

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 397, nays 0, not voting 37, as follows:

[Roll No. 462]

YEAS—397

Abercrombie	DeFazio	Johnson (IL)
Ackerman	Delahunt	Johnson, E. B.
Aderholt	DeLauro	Johnson, Sam
Akin	DeLay	Jones (NC)
Alexander	Deutsch	Jones (OH)
Allen	Diaz-Balart, L.	Kanjorski
Andrews	Dicks	Kaptur
Baca	Dingell	Keller
Bachus	Doggett	Kelly
Baird	Doolittle	Kennedy (MN)
Baker	Doyle	Kennedy (RI)
Baldwin	Dreier	Kildee
Ballance	Duncan	Kilpatrick
Ballenger	Dunn	Kind
Barrett (SC)	Edwards	King (IA)
Bartlett (MD)	Ehlers	King (NY)
Barton (TX)	Emanuel	Kingston
Bass	Emerson	Klecza
Beauprez	Engel	Kline
Becerra	Eshoo	Knollenberg
Bell	Etheridge	Kolbe
Bereuter	Evans	Kucinich
Berkley	Everett	LaHood
Berman	Farr	Lampson
Berry	Feeney	Langevin
Biggert	Ferguson	Lantos
Bishop (GA)	Filner	Larsen (WA)
Bishop (NY)	Flake	Larson (CT)
Bishop (UT)	Fletcher	Latham
Blackburn	Foley	LaTourrette
Blumenauer	Forbes	Leach
Blunt	Ford	Lee
Boehlert	Fossella	Levin
Boehner	Frank (MA)	Lewis (CA)
Bonilla	Franks (AZ)	Lewis (GA)
Bonner	Frelinghuysen	Lewis (KY)
Bono	Frost	Linder
Boozman	Gallegly	Lipinski
Boswell	Garrett (NJ)	LoBiondo
Boucher	Gerlach	LoGren
Boyd	Gibbons	Lowe
Bradley (NH)	Gillmor	Lucas (KY)
Brady (PA)	Gingrey	Lucas (OK)
Brady (TX)	Gonzalez	Lynch
Brown (OH)	Goode	Majette
Brown (SC)	Goodlatte	Maloney
Brown, Corrine	Gordon	Manzullo
Brown-Waite,	Goss	Marshall
Ginny	Granger	Matheson
Burgess	Graves	Matsui
Burr	Green (TX)	McCarthy (MO)
Buyer	Green (WI)	McCarthy (NY)
Calvert	Greenwood	McCollum
Camp	Grijalva	McCotter
Cannon	Gutknecht	McCrery
Cantor	Hall	McDermott
Capito	Harman	McGovern
Capps	Harris	McHugh
Cardin	Hart	McIntyre
Cardoza	Hastings (FL)	McKeon
Carson (IN)	Hastings (WA)	McNulty
Carson (OK)	Hayes	Meehan
Carter	Hayworth	Meek (FL)
Case	Hefley	Meeks (NY)
Castle	Hensarling	Menendez
Chabot	Hergler	Michaud
Chocola	Hill	Millender-
Clay	Hinche	McDonald
Clyburn	Hinojosa	Miller (FL)
Coble	Hobson	Miller (MI)
Cole	Hoeffel	Miller (NC)
Collins	Hoekstra	Miller, Gary
Conyers	Holden	Miller, George
Cooper	Holt	Mollohan
Costello	Honda	Moore
Cox	Hoolley (OR)	Moran (KS)
Cramer	Hostettler	Moran (VA)
Crane	Houghton	Murphy
Crenshaw	Hoyer	Murtha
Crowley	Hunter	Musgrave
Cubin	Hyde	Nadler
Culberson	Inslee	Napolitano
Cummings	Isakson	Neal (MA)
Cunningham	Israel	Nethercutt
Davis (AL)	Issa	Neugebauer
Davis (CA)	Istook	Ney
Davis (FL)	Jackson (IL)	Northup
Davis (IL)	Jackson-Lee	Norwood
Davis (TN)	(TX)	Nunes
Davis, Jo Ann	Jefferson	Nussle
Davis, Tom	Jenkins	Oberstar
Deal (GA)	Johnson (CT)	Obey

Olver	Ryan (WI)	Tancredo
Ortiz	Ryun (KS)	Tanner
Osborne	Sabo	Tauscher
Ose	Sanchez, Linda	Tauzin
Otter	T.	Taylor (MS)
Owens	Sanchez, Loretta	Terry
Pallone	Sanders	Thomas
Pascrell	Sandlin	Thompson (CA)
Pastor	Saxton	Thompson (MS)
Paul	Schakowsky	Thornberry
Pearce	Schiff	Tiahrt
Pelosi	Schrock	Tiberi
Pence	Scott (GA)	Toomey
Peterson (MN)	Scott (VA)	Turner (OH)
Peterson (PA)	Sensenbrenner	Turner (TX)
Petri	Serrano	Udall (CO)
Pitts	Sessions	Udall (NM)
Platts	Shadegg	Upton
Pombo	Shaw	Van Hollen
Pomeroy	Shays	Velazquez
Porter	Sherman	Visclosky
Portman	Sherwood	Vitter
Price (NC)	Shimkus	Walden (OR)
Pryce (OH)	Shuster	Walsh
Quinn	Simmons	Wamp
Radanovich	Simpson	Waters
Rahall	Skelton	Watson
Ramstad	Slaughter	Watt
Regula	Smith (MI)	Weiner
Rehberg	Smith (NJ)	Weldon (FL)
Renzi	Smith (TX)	Weldon (PA)
Reyes	Snyder	Weller
Reynolds	Solis	Wexler
Rogers (AL)	Souder	Whitfield
Rogers (MI)	Spratt	Wicker
Rohrabacher	Stark	Wilson (NM)
Ros-Lehtinen	Stearns	Wilson (SC)
Rothman	Stenholm	Wolf
Royce	Strickland	Wu
Ruppersberger	Stupak	Wynn
Rush	Sullivan	Young (FL)
Ryan (OH)	Sweeney	

NOT VOTING—37

Bilirakis	Hulshof	Rodriguez
Burns	Janklow	Rogers (KY)
Burton (IN)	John	Ross
Capuano	Kirk	Roybal-Allard
DeGette	Markey	Smith (WA)
DeMint	McInnis	Taylor (NC)
Diaz-Balart, M.	Mica	Tierney
Dooley (CA)	Myrick	Towns
English	Oxley	Waxman
Fattah	Payne	Woolsey
Gephardt	Pickering	Young (AK)
Gilchrest	Putnam	
Gutierrez	Rangel	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) (during the vote). Members are reminded there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1918

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, a storm delayed my U.S. Air flight and I was unable to vote on rollcall Nos. 460, 461, and 462. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on each of these measures.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend the votes this evening for H.R. 2309 and H.R. 1533. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted "yea" for H.R. 2309. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted "yea" for H.R. 1533.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent during rollcall vote 460, 461, and 462. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on each of those rollcall votes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, due to inclement weather in the Tampa area, my flight was delayed and I missed rollcall votes 460, 461, and 462. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three votes.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1308, TAX RELIEF, SIMPLIFICATION, AND EQUITY ACT OF 2003

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, subject to rule XXII, clause 7(c), I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct on H.R. 1308, the Child Tax Credit bill. The form of the motion is as follows:

Madam Speaker, I move that the managers on the part of the House in the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 1308 be instructed as follows:

Number one, the House conferees shall be instructed to include in the conference report the provision of the Senate amendment (not included in the House amendment) that provides immediate payments to taxpayers receiving an additional credit by reason of the bill in the same manner as other taxpayers were entitled to immediate payments under the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003.

Number two, the House conferees shall be instructed to include in the conference report the provision of the Senate amendment (again not included in the House amendment) that provides families of military personnel serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other combat zones around the world, a child tax credit based on the earnings of the individuals who are serving in the combat zone.

Number three, the House conferees shall be instructed to include in the conference report all of the other provisions of the Senate amendment and shall not report back a conference report that includes additional tax benefits which are not offset by other provisions.

Number four, to the maximum extent possible within the scope of the conference, the House conferees shall be instructed to include in the conference report other tax benefits for military personnel and the families of the astronauts who died in the Columbia shuttle disaster.

Number five, and finally, the House conferees shall, as soon as practicable after the adoption of this motion, meet in open session with Senate conferees, and the House conferees shall file a conference report consistent with the preceding provisions of this instruction, not later than the second legislative day after adoption of this motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's notice will appear in the RECORD at this point.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG CONFERENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, as we return from the August recess, we face the great challenge of passing a Medicare bill that will provide a good prescription drug benefit for seniors. Republicans in the House passed a bill in July, or June, earlier this year that caters to drug companies, HMOs, and that destroys Medicare. This is obvious for many reasons evident in the detail of the bill. However, I want to highlight two ways in which Republicans are killing the Medicare program and in the process contributing to the endless suffering and hardship of seniors nationwide.

Madam Speaker, the Republican bill turns Medicare into a voucher program. This means that traditional Medicare will essentially be phased out by the year 2010. Seniors will find it difficult to stay in traditional Medicare because it will cost them more. They will only be able to afford the private insurance that is available with the voucher given to them by the Federal Government. By making Medicare a voucher program, seniors would be forced into private plans, the same companies that have said in the past that they do not want to cover seniors and have pitiful records of providing them care. Medicare HMOs have not been effective in providing health coverage to the more than 2 million seniors who have seen their coverage disappear over the past 5 years. In my State alone, in New Jersey, Medicare HMOs dropped almost 80,000 seniors from coverage after concluding that Medicare beneficiaries were not profitable.

Madam Speaker, when Republicans are pushing seniors into private insurance plans that offer no stability or security, they are at the same time taking away the seniors' rights to choose and enroll in a dependable drug plan under the Medicare program. Under the Republican bill, a prescription drug benefit is essentially available only if they join an HMO, and Democrats, to the contrary, believe that a prescription-sponsored drug plan should be available to all seniors including those enrolled in traditional Medicare.

Madam Speaker, the Medicare bill should offer a benefit to all seniors all across the country regardless of how

many private drug-only insurance plans or Medicare HMOs are available in any particular area. All seniors should pay the same premium, the same deductible, the same coinsurance, and would have the same benefit.

Democrats plan to offer a series of motions to instruct conferees that would ensure that the Medicare bill does not privatize Medicare and that it offers a guaranteed fallback prescription drug plan for all those in traditional Medicare.

Madam Speaker, there are many provisions in the Republican bill that passed the House that are highly problematic. For example, the bill does nothing to reduce the cost of prescription drugs and forbids the Secretary from negotiating reduced costs of prescription. The Republican bill provides an inadequate benefit that should be called "pay more, get less." And, lastly, the Republican bill encourages erosion of employer-sponsored coverage.

Overwhelmingly, Madam Speaker, America's seniors want and deserve a guaranteed comprehensive and affordable prescription drug benefit that is part of basic Medicare. A meaningful Medicare drug benefit must be voluntary. It must be guaranteed for all. It must be funded adequately to attract widespread participation, and it must contain an effective mechanism to lower the costs of drugs. It must hold together the bargaining power of 40 million seniors, and it must contain a framework that could be expanded in future years. The House Republican plan does nothing to meet these tests, and it is now more important than ever to encourage our conferees of the House and the Senate to include measures that guarantee a Medicare fallback and that guarantee that Medicare will not be privatized.

CONGRATULATIONS TO IRA CLARK

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARTER). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to Ira Clark, the former president and chief executive officer of the Public Health Trust of Dade County. And why? Because he is retiring from this prestigious post.

The Public Health Trust of Dade County, Florida is the governing body of Jackson Memorial Hospital, one of the largest and busiest hospitals in the United States. Jackson Memorial Hospital has a major teaching affiliation with the University of Miami School of Medicine. In addition, it has a long history as the major Medicaid provider in the State of Florida.

Under Ira's leadership, Jackson Memorial has maintained its stature as one of the top hospitals in the country. As president and CEO of the hospital, Ira Clark has been concerned with the

County, with the State and Federal programs, as well as funding for the hospital and its satellite facilities. Ira's stewardship of Jackson Memorial Hospital is testament to his understanding of our community and its health care needs. Through internal and external collaboration, he has brought about operational improvements that have strengthened the hospital and has initiated multiple expansion projects to help the hospital better serve the people of our South Florida community.

Ira has dedicated many years to assuring that quality health care is available for every South Florida resident through primary care networks. Because the mission of the Public Health Trust is so extensive, Ira determined that it should evolve as a system rather than as a single-locator health provider. So Jackson Health System now includes a hospital which was renamed Jackson South Community Hospital, a network of primary care centers located in medically underserved neighborhoods, school-based clinics, and long-term facilities, providing residents that appropriate care in their very own neighborhoods. Jackson has a tremendous team of health care professionals, nurses such as Debra Diaz O'Reilly, who is the Chair of the Committee on Political Education and is up here in Washington, D.C. this very week lobbying on behalf of the Service Employees International Union of the AFL-CIO, which services the residents and the patients of Jackson Hospital. And upon arriving at Jackson in 1987, Ira delineated several central goals to strengthen the hospital's position as all things to all people.

□ 1930

His first goal was to find a predictable source of recurring financing that would maintain Jackson's quality and mission. He was able to secure the necessary funds from a half penny sales tax. In addition, the Public Health Trust sold more than \$150 million in revenue bonds in the spring of 1994, which brought in much-needed capital to expand and remodel Jackson and its satellite facilities.

The money from the half penny tax gave the institution stability and allowed for Ira to realize his second goal of decompression. Decompression has been realized through the establishment of the Jackson North Maternity Center; the Taylor Breast Health Center, which provides complete care for cancer detection and positive management of all breast-related problems; the Diagnostic Treatment Center, which provides residents with access to diagnostic procedures such as outpatient surgery, mammography, ultrasound diagnostics and endoscopic and fluoroscopic tests in a setting closer to home, as well as the Ryder Treatment Center.

The Ryder Treatment Center is the largest, most comprehensive trauma