

I think that the vice chairman of the Rules Committee Mr. DIAZ-BALART put it very well when he said that anyone who casts a vote against this rule is saying no to the issue of reform. No, I don't want to proceed with bringing about the kinds of institutional changes that will play a role in enhancing the level of integrity to which the American people can hold this great deliberative body.

We hear everyone talking about reform. Voices for reform are out there, and they are very prevalent in the media, here on the House floor, day after day after day. But in just a few minutes we are going to have the opportunity to transform those voices for reform into votes for reform. This is our opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, with that I urge an "aye" vote on this rule so that we can move ahead with this very, very important reform effort.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to join my colleagues in making a point that seems to be lost on the leadership of this House: this is not simply a "lobbyist problem" we are facing. Ensuring that lawmakers comply with existing ethics rules and enhancing lobbyist disclosure requirements are important goals . . . and even on this measure, . . . the so-called "Lobbying Accountability and Transparency Act" falls embarrassingly short.

What started as a limited but seemingly earnest attempt at reform has been progressively hollowed out over the past several weeks in—you guessed it—closed-door meetings with lobbyists. The result is not surprising. Reporting requirements for lobbyist-hosted fundraisers? Gone. No more bargain rates on corporate jets? Gone. A study to examine lobbyist employment contracts? Gone.

But again, this is not simply a lobbyist problem. House Democrats have tried in earnest to offer a plan for reform that takes a hard look in the mirror and examines what Congress must do to clean up its own house.

My colleagues DAVE OBEY, BARNEY FRANK, TOM ALLEN and I have introduced a fourteen-point plan that would address not only individual abuses, but also the abuses of the legislative process. Our proposal would end the practice of keeping votes held open long enough to twist recalcitrant arms into compliance. It would prevent legislation from being slipped into conference reports without conference approval. It would require House-Senate conferences to actually meet and vote. And it would give Members of Congress at least a full day to examine the contents of any legislation we are voting on.

We have testified before the Rules Committee in favor of this comprehensive approach. During Rules Committee markup of this bill and again during the hearing on the rule last night, numerous amendments were offered and defeated—mostly on party-line votes—that would have implemented these reforms. The Democratic Substitute, which was also denied a fair hearing last night, recognized the need to take a comprehensive approach to lobbying and ethics reform. At each step in the process, our attempts at genuine, bipartisan reform were turned away.

So what did we get instead? It's no surprise: a bill that could serve as a case study in everything that is broken in our legislative proc-

ess—of everything we should be "reforming." We get a so-called "Lobbying Accountability and Transparency Act" that offers neither accountability nor real transparency. We get a minority party—and many Members of the majority—completely shut out of the process once again, their amendments denied, their advice and concerns unheeded. We get a restrictive rule that makes in order just nine out of the 74 amendments offered—and only one sponsored by a Democrat without a Republican cosponsor—and allows for only one hour of debate on what should be one of the most significant bills we consider all year.

This leadership had a real chance to enact real reform, not for the sake of an aggrieved minority . . . not for the sake of election-year politics . . . but for the sake of our institution, for its integrity and its capacity to govern. Instead, they seem to think they can convince the American people that they're cleaning up our House, when all they're doing is sweeping our problems under the rug.

Well Mr. Speaker, the American people will not be so easily fooled. And I assure you that those of us in this body who want real, comprehensive reform will not rest until we have successfully enacted such a measure. But this is not such a measure. I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, it is with regret that I rise today in opposition to the rule before us.

The ethics process in this body is broken. In all candor, there is plenty of blame to go around as to why we find ourselves in this situation. We undermine the public's faith in this great institution when we let petty politics erode the very processes meant to preserve the public's trust in Congress.

I have met with the Majority Leader on this issue, and I sincerely believe that he has a genuine desire to have an effective, functioning Ethics process in the House. I thank him for his willingness to listen, and I hope we can perhaps address this issue in the future.

Having previously served on the Ethics Committee, I firmly believe that the ethics process can work. For the sake of this institution—it must work. And as we begin consideration of the Leadership's ethics and lobby reform package, I will say there are some provisions in the base bill before us that should ultimately be adopted—earmark reform, denying Congressional pensions to convicted felons, enhanced disclosure and improved ethics education are common-sense proposals that I would hope that we can all support.

That being said, I cannot support this rule. Ethics reform is incomplete absent changes to improve the enforcement of House rules. My colleague JOEL HEFLEY and I have put forward legislation to strengthen the ability of the Ethics Committee to dispense with ethics matters by expediting the review of these issues and insulating committee members and non-partisan staff from the political pressures that can pollute the ethics process. We do this by giving the Chair and Ranking Member on the committee subpoena power earlier in the investigative process and prohibiting the arbitrary dismissal of Members and technical staff. We also require ethics education for Members and staff, and we dramatically improve disclosure associated with gifts and travel. All of these common-sense reforms would greatly improve the ethics process in the House.

We sought to offer our legislation as an amendment to the bill we are to consider

today. This proposal was not made in order under the rule. Thus, we are faced with the prospect of passing an incomplete ethics reform package that lacks enhanced enforcement.

I think this is a mistake, and for this reason, I must reluctantly oppose this rule.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered. The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HAYES). The question is on the resolution.

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on two questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motion to instruct on H.R. 4297;

Adoption of House Resolution 783.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

#### MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4297, TAX RELIEF EXTENSION RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KUHLMAN of New York). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to instruct on H.R. 4297 offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 190, nays 232, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 109]

YEAS—190

Abercrombie	Berkley	Brady (PA)
Ackerman	Berman	Brown (OH)
Allen	Berry	Brown, Corrine
Andrews	Bishop (GA)	Butterfield
Baca	Bishop (NY)	Capps
Baird	Boswell	Capuano
Baldwin	Boucher	Cardin
Becerra	Boyd	Cardoza

Carnahan Jones (OH)  
 Carson Kanjorski  
 Case Kaptur  
 Chandler Kennedy (RI)  
 Clay Kildee  
 Cleaver Kilpatrick (MI)  
 Clyburn Kind  
 Conyers Kucinich  
 Cooper Langevin  
 Costa Lantos  
 Costello Larsen (WA)  
 Crowley Larson (CT)  
 Cummings Leach  
 Davis (AL) Lee  
 Davis (CA) Levin  
 Davis (FL) Lewis (GA)  
 Davis (IL) Lipinski  
 DeFazio Lofgren, Zoe  
 DeGette Lowey  
 Delahunt Lynch  
 DeLauro Maloney  
 Dicks Markey  
 Dingell Matheson  
 Doggett Matsui  
 Doyle McCarthy  
 Edwards McCollum (MN)  
 Emanuel McDermott  
 Engel McGovern  
 Eshoo McIntyre  
 Etheridge McKinney  
 Filner McNulty  
 Ford Meehan  
 Frank (MA) Meek (FL)  
 Gonzalez Meeks (NY)  
 Gordon Michaud  
 Green, Al Miller (NC)  
 Green, Gene Miller, George  
 Grijalva Mollohan  
 Gutierrez Moore (KS)  
 Harman Moran (VA)  
 Herstein Murtha  
 Higgins Nadler  
 Hinojosa Napolitano  
 Holdren Neal (MA)  
 Holt Oberstar  
 Honda Obey  
 Hooley Oliver  
 Hoyer Owens  
 Insole Pallone  
 Israel Pascarell  
 Jackson (IL) Pastor  
 Jackson-Lee Payne  
 (TX) Pelosi  
 Johnson, E. B. Pomeroy  
 Jones (NC) Price (NC)  
 Rahall

NAYS—232

Aderholt Castle  
 Akin Chabot  
 Alexander Chocola  
 Bachus Coble  
 Baker Cole (OK)  
 Barrett (SC) Conaway  
 Barrow Cramer  
 Bartlett (MD) Crenshaw  
 Barton (TX) Cubin  
 Bass Cuellar  
 Bean Culberson  
 Beauprez Davis (KY)  
 Biggert Davis (TN)  
 Bilirakis Davis, Jo Ann  
 Bishop (UT) Davis, Tom  
 Blackburn Deal (GA)  
 Blunt DeLay  
 Boehlert Dent  
 Boehner Diaz-Balart, L.  
 Bonilla Diaz-Balart, M.  
 Bonner Doolittle  
 Bono Drake  
 Boozman Dreier  
 Boren Duncan  
 Boustany Ehlers  
 Bradley (NH) Emerson  
 Brady (TX) English (PA)  
 Brown (SC) Everett  
 Brown-Waite, Feeney  
 Ginny Ferguson  
 Burgess Fitzpatrick (PA)  
 Burton (IN) Flake  
 Buyer Foley  
 Calvert Forbes  
 Camp (MI) Fortenberry  
 Campbell (CA) Fossella  
 Cannon Foxx  
 Cantor Franks (AZ)  
 Capito Frelinghuysen  
 Carter Gallegly

Kingston Northup  
 Kirk Norwood  
 Kline Nunes  
 Knollenberg Nussle  
 Kolbe Osborne  
 Kuhl (NY) Otter  
 LaHood Oxley  
 Latham Pearce  
 LaTourette Pence  
 Lewis (CA) Peterson (MN)  
 Lewis (KY) Peterson (PA)  
 Linder Petri  
 LoBiondo Pickering  
 Lucas Pitts  
 Lungren, Daniel Platts  
 E. Poe  
 Mack Pombo  
 Manzullo Porter  
 Marchant Price (GA)  
 Marshall Pryce (OH)  
 McCaul (TX) Putnam  
 McCotter Radanovich  
 McCreery Ramstad  
 McHenry Regula  
 McHugh Rehberg  
 McKeon Reichert  
 McMorris Renzi  
 Melancon Reynolds  
 Mica Rogers (AL)  
 Miller (FL) Rogers (KY)  
 Miller (MI) Rogers (MI)  
 Miller, Gary Rohrabacher  
 Moran (KS) Royce  
 Murphy Ryan (WI)  
 Musgrave Ryun (KS)  
 Myrick Saxton  
 Neugebauer Schmidt  
 Ney Schwarz (MI)

NOT VOTING—10  
 Blumenauer Hastings (FL)  
 Evans Jefferson  
 Fattah Millender-  
 Gilchrest McDonald

□ 1727

Messrs. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, ROGERS of Alabama, OXLEY, INGLIS of South Carolina, LINDER, Ms. HART, Messrs. SIMMONS, CANNON, SOUDER, LAHOOD, and FOLEY changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Messrs. SPRATT, GUTIERREZ, and SERRANO changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to instruct was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4975, LOBBYING ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2006

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KUHLMAN of New York). The pending business is the vote on adoption of House Resolution 783 on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 216, nays 207, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 110]  
 YEAS—216  
 Aderholt Bachus Bartlett (MD)  
 Akin Baker Barton (TX)  
 Alexander Barrett (SC) Beauprez

Biggert Billirakis  
 Bishop (UT) Gutknecht  
 Blackburn Hall  
 Blunt Harris  
 Boehlert Hart  
 Boehner Hastert  
 Bonilla Hastings (WA)  
 Bonner Hayes  
 Bono Hayworth  
 Boozman Hensarling  
 Boustany Herger  
 Brady (TX) Hobson  
 Brown (SC) Hoekstra  
 Brown-Waite, Hostettler  
 Ginny Hunter  
 Burgess Hyde  
 Burton (IN) Inglis (SC)  
 Buyer Issa  
 Calvert Istook  
 Camp (MI) Jenkins  
 Campbell (CA) Jindal  
 Cannon Johnson (CT)  
 Cantor Johnson (IL)  
 Capito Johnson, Sam  
 Carter Keller  
 Castle Kelly  
 Chocola Kennedy (MN)  
 Coble King (IA)  
 Cole (OK) King (NY)  
 Conaway Kingston  
 Crenshaw Kirk  
 Cubin Klaine  
 Culberson Knollenberg  
 Davis (KY) Kuhl (NY)  
 Davis, Jo Ann LaHood  
 Davis, Tom Latham  
 Deal (GA) LaTourette  
 DeLay Leach  
 Dent Lewis (CA)  
 Diaz-Balart, L. Lewis (KY)  
 Diaz-Balart, M. Linder  
 Doolittle LoBiondo  
 Drake Lucas  
 Dreier Lungren, Daniel  
 Duncan E.  
 Ehlers Mack  
 Emerson Manzullo  
 English (PA) Marchant  
 Everett McCaul (TX)  
 Feeney McCotter  
 Ferguson McCreery  
 Fitzpatrick (PA) McHenry  
 Flake McHugh  
 Foley McKeon  
 Forbes McMorris  
 Fortenberry Mica  
 Fossella Miller (FL)  
 Foxx Miller (MI)  
 Franks (AZ) Miller, Gary  
 Frelinghuysen Moran (KS)  
 Gallegly Murphy  
 Garrett (NJ) Musgrave  
 Gerlach Myrick  
 Gibbons Neugebauer  
 Gillmor Ney  
 Gingrey Northup  
 Gohmert Norwood  
 Goode Nunes  
 Goodlatte Nussle

NAYS—207

Abercrombie Cardin Dicks  
 Ackerman Cardoza Dingell  
 Allen Carnahan Doggett  
 Andrews Carson Doyle  
 Baca Case Edwards  
 Baird Chabot Emanuel  
 Baldwin Chandler Engel  
 Barrow Clay Eshoo  
 Bass Cleaver Etheridge  
 Bean Clyburn Farr  
 Becerra Conyers Filner  
 Berkley Cooper Ford  
 Berman Costa Frank (MA)  
 Berry Costello Gonzalez  
 Bishop (GA) Cramer Gordon  
 Bishop (NY) Crowley Green (WI)  
 Boren Cuellar Green, Al  
 Boswell Cummings Green, Gene  
 Boucher Davis (AL) Grijalva  
 Boyd Davis (CA) Gutierrez  
 Bradley (NH) Davis (FL) Harman  
 Brady (PA) Davis (IL) Hefley  
 Brown (OH) Davis (TN) Herseth  
 Brown, Corrine DeFazio Higgins  
 Butterfield DeGette Hinojosa  
 Capps Delahunt Holdren  
 Capuano DeLauro