

the flexibility to determine what they are going to do, special ed or a title I school; it gives the school the flexibility without the strings that come from many of this administration's proposals. When people ask what conservatives are doing to help those who are hurting, to those who are behind, those who potentially can be left behind, this is yet one more example of what this Congress has done. It is a small step, but it is an important step.

My daughter is currently teaching at a title I school. It is a new job. She has found that as opposed to a suburban school she gets less money to help in the classroom. Fewer of the parents show up. It is hard even to get as many parents to participate in bringing refreshments for the kids because they do not have the income. We need to do some special steps in America to make sure that those who are college graduates even though we support alternative certification, even though we support creative ways to fill those gaps, we need creative ways like the gentleman from South Carolina's bill to encourage our young people in college today to take at least part of their career, many of whom will then fall in love with these kids who so much need their help to work in our title I and special ed programs.

I commend the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING); I commend the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) for his great work and add my enthusiastic support to this bill.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Quality Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act.

Just this week, Newsweek's cover story asks "Who will teach our kids?" Since one half of all teachers in America are slated to retire by 2010, this is a question on the minds of millions of families across this country.

In my home State of California, we are already feeling the teacher crunch where as a result of the State's class size reduction program, there are 35,000 uncertified teachers in our classrooms.

Over the past two years, the Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, Training, and Life-long Learning (which I serve as Chairman and the bill's sponsor, LINDSAY GRAHAM, serves as vice chairman) has devoted substantial time and effort toward the issue of teacher quality and recruitment.

We have held numerous hearings and have had an active hand in shaping legislative proposals aimed at getting teachers into our classrooms.

Those proposals include:

The teacher quality enhancement grants—established in the higher education amendments of 1998;

Language in H.R. 2, the "Education Options" Act to boost the qualifications of the 180,000 teachers and paraprofessionals who teach in our Nation's poorest school districts;

The Tech-for-Success Program in H.R. 4141 to help better prepare teachers in how best to use technology to improve student academic achievement;

The Bipartisan Teacher Empowerment Act to enable schools to focus on a host of initia-

tives including bonus and merit pay, tenure reform, teacher mentoring programs, and professional development; and

Increased flexibility in the "100,000 New Teachers" Program so that schools experiencing a high percentage of uncertified teachers can use funds to focus on boosting teacher training as opposed to hiring additional teachers.

H.R. 5034 builds on these significant efforts by expanding another important provision in the higher education amendments—loan forgiveness for teachers.

This legislation enhances loan forgiveness by increasing the number of those qualified for the program while retaining the current requirements so that we not only get qualified teachers into the classroom but keep them there.

The bill also addresses the need across the country for special education teachers by granting them loan forgiveness no matter where they teach.

To conclude, in order to combat the shortage of teachers, we must continue to look at innovative ways to motivate thousands to come into the teaching profession.

The new loan forgiveness provided under H.R. 5034 is one such incentive and, as such, I urge all my colleagues to support this important legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5034.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING ALL POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST MOTION TO CONCUR IN SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4365, CHILDREN'S HEALTH ACT OF 2000

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio (during consideration of H.R. 5034) from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-901) on the resolution (H. Res. 594) providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 4365) to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to children's health, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio (during consideration of H.R. 5034) from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-902) on the resolution (H. Res. 595) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

CONGRATULATING HOME EDUCATORS AND HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 578) congratulating home educators and home schooled students across the Nation for their ongoing contributions to education and for the role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for this Nation, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 578

Whereas the United States is committed to excellence in education and to strengthening the family;

Whereas parental choice and involvement are important to excellence in education;

Whereas parents have a fundamental right to direct the education and upbringing of their children;

Whereas home schooling families contribute significantly to cultural diversity, which is important to a healthy society;

Whereas home education allows families the opportunity to provide their children a sound academic education integrated with high ethical standards taught within a safe and secure environment;

Whereas home education has been a major part of American education and culture since the Nation's inception and demonstrates the American ideals of innovation, entrepreneurship, and individual responsibility;

Whereas home education was proven successful in the lives of George Washington, Patrick Henry, John Quincy Adams, John Marshall, Robert E. Lee, Booker T. Washington, Thomas Edison, Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Mark Twain, John Singleton Copley, William Carey, Phyllis Wheatley, and Andrew Carnegie, who were each home schooled;

Whereas today the United States has a significant number of parents who teach a total of approximately 1,700,000 home schooled students, thus saving several billion dollars on public education each year;

Whereas home schooled students exhibit self-confidence and good citizenship and are fully prepared academically and socially to meet the challenges of today's society;

Whereas scores of contemporary studies, including a 1999 University of Maryland analysis of the nationally recognized Iowa Test of Basic Skills, confirm that children who are educated at home perform exceptionally well on nationally normed achievement tests, and such performance is also demonstrated by the fact that home schooled students scored well above the national average on the 2000 SAT and the 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000 ACT;

Whereas studies demonstrate that home schooled students excel in college, with the grade point average of home schooled students exceeding the college average;

Whereas home schooled students continue to exhibit excellence in academic competitions, as demonstrated by home schooled students finishing first, second, and third in the 2000 Scripps-Howard National Spelling Bee and by a home schooled student finishing second in the 2000 National Geography Bee sponsored by the National Geographic Society; and

Whereas National Home Education Week, beginning on October 1, 2000, and ending on October 7, 2000, furthers the goal of honoring home educators and home schooled students for their efforts to improve the quality of education in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—