

the right to tamper with official congressional documents for their own political purposes?

How unbelievably arrogant is the leadership of this Congress . . . that they would force their own politicized interpretation of another member's work upon this body and upon the American people, in an official committee report?

The Majority's actions are not only an affront to all members of this house, but they are also an affront to the American people.

There is no question that we can debate and disagree over the impact a bill will have.

We can argue over how well it has been written or what language it should include to be more effective. But regardless of how that debate turns out, the caption on the top of that bill or amendment serves to instruct the American people as to what original intent of that legislation was.

It serves as an unbiased reading on what that amendment aims to accomplish.

To falsify and rewrite that description as a political attack, is not only unprecedented, it is fundamentally dishonest and it is an abuse of the power given to the Majority by the American people.

And I have no doubts Mr. Speaker, no doubts, that unless the Congressional Record is amended to reflect the true captions of these amendments, then we will surely see these erroneous captions again in the form of campaign attack mail pieces.

In fact, when we pressed last night in the Rules Committee to have the record amended to reflect the honest and accurate captions that belong on those amendments, we were defeated on a party line vote.

So now, these honorable and hardworking Members of Congress will be forever branded in the official record as having offered amendments which were designed to protect

sexual predators, when nothing, nothing could be further from the truth.

Mr. Speaker, I have often heard the Chairman of the Rules Committee as well as other Republicans talk about the loss of civility in this chamber.

But perhaps they will be the last to realize, that in order to regain some of that lost civility, they need look no further than their own abusive, unethical and arrogant administration of this House of Representatives.'

The following amendments were offered and voted down by recorded votes in the Judiciary Committee markup of H.R. 748—The Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act (CIANA):

The Judiciary Committee Republicans blatantly mischaracterized these amendments in their official committee report on the bill. This is in a public document containing the legislative history of this bill.

Description of amendment	Amendment description in House Report 109-51
(1) a Nadler amendment allows an adult who could be prosecuted under the bill to go to a Federal district court and seek a waiver to the state's parental notice laws if this remedy is not available in the state court (no 11-16).	Rollcall No. 1. Mr. Nadler offered an amendment that would have created an additional layer of Federal court review that could be used by sexual predators to escape conviction under the bill. By a rollcall vote of 11 yeas to 16 nays, the amendment was defeated.
(2) a Nadler amendment to exempt a grandparent or adult sibling from the criminal and civil provisions in the bill (no 12-19).	Rollcall No. 2. Mr. Nadler offered an amendment that would have exempted sexual predators from prosecution under the bill if they were grandparents or adult siblings of a minor. By a rollcall vote of 12 yeas to 19 nays, the amendment was defeated.
(3) a Scott amendment to exempt cab drivers, bus drivers and others in the business transportation profession from the criminal provisions in the bill (no 13-17).	Rollcall No. 3. Mr. Scott offered an amendment that would have exempted sexual predators from prosecution if they are taxicab drivers, bus drivers, or others in the business of professional transport. By a rollcall vote of 13 yeas to 17 nays, the amendment was defeated.
(4) a Scott amendment that would have limited criminal liability to the person committing the offense in the first degree (no 12-18).	Rollcall No. 4. Mr. Scott offered an amendment that would have exempted from prosecution under the bill those who aid and abet criminals who could be prosecuted under the bill. By a rollcall vote of 12 yeas to 18 nays, the amendment was defeated.
(5) a Jackson-Lee amendment to exempt clergy, godparents, aunts, uncles or first cousins from the penalties in the bill (no 13-20).	Rollcall No. 5. Ms. Jackson-Lee offered an amendment that would have exempted sexual predators from prosecution under the bill if they were clergy, godparents, aunts, uncles, or first cousins of a minor, and would require a study by the Government Accountability Office. By a rollcall vote of 13 yeas to 20 nays, the amendment was defeated.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, for her courage in bringing this personal privilege before the House.

The very fact that this Member has been mistreated should cause all of us deep concern. It is wrong and unacceptable.

The fact that a report is being supplemented by the Chairman with significant and startling changes attests to the fact that the Majority knew that the original report was wrongly and inappropriately filed. But that does not resolve the matter—an apology is owed to Ms. JACKSON-LEE by the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

I know that the distinguished Chairman, for whom I have great respect, would like to call it a drafting dispute or return to a discussion on the merits of the bill.

In fact, I would think that the Chairman of the Judiciary would be sensitive to the treatment of committee reports and would share my view that committee reports should not be misused to hurt a Member, given that the distinguished Chairman was the cosponsor of a resolution in 1983 regarding the alteration of committee reports, a matter of seriousness that was ultimately investigated by the Ethics Committee.

This issue is about fundamental respect for our democracy, for the dignity of the House, and for the integrity of the proceedings of this body. It is about how we treat each other, and it is about trust and the betrayal of that trust.

The bounds of trust that we need to function in this Body are weakened even further by this sorry and disgusting chapter. What the leadership of the Committee on the Judiciary did is just another extension of the abuse of power of the Republican majority in both Chambers of the Congress of the United States.

What they are doing with the filibuster in the other body is to try to silence the Minority and

break the rules. They are using any means to justify their partisan agenda to the far right, even if it violates the rules, the Constitution, and fundamental decency and trust.

Here in the House, there is an attempt to disregard the rules that protect us all, corrupt the integrity of our proceedings, and demean not only the dignity of this House, but going so far as to demean individual Members.

There is an attempt to limit the voice of the Minority, reducing the opportunity for Members to speak on the floor, and offer substitutes and amendments.

Comity and trust between the Majority and the Minority are essential and must be encouraged. That is why the Republican Leadership has an obligation to come here right now on the floor and disavow this disgraceful behavior.

There is no need for this kind of misbehavior and abuse by the Majority. We should follow the rules of this House and treat each other with the proper respect.

To preserve the trust that the American people place in us, the Republican leadership in this House must pledge that this travesty will never happen again.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my question of personal privilege today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

- H. Res. 193, by the yeas and nays;
- H. Res. 142, by the yeas and nays.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF THE HISTORIC MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY TO PROMOTE THE CIVIL SOCIETY IN CUBA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 193.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 193, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 392, nays 22, answered “present” 1, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 162]
YEAS—392

Abercrombie	Bachus	Bass
Ackerman	Baird	Bean
Aderholt	Baker	Beauprez
Akin	Baldwin	Becerra
Alexander	Barrett (SC)	Berman
Allen	Barrow	Berry
Andrews	Bartlett (MD)	Biggert
Baca	Barton (TX)	Blirakis