

Thompson (CA)	Vargas	Waters
Thompson (MS)	Veasey	Watt
Tierney	Velázquez	Waxman
Titus	Visclosky	Welch
Tonko	Wasserman	Wilson (FL)
Van Hollen	Schultz	Yarmuth

## NOT VOTING—12

Becerra	Granger	Miller, George
Campbell	Green, Gene	Rush
Cárdenas	Jones	Sires
Gosar	McCarthy (NY)	Tsongas

□ 1334

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 587—Final Passage. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 15, 2013, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall votes. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall vote 587.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained due to official business in California today and missed roll Nos. 583 through 587. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on roll No. 586. I would have voted “nay” on roll Nos. 583, 584, 585, and 587.

## 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.

## LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I yield to my friend, Mr. CANTOR, the majority leader, for the purposes of inquiring of the schedule for the week to come.

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland, the Democratic whip, for yielding.

On Monday, the House will meet at noon for morning-hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. Votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning-hour and noon for legislative business. On Thursday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business. Last votes of the week are expected no later than 3 p.m. On Friday, no votes are expected.

Madam Speaker, the House will consider a few suspensions next week, a complete list of which will be announced by close of business today.

In addition, the House will consider three bills to increase domestic energy production, create American middle

class jobs, and lower the cost of energy for our families. These bills are H.R. 2728, the Protecting States’ Rights to Promote American Energy Security Act, sponsored by Representative BILL FLORES; H.R. 1965, the Federal Lands Jobs and Energy Security Act, authored by Representative DOUG LAMBORN; and H.R. 1900, the Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act, sponsored by MIKE POMPEO.

Together, these bills represent our continuing commitment to energy independence and putting more money in the pockets of working middle class families.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information.

I think, as the majority leader knows probably as well as any of us, and maybe better than most of us, we have 4 legislative days left in November and 8 scheduled legislative days in December, assuming we do, in fact, get out on the 13th, which is the last day that we are scheduled to be in session this year.

Having said that, there are a number of pressing items to address. As the majority leader knows, the unemployment insurance protections for folks expire on December 31—actually, I think it is December 28. The SGR provisions expire on December 31. If we do not do something with respect to them, there will be a substantial decrease in the reimbursement to doctors serving Medicare patients.

I know that the majority leader has, and we have, people who are willing to work together to address these issues. Knowing that there is usually uncertainty at the end of a session, I would ask the gentleman if he can give Members a sense of scheduling for the coming month, that is December, and I yield to my friend.

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

I would say to the gentleman we certainly have three conference reports we are looking at hopefully completing with the Senate. One is the WRRDA conference report that we voted on in the House this week to go to conference. The other is the farm bill conference report, as well as the NDAA, the National Defense Authorization Act.

□ 1345

I would say to the gentleman, Madam Speaker, those are certainly the conference reports we would like to see resolved so we can have a vote in the House. The gentleman correctly points out that the sustainable growth rate program and its formula expires at the end of the year. Certainly, our committees are at work trying to see a way forward, as well as trying to seek out the proper budgetary pay-fors necessary for the plan that has been put forward by Energy and Commerce, as well as the Committee on Ways and Means. I know there have been some bicameral discussions on that as well. I am hopeful we can resolve that, but

certainly knowing full well we have to act prior to the end of the year.

I would also point out to the gentleman that there is considerable work being done on the issue of patent reform, and we hope that comes to the floor prior to the end of the year. And obviously, the larger item having to do with the Budget Committee conference, headed up by Chairman PAUL RYAN and in the other body Senator PATTY MURRAY, and we look forward to a resolution there. That is certainly the intention, Madam Speaker.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the majority leader for that information, and I am pleased that he added to the WRRDA, farm bill, NDAA, and the patent reform issues the budget conference. My view is, as the majority leader probably knows, the most important thing we can do for our economy is to get our country on a fiscally sustainable long-term path.

Can the majority leader give us some information on the status of the budget conference? Certainly, from a public perception, it appears that not much progress has been made, which is worrisome in light of the fact that the target date for the reporting on the conference is the 13th—or, should I say, the legislative directive is to report by the 13th. As Mr. RYAN has pointed out, perhaps unfortunately so, there are no consequences of that not occurring. I had urged, myself, as the majority leader may know, that they report out by Friday of next week, the 22nd of next week, or Thursday of next week, so that we could have the conference report on the week we come back in December after Thanksgiving.

Could the gentleman give us any idea where he thinks the proceedings of the conference committee on the budget stand?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman for yielding and would say the gentleman is correct. Certainly, the sooner, the better, as far as I am concerned. I am concerned as well about any resolution on the Budget Committee conference. I know the gentleman has spoken to both Chairman RYAN as well as the other body’s chairman. In speaking to Chairman RYAN, he tells me that there has been a lot of discussion, not only public discussion in meetings, but certainly his meeting with the chairman from the Senate, in trying to find a way forward.

The gentleman knows that the issue that is central to these discussions is not unlike the issue that has been under discussion for some time here, and that is how do we go about seeking reform of some of the mandatory programs and trying to reach resolution there in exchange for a commensurate relief on the across-the-board budget cuts that are currently in place.

I don’t know, Madam Speaker, whether they are going to meet the deadline next week or not that the gentleman says will be preferable. I know that our chairman is very mindful that