

outcomes, in war as well as in peace. The courage to question a powerful but imperfect government is much more the essence of patriotism than a coerced silence.

The administration's prosecution of the war effort has suffered from deficient planning that took the maxim of preparing for the worst and hoping for the best and turned it on its head. It failed to consider how the Sunni minority would react to being stripped of its privileged status, even as they underestimated the consequences of decades of totalitarian rule and the atomization of Iraqi society under Saddam Hussein.

Many of my colleagues and I have repeatedly called upon the President to do what should have been done a long time ago by laying out a strategy and vision for success in Iraq that will not condemn the Iraqi people to anarchy or turn Iraq into a haven for jihadis. We have called for proper oversight of the war effort by Congress to make certain that our troops in Iraq are properly equipped and that we are doing everything in our power to ensure their safety and success.

This House, this Congress and this Nation stand for the proposition that reasoned debate can produce wise policies that will best "provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." Mr. Speaker, this resolution should be withdrawn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 572, the resolution is considered read and the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 3, noes 403, answered "present" 6, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 608]		
AYES—3		
McKinney	Serrano	Wexler
NOES—403		
Abercrombie	Bonilla	Chabot
Ackerman	Bonner	Chandler
Aderholt	Bono	Chocola
Akin	Boozman	Cleaver
Alexander	Boren	Clyburn
Allen	Boucher	Coble
Andrews	Boustany	Cole (OK)
Baca	Bradley (NH)	Conaway
Bachus	Brady (PA)	Conyers
Baird	Brady (TX)	Cooper
Baker	Brown (OH)	Costa
Baldwin	Brown (SC)	Costello
Barrett (SC)	Brown, Corrine	Cramer
Barrow	Brown-Waite,	Crenshaw
Bartlett (MD)	Ginny	Crowley
Barton (TX)	Burgess	Cubin
Bass	Burton (IN)	Cuellar
Bean	Butterfield	Culberson
Becerra	Buyer	Cummings
Berkley	Calvert	Davis (CA)
Berry	Cannon	Davis (FL)
Biggert	Cantor	Davis (IL)
Bilirakis	Capito	Davis (KY)
Bishop (GA)	Capps	Davis (TN)
Bishop (NY)	Cardin	Davis, Jo Ann
Bishop (UT)	Cardoza	Davis, Tom
Blackburn	Carmahan	Deal (GA)
Blumenauer	Carson	DeFazio
Blunt	Carter	DeGette
Boehlert	Case	DeLaunt
Boehner	Castle	DeLauro

DeLay	Kelly	Pickering
Dent	Kennedy (MN)	Pitts
Diaz-Balart, L.	Kennedy (RI)	Platts
Diaz-Balart, M.	Kildee	Poe
Dicks	Kilpatrick (MI)	Pombo
Dingell	King (IA)	Pomeroy
Doggett	King (NY)	Porter
Doolittle	Kingston	Price (GA)
Doyle	Kirk	Price (NC)
Drake	Kline	Pryce (OH)
Dreier	Knollenberg	Putnam
Duncan	Kolbe	Radanovich
Edwards	Kucinich	Rahall
Ehlers	Kuhl (NY)	Ramstad
Emanuel	Langevin	Rangel
Emerson	Lantos	Regula
Engel	Larsen (WA)	Rehberg
English (PA)	Larson (CT)	Reichert
Eshoo	Latham	Renzi
Etheridge	LaTourrette	Reyes
Evans	Leach	Reynolds
Everett	Lee	Rogers (AL)
Farr	Levin	Rogers (KY)
Fattah	Lewis (CA)	Rogers (MI)
Feeney	Lewis (GA)	Rohrabacher
Ferguson	Lewis (KY)	Ros-Lehtinen
Filner	Linder	Ross
Fitzpatrick (PA)	Lipinski	Rothman
Foley	LoBiondo	Roybal-Allard
Forbes	Lofgren, Zoe	Royce
Ford	Lowey	Ruppersberger
Fortenberry	Lucas	Rush
Fox	Lungren, Daniel	Ryan (OH)
Frank (MA)	E.	Ryan (WI)
Franks (AZ)	Lynch	Ryun (KS)
Frelinghuysen	Mack	Sabo
Gerlach	Garrett (NJ)	Salazar
Gibbons	Manzullo	Sánchez, Linda
Gilchrest	Marchant	T.
Gillmor	Markey	Sanchez, Loretta
Gingrey	Marshall	Sanders
Gohmert	Matheson	Saxton
Gonzalez	Matsui	Schakowsky
Goode	McCarthy	Schiff
Goodlatte	McCaul (TX)	Schmidt
Gordon	McCollum (MN)	Schwartz (PA)
Granger	McCotter	Schwarz (MI)
Graves	McCrery	Scott (GA)
Green (WI)	McGovern	Scott (VA)
Green, Al	McHenry	Sensenbrenner
Green, Gene	McHugh	Sessions
Grijalva	McIntyre	Shaw
Gutierrez	McKeon	Shays
Gutknecht	McMorris	Sherman
Harman	McNulty	Sherwood
Harris	Meehan	Shimkus
Hart	Meek (FL)	Shuster
Hastert	Meeke (NY)	Simmons
Hastings (FL)	Melancon	Simpson
Hastings (WA)	Menendez	Skelton
Hayes	Mica	Slaughter
Hayworth	Michaud	Smith (NJ)
Hefley	Millender-	Smith (TX)
Hensarling	McDonald	Smith (WA)
Herger	Miller (FL)	Snyder
Herseth	Miller (MI)	Sodrel
Higgins	Miller (NC)	Solis
Hinojosa	Miller, George	Souder
Hobson	Mollohan	Spratt
Hoekstra	Moore (KS)	Stark
Holden	Moore (WI)	Stearns
Holt	Moran (VA)	Strickland
Honda	Murphy	Stupak
Hooley	Murtha	Sullivan
Hostettler	Musgrave	Sweeney
Hoyer	Myrick	Tancredo
Hulshof	Napolitano	Tanner
Hunter	Neal (MA)	Tauscher
Hyde	Neugebauer	Ney
Inglis (SC)	Ney	Norwood
Inslee	Nunes	Nussle
Israel	Nussle	Oberstar
Issa	Oberstar	Obey
Istook	Obey	Olver
Jackson (IL)	Olver	Ortiz
Jackson-Lee	Ortiz	Osborne
(TX)	Osborne	Otter
Jefferson	Oxley	Pallone
Jenkins	Pallone	Pascrell
Johnson (CT)	Johnson (IL)	Pastor
Johnson (IL)	Johnson, E. B.	Payne
Johnson, Sam	Jones (NC)	Pearce
Jones (NC)	Jones (OH)	Pelosi
Jones (OH)	Kanjorski	Pence
Kaptur	Kaptur	Peterson (MN)
Keller	Keller	Petri

Wasserman	Weldon (FL)	Wilson (SC)
Schultz	Weldon (PA)	Wolf
Waters	Weller	Woolsey
Watson	Westmoreland	Wu
Watt	Whitfield	Wynn
Waxman	Wicker	Young (FL)
Weiner	Wilson (NM)	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—6

Capuano	Hinchey	Nadler
Clay	McDermott	Owens

NOT VOTING—22

Beauprez	Fossella	Northup
Berman	Gallegly	Paul
Boswell	Hall	Peterson (PA)
Boyd	Jindal	Shadegg
Camp	Kind	Towns
Cunningham	LaHood	Young (AK)
Davis (AL)	Miller, Gary	
Flake	Moran (KS)	

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Mr. BOEHLERT and Mr. LINDER changed their vote from "aye" to "no."

So the resolution was not agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in the family, I was unable to vote on H. Res. 571. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to be present for the vote on final passage of H. Res. 571, the resolution that calls for an immediate withdrawal of our troops from Iraq. I strongly oppose this resolution and its underlying sentiment. Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on H. Res. 571.

PREDISASTER MITIGATION PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4324) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to reauthorize the predisaster mitigation program, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 4324

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Predisaster Mitigation Program Reauthorization Act of 2005".

SEC. 2. PREDISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION.

Section 203(m) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133(m)) is amended by striking "December 31, 2005" and inserting "September 30, 2008".

SEC. 3. STUDY REGARDING COST REDUCTION.

Section 209 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 5121 note; 114 Stat. 1571) is

amended by striking "3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act" and inserting "September 30, 2007".

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, first I would like to commend my colleagues on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Chairman YOUNG, Subcommittee Chairman SHUSTER and Subcommittee Democratic Ranking Member NORTON, for all of their work on this important bill. H.R. 4324, Predisaster Mitigation Act Reauthorization Act of 2005, provides funding for a competitive grant program to assist States and local governments in implementing cost-effective hazard mitigation activities that complement a comprehensive mitigation program.

The Predisaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM) will provide funds to states, and local governments and communities for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster event. Funding these plans and projects reduces overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations. This program funds activities like, the seismic strengthening of buildings and infrastructure, the construction of levees and the building of "safe rooms" in houses and other structures to protect against high winds. It is important to note that this program complements another Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act post mitigation program—the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMPG) which provides fund to reduce the risk of future damage, hardship, loss or suffering in any area affected by a major disaster.

Over the last twenty-five years, this country has had over one thousand presidential disaster declarations in the United States and the Insular Territories. These disasters have cost our nation billions of dollars and taken an untold number of lives. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Rita and Wilma, we have all become acutely aware of the devastation natural disaster can bring. We know that these natural disasters will continue to occur and bring damage and destruction but we also know that mitigation programs like the Predisaster Mitigation Program will help save lives and property.

According to the Multihazard Mitigation Council of the National Institute of Building Sciences which conducted an independent study on the costs benefits of mitigation for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)—mitigation saves lives and tax dollars. For every \$1 spent from the United States Treasury for mitigation, we will save \$3.65 for taxpayers when disaster strikes. Mitigation reduces property damage, reduces business interruption, reduces environmental damage and most importantly, it reduces societal losses, including casualties and homelessness. Moreover, the benefits of FEMA hazard mitigation grants significantly exceed their costs—by a 4 to 1 margin. In addition to providing broad-based benefits to society, FEMA hazard mitigation grants more than pay for themselves. Mr. Speaker, it is unmistakably clear, mitigation is essential to reducing the loss of lives and property in future natural disasters.

In October 2000, Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA), which reauthorized the Stafford Act and created several new programs. One of those new programs was a Predisaster Mitigation Program

that tasked FEMA with awarding grants to states on a competitive basis to implement predisaster mitigation plans. Again, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina as the Gulf Region begins the long and difficult process of rebuilding we can truly appreciate the importance of predisaster mitigation planning. Today, this bill extends the authorization of this program for another three years and directs the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) to conduct a study on the program's effectiveness.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this is a good bill that will save both lives, property and taxpayer funds. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### RESIGNATION AS CLERK OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, November 18, 2005.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am writing to tender my resignation as Clerk effective upon the appointment of my successor November 18, 2005.

It has been an honor to serve this Institution, its people and the Nation for more than 20 years. I leave knowing the incredible ability of the people who serve here and their commitment to the people they represent.

I will especially depart with a deep sense of admiration and respect for the individuals working in and with the Office of the Clerk. I wish to thank them for their efforts over the last seven years during my tenure as Clerk of the House.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

#### APPOINTMENT AS CLERK OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 208 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 75a-1), and the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment as Clerk of the House of Representatives Mrs. Karen L. Haas of Maryland.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, November 18, 2005.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Under Clause 2(g) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Rep-

resentatives, I herewith designate Mr. Gerasimos C. Vans, Deputy Clerk, to sign any and all papers and do all other acts for me under the name of the Clerk of the House which he would be authorized to do by virtue of this designation, except such as are provided by statute, in case of my temporary absence or disability.

If Mr. Vans should not be able to act in my behalf for any reason, then Ms. Marjorie C. Kelaher, Assistant to the Clerk, should similarly perform such duties under the same conditions as are authorized by this designation.

These designations shall remain in effect for the 109th Congress or until modified by me.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,  
*Clerk of the House.*

#### APPOINTMENT OF HON. TOM DAVIS AND HON. FRANK R. WOLF TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH DECEMBER 6, 2005

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
November 18, 2005.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM DAVIS and the Honorable FRANK R. WOLF to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through December 6, 2005.

J. DENNIS HASTERT

*Speaker of the House of Representatives*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointment is approved.

There was no objection.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM CHIEF OF STAFF OF HON. WILLIAM J. JEFFERSON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Nicole Venable, Chief of Staff of the Honorable WILLIAM J. JEFFERSON, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
November 18, 2005.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a grand jury subpoena for documents issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

NICOLE VENABLE,  
*Chief of Staff.*

#### DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2005

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday