founded the National Working Positive Coalition. She became director of CCEH in 2006.

While heading the Coalition, she helped institute greater coordination of services among nonprofits, managed the annual Point-In-Time homeless census, and led the State in rapid re-housing and shelter diversion strategies. Carol's years of dedication and tireless hard work impacted countless lives across our State. Due in large degree to Carol's leadership statewide, there has been historic progress made in the effort to combat homelessness in Connecticut's Second Congressional District.

Carol's passing marks an irreplaceable loss for our community, for the fight against homelessness, and the battle to provide justice for underserved communities. Carol leaves behind a lasting legacy of passionate service to those in need. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Carol's life and accomplishments.

HONORING COLONEL SAMI D. SAID

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Sami D. Said for his many years of dedication and service to the United States. After almost two years of serving as Commander for the 144th Fighter Wing, California Air National Guard, Colonel Said will be promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and will serve a tour in Afghanistan.

Colonel Said has devoted his life to serving the United States. He began his career in 1991 at the 159th Fighter Squadron in Jacksonville, Florida where he was a Pilot Trainee and then an F–16 Fighter Pilot. Colonel Said held other duties at the 159th Fighter Squadron, including Chief of Standardization and Evaluation, Instructor Pilot, Weapons Officer, and Squadron Operations Officer.

In June 2003, Colonel Said completed his time with the 159th Fighter Squadron and went on to become the Commander of the 125th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. He was also the Wing Special Projects Officer (ORI) and the Chief of Wing Operations for the 125th Fighter Wing. After spending two years with the 125th Fighter Wing, Colonel Said served as a National Security Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Colonel Said worked in Washington, DC, for three years serving at the Pentagon from 2008 to 2011. He worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense as a Military Assistant to the Department of Defense Transition Team and Chief of Staff/Senior Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics.

Along with his vast experience and knowledge, Colonel Said has received numerous awards and decorations. These include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Combat Readiness Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

In April 2011, Colonel Said became the Commander for the 144th Fighter Wing in Fresno, California. While he was in Fresno for a short period of time, our community benefited from his time here. We will be sad to see him go. As he moves on to proudly serve our country overseas in Afghanistan, Colonel Said's expertise and many years of experience will be greatly missed at the 144th Fighter Wing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Colonel Sami Said on his upcoming promotion to the rank of Brigadier General and wish him well in his next tour of service. Our country will always be gracious for his hard work and unwavering service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICK MULVANEY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 5, I missed rollcall No. 5 on January 3, 2013. I was with my family and unable to make it to the floor. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no.''

TRIBUTE TO DR. SHELDON KAPEN

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the memory of a great citizen of the State of Michigan, the late Dr. Sheldon Kapen. Sadly, Dr. Kapen passed away on Thanksgiving Day at the age of 77.

He was the longtime Chairman of the Department of Neurology at the John V. Dingell Veterans Administration Hospital in Detroit and a leading figure in the field of sleep disorders research who made many outstanding discoveries and contributions. The plaque which honors him at the VA hospital calls Dr. Kapen ''A Physician, a teacher, a scientist, a leader, and a friend''.

My sincerest condolences go out to his family. I would like to place into the RECORD an article from the VA Hospital bulletin on the occasion of the naming of the Sheldon Kapen Sleep Laboratory last year as well as an obituary that appeared in the Wayne State University newspaper.

DETROIT VAMC SLEEP CLINIC HONORS DR. KAPEN

(By Alysse Mengason)

This fall, the Detroit VAMC staff and patients paid tribute to one of its long-time physicians, hanging a plaque in his honor in the sleep clinic.

Dr. Sheldon Kapen's legacy is represented in the sleep lab, which he founded in 1985, when he took over a new 2 bed unit in the old Detroit VAMC in Allen Park. Dr. Kapen started the first sleep lab in any VA facility. Dr. Kapen achieved many successes over the years. Among the grants he won, Dr. Kapen received a VA Research Grant to study stroke and sleep.

When the Detroit VA Medical Center moved to Detroit and became the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center, Dr. Kapen was able to expand the clinic into a new 8 bed facility with state of the art equipment and more staff.

Dr. Kapen's sleep medicine and laboratory was the first VA sleep lab to be accredited, and approximately the 20th in the nation (there are now about 1,000 accredited sleep labs in the U.S.). He also had the first VA-based accredited fellowship program in 1989 (the 4th overall in the country) and it has also been reaccredited multiple times.

In his more than 30 years with the VA, Dr. Kapen has trained dozens of physicians, and continues to train and supervise sleep fellows from Wayne State University.

(Nov. 26, 2012)

DR. SHELDON KAPEN, LONGTIME NEUROLOGY FACULTY MEMBER, DIES

Dr. Sheldon Kapen, M.D., 77, of West Bloomfield, Mich., died Nov. 22.

Dr. Kapen was a longtime member of the Wayne State University Department of Neurology and chief of Neurology at the John Dingell Veterans Administration Hospital for 25 years until his retirement in November 2011.

''Sheldon Kapen was an important contributor to the academic and clinical missions of the Department of Neurology and the Veterans Administration hospital for many years,'' said Robert Lisak, M.D., professor and former chair of Neurology. ''He was a pioneer in the study of and treatment of disorders of sleep. For that reason the sleep laboratory at the John Dingell VA Hospital was recently named in his honor. Shelly was a dedicated physician and a person of integrity. He will be missed.''

The funeral was held Nov. 23 at the Ira Kaufman Chapel, 18325 W. Nine Mile Road, Southfield.

The family of Dr. Kapen will gather through the evening of Nov. 26 at 4564 Fairway Ridge Court, West Bloomfield, for friends to call. The phone number is 248–626–

2907. Religious services will be held Monday evening.

Dr. Kapen is survived by his wife, Rachel; children Gilead (Karen) Kapen, Alon (Amal) Kapen, Ehud (Debra) Kapen and Avi Kapen; grandchildren Rome, Michaela, Alia, Matan, Simon, Caleb and Kayla Kapen and Leah Schloss; and sister Nessa (Alfred) Bertel.

The family suggests contributions in memory of Dr. Kapen be made to the Holocaust Memorial Center, 28123 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

STOP SINGLING OUT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the 113th Congress begins, I strongly believe that no Member of Congress should have his or her salary increased. It is critical that this nation's elected leaders lead by example in the quest to reduce our debt and put this nation on sound financial footing. Responsible, accountable leadership is required in Washington if this train of fiscal disaster is ever going to get rerouted onto a track toward prosperity and economic growth. That is why I am a cosponsor of legislation that would halt the pay increase for Members of Congress under the President's December 27, 2012 Executive Order and legislation to stop the a utomatic pay increase for members of Congress.

However, I also want to make absolutely clear my opposition to any efforts to unfairly target our civilian federal workforce for deficit reduction purposes. America's First District is full of hardworking and dedicated citizens who serve the people of this nation every day, such as on the front lines of the War on Terror or in support roles for our military. Still others provide valuable service at places like VA hospitals, cancer research laboratories, and the FBI. And yet since 2010, federal civilian employees have seen their pay frozen and their benefits reduced on multiple occasions. I voted against the initial two-year pay freeze in December of 2010, and on the first day of 2013, I voted against H.R. 6726, which would have extended this pay freeze for an additional year. I am fully ready and willing to cut my own salary, benefits, and office budget, but we must stop singling out federal employees simply because Congress fails to address the out-of-control spending.

There is no question that our nation must get its spending in order, and federal employees are certainly eager to do their part to help in this effort. Their daily contributions to their fellow citizens and to the cause of freedom are simply innumerable, and yet during the deficit reduction debate over the last few years, federal employees have been asked to contribute more than their fair share.

Our federal civilian employees live a life of selfless service, and they deserve our appreciation. I am hopeful that deficit reduction efforts going forward will focus more realistically on addressing the true drivers of our debt, rather than targeting those who are trying simply to serve their nation each and every day.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. XX, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE SENATE SHOULD RATIFY THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the sense of the House of Representatives that the Senate should ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). I am proud to be joined in this effort by my friend and colleague Congresswoman JAN SCHAKOWSKY.

This bipartisan House Resolution urges the Senate to vote to ratify CEDAW, a landmark international agreement that mandates governments to take positive steps to ensure the full development and advancement of women, and their equal enjoyment of human rights, and that they change or eradicate discriminatory laws, customs, and practices.

Despite 187 countries ratifying CEDAW, we are the only western country in the world that has not ratified the treaty, although its fundamental principles of equality and nondiscrimination are central to our constitutions. Other nations that have not ratified CEDAW include Somalia and Iran.

Most importantly, CEDAW is non-self executing, meaning that any legislation the United States might adopt to comply with the treaty would have to go through the normal congressional process.

Ratification of CEDAW would continue our nation's proud bipartisan tradition of promoting and protecting human rights. The Senate's ratification of CEDAW would strengthen our standing as a global leader for the rights of women and girls.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICK MULVANEY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 6, I missed rollcall number 6 on January 3, 2013. I was with my family and unable to make it to the floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN HONOR OF BARBARA PALMER OF APTOS, CA AS THE 2012 PRESIDENT OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, CA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the commitments and accomplishments of Barbara Palmer, 2012 President of the Santa Cruz County Association of Realtors. I have known Barbara for two decades and she is a dedicated professional with an abiding commitment to helping homeowners and making a lasting difference in her community. I am honored to call her a friend.

Barbara has served as the Federal District Coordinator for the tri-county area that includes Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito Counties, representing the California Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors. I was pleased to work with Barbara when she was the Chair of the Local Government Relations Committee of the Santa Cruz County Association of Realtors from 2005–2007. She has provided unparalleled leadership on local and federal real estate issues.

Building community is the mission of every successful Realtor and Barbara has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life in Aptos with particular attention to bringing widespread awareness to the needs of public education to her community of Aptos and beyond. In 1999, she was awarded Woman of the Millennium by the Aptos Chamber of Commerce. The Santa Cruz County Association of Realtors awarded Barbara Palmer the Realtor of the Year in 2008. Barbara has spearheaded community projects and fundraisers throughout the years that bring attention to the needs of the diverse Santa Cruz County and its coastal environment.

Barbara Palmer has been a resident of Aptos, CA since 1978, with her husband Bob and sons Grant and Brad.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House as I commend Barbara Palmer of Aptos, CA for helping countless clients on the Central Coast of California achieve the American Dream—homeownership.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAROL WALTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CONNECTICUT COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Carol Walter, a fierce advocate for the homeless in Connecticut, who passed away on December 27, 2012. Carol served as the Executive Director of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness and dedicated her life's work to fighting homelessness and its contributing causes.

Her passion, energy, and persistent focus on finding solutions helped countless individuals and families across our State. For all those who knew her, worked with her, and benefited from her good works—we are saddened by this loss and offer our deepest condolences to her family.

While many in the community will pay tribute to Carol Walter, I would like to submit the following article from The Hartford Courant that captures her dynamic spirit:

VIBRANT ADVOCATE FOR THE HOMELESS, CAROL WALTER, DIES AT 53

(By Jenna Carlesso)

[From the Hartford Courant, Dec. 28, 2012]

Carol Walter, the executive director of Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness,

was remembered by her friends Friday as a quick-witted, energetic leader and unwavering advocate for the homeless.

Walter, 53, died Thursday after a short battle with lung cancer, friends said.

When Walter became executive director in 2006, friends said, she had landed her dream job. Walter was passionate about creating long-term solutions to homelessness, including permanent housing and supportive services.

''Beyond shelters and short-gap solutions, she was very interested in finding longer-term solutions, particularly in reducing chronic homelessness,'' said Mercedes Soto, who served on CCEH's board of directors from 2009 to 2012. ''She was able to rally an entire spectrum of people to work toward these goals, and worked to get people housed as quickly as possible.

''She was a dynamo. She made a big impact on me and everyone who knew her.''

Colleagues at CCEH said Walter presided over ''a sea change'' in the organization's approach to homelessness, including greater coordination of services among other nonprofits and oversight of the coalition's statewide ''point in time'' homeless consensus. She also led efforts in rapid re-housing and shelter diversion strategies, they said.

''People often tell me how energetic I am,'' said Shawn Lang, a longtime friend of Walter. ''I tell them, 'go hang around with Carol for a while, she'll make me look like a slug.' She had great passion for her work. Her enthusiasm and her energy and smarts opened a lot of doors.''

Prior to her position at CCEH, Walter worked at homeless shelters in New Haven, Hartford and Stamford, friends said. She also worked at the Connecticut AIDS Resource Coalition as a membership services coordinator, where she helped people with AIDS find employment.

Walter was active in her work, sometimes to the point that she couldn't sit still.

''She had more energy than 10 of us,'' said Dave Martineau, vice president of CCEH's board of directors and a friend of Walter. ''She always used to say, 'I have no time. I'm trying to end homelessness.' She gave her whole life to it.''

''She was a woman who could never stand still,'' added Jose Vega, program manager for the McKinney homeless shelter in Hartford, who had worked with Walter. ''She was a fighter, and such a strong advocate for this community. She touched so many lives.''

Howard Rifkin, executive director of Partnership for Strong Communities, an organization that seeks to end homelessness and create affordable housing opportunities, recalled Walter as ''maddening and endearing at the same time.'' Rifkin collaborated with Walter on several initiatives, including a plan to end chronic homelessness and homelessness among veterans and families with children in Connecticut.

''We're both opinionated people,'' he said. ''She and I would sometimes go at it, but we would always end our meetings with a hug and a laugh.''

Rifkin said Walter had ''a sense of urgency'' about her work.

''She had a deep, deep commitment to [creating] a more equitable and socially just society, and I'm sure that her passion for this work was informed by that,'' he said.

Outside of work, Walter was an avid theater-goer, friends said. She loved the outdoors, traveling and being near the ocean.

She was also a devoted Mets fan.

''Carol would put a Yankees cap in her freezer to give the Mets good luck,'' Lang said. ''If that didn't work, we'd change the places we were sitting. There were a lot of crazy rituals around baseball games.''

Lang said Walter's friends and colleagues would miss the woman who had ''a real zest for life.''

''Connecticut is a little smaller and a little darker today,'' she said.

Walter is survived by her wife, Debra Walsh, of West Hartford.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS OPITZ

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a dear friend of mine, Thomas Opitz. Tom passed away on Saturday, December 29, 2012. A long time resident of Corona, he was a pillar of the community and he will be deeply missed.

Tom was born November 21, 1922, in La Crosse, Wisconsin, the son of Raymond J. and Susan (Singer) Opitz. He served his country honorably in World War II in the United States Army Air Corps from 1944–1946 and received several medals in recognition of his military achievements. He was a member of the Navy League, the Elks and the Confederate Air Force.

Tom worked as a self employed contractor, interior designer and artist of restaurants. Over the years, the Opitz family and the Calvert family have had a close relationship, both personal and professional, and Tom was a great partner and friend. He and his family helped our family build the Corona Bowl, the Encore, Lord Calvert's Jolly Fox and the Jolly Fox Pub & Grille. Millions of Californians have enjoyed a family dinner in restaurants designed by Tom, as he built, designed, and painted over 400.

Tom was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He is survived by his sons Craig, Thomas, Mark and daughter Christal Trusty; 11 grandchildren; and 6 great-grandchildren. On Monday, January 7, 2013, a memorial service honoring Tom's extraordinary life will be held at Thomas Miller Mortuary in Corona. He will be interred at the Riverside National Cemetery, where he will be laid to rest with his wife of 58 years, Ruth Opitz.

Tom will always be remembered for his devotion to family, caring nature and selfless giving. Tom demonstrated an incredible work ethic, generosity, contributions to the community and love of family. These achievements and qualities are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Tom's family and friends. Although Tom may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

THE JOB PROTECTION AND RECESSION PREVENTION ACT

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, it is New Years 2013. The Nation now finds itself at an urgent crossroads.

America has fallen over the fiscal cliff. Many of our fellow and most economically vulnerable Americans are now in a free fall. How far they fall and for how long will be up to Congress.

The House of Representatives should be deciding now, and by that I mean today, whether to pass the Job Protection and Recession Prevention Act of 2012, which was passed in the Senate by an overwhelming bipartisan 89–8 vote.

If the House of Representatives fumbles this opportunity, it won't matter to these Americans which political party tells them that they did or did not cut taxes, or which party held more closely to its campaign promises.

What matters to the 2 million Americans who are currently unemployed is why are their unemployment benefits being held hostage to provide tax cuts for employed and more well-off Americans?

The deal agreed to in the Senate provides a strong enough platform for our country's continued progress and economic recovery. That package will generate a good deal of the increased tax revenues that our U.S. Treasury needs to operate the government.

The Senate's package assures millions of students and unemployed and poor Americans that they will have the basics to carry out their daily lives and to advance their educational and career goals. Among other things, the Senate deal would also authorize the Farm Bill through September of this year.

Extending earned income and child care tax credits and benefits, as the Senate deal would do, may not mean much for middle class families and individuals. But guess what? Those credits and benefits are hugely important, for example, to a family of four under the poverty level, which on average makes only $21,000 per year.

The Senate's proposal, which the Majority should bring up immediately for a vote is a good compromise. It won't give Republicans everything that they want. Similarly, Democrats are not getting all of what they want in this package.

And rightly so—neither party has all the answers to the plethora of very complex fiscal problems we are facing. Compromise is the solution, just as compromise will be the solution when we come up against sequestration, the debt ceiling, and passing a continuing budget resolution.

I strongly urged you, Mr. Speaker, to call up H.R. 8, the Job Protection and Recession Prevention Act, as amended and passed by the Senate for a vote in this House. Let's stop dangling innocent and vulnerable Americans over the fiscal cliff; they've waited too long for us to act as it is.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House and Senate met in joint session to count electoral votes.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S19–S24

Measures Passed:

National Flood Insurance Program: Senate passed H.R. 41, to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program. **Pages S23–24**

Electoral Ballot Count: Senate met in Joint Session with the House of Representatives to count the electoral ballots of the several States cast in the election of the President and Vice President of the United States. **Page S19**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that from Friday, January 4, 2013, through Monday, January 21, 2013, the Majority Leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolution. **Page S24**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Robert E. Bacharach, of Oklahoma, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

Caitlin Joan Halligan, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

William J. Kayatta, Jr., of Maine, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

Jill A. Pryor, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Patty Shwartz, of New Jersey, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

Srikanth Srinivasan, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Richard Gary Taranto, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit.

Elissa F. Cadish, of Nevada, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nevada.

Valerie E. Caproni, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Sheri Polster Chappell, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

Pamela Ki Mai Chen, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Brian J. Davis, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

Shelly Deckert Dick, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Louisiana.

Jennifer A. Dorsey, of Nevada, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nevada.

Katherine Polk Failla, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Kenneth John Gonzales, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

Andrew Patrick Gordon, of Nevada, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nevada.

Ketanji Brown Jackson, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Rosemary Marquez, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona.

Michael J. McShane, of Oregon, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon.

Raymond P. Moore, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

Troy L. Nunley, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California.

Beverly Reid O'Connell, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

William H. Orrick, III, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Nitza I. Quinones Alejandro, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Luis Felipe Restrepo, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Nelson Stephen Roman, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Jeffrey L. Schmehl, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

William L. Thomas, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Analisa Torres, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Derrick Kahala Watson, of Hawaii, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii.

Mark A. Barnett, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade.

Claire R. Kelly, of New York, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade.

Page S24

Messages from the House: **Page S23**

Additional Statements: **Pages S22–23**

Recess: Senate convened at 12:30 p.m. and recessed, pursuant to the provisions of S. Con. Res. 3, at 2:11 p.m., until 11:30 a.m. on Monday, January 21, 2013. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S24.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 66 public bills, H.R. 152–217; 1 private bill, H.R. 218; and 11 resolutions, H.J. Res. 12–16; H. Con. Res. 6–7; and H. Res. 17–20, were introduced.

Pages H50–53

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H56**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Emerson to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H39**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H39, H48**

Adjournment Resolution: The House agreed to S. Con. Res. 3, providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives. **Page H39**

Suspension: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Temporarily increasing the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program: H.R. 41, to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 354 yeas to 67 nays, Roll No. 7. **Pages H39–48**

Election of Members to Certain Standing Committees: The House agreed to H. Res. 17, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Pages H48–49**

Electoral College Vote Tellers: Pursuant to S. Con. Res. 1, to provide for the counting on January 4, 2013, of the electoral votes for President and Vice President of the United States, and the order of the House of January 4, 2013, the Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representative Miller of Michigan and Representative Brady of Pennsylvania as tellers on the part of the House to count the electoral votes. **Page H49**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:29 a.m. and reconvened at 1:05 p.m. **Page H49**

Joint Session: The Joint Session was called to order at 1:07 p.m. and dissolved at 1:29 p.m. **Page H49**

Declaration of the Election of President and Vice President: Pursuant to the provisions of S. Con. Res. 1, and the requirements of the Constitution and laws relating to the election of President and Vice President of the United States, the two Houses of Congress met in Joint Session with Vice President Biden as the presiding officer to count the electoral votes. The following votes were cast for President: Barack Obama of Illinois, 332 and Mitt

Romney of Massachusetts, 206. The following votes were cast for Vice President: Joseph Biden of Delaware, 332 and Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, 206. After announcing the results of the certification process, the Vice President announced that the Joint Session was dissolved and that the results of the proceedings had during the Joint Session would be entered into the Journals of both Houses. **Pages H49–50**

Whole Number of the House: The Chair clarified that yesterday's announcement under clause 5(d) of Rule 20 should have indicated that the whole number of the House is 430. **Page H50**

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appears on page H48. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and at 1:34 p.m., pursuant to the provisions of S. Con. Res. 3, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2013.

Committee Meeting

COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held an organizational meeting for the 113th Congress. The Committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 113th Congress.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11:30 a.m., Monday, January 21

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Joint Session for the Inauguration of the President and Vice President of the United States.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Monday, January 14

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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