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House of Representatives

□ 1630

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008—Continued

That is certainly going to be true for the children's health insurance bill, which really is a huge step in the direction of Washington-controlled bureaucratic health care.

So it is appropriate that we appreciate the nexus between this bill, the Agriculture appropriations bill, and that. One is the process was so flawed on the health care bill that we like to commend our colleagues on the other side of the aisle for bringing an appropriate process for appropriations bills. The other is that this is an attempt at fiscal responsibility, or at least a small step.

I think it is important to appreciate what the original intent of the health insurance bill that was passed 10 years ago was, because we will not likely get that opportunity when that time arises later this week.

The original attempt was to cover children who do not have health insurance between the level of income in their family from Medicaid to a low-income state, considered to be, in 1997, 200 percent of the poverty level. That is a noble purpose. It is a noble purpose to provide assistance for families who are unable to provide health insurance for their children.

That legislation expires at the end of September. So we have a lot of time in order to be able to have an appropriate discussion and talk about what the changes ought to be as we move towards reauthorization. All of us believe that those children at the lower end of the economic scale ought to be able to have access to the finest health insurance.

But the process, as my good friend from Tennessee mentioned, has been so remarkably flawed that that likely isn't going to be the case. In fact, we were given a bill late last week that was almost a ream of paper, 450-odd pages, that frankly doesn't include all that the majority plans to put into it because they haven't figured out how they are going to pay for it.

But what they do know, they are going to cut Medicare to over $100 billion. Over $100 billion they are going to cut Medicare, which is why this bill is so important, because we have to figure out how we are going to pay for that. I know on this side of the aisle we are interested in being responsible in our spending and making certain we are able to cover programs.

On the other side of the aisle, Mr. Chairman, it appears their desire is to raise taxes in order to pay for programs. In this instance, though, they are going to do what they alleged 10 years ago they ought not do, and that is to cut Medicare, cut Medicare to a huge degree so that literally millions of seniors across this Nation will see their Medicare program cut.

In addition to that, there is a reported proposal on the other side that will increase taxes on every single American who has a health insurance policy. There will be a fee. They won't call it a tax; they will call it a fee to increase revenue to the Federal Government on every single American that has a health insurance policy.

Mr. Chairman, I don't know about you, but in my district, that is what we call a tax. In my district we don't believe that new programs ought to be put in place and charged with new taxes. We believe that the Federal Government ought to spend wisely.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

MOTION TO RISE OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the motion to rise.

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN. Evidently a quorum is not present.

Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, the Chair will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the time within which a vote by electronic device, if ordered, will be taken on the pending question following the quorum call.

Members will record their presence by electronic device.

The call was taken by electronic device.

[Roll No. 775]

Abercrombie	Boswell	Conyers
Ackerman	Boucher	Cooper
Aderholt	Boustany	Costello
Akin	Boyd (FL)	Courtney
Alexander	Boyda (KS)	Cramer
Allen	Brady (PA)	Crenshaw
Altmire	Brady (TX)	Crowley
Andrews	Braley (IA)	Cubin
Arcuri	Broun (GA)	Cuellar
Baca	Brown (SC)	Cummings
Bachmann	Brown, Corrine	Davis (AL)
Bachus	Buchanan	Davis (CA)
Baird	Burgess	Davis (KY)
Baker	Burton (IN)	Davis, David
Baldwin	Butterfield	Davis, Lincoln
Barrett (SC)	Buyer	Davis, Tom
Barrow	Calvert	Deal (GA)
Bartlett (MD)	Cantor	DeFazio
Barton (TX)	Capito	DeGette
Bean	Capps	DeLauro
Becerra	Capuano	Dent
Berkley	Cardoza	Diaz-Balart, L.
Berman	Carnahan	Diaz-Balart, M.
Berry	Carney	Dicks
Biggert	Carson	Dingell
Bilbray	Carter	Doggett
Bilirakis	Castle	Donnelly
Bishop (GA)	Castor	Doyle
Bishop (NY)	Chabot	Drake
Bishop (UT)	Chandler	Dreier
Blackburn	Clay	Duncan
Blumenauer	Cleaver	Edwards
Boehner	Clyburn	Ehlers
Bonner	Coble	Ellison
Bordallo	Cohen	Ellsworth
Boren	Cole (OK)	Emanuel

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

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Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Faleomavaega
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
LaHood
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pickering
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Watson
Watt
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Wexler
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

□ 1658

The CHAIRMAN. Three hundred eighty-nine Members recording their presence by electronic device, a quorum is present, and the Committee will resume its business.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 172, noes 231, not voting 34, as follows:

[Roll No. 776]

AYES—172

Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson (IL)
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
LaTourette
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mitchell
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pickering
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOES—231

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bordallo
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Calvert
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Castor
Chandler
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Faleomavaega
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Frank (MA)
Gallegly
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hunter
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kingston
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Towns
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—34

Aderholt
Baird
Bono
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Cannon
Carson
Christensen
Clarke
Davis (IL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Delahunt
English (PA)
Fortuño
Fossella
Gohmert
Inslee
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson, Sam
Mack
McHugh
Murphy, Patrick
Paul
Peterson (PA)
Pitts
Ramstad
Rangel
Royce
Sanchez, Loretta
Tancredo
Tierney
Udall (CO)
Whitfield
Wicker

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. LINDER (during the vote). Mr. Chairman, a parliamentary inquiry.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. LINDER. Is this a 5-minute vote that occurred because of a unanimous consent request?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will restate his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. LINDER. First of all, is this a 5-minute vote?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct.

Mr. LINDER. Is it the result of a unanimous consent request?

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, this is a 5-minute vote.

Mr. LINDER. It is my understanding that any intervening business requires a 15-minute vote on the following vote under the rules of the House, and there was intervening business.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair will repeat that pursuant to clause 6(b)(3) of rule XVIII, this is a 5-minute vote.

Voting will proceed.

□ 1708

So the motion to rise was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Chairman, in 1997, a Republican-led Congress passed the State Children's Health Insurance Program, SCHIP, a program that combines the best of public and private approaches to delivering vital health care coverage to low-income children across the country.

Today this program provides coverage to 6.6 million children and has lowered the insurance rate by nearly 25 percent. Unfortunately, our colleagues on the other side of the aisle decided not to include us in crafting the reauthorization of SCHIP. In addition, it included many other provisions affecting Medicare, without any input from the minority.

The legislation put forth by the Democrats has many problems, and I have serious reservations on how they propose to fund this legislation. Specifically, there are proposed funding streams in the bill passed out of the Ways and Means Committee that seek to take money out of end-stage renal disease programs by establishing policies that are shortsighted and ill-advised.

As currently structured, this proposal takes funding from among the sickest patients in the Medicare program, those who have end-stage renal disease, and reallocates it to a massive SCHIP expansion. As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I was pleased to learn that Chairman DINGELL was prepared to offer an amended version of the CHAMP Act that did not include any end-stage renal disease cuts, and, as indicated by CBO score sheets of Chairman DINGELL's amendment, that do not include entries for any end-stage renal disease provisions.

It was unfortunate that the bill was discharged from the Energy and Commerce before amendments could be offered to strike these cuts, but I wholeheartedly agree that we should not be making cuts to end-stage renal disease, which treats some of the sickest patients in Medicare, to fund SCHIP expansion.

As the CHAMP Act currently stands, my concerns with end-stage renal disease are twofold. First, the bill proposes to disrupt the market-based average sales price reimbursement system that Congress worked hard to pass in the Medicare Modernization Act. This average sales price payment system was first implemented in the physician setting in 2005 and the end-stage renal disease setting for all drugs in 2006.

This system has been a great success across the board, and moving to reimbursement rates of ASP plus 6 percent has demonstrated significant savings. In fact, the Office of Inspector General estimated annual savings of $1 billion because of the shift from the old average wholesale price system to the ASP system in 2005.

Starting in 2006, the average sales price system includes drugs used to treat anemia in end-stage renal disease patients, as well as all other end-stage renal disease drugs. MedPACs have noted a decline in end-stage renal disease drug spending since the implementation of the average sales price, and when looking at erythropoietin stimulant agents, which are biologics used to treat anemia in end-stage renal disease, specifically it is clear that the ASP has resulted in a reduction in the price of Medicare, which had previously paid for these biologics going from $10 under a statutory rate in 1994 to 2004.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, a point of order.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Isn't it true that the gentleman in the well should be addressing the underlying bill, and it's a violation of the rules if the remarks in the well do not address the underlying bill?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct. The gentleman speaking who has the time must confine his remarks to the pending question.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Chairman, a parliamentary inquiry.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. SHIMKUS. If there are cuts in one bill based upon increased spending in another, is that financial connection enough to continue to proceed?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman must maintain an ongoing nexus between the pending question and any broader policy issues.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Starting in 2006, the average sales price system included drugs used to treat anemia and end-stage renal disease patients as well as other end-stage renal disease drugs.

Additionally, there are provisions in the bill that propose to institute a statutory price control rate. It would be a mistake to change a system that has reduced prices for this medicine by 6.8 percent since the average sales price-based reimbursement system was implemented in January of 2006; 9 percent compared to what Medicare paid for the drug back in 1994 under a statutory price control rate.

This market-based system is working to drive down prices for Medicare in Congress, and Congress shouldn't try to fix something that's not broken. Most importantly, I also question how a cut in payment would affect patient care. A payment cut may create financial incentives to reduce or ration clinically beneficial drugs.

Dialysis providers may reduce their costs by providing fewer services and drugs, transferring patients to another setting of care, or discharging patients more quickly.

Mr. Chairman, in 1997 a Republican-led Congress passed the State Children's Heath Insurance Program (SCHIP)—a progam that combines the best of public and private approaches to delivering vital health coverage to low-income children across this country.

Today this program provides coverage to 6.6 million children and has lowered the uninsured rate by nearly 25 percent.

Unfortunately, our colleagues on the other side of the aisle decided not to include us in crafting the reauthorization of SCHIP and in addition, included many other provisions affecting Medicare without any input from the minority.

The legislation put forth by the Democrats has many problems, and I have serious reservations on how they propose to fund this legislation.

Specifically, there are proposed funding streams in the bill passed out of the Ways and Means Committee that seeks to take money out of the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) program by establishing policies that are shortsighted and ill-advised.

As currently structured, this proposal takes funding from among the sickest patients in the Medicare program, those that have ESRD, and reallocates it to a massive SCHIP expansion.

As a member of the Energy & Commerce Committee, I was pleased to learn that Chairman DINGELL was prepared to offer an amended version of the CHAMP Act that did not include any ESRD cuts as indicated by CBO score sheets of Chairman DINGELL's amendment that do not include entries for any ESRD provisions.

It was unfortunate that the bill was discharged from Energy and Commerce before amendments could be offered to strike these ESRD cuts, but I wholeheartedly agree that we should not be making cuts to the ESRD, which treats some of the sickest patients in Medicare, to fund SCHIP expansion.

As the CHAMP Act currently stands, my concerns with the ESRD provisions are twofold.

First, the bill proposes to disrupt the market based Average Sales Price (ASP) reimbursement system that Congress worked hard to pass in the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA).

This ASP payment system was first implemented in the physician setting in 2005, and the ESRD setting for all drugs in 2006.

This system has been a great success across the board and moving to reimbursement rates at ASP+6 percent has demonstrated significant savings.

In fact, the Office of the Inspector General estimated annual savings of $1 billion because of the shift from the old Average Wholesale Price (AWP) system to the ASP system in 2005.

Starting in 2006, the ASP system included drugs used to treat anemia in ESRD patients, as well as all other ESRD drugs.

MedPAC has noted a decline in ESRD drug spending since the implementation of ASP and when looking at Erythropoeitin Stimulating Agents (ESAs), which are biologics used to treat anemia, in ESRD specifically, it is clear that ASP has resulted in a reduction in the price Medicare had previously paid for these biologics—going from $10 under a statutory rate from 1994–2004 to $9.10 today for one of these ESAs—EPOGEN. This is a 9 percent drop which represents real savings.

Additionally, there are provisions in the bill that propose to institute a statutory price controlled rate that would distort the market and ASP system by establishing a cap which restricts Medicare payment at a statutory rate of $8.75 or ASP+2 percent, whichever is less.

It would be a mistake to change a system that has reduced prices for this medicine by 6.8 percent since the ASP-based reimbursement system was implemented in January 2006 and by 9 percent compared to what Medicare paid for the drug back in 1994 under a statutory price controlled rate.

This market-based system is working now to drive down prices for Medicare and Congress shouldn't try to fix something if it's not broken.

Most importantly, I also question how a cut in payment would affect I patient care. A payment cut may create financial incentives to reduce or ration clinically beneficial drugs.

Dialysis providers may reduce their costs by providing fewer services and drugs, transferring patients to another setting of care, or discharging patients more quickly.

So when we are looking for ways to save money, a reduction in reimbursement levels could actually result in unintended consequences, such as increasing the number of ESRD patients who are hospitalized.

Published studies show that patients who are under dialyzed or who are suffering from anemia are more likely to be hospitalized.

Increases in hospitalization due to dialysis payment changes could end up being very costly to Medicare and taxpayers.

This is just bad policy rationale.

I am also concerned with a provision that would move to a fully bundled dialysis composite rate—that is bundling drugs and other separately billable services into a composite rate—for large dialysis providers beginning in 2010, and for all other dialysis providers by 2013.

Since passage of the MMA in 2003, CMS has tried to design and test a fully bundled payment system and has been unsuccessful.

I believe that CMS must be given more time to study this issue and complete the bundling demonstration authorized in the MMA that it has been working to implement to ensure that all of the complex factors that go into a bundled payment are accounted for and that patient care and access are not harmed under a bundled payment system.

Again, bundling may create financial incentives to reduce or ration care resulting in worse health outcomes.

An insufficient Medicare payment could cause facilities to close their doors or result in poor patient outcomes.

This underscores the need to test a bundled payment through a demonstration first before implementing.

Congress and CMS should be fully informed on how to protect patient access and quality before implementing bundling system-wide.

Although I am committed to the reauthorization of SCHIP I cannot support these types of cuts to Medicare.

I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing the Democrats' SCHIP expansion in its current form.

□ 1715

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Chairman, I rise to renew the point of order of the previous point of order.

The CHAIRMAN. Is the gentleman stating a point of order that the gentleman is not confining his remarks to the pending question?

Mr. WEINER. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct. The gentleman controlling the time must confine his remarks to the pending question. There must be an ongoing nexus between the pending question and any broader policy issues addressed by the gentleman controlling the time.

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Chairman, a point of parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Does the gentleman yield?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will suspend. The gentleman from Illinois controls the time.

Mr. SHIMKUS. If the gentleman from Illinois controls the time, I yield to my colleague from Georgia.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I appreciate my friend yielding.

Isn't it true that the reason you are concerned about this bill is because of the amount of spending in this bill puts in jeopardy health care for our seniors?

Mr. SHIMKUS. Especially in this debate, the end stage renal disease aspect; and that is the nexus.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Chairman, point of parliamentary inquiry.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Does the gentleman seek to make a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Chairman, just for future reference. Under the rules, Members who fail to oblige and follow rulings of the order of the Chair, what is the sanction against them if they fail to do so?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman who controlled the time did properly confine his remarks.

Mr. WEINER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, the underlying amendment of the Agriculture appropriations bill, the amendment that is on the floor, strikes $50,050 from the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture, $50,050. We have now on this side accepted the amendment. The other side has used over 1 hour of procedural delay, which essentially has spent that $50,000 on the operation of the Capitol with no savings to the taxpayer; and I think that these people who get up and talk about fiscal responsibility ought to learn a little bit of oratorical responsibility.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HINCHEY. I yield my time to Mr. OBEY.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, as the gentleman from California pointed out, we have now probably expended in terms of salaries for the clerks, the cost of air conditioning for the Chamber, the cost of lights for the Chamber, we have probably now expended more money than would be saved by this $50,000 amendment; and so what I think this amendment is about is something very different than in fact we are hearing from our friends.

What I think this is about is that, last year, if you take a look at the appropriation bills that have been considered so far this year, last year, approximately 86 hours were spent debating those bills. This year, we have had about 152 hours expended debating the same bills. Why is that?

Last year, there were 144 amendments offered by those on this side of the aisle then in the minority. This year, the now minority has offered 339 amendments. So it is obvious to me what is going on.

I don't think this debate is at all about either fiscal responsibility or the fact that the amendment purports to save $50,000. This is simply a device which allows the sponsors and the supporters to tie up the time of the House and eventually deny this House the ability to get its work done before it leaves for the August recess. That is what this is about. And all of the rhetoric to the contrary notwithstanding, I think every Member of the House knows that is what it is about.

From the beginning, it has been apparent that there are a small number of Members on the other side of the aisle who would prefer to engage in filibuster by amendment, no matter what that means in terms of the quality of the debate, no matter what that means in terms of the inconvenience to Members, and no matter what that means in terms of the ability of this House to finish its business in a timely fashion.

So let me simply say we will hear a lot of rhetoric tonight about fiscal responsibility. Keep in mind what the real debate is, and we will give all of that rhetoric the attention that it deserves, which is very little.

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MCHENRY TO THE AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GINGREY

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Chairman, I offer a second-degree amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. MCHENRY to the amendment offered by Mr. GINGREY:

Strike ''$50,500'' and insert ''$100,100''.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Chairman, my amendment is pretty simple. As the previous speaker said, the debate that we have had ongoing here on the House

floor may cost taxpayer dollars. If we are going to have a debate about cutting spending, I am going to offer a second-degree to make sure the spending is a greater number to save the taxpayers more money so we can continue to have this debate.

I appreciate the applause from one Member on the other side of the aisle. Two Members. So we have two members of the Democrat Caucus who wish to cut spending. Thank you both. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank them both.

At this point, I yield to my colleague, the ranking member of the Budget Committee, Mr. RYAN from Wisconsin.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I appreciate the applause.

Mr. Chairman, I think it is important that we do everything we can to save money in light of the fact that we are creating a massive new entitlement program later this week with this bill that is coming to the floor. I think it is important that we show leadership at every facet of the Federal government. That is why this amendment, which now I believe saves $100,000 from the USDA Administrative Account Budget, is worth supporting, simply because of the fact that the new SCHIP bill opens a whole new open-ended entitlement.

In the past, SCHIP has always been a program that was capped, that had an authorization. Now we have a program that has no income limits, that requires people to actually self-certify. If they say they are eligible, they are eligible. Anybody can get it. Warren Buffett's child could get SCHIP.

More important to the fact is this, Mr. Chairman. The reason that it is important to save $100,000 from the USDA budget is it is going to cost a lot of money when this SCHIP bill passes and it pushes people out of private health insurance onto government health insurance. That is precisely what this will do.

Eighty-nine percent of the children in families with incomes between 300 percent and 400 percent of poverty and 95 percent of families above 400 percent of poverty have private health insurance. What this bill will do is push those children out of the private health insurance that their parents and their employers are paying for and make taxpayers pay for that health insurance. This is an enormous, enormous expansion of our government program, which takes choice away from patients on health insurance and makes them take this government one-size-fits-all, bureaucratic-driven health care. And that is why we need to support removing $100,000 from the administrative budget from the USDA, because we have a long ways to go to save the money to pay for this bill.

This bill, as it left the Ways and Means Committee, was $76 billion over the budget in that it violated the majority's PAYGO by $76 billion. The bill that was brought to the Energy and Commerce Committee that wasn't reported out was $91 billion PAYGO noncompliant.

Why is this, Mr. Chairman? Well, another reason why I think we need to save money by cutting $100,000 from the USDA's administrative budget is that they cut Medicare. Not just a little bit, but deeply. They raid the Medicare trust fund, and they cut and eviscerate the Medicare Advantage program.

Mr. Chairman, I bet every one of us has done a town hall meeting whereby we have heard constituents when we are talking about Medicare say: You know what? You people in Congress ought to give us the same health insurance that you have.

Mr. Chairman, that is exactly what Medicare Advantage is. Just like we as Members of Congress have, just like we in the Federal employment health benefit, we have the ability to choose among providers who are competing against each other for our benefit. We get to choose among providers. We have choice. That is exactly what we are giving to Medicare beneficiaries with the Medicare Advantage program.

These plans compete against each other for the beneficiary's business, and each Medicare beneficiary gets to choose traditional Medicare or Medicare Advantage plan, and that active choice has driven down prices and has driven up quality and customer satisfaction.

The bill coming to the floor this week will cut 3 million people off the Medicare Advantage program. It will say to all those people who chose to have this plan that gives them comprehensive Medicare coverage: No, you have to have the one-size-fits-all government monopoly plan. You can't have this choice that looks like what Members of Congress have.

That is why we need to cut $100,000 from the USDA budget, because all these deep Medicare cuts to pay for a massive expansion of a new entitlement program at a time when all these other programs are going bankrupt is a step in the wrong direction. That is why I urge adoption the gentleman's second-degree amendment, and I thank him for yielding me time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Reclaiming my time. I think it is also important to note that the SCHIP bill the gentleman speaks of raises taxes on tobacco, raises taxes on all health care plans in American, and I think important for us to talk about that later on this week.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Connecticut is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. DELAURO. I would just like to say what I stated earlier: That in fact what we did in the subcommittee is to cut the central office at the Agriculture Department by 16 percent. If that is not good enough for you, I accept this amendment. You have an opportunity to withdraw it, if you would like, but I am happy to accept it. Or you can sit and you can stand and you can continue just running your mouth here on the issue of the amendment. I have accepted it the second time around.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Chairman, a little while earlier when my amendment was introduced to cut the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture by 1 percent, $50,000, the distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee stood up and said, well, that is nothing. That is just pocket change, and it is a dilatory motion. It is meaningless. It is so insignificant in the big scope of things when we are talking about an $18 billion discretionary spending bill on the Agriculture appropriations bill that we are dealing with.

Well, I thank now my colleague from North Carolina for doubling that 1 percent cut to a 2 percent cut. So now I say to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, we are not talking about $50,000, we are talking about $100,000. And the chairman of the overall committee, Mr. OBEY, is absolutely right. It is a small amount. But he is also right. I have several other amendments. He might call those pocket change as well and dilatory amendments. But the first thing you know when you add those up, Mr. Chairman, you are going to get to over $1 million.

Now, on the floor of the House in this body inside the Beltway that may not be much money, but to the folks back in the 11th District of Georgia that I represent it becomes some significant money.

But, again, the chairman is right. We are trying to make a point here. And I hope not just our colleagues in the Chamber are listening, and I know they are, but I hope the American people are listening as well. Because we do want to make a point, and that is what we are doing with Mr. MCHENRY's amendment to double the cut to 2 percent on this small section, that is what we are doing in my base amendment with the 1 percent cut. We are saying, look, if you want to bring forth a bill, as you intend to do later this week, the so-called CHAMP Act, to massively increase spending that violates your own new PAYGO rules by $70 billion, as the ranking member of the Budget Committee just pointed out; then if you want to find the money to have these massive expansions, then you need to look at every other spending bill and set your priorities straight.

□ 1730

And let's say we're going to cut the money instead of doing it on the backs of our seniors. And that's why I say, you need a new acronym for this bill. It's not the CHAMP Act, Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act. No, it's the CHUMP Act, Children's Health Unfunds Medicare Protection,

and for our neediest seniors. And that's why we're here; absolutely, that's why we're here. We don't want you to do that. We don't want you to hurt the seniors, the 3.5 million, a part of the 8 million that get their Medicare through that Advantage option, because most of those seniors, Mr. Chairman, most of those seniors are our poorest seniors. They're in that category of income from $10,000 to $20,000. And those are the people who you are pushing off the Medicare program of choice, their program of choice.

So anywhere we can find cuts, this amendment, the second-degree amendment, further amendments that we're going to offer, that's what we ought to do if we're going to have this massive increase in spending, which our side of the aisle feels like we should not do.

Now, we could go home in August, Mr. Chairman, and say, on Thursday or Friday of this last week that we were in session, before the long break, the Democrats have destroyed Medicare for 3.5 million low-income seniors, and they've said they've done it in the interest of providing health care for children. But which children are we talking about?

In their bill that's coming to the floor, with a closed rule, that we won't have an opportunity to amend, they want to cover children up to 400, maybe even more, the sky is the limit, 400 percent of the Federal poverty level, $82,000 a year for a family of four or maybe it's 500 percent or 600 percent. So what happens? Ninety percent of these children already have private health insurance. And so that's why we're here, and I support the second-degree amendment of the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I too join in supporting this amendment, and the gentleman from North Carolina for doing it, for saving so much money for the American taxpayer.

Just prior to this we heard the chairman from the other side of the aisle, in essence, asking us in some ways to trample on our free speech rights in this House. And you know, when you do that, when you ask that we not speak on important issues here in this House for hours, for a period of time, and the other side of the aisle always points out that we're spending more time this year than we did in the past years trying to debate these issues. And I think the American public, quite honestly appreciates that, whether it's 86 hours or 186 hours. I think the American public looks to Congress to make sure that we spend their money appropriately, and looks for us to debate those issues appropriately as well.

We, each Member of Congress, as we stand here, represents a little over 600,000 individuals, men, women and children, across this country in our respective districts. When we come to this floor and speak on this floor, we are representing their voices. We bring their voices from New Jersey to this floor.

And so when the other side of the aisle says, oh, you go on too long over there in the minority, well they're saying that really to my constituents. They are complaining that my constituents' voice should be silenced. And I come to the floor right now and say, no, sir, my constituents voices will not be silenced. I will speak out when I can, where I can on behalf of the constituents of the Fifth District and the State of New Jersey as well.

Now, I know that we're looking at a bill here with $18.6 billion. Right now we're looking at an amendment for $100,000. To us, and my constituents, that's a lot of money. And if it takes us an hour or two hours to debate this one amendment, to get consensus to save $100,000, well, that's a lot of money to my constituents, and they would say that hour or two hours of debate is well worth it.

Now, maybe the other side of the aisle will disagree with me. Maybe the other side of the aisle doesn't care whether we spend 50,000, 100,000 of our hard-earned tax dollars. And maybe they will accept the amendment as they did in the past, and if they do so, the $100,000 amendment, we appreciate that.

But you know, in that regard, this really is a bipartisan effort then. It is really two parties coming together to solve a problem. The one party, the majority party, comes to this floor, raises our taxes, increases our spending.

The minority party, the Republicans, equally come to the floor, and we reach out our hand and work together. While the Democrats raise our taxes and raise the spending, we reach out a hand and say how about trying to bring that spending down just a little bit by $100,000, and by bipartisan effort we're able to get that down. So this is a bipartisan day, and I hope that we will see other amendments to increase that bipartisanship as well, as we try to rein in the spending that the other side has brought us.

And when we talk about what the other side has brought us, and one of the reasons why we need to save this $100,000, just think of what we've gone through in the last few months already and just recently in the last couple weeks. We have seen taxpayers on the American taxpayers go up by over $400 billion in one of the first bills that House passed under the majority party of their budget.

We have seen just recently them raising taxes again through the farm bill. And now with this underlying bill that we'll be looking at in a little bit on the SCHIP bill, another $60 billion in taxes.

And let me add just one more tax increase that maybe Members of both sides of the aisle may be forgetting about. Just a few hours ago, as I look at the clock, I came out of Financial Services Committee, where we, or the majority party, added the last piece to the puzzle with regard to another tax increase on the American public, and that's the MTI. That's the mortgage tax increase. That's a tax increase on every family in America who needs to go out and get a mortgage to buy their first home or their second or an additional home as they move into it.

Every family in America who will want to get out a mortgage in the future will now have to pay an MTI, a mortgage tax increase, thanks to the majority party in the legislation that is just finally put in place. So whether it is an increase in the budget taxes or the farm bill or the SCHIP or now an MTI as far as a tax increase as well, we're working with the other side of the aisle. As they raise taxes on the American family, we work with them here and there, to bring down the spending to a level that our taxpayers in our districts are able to abide by.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words in support of the McHenry amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I want to rise in support of the McHenry amendment. And I want to compliment the subcommittee chairwoman, Ms. DELAURO, for her openness and bipartisanship in preparing the ag appropriation bill and working with Ranking Member KINGSTON.

I asked Mr. KINGSTON, I said, have y'all held hearings on the bill? He said, yes, we held lots of hearings. I said, did you prepare a draft that was circulated in a timely fashion? He said, yes, we prepared a draft, circulated in a timely fashion. I said, was there an open markup where Members could offer amendments on both sides of the aisle? And he said, yes, there was an open markup. So I want to compliment you.

Now, I want to contrast that to the SCHIP bill. We've had one hearing in the Energy and Commerce Committee in which SCHIP was the focus of Mr. PALLONE's subcommittee. The bill came over the transom last Tuesday night at 11:36 p.m. The markup was scheduled, I believe, at 10 a.m. the next morning. Chairman DINGELL did delay that until 4 o'clock the next afternoon, and then again delayed the actual markup after opening statements a little bit further.

We didn't have any witnesses testify. We didn't have any open process. We didn't have a circulation of a draft. We got a 465-page bill at 11:36 last Tuesday evening. So that's, I mean, I'm in awe of Ms. DELAURO and the way she's operated her subcommittee, and Mr. OBEY and the way he's operating the full appropriations committee, actually using the process. We're not doing that in the Energy and Commerce Committee or the Ways and Means Committee on the SCHIP bill.

Now, I'm told, I don't know this for a fact.

Mr. OBEY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Sure, I'll yield.

Mr. OBEY. The gentleman has complimented me for the way we have handled appropriations bills.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. And that's a sincere compliment.

Mr. OBEY. I appreciate the compliment. But let me suggest that I would appreciate it, if we have conducted ourselves the way the gentleman thinks we should, then I would appreciate that he would not visit his frustrations on other legislation on the appropriations process when we have produced bills in what you readily admit is the correct fashion. If you have an argument in your own bailiwick, it would be nice if you kept it there so that the House might get its work done.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. I appreciate that gentleman's comment. But my response to the distinguished chairman of the full Appropriations Committee is, you've got to pick up your buckets where you stand. And this is our only forum.

I'm told that the Rules Committee is going to meet at midnight or 1 a.m. this morning to consider a same-day rule for SCHIP. Now, keep in mind, last Tuesday night at 11:36 p.m., after the House is through with its last vote of the day, we get a 465-page SCHIP bill that hasn't had any hearings on it, that hasn't had any witnesses on, that hasn't had a draft circulated. And now the Rules Committee is going to meet at midnight allegedly, or 1 o'clock this morning, to consider a same-day rule to consider that bill tomorrow.

So I respect Mr. OBEY and I respect Subcommittee Chairman DELAURO for doing the process the right way. But our only recourse, unfortunately, under the rules is to come out on this floor under the open rule to strike the requisite number of words to speak on the ag appropriation bill and then talk about the travesty that may be hoisted on the American public tomorrow in which a $227 billion cut in Medicare over the next 10 years is going to be voted on, with not one witness testifying in favor or opposition, not one draft that's been circulated, not any process at all.

So I support the McHenry amendment, and I also support an open process on the largest health care issue that's going to be before this Congress this year.

We should not have the Rules Committee vote tonight at midnight to bring a same-day rule. We ought to send the SCHIP bills back to the committee, have a normal process, and then bring them to the floor later this fall where we could have an open debate in the full House.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

Mr. CULBERSON. I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Chairman, I also rise in support of Mr. MCHENRY's amendment, but I also want to thank my ranking member, the subcommittee chairman here. I serve on the Appropriations Committee, and Chairman OBEY is correct: the committee has done a good job of making sure we had bills in front of us and opportunity for debate.

But I also want to reiterate Mr. BARTON's point. He is absolutely right. The reason we're out here today and having this discussion is because we, each one of us, as Members of Congress have really a fiduciary, very deep and profound fiduciary responsibility to be good stewards of the taxpayers' dollars. And we're here debating an appropriations bill on how to spend those tax dollars. And the Agriculture Department has, an important part of its role is the taking, they have a role directly, for example, in the Texas Medical Center. And the nexus to this debate, Mr. Chairman, that I would certainly point out is, under this bill, the Department of Agriculture, for example, helps maintain the children's nutrition program at the Baylor College of Medicine, which I'm proud to represent.

The Agriculture Department, a key part of their responsibility is children's health. And it is highly relevant to talk about this Children's Health Insurance Program that the Democrat majority is attempting to shove through this Congress with very little debate, very little sunlight, which is always a dangerous sign. If they won't let you read the bill and they won't let you talk about it, it is sure going to contain serious problems. And I for one am deeply concerned about the tremendous expansion this bill proposes. The bill will, it is clear from what we have seen, take seniors off of Medicare and allow States to put illegal aliens on Medicare. The bill has no reasonable limits. The bill has no enforceable limits on age. The bill has no enforceable limits on income requirements. And the bill is also silent as to whether or not States can include illegal aliens in coverage. The bill will allow States to provide Medicare coverage at Federal taxpayers' expense to anyone the State chooses to cover.

Now, imagine what that means in the State of California where the Governor has already advocated and the legislature has advocated providing health care coverage to illegal aliens. And I say that in the context, ladies and gentlemen, of the fact that all of us need to remember, every bill, every dollar we spend, that the Government Accountability Office has already calculated that in order to pay for the obligations of the Federal Government today, my overriding concern is that, in order to pay for the existing obligations of the Federal Government, the GAO has calculated, Mr. FARR, that each American would have to buy $155,000 worth of Treasury bills. That's how massive the existing obligations of the Federal Government are.

□ 1745

The existing obligations of the Federal Government are so massive that every living American would have to purchase $155,000 worth of Treasury bills, and that wouldn't even touch the national debt. That wouldn't even touch the interest on the national debt. And yet the Democrat majority has attempted to jam through a bill here that we don't even really know the ultimate cost.

Mr. BARTON estimates that if the States expand coverage as far as they could to pick up illegal aliens and people of any age group or income group, but if Mr. BARTON is correct, and I think it is reasonable that there is no real way to calculate how much this bill costs, we are adding a monstrous and inexcusable financial debt on the back backs of our children.

You are taking away Medicare coverage from seniors and allowing States to give it to illegal aliens. This is outrageous, it is unacceptable, it is unaffordable, and you are going to break the back of the taxpayers of this country.

And I, for one, will stand at this microphone and all of us have an obligation to stand up here like Horatio at the gates of Rome. If this is the only place that I can stand and fight, I will stand and fight here as long as it takes to protect the Treasury and the taxpayers of this country from irresponsible, irresolute spendthrift practices of the majority of this House, and I won't stand for it.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Michigan is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I rise with considerable regret, and I want to speak with affection and respect for my good friend and colleague from Texas (Mr. BARTON), the senior member of the Republicans on the Committee on Energy and Commerce. He complained about the process in the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

I would like the House and this committee to know that he was afforded, first of all, every bit of notice that is required by the rules of the House, that the proceedings which were conducted in that committee were conducted in an eminently fair and proper way in full accord with the rules and the proprieties of the House.

I would also like him to know that I am sure he can recall that we sought his counsel as to how it was we could put something together which, in fact, would give him a process which would enable us to address the problem of SCHIP.

I would like to remind him and this committee that SCHIP is going to expire on the 30th of September. That is an important date because at which time we are going to find that all of

the kids, 6 million of them, who have coverage under SCHIP will lose that coverage if something is not done by the Congress of the United States. It is our purpose, given the fact that there will be a recess in this body during the month of August, to see to it that we have this measure ready for the floor in time that the business can be dealt with and that we can handle the matter in a way which will take care of these kids.

The legislation was made available to my good friend and to my Republican colleagues on the committee as soon as it could be done after the necessary discussions were held to try to frame a proper piece of legislation and to address something that responsibility of a fiscal and financial character requires, and that is to deal with the pay-fors and how we will pay for the cost of this program. We have done so, and we have arranged that the payments will be a little different than the Senate bill, but they will be sensible.

First of all, we will require that the Medicare Advantage plans pay their fair share but that they are not overpaid for the services which they are providing. Some of the less fortunate are getting 11 percent more than they are entitled to, some of the more fortunate are getting 19 percent more than they are entitled to, and some of the most fortunate are getting 30 percent more than they are entitled to. It seemed like good sense to put them in a position where they could compete honestly with the other Medicare providers, and that is what we have done. We also have a modest increase in the tobacco tax.

These are all issues which will be considered; and we offered my good friend and my Republican colleagues a chance to amend, debate, and to discuss this legislation.

I would note for the benefit of my good friend from Texas that the rules do not require hearings and that on a number of occasions on important legislation in prior Congresses during his chairmanship and that of others of my very dear friends on the Republican side, the situation was conducted in a way in which there were no hearings and which legislation was brought directly to the committee and shot to the House floor in considerable haste. We protested this, but I have to say that, given the exigencies of the situation, the needs and the circumstances and the fact that the kids are very liable to lose their health care benefits and their insurance under SCHIP, we saw fit to bring the matter up.

The House will, I hope and I think and I am informed, have this measure before us in the next little bit. We will do so with a full opportunity of everybody to debate it, to discuss where the money is coming from, what the benefits will be, and whether or not the legislation should be passed.

It is my personal feeling that we have a chance here to not only save some 6 million kids who would lose all benefits, but under the legislation which has come out of the Ways and Means Committee and which was considered in the Committee on Energy and Commerce to cover not 6 million but 11 million kids that desperately need this, which will be important.

I conclude with an expression of affection for my friend and colleague from Texas.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I spoke earlier on the second degree amendment of Mr. MCHENRY. Am I allowed at this time to seek recognition to speak on the original amendment of Mr. GINGREY?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is permitted to seek recognition to speak on the original amendment.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Then, Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words on the Gingrey amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I would like to engage my distinguished chairman, the Honorable JOHN DINGELL of Michigan, in a colloquy, with his permission.

Mr. DINGELL. I certainly am happy to do that with my dear friend, and I express again my respect and affection for the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. We have the utmost respect for each other, and that is sincere, and there is nothing artificial about that.

Mr. Chairman, is it not true that the bill that was marked up or attempted to be marked up in your committee last week was given to the minority at 11:36 p.m. last Tuesday evening?

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. OBEY. Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin will state his point of order.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I thought that Members were required to be addressing the matter at hand.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct. The Members who are recognized should confine their remarks to the issue that is being debated.

The gentleman from Texas may proceed.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. I understand the rules, Mr. Chairman. I am going to try to comply with the rules.

I support the Gingrey amendment just like I supported the McHenry amendment. I also believe that we should use as close an approximation of an open and fair process on the SCHIP reauthorization as we are using on the pending appropriations process; and I am informed by my staff that the SCHIP bill, which was 465 pages in length, was presented to minority staff at 11:36 p.m. last Tuesday evening; and I would like the distinguished chairman of the full Energy and Commerce Committee to indicate to me if that is a true statement.

Mr. OBEY. Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I am perfectly willing to hear the gentlemen debate this matter when their bill is on the floor. But the last time I looked, I thought an appropriations bill was on the floor; and, just for the heck of it, I would like us to stick to the rules and consider the matter before us. We have spent 2 hours on a nonsensical, symbolic amendment that has very little relationship to the bill; and it seems to me this House is getting considerably far afield.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is correct. The gentleman who sought the time must confine his remarks to the pending question.

The gentleman from Texas is recognized.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I understand the rules that we are operating under, and I am totally supportive of Mr. GINGREY's amendment on the Ag appropriations bill.

I listened with interest to my committee chairman, Mr. DINGELL, earlier when he rose to speak about the process in the Energy and Commerce Committee. He didn't talk about the Gingrey amendment. He didn't talk about anything dealing with the Ag appropriations. So I am simply trying to get some information from him about what he spoke of, and I think the rules of the Energy and Commerce Committee require a 36-hour advance notice, and we weren't given that 36-hour notice on that bill.

Mr. OBEY. Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas will suspend.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. And I think the chairman knows it.

Mr. OBEY. Point of order, Mr. Chairman. I am not under the impression that the rules of the Energy and Commerce Committee are now before the House. I am under the impression that the Agriculture appropriations bill is before the House, and it would be nice if we could focus our discussion on that.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin stated a point of order, and he is correct. The gentleman from Texas, who has been recognized, must confine his remarks to the pending question.

The gentleman from Texas is recognized.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. I appreciate the chairman's courtesy.

Mr. Chairman, I think the majority is embarrassed to have the question answered. I think the majority knows that we were not given the bill within the 36-hour window. We weren't even given it within a 12-hour window.

Mr. OBEY. Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin will state his point of order.

Mr. OBEY. The gentleman is not discussing the matter at hand.

The CHAIRMAN. Once again, the gentleman from Wisconsin is correct. The gentleman from Texas must confine his remarks to the pending question.

The gentleman from Texas is recognized.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Well, I need an answer to this question, and I am at a loss about how to get that answer.

I listened to my chairman explain his position. I would hope that we could give him a chance to respond to a few simple questions about what he just told the body.

So my question is, did we get the bill within 36 hours?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, point of order. The gentleman can raise any question he wants with the gentleman from Michigan but not on an appropriation bill.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is correct. The gentleman from Texas must confine his remarks to the pending question.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. BARTON of Texas. I have a parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Is it within the rules of the bill that is under consideration now to go back and ask that previous comments be read to the body to see if they were germane to the pending question? Is that within the rules?

The CHAIRMAN. That is not in order.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. That is not in order or it is in order?

The CHAIRMAN. A Member wishing to address the propriety of those remarks must have been timely. The gentleman's present request would not be timely.

The gentleman from Texas is recognized.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. How much time do I have left, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I would ask my distinguished chairman, who is the dean of the House, who has served in this body over 50 years, who will go down in its history as one of the most effective Members of the entire 200-plus years of the Congress, if the current process that we are apparently going to use on the SCHIP bill once we get through the Agriculture appropriation bill——

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, point of order. This is not a matter pertaining to the subject at hand.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. With all due respect, I think that does pertain to the subject at hand.

□ 1800

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from Wisconsin have a point of order?

Mr. OBEY. Yes, I do. The gentleman is not addressing the matter at hand. This is not the United States Senate where anything is possible.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct. The gentleman from Texas must confine his remarks to the pending question.

The gentleman from Texas is recognized.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. I would like to yield to my distinguished chairman for any remarks he cares to make. How are the Tigers doing in the American League? What are his plans for the August break? If we can't talk about substantive issues because the majority is embarrassed to hear the answer, maybe we can discuss something else.

Mr. OBEY. Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. OBEY. Perhaps the gentleman can tell us what the name of the Secretary of Agriculture is. That would at least get us close at hand to the subject we are supposed to be debating.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Well, it's not DAVID OBEY.

I am going to yield back the balance of my time, Mr. Chairman, out of respect for the chairman's courtesies.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Chairman, I do want to speak in favor of the McHenry amendment. I think it is a vitally important amendment that we debate on this House floor today. Maybe the dollar amount is modest; the principle is huge. This is a body that spends too much of the people's money, and it has repercussions. And no matter how intensely our friends from the other side of the aisle want to prevent us from painting a picture for the American people on where their spending is leading, we feel compelled to speak out.

Mr. Chairman, already this body is spending over $23,000 per American household. In real terms, it's one of the greatest amounts since World War II. Every appropriations bill that has come to the floor, practically every single one is spending more money than last year, way beyond the rate of inflation and beyond the ability of the family budget to pay for the excess in the Federal budget.

So, now we have an Agriculture appropriations bill which is almost 6 percent above last year. I assure you, the American people didn't get a 6 percent raise, those who are expected to pay for it. And beyond the 6 percent increase, the bill expands mandatory spending. Now, supposedly PAYGO is supposed to apply to this, but it doesn't because we have a PAYGO loophole. And this is a big, big loophole, Mr. Chairman. And we need to pay attention to more mandatory spending. Because already, simply with the government that we have today, before our friends on the other side of the aisle add on a massive increase in an SCHIP program that's going to be funded with tax increases and Medicare cuts, before they do that, we're already on automatic pilot to double taxes on the next generation. We're either going to double taxes on the next generation or there is not going to be any Federal Government to speak of, except Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. There will barely be any funds for anything else.

And don't take my word for it, Madam Chair, take the word of the Office of Management and Budget, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, the conservative Heritage Foundation, the liberal Brookings Institute. So there is this train wreck coming on entitlement spending.

We have a modest amendment that would reduce a little bit of spending in the Agriculture bill to take off that pressure, and instead the amendment is simply mocked. Well, we can't do that because we know if we don't pass this amendment, this modest amendment, to save money on the Agriculture appropriations bill, we know what it's leading to on SCHIP, a new permanent entitlement of almost $160 billion over 10 years. I mean, Madam Chair, this is unconscionable, unconscionable on top of the burden that is already going to be placed upon future taxpayers.

Now, we have so many Members who come to the floor and talk about, well, we have to be here for the least of these. Well, Madam Chair, I would posit that maybe the least of these are those who do not vote and those who have yet to be born. And so that is why we need the amendment passed by the gentleman from North Carolina to save this money, to take pressure off of creating this new huge permanent entitlement in SCHIP.

We also need this amendment in this Ag bill to take the pressure off this huge cut in Medicare that the Democrat majority is now planning, as they seek to pit grandparents against their grandchildren in this massive SCHIP tax-spend-debt spiral. I mean, they're going to increase taxes, the tobacco taxes. I'm not a smoker. I used to be a volunteer in the American Cancer Society, but last I looked, it's still a legal activity. So taxes are going to fall on low- and moderate-income Americans as they seek to take away private insurance from others and put them onto a public insurance plan.

We're looking again at cutting Medicare Advantage plans, almost 20 percent of the people. We're going to have pressure to cut Medicare.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, will the gentleman yield for a question?

Is the gentleman aware that we've accepted the amendment?

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chair, do I control the time? If so, I have not yielded to the gentleman from Illinois.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mrs. TAUSCHER). The gentleman from Texas controls the time.

Mr. HENSARLING. I would urge the adoption of this amendment so that we can save some money here and prevent this massive raid on the Medicare trust fund that is coming in in this SCHIP bill.

Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, is there a particular parliamentary vehicle that, once an amendment has been accepted by the majority, that the amendment can then be disposed of?

I don't know what the point is here. We've accepted the amendment. It's been asked. It's been answered. We accept it. We want to add it to the bill. We're prepared to move forward. We've accepted the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair will put the question on the amendment after 5-minute debate has been exhausted.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I thank the Chair.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Chair, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Louisiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Chairman, I also rise in support of the McHenry amendment. Clearly, we have to get some control over spending, and this Agriculture bill is no exception to this.

As we look at this spending bill, as we've looked at the rest of them, we're continuing to spend more money, and it's a recipe for further tax increases. Furthermore, it's going to be at the expense of seniors. Here we are, we're looking at an SCHIP bill which, in my opinion, after looking at this to the extent I've been able to look at it, appears to be very irresponsibly crafted. In fact, I believe it to be a cruel hoax.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Point of order, Madam Chairman.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chair, as I understand previous rulings from the Chair, that the gentleman must confine his remarks to the matter at hand, the Agriculture appropriations bill, and not the SCHIP bill, which will come before the Congress later this week.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Louisiana must confine his remarks to the pending question.

Mr. BOUSTANY. I thank the Chair.

As I was saying, this bill continues to spend far too much money, as did all the previous appropriations bills we've voted upon, and it is going to put further pressure on the work that we desperately need to do.

Looking at what we're going to go forward with as we look at health care, how are we going to pay for health care if we're putting all this money into overspending in these other bills? We have to get our priorities straight.

If we're going to raise cigarette taxes, a diminishing source of revenue, to pay for a program that's expanding, and then we're also going to take one-time money from Medicare Advantage to pay for an expanded program, how is it that we're going to deal with our entire Federal budget? Again, this bill before us today is a big part of the problem.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Chair, I have sat here and have counted 15 straight times that we have ruled on the central question of germaneness. We are here to talk about the Agriculture appropriations.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman have a point of order?

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. My point of order is, where is it in the rules to which this total disrespect for the Chair and the rulings of the Chair continues to be allowed? What is the point of having a rule?

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chair, point of order.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. May I have my point of order responded to?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. As the Chair has already ruled, the gentleman from Louisiana must confine his remarks to the pending question.

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Georgia may state his point of order.

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, is it not true that we are talking about a spending bill——

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Is the gentleman stating a point of order or parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. GINGREY. The point of order, Madam Chairman, is, if there is spending and language in this bill that pertains to drugs, that pertains to health care, that pertains to the FDA and drug reimportation, then that makes this discussion of spending germane to the overall bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair has already ruled.

The gentleman from Louisiana must maintain an ongoing nexus between the pending question and any broader policy issues.

The gentleman from Louisiana may proceed.

Mr. FARR. Madam Chair, parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from Louisiana yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Chair, reclaiming my time, I just want to say that we're talking about an Agriculture bill, a spending bill, and we're talking about money that is going to be spent. We're talking about money that is going to be spent in this that will not be available to spend on health care issues, particularly on a number of issues affecting rural seniors.

Now, I have a rural district, it depends on agriculture, and as we go forward, we're going to hurt these seniors in these rural communities. If we cut over $200 billion in Medicare spending, I have 3,246 seniors in the Seventh Congressional District who are currently enrolled in the Medicare Advantage who are going to suffer. So I think we have to get our priorities straight as we go forward.

Furthermore, as we look at payments for hospitals are being cut $2.7 billion; in-patient rehabilitative services, $6.6 billion in cuts; payments for skilled nursing facilities, $6.5 billion in cuts; payments for certain drugs, $1.9 billion; in-State renal disease, $3.6 billion. These are seniors who are poor in my Seventh Congressional District, and because of the spending in this Agriculture bill, they can't take care of these problems.

POINT OF ORDER

Ms. DELAURO. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Connecticut will state her point of order.

Ms. DELAURO. It has been ruled over and over again on this floor that the gentleman has to keep his remarks in the context of the bill, the Agriculture appropriations bill that is being discussed.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Louisiana must confine his remarks to the pending question.

Mr. BOUSTANY. I thank the Chairwoman.

Again, I state that I am supporting the McHenry amendment because I think it's an important step forward as we get some control over spending so we can set our priorities straight so we don't hurt rural seniors.

I pointed out the numerous cuts that are going to be made to the 3,246 seniors in the Seventh Congressional District alone.

Madam Chair, when is the spending spree going to stop? When are we going to get control over this spending so that we can set our priorities straight?

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Chair, point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Chair, we have been debating this amendment for 1 hour. We accepted this amendment within that 1 hour.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman have a point of order?

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Chairman, how many times can our friends on the other side of the aisle raise nongermane issues after the Chair has ruled that they must confine their remarks to the underlying bill?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair will respond to points of order as they are made.

The gentleman from Louisiana will continue.

Mr. BOUSTANY. I thank the Chair.

Again, Agriculture spending is what we're talking about. But if we're spending excessive money in this Ag appropriations bill, it's going to hurt what we can do to take care of our seniors.

Again, 3,246 seniors in the Louisiana Seventh Congressional District are going to be hurt by this situation. If we look at the SCHIP situation that we're faced with, we're going to have problems with cuts because we don't have money available because of the Agriculture bill.

POINT OF ORDER

Ms. DELAURO. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentlewoman from Connecticut.

Ms. DELAURO. My colleague is supposed to keep his comments to the business at hand before the Committee, not what business the House will consider in the coming days; is that not true, Madam Chair?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman is correct. The Chair has ruled that the gentleman from Louisiana must confine his remarks to the pending question.

Mr. BOUSTANY. I thank the Chair.

Furthermore, as we go forward with a bill that is increasing spending in Agriculture, I have seniors in my district who need motorized wheelchairs, and they may be forced to wait a month or more.

□ 1815

Again, because of the spending in this bill——

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Parliamentary inquiry, Madam Chairman.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. BOUSTANY. No.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Louisiana may continue.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Furthermore, with the spending in this bill, it is going to reduce the amount of time that the government will rent oxygen equipment for seniors to up to 36 months. This is going to be a problem for my seniors. We have got to get control over this spending. The first step here is with the McHenry amendment.

Furthermore, I think if we look at what has happened with agriculture spending, typically, much of the money that has been spent on agriculture doesn't even go to agriculture. It has gone to all kinds of other pet programs.

Madam Chairman, we have to set our priorities straight here.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Chairman, I appreciate very much the recognition.

Madam Chairman, I think that the American people are probably getting a pretty good lesson on the effectiveness, or lack of effectiveness, of this Congress right now. Unfortunately for the institution, the lesson is driving home the poll numbers that show how little regard the American people have for the majority party right now. It is important that we have the opportunity to debate every one of these bills and that we have the opportunity to debate the amendments that are here.

I rise in support of the amendment that my colleague from North Carolina has offered. I think, again, that it is important that we do that. It is also important that we have the ability to tie the amendments that are being offered to this agriculture bill to other issues. The majority party may not want to do that. However, it is very important that we do that, because these appropriations bills are all tied together.

Last year, there was a great hue and cry from the majority party about how much money was being spent by the Republicans, what profligate spenders we were. Now that the Democrats are proposing spending all this money, it is negligible. $10 million is negligible. $5 million is negligible. It is insignificant. All kinds of words like that are being used.

When we try to point out the connection between what is happening in this bill and with the amendments that we are offering to things like the SCHIP bill, then the majority party doesn't want us to do that.

POINT OF ORDER

Ms. DELAURO. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Connecticut will state her point of order.

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Chairman, the gentlewoman's remarks need to be confined to the Agriculture appropriations bill. The amendment has been accepted, in case the gentlewoman did not know that.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Connecticut is correct. The gentlewoman from North Carolina must confine her remarks to the pending question.

The gentlewoman will proceed.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Parliamentary inquiry, Madam Chairman.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentlewoman yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

Ms. FOXX. Yes, I do.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Chairman, isn't it within the rules of the House while debating a pending question to include references to extraneous material?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from North Carolina must maintain an ongoing nexus between the pending question and any broader policy issues.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. But broader policy issues can be addressed.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. As long as the nexus is maintained.

The gentlewoman from North Carolina may continue.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Chairman, I thank my colleague for seeking the clarification of this. I have been very confused about the majority party not wanting us to talk about the entire budget. This is one piece of an entire budget that this House is going to pass. I don't see how you can possibly say there is no nexus.

Every spending bill in this Chamber is connected to every other spending bill, so how can you possibly say that they are not the same? You passed this huge budget with the largest tax increase in the history of this country. The budget sets the spending. I cannot understand why we can't talk about the budget and every other spending bill that we are going to deal with in conjunction with this spending bill, because they are all tied together.

I would also like to point out to you that I guess while you are trying to speed us along you are raising all these points of order, which is simply slowing down the process. I find that somewhat amusing, too, as we are trying to move the process along.

But it is important that we talk about our rural districts and what the SCHIP program would do to seniors. I have seniors who are going be hurt by this.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Point of order. Madam Chairman, the gentlelady is engaged in irrelevant debate.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman will suspend.

The gentleman from Illinois will state his point of order.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, the gentlewoman is engaged in irrelevant debate.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Chairman, I just stated——

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, I would like a ruling on my point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman will suspend.

The gentlewoman from North Carolina must confine her remarks to the pending question.

The gentlewoman may proceed.

Ms. FOXX. Well, I will say again that we passed one budget in this House that includes the money for all the spending bills. If there is one budget, then it would seem to me that all of the spending bills are tied to each other. Therefore, any spending bill has a connection to every other spending bill. So there is a nexus there, and talking about what is going to happen or what is being proposed in one spending bill is relevant to every other spending bill. I simply don't see how you can separate them.

It is going to be especially clear to the American people that that is the case when an omnibus spending bill is brought here this fall and we are asked to vote for, again, the largest tax increase in the history of this country within the confines of a very, very large spending bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman's time has expired.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Chairman, I ask to strike the requisite number of words.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Chairman, I rise today on the McHenry amendment, which would cut $100,000 from the USDA, the Department of Agriculture. $100,000, that is the equivalent to what the out-of-pocket costs will be if you have a 10 percent cut in Medicare Advantage for poor health seniors in my State.

POINT OF ORDER

Ms. DELAURO. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Connecticut.

Ms. DELAURO. The gentleman is engaged in irrelevant debate and is not speaking about the issue at hand, the Agriculture appropriations bill.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. No, I actually was.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman from Oregon must confine his remarks to the pending question.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. I am trying to put what $100,000 means in perspective for people who may actually get hit with higher costs because of other policy changes coming down the road as part of this overall budget.

I would also point out to my friends on the Democratic side of the aisle that the Agriculture appropriations bill also contains in it language related to drug reimportation; and, indeed, that is an issue in this bill before this House at this time.

Certainly, if the Medicare Advantage plans are whacked in a rural district, then perhaps seniors may want to take advantage of that provision. I don't know. Because drug reimportation poses a whole set of different issues that can be problematic, if you have seen some of the polluted drugs coming in from China right now.

So that is an issue that concerns me. Because if they lose their Medicare Advantage coverage that may help them in that area, who knows what is left in terms of cuts in Medicare.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. OBEY. The House is not debating the issue of Medicare Advantage. The House is debating an Agriculture appropriations bill, and the gentleman has an obligation to stay on the subject.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will direct his remarks to the pending question.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Parliamentary inquiry, Madam Chairman. Is there not in the underlying bill language dealing with drug importation?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Oregon must maintain an ongoing nexus between the pending question and any broad policy issues.

The gentleman from Oregon may continue.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. So the policy here in this context would be related to drugs, because in the underlying bill is drug reimportation language.

There is not? Okay. So you are telling me in the Agriculture appropriations bill there is no language in there that deals with drug importation. That is news, if you read the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will suspend.

Currently pending the House has before it the amendment of the gentleman from North Carolina to the amendment of the gentleman from Georgia. That is the business that is pending. That is the question that the gentleman's remarks should be directed to.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. So you can't talk about anything else in the agriculture bill, just the $100,000 cut.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair has ruled that the gentleman should confine his remarks to the pending question, which is the McHenry amendment to the Gingrey amendment.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Georgia has a point of order. Please state it.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Chairman, do the rules of this House apply the same to every Member of the House?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Is the gentleman stating a parliamentary inquiry or a point of order?

Mr. WESTMORELAND. A parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from Oregon yield for that purpose?

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. I would be happy to yield.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Parliamentary inquiry, Madam Chairman.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. State your parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Do the rules of this House apply to every Member equally?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Chairman, further parliamentary inquiry. Is it not true that the chairman of Energy and Commerce came to the floor and never mentioned the amendment that was being discussed?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is not stating a parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Further parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. I continue to yield.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. The same parliamentary inquiry. Is it not true that when the gentleman that is chair of Energy and Commerce——

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair does not exercise initiative in this area but only rules on points of order as they are made.

The gentleman from Oregon is recognized.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Thank you, Madam Chairman. I will try and confine my remarks more to the McHenry amendment, which, as we know, would cut $100,000 out of the Department of Agriculture.

Now, that $100,000 may not seem like a lot to many on this floor, but it may seem like a lot to a senior if they are going to lose their Medicare Advantage plan. But I know that is not the issue before us at this moment. The issue really is, how do you control spending in the Federal government?

I think one of the ways you control spending in the Federal government is through the McHenry amendment. Because the McHenry amendment reduces Federal spending by $100,000, which may not seem like a lot to some and they may not want us to talk about how it could be used in other programs that may come before this House at a different time in a different way. But certainly, if you were going to lose your Medicare, you would be concerned about you might save $100,000 here that could be used somewhere else so you did not have to raise taxes on, say, health insurance.

Saving $100,000 here is a good thing. It may not seem like a lot, but it is still a good thing. It reduces spending, and this government has had trouble reducing spending. We have spent a lot of time on this floor debating amounts that are even less than $100,000. I would like to see us go farther than that, because I also know in other committees there is debate going on about having to raise revenues to fund other programs.

POINT OF ORDER

Ms. DELAURO. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman will state her point of order.

Ms. DELAURO. The gentleman's remarks need to be confined to the issue at hand, the matter at hand. The amendment has to do with the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. That is what I am speaking to, Madam Chairman. I am speaking to the $100,000 cut in the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman will confine his remarks to the pending matter, which is the McHenry amendment.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. How am I not, Madam Chairman? How am I not confining my remarks? Could you delineate? Can you not talk about anything else, other than simply the words in the amendment?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman must confine his remarks to the pending question.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. So I am. This amendment, if approved, would save $100,000. This amendment, if approved, would save $100,000. I would like to be able to put that in a broader context for my colleagues in terms of what that might mean to other spending and other situations around here where the Democrats have decided to raise——

POINT OF ORDER

Ms. DELAURO. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Connecticut.

Ms. DELAURO. Is it not true that the issue is whether or not there is $50,000 or $100,000 that is to be cut, and that is the issue at hand, and that is the issue that ought to be addressed?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman is correct.

Ms. DELAURO. And it has been accepted.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The McHenry amendment to the Gingrey amendment is the pending question.

□ 1830

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Chairman, I am speaking to the importance of cutting $100,000 rather than $50,000.

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. GINGREY. I appreciate the gentleman yielding.

Is it not true that these points of orders and parliamentary inquiries that keep coming from the other side are just dilatory tactics on their part to take away our ability to talk to the American people and to this body on a very important issue?

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Well, it would seem to me that they have narrowed what we can say, trying to silence the minority, trying to silence Republicans from bringing to light certain issues we care about. We have been restricted now to simply talking about a dollar amount on one amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Connecticut has already spoken on the pending propositions.

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ISRAEL. I yield to the distinguished chairwoman of the subcommittee.

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman.

I want to make the point that it is really laughable to talk about dilatory. It really is. It is now not an hour and a half, it is almost 2½ hours on an amendment that has been accepted and a secondary amendment that has been accepted by the Committee for the Department of Agriculture. The cuts have been made.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Chairman, point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman will suspend. The gentleman may state his point of order.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. As I understand the Chair's ruling before, individual Members must confine their comments to the amendment at hand.

Ms. DELAURO. That is exactly what I'm doing. The amendment at hand, the McHenry amendment, to increase the Gingrey amendment from $50,000 to $100,000. We have debated it. It has been accepted.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Is there a ruling from the Chair?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman has confined her remarks to the pending question.

Mr. ISRAEL. I yield back the balance of my time.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman may state it.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I have noticed that the Chair has qualitatively ruled on the nature of Members' comments on the floor as it relates to confining their comments to the amendment. I would suggest that is not an appropriate compliance with the rules of the House.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair will respond to points of order as they are made.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I thank the Chair.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Jersey may state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. When the Chair rules to a point of order with respect to limiting one's comments or debate to the underlying amendment that is before us at the time, is that time allowed to be discussed on something with respect to the amount of time in essence that we are discussing that bill or does the language only go to the underlying amendment?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Jersey, or any Member addressing the House on a particular pending question, must maintain an ongoing nexus between the pending question and any broader policy issues.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Further parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman may state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Is it a sufficient nexus to discuss the amount of time that an individual is taking to discuss the underlying amendment?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Broader issues could include the time being consumed by the Member.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Thank you.

Mr. SHADEGG. I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Arizona is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHADEGG. I rise in strong support of the McHenry amendment to reduce the budget of the Office of the Secretary by $101,000.

The reason I support that amendment is because I do not support cutting the Medicare Advantage program by billions of dollars and hurting seniors.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Illinois will state his point of order.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, the majority has accepted the McHenry amendment and the minority continues to engage in irrelevant debate.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Arizona has confined his remarks to the pending amendment. The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. SHADEGG. Thank you. I would rather cut the Secretary's budget by $101 billion as a way to save money than to cut the Medicare Advantage program because the Medicare Advantage program helps millions of Americans and thousands in my own congressional district. So as the Democrats propose to cut that program in their SCHIP bill, I believe it would be better to cut this program.

I rise in support of the McHenry amendment to cut $101,000 from the Secretary's budget because the Medicare Advantage bill will cut 3 million seniors' ability to collect their benefits through Medicare Advantage. That 3 million includes some of the poorest of seniors who are on Medicare Advantage, and I would rather cut $101,000 from the Secretary's budget than cut that money going to Medicare seniors who need it desperately.

I support the amendment by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) to cut $101,000 from the budget of the Secretary of Agriculture because the other cut we are faced with is a $15 billion cut in part A, including a cut in benefits to skilled nursing facilities, as the Democrats propose to do in their SCHIP bill.

I would rather cut the Department of Agriculture's budget than——

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman from Illinois will state his point of order.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. The majority has accepted the McHenry amendment and the minority continues to engage in irrelevant debate about the SCHIP program in another bill for another day.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Arizona must confine his remarks to the pending question.

The gentleman may proceed.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. SHADEGG. Parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman may state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. SHADEGG. I presume I can state my reason for supporting the amendment; is that correct?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman must keep his remarks to the pending question, and there must be a nexus between the pending question and broader policy issues.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. SHADEGG. And I will continue to say that a $15 billion cut in skilled nursing facilities is, from my perspective, a bad idea, much worse than a $101,000 cut from the Secretary's budget. And, therefore, I rise in strong support of the McHenry amendment because I don't want to see skilled nursing cut as the Democrats propose to do in their SCHIP bill.

I support the McHenry amendment which would cut $101,000 from the Secretary's budget because I don't support cutting rehabilitation facilities as the Democrats would do in their SCHIP bill.

Indeed, I would much prefer to cut $100,000 from the Secretary's budget than to cut, as the Democrats do in their SCHIP bill, rehabilitation facilities.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman from Illinois will state his point of order.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, the majority has accepted the McHenry amendment and the minority continues to engage in irrelevant debate about a piece of legislation that will come up in a few days. We are discussing the Agriculture appropriations bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman must confine his remarks to the pending question.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. SHADEGG. As I believe I have, quite skillfully.

I do rise in very strong support of the McHenry amendment because I believe that cutting the Secretary's budget is a much better idea than cutting skilled nursing facilities.

I believe it is a much better idea than cutting long-term hospital facilities, as the Democrats do in their SCHIP bill. And I think it would be much better to cut $100,000 from the Secretary of Agriculture's administrative budget than to cut, as the Democrats do, funding for long-term care by hospitals.

It seems to me this is a simple debate: Where do we cut? I would much rather cut $100,000 from the budget of the Office of the Secretary than to cut $9 billion from Medicare plan B, including payments for oxygen, as the Democrats do in their SCHIP bill. It seems to me that kind of cut in their SCHIP bill is a bad idea. I would rather support the gentleman's amendment.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Illinois will state his point of order.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Chairman, the gentleman sounds like a broken record. The majority has accepted the McHenry amendment and the minority continues to engage in irrelevant debate.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Illinois will state his point of order.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. The majority has accepted the McHenry amendment, and the minority continues to engage in irrelevant debate.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Is the gentleman making a point of order that the debate is irrelevant?

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I am making the point of order that the debate is absolutely irrelevant.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct. The gentleman from Arizona must confine his remarks to the pending question.

Mr. SHADEGG. Madam Chairman, I seek a clarification. What was the ruling of the Chair?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The point of order is correct. The gentleman from Arizona must confine his remarks to the pending question.

Mr. SHADEGG. Precisely how did my remarks not——

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The pending question is the amendment by Mr. MCHENRY of North Carolina to the amendment by the gentleman from Georgia. That is the pending question.

Mr. SHADEGG. And I thank the Chairman for her ruling, and I am pleased to say that each of my points have tried to explain that I support, adamantly support the amendment by the gentleman to cut $100,000 from the Secretary's budget because I don't favor these other cuts. I don't favor cutting the funding for end-stage renal disease programs. I would much rather cut the Department of Agriculture administrative budget than do as the Democrats would in their SCHIP bill, cut $3.6 billion from the end-stage renal disease program.

It seems to me that the amendment of the gentleman from North Carolina to cut $100,000 from the administrative budget of the Secretary is a much-preferable method to achieve the savings that we need. In each of these instances, I believe that cutting the Secretary's budget would make much more sense than cutting the Medicare program.

I have constituents in my district who would much rather see us cut the Ag budget than see us cut Medicare or see us cut end-stage renal disease or than see us cut oxygen therapy as is all done in the Democrats' SCHIP bill. For all of those reasons, I believe it is very important that we support the gentleman's amendment.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Point of order.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Illinois may state his point of order.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. The minority continues to engage in irrelevant debate.

Mr. SHADEGG. There is nothing irrelevant about it.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Arizona will suspend.

Does the gentleman make a point of order that the debate is irrelevant?

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I make the point of order that the debate is irrelevant.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct. The gentleman from Arizona must confine his remarks to the pending question.

Mr. SHADEGG. I appeal the ruling of the Chair.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is: Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the Committee?

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. SHADEGG. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 220, noes 178, not voting 39, as follows:

[Roll No. 777]

AYES—220

Abercrombie	Carnahan	Donnelly
Ackerman	Carney	Edwards
Altmire	Carson	Ellison
Andrews	Castor	Ellsworth
Arcuri	Chandler	Emanuel
Baca	Christensen	Engel
Baird	Clay	Eshoo
Baldwin	Cleaver	Etheridge
Barrow	Clyburn	Faleomavaega
Bean	Conyers	Farr
Becerra	Cooper	Fattah
Berkley	Costa	Filner
Berman	Costello	Frank (MA)
Berry	Courtney	Giffords
Bishop (GA)	Cramer	Gillibrand
Bishop (NY)	Crowley	Gonzalez
Blumenauer	Cuellar	Gordon
Bordallo	Cummings	Green, Al
Boren	Davis (AL)	Green, Gene
Boswell	Davis (CA)	Grijalva
Boyd (FL)	Davis (IL)	Gutierrez
Boyda (KS)	Davis, Lincoln	Hall (NY)
Brady (PA)	DeGette	Hare
Brown, Corrine	Delahunt	Harman
Butterfield	DeLauro	Hastings (FL)
Capps	Dingell	Herseth Sandlin
Capuano	Doggett	Higgins

Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth

NOES—178

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Ferguson
Flake
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
McCarthy (CA)
McCotter
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—39

Allen
Bishop (UT)
Boucher
Braley (IA)
Buyer
Cannon
Cantor
Cardoza
Clarke
Cohen
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
Diaz-Balart, L.
Dicks
Doyle
Feeney
Forbes
Fortuño
Fossella
Hayes
Hunter
Johnson, Sam
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
McCrery
Miller, George
Nunes
Pickering
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Smith (TX)
Tancredo
Udall (CO)
Waters
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (OH)
Wynn

□ 1906

Mr. PETRI changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Ms. KILPATRICK changed her vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the decision of the Chair stands as the judgment of the Committee.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. SHADEGG. Madam Chairman, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. SHADEGG. As I understand the ruling of the Chair, it is appropriate for me to say I support the gentleman's amendment because I do not support cuts in skilled nursing facilities or cuts in rehabilitation facilities or cuts in long-term care hospitals or cuts in oxygen, or cuts in brachytherapy, or cuts in end-stage renal disease or cuts in Medicare Advantage; but that I cannot say which appear in their SCHIP bill. Is that correct?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is permissible to identify as preferable an alternative object for funding. It is not permissible to dwell on the merits of that alternative object.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. SHADEGG. I thank you very much for your ruling.

Madam Chairman, I do rise in support of the gentleman's amendment. I believe that we have to find the funding necessary for essential government programs and that cutting the Secretary of Agriculture is much better than cutting such programs as skilled nursing facilities, rehabilitation facilities, long-term care hospitals, oxygen under Medicare, brachytherapy under Medicare, end-stage renal disease funding under Medicare or Medicare Advantage.

For those reasons, I rise in strong support of the gentleman's amendment.

Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

MOTION TO RISE OFFERED BY MR. HOYER

Mr. HOYER. Madam Chairman, I intend to ask for unanimous consent after the motion that I make and we rise, and then I will make a statement on the schedule that I perceive to be in front of us for such time as it may take to complete the business of the people of our country.

I move that the Committee do now rise.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the motion to rise.

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 235, noes 153, not voting 49, as follows:

[Roll No. 778]

AYES—235

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonner
Bordallo
Boren
Boswell
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Christensen
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Faleomavaega
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Frank (MA)
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Rehberg
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stupak

Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

NOES—153

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Capito
Carter
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Emerson
English (PA)
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Jordan
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Kuhl (NY)
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
McCarthy (CA)
McCotter
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Regula
Reichert
Renzi
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)

NOT VOTING—49

Allen
Bishop (UT)
Boucher
Braley (IA)
Buyer
Calvert
Cannon
Cantor
Cardoza
Clarke
Cummings
Davis (KY)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
Diaz-Balart, L.
Dicks
Doyle
Ferguson
Forbes
Fortuño
Gingrey
Harman
Hayes
Hinchey
Hunter
Johnson, Sam
Keller
Knollenberg
LaHood
Lamborn
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
McCrery
Miller, George
Nunes
Paul
Pickering
Reyes
Reynolds
Ryan (WI)
Smith (TX)
Tancredo
Turner
Udall (CO)
Wasserman Schultz
Whitfield
Wicker
Young (AK)

□ 1928

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina and Mr. PEARCE changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the motion to rise was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during today's vote on H.R. 2831, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2007, which will protect women against pay discrimination and restore all employee's rights regarding nondiscriminatory pay. The legislation will reverse the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Ledbetter v. Goodyear by putting into statute widely accepted rules in employment discrimination law. I strongly support federal protections against pay discrimination; therefore, had I been present, I would have voted for H.R. 2831.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TIERNEY) having assumed the chair, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3161) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order for 1 minute for the purposes of informing the Members of the schedule for the week to come, for today and for tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized.

There was no objection.

Mr. HOYER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Ladies and gentlemen of the House, obviously, the American public sent us here to get its work done. Obviously as well, we have differences on what work we ought to be doing and what the substance of that work ought to be, and they expect us to debate that, and they expect us to have our differences, and then they expect us to resolve those differences through voting and moving legislation.

The Agriculture appropriation bill is on the floor. Mr. OBEY, myself, and Mr. BOEHNER had very long discussions about how we would consider the appropriation bills. On or about June 14, it was June 12 and 13 that we really discussed, we came to agreement. We came to agreement on how we would consider the appropriation bills, essentially the time frame that would be accorded to those bills, that we would have open rules on the appropriation bills, and that we would come to only unanimous consent agreements on the constraint of debate.

□ 1930

Furthermore, we agreed that we would offer a rule the Monday following June 14 to provide for a point of order on items added to appropriation bills.

I believe that I have, as leader, done everything I said I would do.

On Monday, I offered a unanimous consent, a request to add to our rules the point of order that the minority felt important to protect its rights. That unanimous consent, obviously, was not objected to. It is now part of our rules.

Since that time, on 10 appropriation bills we have had open rules, as we said we would. The agreement, as you have heard me state before, contemplated that you would give us, on the minority side, essentially the same unanimous consents that we gave to you in an election year 1 year ago.

Notwithstanding that understanding, we have taken 50 hours longer to consider the appropriation bills since that time than we took last year when you were in charge and Mr. OBEY gave the unanimous consent. You've heard me complain about that because I thought that was not consistent with the agreement.

Notwithstanding that, we have proceeded on this floor with open rules, and the Agriculture appropriation bill has come to the floor with an open rule. The Agriculture appropriation bill has been on the floor for some, 4, 4½ hours, and we are not really considering the substance of the Agriculture appropriation bill.

I know there is upset on your side of the aisle, I say to my friends on the minority side, about another bill. But there was nothing in the agreement that said if you were upset with another bill that the agreement reached between Mr. BOEHNER and I and Mr. OBEY would not be honored. There was nothing that said that if we're angry about another bill that we will disrupt the appropriations process.

And, therefore, it is my perception, and I think, based upon the facts that everyone in this country has observed over the last number of hours, that my perception is the agreement has not been honored. I regret that.

I will tell you that I pride myself on honoring my agreements, even when it may anger my side of the aisle, because I believe that if we are to proceed in a civil way, in a way that we can trust one another, that is what we ought to do. Notwithstanding the extra 50 hours that we've spent, we were prepared to proceed.

Now, let me read just briefly, Mr. SHADEGG was on the floor just a little while ago and spoke. This is what Mr. SHADEGG said on the 14th:

''As I understand it, this'', meaning our agreement to move bills forward, ''is an attempt to make sure that we don't waste time on dilatory tactics; that, rather, we proceed through these bills in an orderly fashion, but if someone has a substantive objection that should be accommodated. Is that correct?'' Mr. SHADEGG asked me.

In response, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee stated, and I quote Mr. OBEY: ''It is our hope that you will respond as we did in the minority by agreeing to reasonable time limits on each of those bills in return for that.'' In return for that was giving reasonable time for substantive amendments.

Again, my friends on the minority side, you have had 50 additional hours above and beyond the time that we debated the bills last year when you were in charge.

And Mr. SHADEGG responded, ''Certainly. And I think we will.'' We do not believe that that has been done.

During that same debate, on June 14, I stated to the minority, ''We expect to move forward on open rules.'' We have done that. ''But I want to make clear, if we are subjected to what we believe were dilatory tactics, then that would not be consistent with the agreement, and therefore our provision would be that, in lawyers' terms, the agreement has been breached.''

I also stated, and again I quote, ''We are proceeding with reliance on the good faith of each to proceed in a manner that we believe accommodates what has been done last year and what we hope will be done this year, and that is consider these bills with the inclusion of earmarks in the bills in a manner that facilitates their being passed through this House.''

In fact, Mr. HENSARLING stated, and again I quote, ''I believe I heard that there is hopefully an expectation of open rules. I understand the majority leader's caveat.'' That was my caveat that dilatory tactics would not be employed during the course of consideration of appropriation bills.

He went on to say, ''I understand there is an anticipation of unanimous consents,'' he said, ''UCs, as historic norms dictate.''

I carry around in my pocket, I've shared with my friend, Mr. BLUNT and Mr. BOEHNER, the times that we spent considering the appropriation bills last year. Those were the historic norms that we referred to when on the floor we talked about generally replicating the time constraints of last year.

''I understand,'' Mr. HENSARLING went on, ''there is an anticipation that if bills are of historic norms, that debate time may be of historic norms.''

Again, I say to my friends on the minority side, I believe we have followed those dictates and that understanding to the letter.

Now, as to the schedule, I want to tell my friends that I have, for many months, articulated the bills that we were going to consider this week. Among those bills were the appropriation bills, the Defense bill, the Agriculture appropriation bill. I've discussed with my friend, ROY BLUNT, the possibility of considering a FISA bill. We also have some conference reports. The WRDA conference report is ready, we believe. We're also going to consider the Defense appropriation bill, consistent with our agreement; and we're going to consider an energy bill.

There may be some other conference reports that will be ready. The Higher Education conference report possibly would be ready, although I think that may not occur. There are other bills that we're going to consider.

The reason I rise is, first of all, to discuss the agreement that we had, which I think has not been honored, with respect to the considerable appropriations bills. It was not with respect to other bills, but we were considering the appropriation bill.

And I tell my friend that I have discussed with the members of my caucus that we are going to complete this agenda. We will complete this agenda if it takes all of next week to complete. That will disrupt my schedule, it will disrupt your schedule, and it will not be a happy time for any of us in this body. I regret that.

I hope that those of you on the minority side who have dealt with me through the years believe that I try to treat one another as I want to be treated by them.

I regret that we are now going to go to the Rules Committee on the appropriations bills. We will go to the Rules Committee on the Agriculture appropriation bill. We will go to the Rules Committee on the Defense bill. We will go to the Rules Committee on each and every other bill.

That does not mean I expect you to sit back and simply say, well, that's fine. I expect that we will not have a happy time over the next coming days. But I also believe that you have not left me or my party with an alternative, if, in fact, we are to proceed with the people's business.

We have disagreements. That's fair. Amendments expressing those agreements offered on this floor is fair. Demanding votes on those amendments and on those bills is fair and what the American people expect.

What the American people, in my opinion, do not expect is for us to simply do nothing, to simply circle one another, yell and scream at one another, point fingers at one another and not proceed with their business.

We believe very strongly that children ought to have health care. I believe you think children ought to have health care. We have a difference of opinion as to how we accomplish that objective. That is fair.

What is not fair, from our perspective, is to simply disallow the House to proceed to do its business, to have its disagreements, to make its votes, to express its will.

And so I say to you that we will complete the agenda that I have set forth. I hope we pass all those bills. If we don't pass them, so be it. But if we pass, or whether they fail, we will consider them during this sitting, before we recess for our summer break. I regret that, but it is the only alternative with which I think I am left if, as majority leader of this House, I'm going to facilitate the accomplishment of the people's business.

Mr. BOEHNER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to my friend.

Mr. BOEHNER. I appreciate my colleague yielding.

There is no question that there was an agreement between Mr. HOYER, Mr. OBEY and myself to try to facilitate the movement of the appropriation process. During the time in the minority, the Democrats worked with us to facilitate that process; and over the course of the last 4 or 5 weeks I think that it has worked reasonably well. Maybe not to everyone's satisfaction, but reasonably well.

What's happened here is that we have the greatest expansion of government-run health care about to go out to the floor, where there's never been a legislative hearing in the Energy and Commerce Committee on this issue. The bill has not gone through committee. We're about, as the minority, about to have this thrust upon us, a 488-page bill that was in the committee that no one ever really had a chance to read; and to bring this in such a rush in the last week has caused concern amongst members in our caucus from every wing of our caucus.

Now I understand that the gentleman would prefer that we move the appropriations process quickly. But there was a discussion all of last year and the year before and a lot of promises made earlier this year about having a more open House, allowing Members the opportunity to debate, allowing the opportunity for the Members to bring amendments to the floor; and I and my colleagues on our side are very disappointed that not only have not all of those promises been kept, that we've actually regressed beyond the time that we were in the majority. And so it is unfortunate that we find ourselves at this spot. All that we've asked, all year, is to be treated fairly.

And I would say to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I understand that we have differences. I'm a big believer that we ought to allow the House to work its will. But, at the end of the day, for us to work our will and for other Members to work their will, there needs to be more open debate. There needs to be more opportunities for amendments. And I will say, from the point of view of the minority, all we're asking is to be treated fairly.

In 1995, when we took the majority for the first time in 40 years, some of my colleagues in the Republican leadership wanted to treat the minority, the new minority the way we had been treated. I argued that we should never do that, that we should treat the minority the way we asked to be treated. And over the course of, again, the last several years, you have made your case about how you wanted to be treated and how the minority should be treated. You made it very clear.

We're there. And I think all we're asking, all we're asking is that you treat us the way you wanted to be treated. And if that, in fact, is the case, we can do our work. We can do what the American people sent us here to do. But we can't do it when our voices are stifled and our constituents are not allowed to be represented with their views on the floor of this House.

So I regret that it has come to this. It is going to be a tough week, but we are not going to sit here representing nearly half the American people and not allow their voices to be heard.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time. That was the proposition that the gentleman put to us and Mr. OBEY when

we discussed the appropriations bills. We agreed, and we have followed to the letter, bringing every appropriation bill considered under an open rule, every one.

□ 1945

There were no constraints imposed beyond unanimous consent constraints so that we had an open process. Everybody got an opportunity to make their points and to vote.

There is no one on this side of the aisle who has served for the last 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 years who does not understand the pain that you express of your Members. They have all felt it. You know that, and I know that. Frankly, we had a previous majority leader who was not nearly as tolerant as the present majority leader, I say with some degree of perhaps humor but some degree, I think, of real truth. I believe we have complied with that agreement.

We will now conclude the business for tonight, and we will back tomorrow, and we will complete the work that I have set forth on behalf of the majority that the House contemplates. And we hope that we can try, over the next few hours, to reach a greater level of civility on both sides so that we can proceed and try to accommodate the concerns of every Member. But that has not happened.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I will be glad to yield, and then we will conclude.

Mr. BOEHNER. We will be happy to work with you and the chairman of the Appropriations Committee on a unanimous consent request for both the Ag appropriations bill and the Defense appropriation bill. We just want some understanding that there is going to be ample time for debate on the SCHIP bill that we expect to show up sometime this week. If we can agree on 2 or 3 hours of debate on the SCHIP bill, we will be more than happy to facilitate this process.

Our concern, based on what we have seen of the schedule, is that there was going to be very little debate on the SCHIP bill. That is why Members felt compelled, the need to come down and talk about it today on this bill. But we can work this out. I will just throw that out there for the gentleman's consideration.

Mr. HOYER. I will look forward to discussing the next 4, 5 or 6 days with my friend.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 0341

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. CASTOR) at 3 o'clock and 41 minutes a.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3162, CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND MEDICARE PROTECTION ACT OF 2007

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–285) on the resolution (H. Res. 594) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3162) to amend titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the children's health insurance program, to improve beneficiary protections under the Medicare, Medicaid, and the CHIP program, and for other purposes, 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

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–286) 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.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3222, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–287) on the resolution (H. Res. 596) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3222) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1495, WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2007

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–288) on the resolution (H. Res. 597) providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1495) to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,
Washington, DC, July 10, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER, On June 28, 2007, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure met in open session to consider 14 resolutions authorizing the General Services Administration (''GSA'') Capital Investment Program for Fiscal Year 2008, in accordance with 40 U.S.C. §3307. The resolutions authorize leases for various Federal agencies. The Committee adopted the resolutions with a quorum present.

Enclosed are copies of the resolutions adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on June 28, 2007.

Sincerely,

JAMES L. OBERSTAR,
Chairman.

Enclosure.

LEASE—FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, PHOENIX, AZ
PAZ–01–PH08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 210,202 rentable square feet for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, currently located in one Federal building and three leased facilities in Phoenix, AZ, at a proposed total annual cost of $7,567,272 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, SAN DIEGO, CA
PCA–01–SD08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C.

§3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 254,382 rentable square feet for the consolidation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, currently located in six leased facilities in San Diego, CA, at a proposed total annual cost of $11,447,190 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION SANTA ANA, CA

PCA–02–SA08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 102,065 rentable square feet for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, currently located in a leased facility in Santa Ana, CA, at a proposed total annual cost of $4,490,860 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, 1990 K STREET, NW., WASHINGTON, DC

PDC–04–WA08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 115,024 rentable square feet for the Department of Education, currently located at 1990 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC, at a proposed total annual cost of $4,831,008 for a lease term of up to 4 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC

PDC–05–WA08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 170,130 rentable square feet for the Internal Revenue Service, currently located at 500 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, DC, at a proposed total annual cost of $7,996,110 for a lease term of up to 10 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, WASHINGTON, DC

PDC–03–WA08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 97,049 rentable square feet for the Department of Homeland Security-U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service, currently located at 111 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC, at a proposed total annual cost of $4,561,303 for a lease term of up to 10 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, HONOLULU, HI

PHI–01–HO08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 150,365 rentable square feet for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, currently located in the Prince J. Kuhio Federal Building and Courthouse and one leased location in Honolulu, HI, at a proposed total annual cost of $8,270,075 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

AMENDED PROSPECTUS—LEASE—DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR-MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE, METAIRIE, LA

PLA–01–JP08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 197,084 rentable square feet for the Department of Interior-Minerals Management Service, Metairie, LA, at a proposed total annual cost of $5,321,268 for a lease term of up to 15 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution. This resolution amends the Committee resolution dated April 5, 2006, authorizing a lease up to 197,084 rentable square feet and 650 parking spaces for the Department of Interior-Minerals Management Service in Metairie, LA, at a proposed

total annual cost of $4,730,016 for a lease term of up to 15 years.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, SUBURBAN MARYLAND

PMD–01–WA08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 120,000 rentable square feet for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, currently located at 6003 Executive Boulevard in Rockville, MD, and 7201 Wisconsin Avenue in Bethesda, MD, at a proposed total annual cost of $3,840,000 for a lease term of up to 10 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this reolution.

LEASE—NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, ALBUQUERQUE, NM

PNM–01–AQ08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 311,246 rentable square feet for the National Nuclear Security Administration Service Center, currently located in 23 buildings on the Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, NM, at a proposed total annual cost of $9,337,380 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, AUSTIN, TX

PTX–OI–AU08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 225,054 rentable square feet for the Internal Revenue Service, currently located in the Southpark G Building, 1821 Director's Boulevard, Austin, TX, at a proposed total annual cost of $4,726,134 for a lease term of up to 10 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, SALT LAKE CITY, UT

PUT–01–SL08

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 163,040 rentable square feet for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, currently located in two leased and one owned facility in Salt Lake City, UT, at a proposed total annual cost of $6,195,520 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, TIDEWATER, VA

PVA–01–N008

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 131,463 rentable square feet for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, currently located at a leased facility at 150 Corporate Boulevard in Norfolk, VA, at a proposed total annual cost of $5,127,057 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

LEASE—DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ROCKVILLE, MD

PMD–01–WA07

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that, pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized to lease up to approximately 935,401 rentable square feet for the Department of Health and Human Services, currently located in 4 leased locations in Rockville, MD, at a proposed total annual cost of $29,932,832 for a lease term of up to 15 years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement

include minimum performance requirements requiring energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

There was no objection.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. SUTTON (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today until 2:00 p.m.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on July 27, 2007, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.J. Res. 44. Joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2429. To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an exception to the 60-day limit on Medicare reciprocal billing arrangements between two physicians during the period in which one of the physicians is ordered to active duty as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m.), consistent with the fourth clause in section 5 of article I of the Constitution, and notwithstanding section 132 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the House adjourned until today, Wednesday, August 1, 2007, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2785. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Bacillus thuringiensis Vip3Aa19 Protein in Cotton; Exemption from the Requirements of a Tolerance; Technical Amendment [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0913; FRL-8134-3] received July 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2786. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''Report to Congress on Sustainable Ranges,'' as required by Section 366 of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2003; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2787. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment, Department of Defense, transmitting notification of the decision to convert to contract the air and surface training support functions currently performed at Fleet Composite Squadron Six in Norfolk, VA, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2461; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2788. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Jeffrey B. Kohler, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2789. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement Admiral Edmund P. Giambastini, Jr., United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2790. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General Peter Pace, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2791. A letter from the Administrator, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Senior Community Service Employment Program; Performance Accoountability (RIN: 1205-AB47) received July 5, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

2792. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Technical Assistance on Data-Collection—Technical Assistance Center for Data Collection, Analysis, and Use for Accountability in Special Education and Early Intervention — received July 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

2793. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''Promising Strategies to End Youth Homelessness,'' in accordance with the Runaway, Homeless and Missing Children Protection Act; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

2794. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's FY 2006 annual performance report to Congress required by the Prescription Drug User Fee Act of 1992 (PDUFA), as amended, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 379g note; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2795. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the FY 2006 Performance Report to Congress for the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Combination Products required by the Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act of 2002; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2796. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Redesignation of the Harrisburg-Lebanon-Carlisle Ozone Nonattainment Area to Attainment and Approval of the Area's Maintenance Plan and 2002 Base Year Inventory [EPA-R03-OAR-2007-0323; FRL-8445-7] received July 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2797. A letter from the Chief Policy Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — In the Matters of Review of the Emergency Alert System; Independent Spanish Broadcasters Association, the Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ, Inc., and the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council, Petition for Immediate Relief [EB Docket No. 04-296] received July 25, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2798. A letter from the Associate General Counsel, Government Accountability Office, transmitting the Department's final rule — Current Good Manufacturing Practice in Manufacturing, Packaging, Labeling, or Holding Operations for Dietary Supplements (RIN: 0910-AB88) received July 19, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2799. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2800. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's strategy for democracy and governance in Iraq prepared in compliance with the ''Democracy Fund'' section of Pub. L. 110-28; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2801. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergency Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that was declared in Executive Order 12947 of January 23, 1995; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2802. A letter from the Chief Financial Officer, Library of Congress, transmitting activities of the United States Capitol Preservation Fund for the six-month period which ended on March 31, 2007, pursuant to 40 U.S.C. 188a-3; to the Committee on House Administration.

2803. A letter from the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's biennial report on the Adminsitration of the Coastal Zone Management Act by the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for fiscal years 2004 and 2005, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2804. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's report on the impacts of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma on Alabama, Louisiana, Florida, Mississippi, and Texas fisheries, pursuant to Section 213(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2805. A letter from the Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's training course for the newly appointed Regional Fishery Management Council members as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Resuthorization Act of 2006, Pub. L. 109-479; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2806. A letter from the Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's report on the impact of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma on Commercial and Recreational Fishery Habitat of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, pursuant to Section 213 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2807. A letter from the President, American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, transmitting the annual report of the activities of the American Academy of Arts and Letters during the year ending December 31, 2006, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 4204; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2808. A letter from the Staff Director, Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting notification that the Commission recently appointed members to the Hawaii Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2809. A letter from the Staff Director, Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting notification that the Commission recently appointed members to the Indiana Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2810. A letter from the Staff Director, Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting notification that the Commission recently appointed members to the Pennsylvania Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2811. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's Twenty-Ninth Annual Report to Congress on the activities during Fiscal Year 2006 as pursuant to subsection (j) of section 7A of the Clayton Act, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 18a(j); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2812. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Civil Works, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting a status report on the Section 154 Northern Wisconsin Environmental Infrastructure Program, pursuant to Public Law 106-554, section 154; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2813. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Agent for a Consolidated Group with Foreign Common Parent [TD 9343] (RIN: 1545-BF30) received July 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2814. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''Evaluation of the Medicare Replacement Drug Demonstration,'' in response to Section 641 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

2815. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting notification that the Department intends to use FY 2007 IMET funds for Pakistan, pursuant to Public Law 110-5, section 520; jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Appropriations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. OBERSTAR: Commitee of Conference. Conference report on H.R. 1495. A bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes (Rept. 110–280). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. RANGEL: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 3056. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the authority of the Internal Revenue Service to use private debt collection companies, to delay implementation of withholding taxes on government contractors, to revise the tax rules on expatriation, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 110–281). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. SKELTON: Committee on Armed Services. H.R. 3159. A bill to mandate minimum periods of rest and recuperation for units and members of the regular and reserve components of the Armed Forces between deployments for Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom; with an amendment (Rept. 110–282). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. SKELTON: Committee on Armed Services. H.R. 3087. A bill to require the President, in coordination with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other senior military leaders, to develop and transmit to Congress a comprehensive strategy for the redeployment of United States Armed Forces in Iraq; with amendments (Rept. 110–283). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

[Filed on August 1 (legislative day, July 31), 2007]

Mr. RANGEL: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 3162. A bill to amend titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the children's health insurance program, to improve beneficiary protections under the Medicare, Medicaid, and the CHIP program, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 110–284 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Ms. CASTOR: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 594. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3162) to amend titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the children's health insurance program, to improve beneficiary protections under the Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP program, and for other purposes (Rept. 110–285). Referred to the House Calendar.

Ms. SLAUGHTER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 595. Resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions from the Committee on Rules (Rept. 110–286). Referred to the House Calendar.

Ms. CARDOZA: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 596. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3222) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes (Rept. 110–287). Referred to the House Calendar.

Ms. MATSUI: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 597. Resolution providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1495) to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes (Rept. 110–288). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. DELAHUNT (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. FARR, Mr. PORTER, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. STEARNS, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, and Mr. FEENEY):

H.R. 3232. A bill to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote tourist, business, and scholarly travel to the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PICKERING (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 3233. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at Highway 49 South in Piney Woods, Mississippi, as the ''Laurence C. and Grace M. Jones Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CANTOR (for himself and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas):

H.R. 3234. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve access to health care through expanded health savings accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 3235. A bill to ensure the development and responsible stewardship of nanotechnology; to the Committee on Science and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, and Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BOUCHER (for himself and Mr. DINGELL):

H.R. 3236. A bill to promote greater energy efficiency; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BOUCHER (for himself and Mr. DINGELL):

H.R. 3237. A bill to facilitate the transition to a smart electricity grid; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BOUCHER (for himself and Mr. DINGELL):

H.R. 3238. A bill to promote the development of renewable fuels infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Science and Technology, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BOUCHER (for himself and Mr. DINGELL):

H.R. 3239. A bill to promote advanced plug-in hybrid vehicles and vehicle components; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and Science and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each

case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BOUCHER (for himself and Mr. DINGELL):

H.R. 3240. A bill to enhance availability of critical energy information; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BOUCHER (for himself and Mr. DINGELL):

H.R. 3241. A bill to clarify the amount of loans to be guaranteed under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS (for herself and Mr. MCKEON):

H.R. 3242. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the ability of the United States to be competitive in a global economy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. WELLER (for himself and Mr. CAMP of Michigan):

H.R. 3243. A bill to direct the Bureau of the Census to publish improved annual measures of family income for use in more accurately determining the extent of poverty in the United States and the anti-poverty effectiveness of means-tested benefit and tax programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia):

H.R. 3244. A bill to establish the National Commission on Detainee Treatment; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CALVERT (for himself, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. JORDAN, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. DREIER, Mr. HERGER, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. CAMPBELL of California, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. NUNES, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. ROYCE, Mrs. BONO, Mr. ISSA, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. REGULA, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. FEENEY):

H.R. 3245. A bill to redesignate the Dryden Flight Research Center as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center and the Western Aeronautical Test Range as the Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

By Mr. OBERSTAR (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. HODES, Mr. HAYES, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. FILNER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ORTIZ, and Mr. JEFFERSON):

H.R. 3246. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to provide a comprehensive regional approach to economic and infrastructure development in the most severely economically distressed regions in the Nation; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. BAKER, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. MELANCON, and Mr. JINDAL):

H.R. 3247. A bill to improve the provision of disaster assistance for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. OBERSTAR (for himself, Mr. MICA, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 3248. A bill to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. BERKLEY (for herself, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. LEE, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. SERRANO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GORDON, Mr. HARE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. FILNER, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. SPACE):

H.R. 3249. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase burial benefits for veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 3250. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose an excise tax on State revenues from tolls first imposed during calendar year 2009, on Federally-financed interstate highways; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FERGUSON:

H.R. 3251. A bill to amend title XVII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage, as supplies associated with the injection of insulin, of home needle removal, decontamination and disposal devices and the disposal of needles and syringes through a sharps-by-mail or similar program under part D of the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts:

H.R. 3252. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the time limitation for corrections to wage and self-employment income records; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HOLT (for himself and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York):

H.R. 3253. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide for the use of longitudinal data systems; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. SAXTON):

H.R. 3254. A bill to limit cost growth associated with major defense base closures and realignments implemented as part of the 2005 round of defense base closure and realignment; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HUNTER:

H.R. 3255. A bill to prohibit a State from charging an individual more than $200 for a permit or license to hunt big game on Federal public lands within that State; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

H.R. 3256. A bill to reduce post traumatic stress disorder and other combat-related stress disorders among military personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KIND (for himself, Mr. WAMP, and Mr. INSLEE):

H.R. 3257. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve standards for physical education; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California (for herself, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BONO, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SPACE, and Mr. WYNN):

H.R. 3258. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an individual who is entitled to receive child support a refundable credit equal to the amount of unpaid child support and to increase the tax liability of the individual required to pay such support by the amount of the unpaid child support; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. HINCHEY):

H.R. 3259. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to issue rules that designate no-fly zones in the vicinity of certain nuclear power plants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MCDERMOTT:

H.R. 3260. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to modify regulations to provide that certain Federal subsidies shall not be considered a grant made with respect to a building or its operation for purposes of the low-income housing tax credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut:

H.R. 3261. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act and the Natural Gas Act to require that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission conduct local hearings before issuing a permit or other authorization for any action that may affect land use in any locality, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. MUSGRAVE:

H.R. 3262. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore age 14 as the age at which unearned income of minor children ceases to be taxed as if parent's income; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 3263. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to encourage the implementation or expansion of prekindergarten programs for students 4 years of age or younger; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. SCHWARTZ (for herself, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, and Mr. HERGER):

H.R. 3264. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modernize the tax treatment of biomedical research corporations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SKELTON:

H.R. 3265. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Harry S Truman Birthplace State Historic Site, in Lamar, Missouri, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. TANCREDO:

H.R. 3266. A bill to provide for the issuance of War on Radical Islam Bonds; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TOWNS (for himself and Mr. UPTON):

H.R. 3267. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Healthy Start Initiative; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WAXMAN (by request):

H.R. 3268. A bill to make certain reforms with respect to the Government Accountability Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico (for herself, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. REGULA, Mr. GERLACH, Mrs. BONO, and Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 3269. A bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ARCURI:

H. Res. 588. A resolution recognizing Martha Coffin Wright on the 200th anniversary of her birth and her induction into the National Women's Hall of Fame; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. INSLEE (for himself, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. WU, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, and Mr. ELLISON):

H. Res. 589. A resolution directing the Committee on the Judiciary to investigate whether Alberto R. Gonzales, Attorney General of the United States, should be impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. POE (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. HOLDEN, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. FILNER, Mr. JEFFERSON, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. ELLISON, Mrs. DRAKE, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MICHAUD, Mrs. BIGGERT, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. WYNN, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. SHAYS):

H. Res. 590. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families and communities; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. REICHERT (for himself, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. LINDER, Mr. TERRY, Mr. WU, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mrs. DAVIS of California, and Mr. COBLE):

H. Res. 591. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Cambodian-American Freedom Day; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. REICHERT (for himself and Mr. TAYLOR):

H. Res. 592. A resolution supporting first responders in the United States in their efforts to prepare for and respond to natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters, and affirming the goals and ideals of National First Responder Appreciation Day; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:

H. Res. 593. A resolution congratulating scientists F. Sherwood Rowland, Mario Molina, and Paul Crutzen for their work in atmospheric chemistry, particularly concerning the formation and decomposition of ozone, that led to the development of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 20: Ms. SUTTON.
H.R. 160: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 180: Mr. FARR.
H.R. 303: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 369: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 530: Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 551: Mr. CAMPBELL of California.
H.R. 643: Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 688: Mr. HOLDEN.
H.R. 693: Mr. FILNER, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. BERKLEY, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.
H.R. 715: Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, and Ms. SOLIS.
H.R. 736: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
H.R. 758: Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 773: Ms. CARSON.
H.R. 826: Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 864: Mr. FATTAH and Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 900: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 928: Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. SHAYS.
H.R. 969: Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. WATT.
H.R. 971: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 989: Mr. HASTERT.
H.R. 1029: Mr. TERRY.
H.R. 1038: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 1064: Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. TAYLOR, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DONNELLY, and Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.
H.R. 1076: Mr. HARE.
H.R. 1092: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 1110: Mr. REYES.
H.R. 1283: Mr. SOUDER and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 1293: Mr. COBLE and Mr. ROGERS of Michigan.
H.R. 1302: Mr. ELLISON, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 1328: Mr. GORDON.
H.R. 1350: Mr. MCHUGH.
H.R. 1391: Mr. WEINER.
H.R. 1399: Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. DUNCAN, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. LUCAS, and Mr. THORNBERRY.
H.R. 1400: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1422: Mr. BOSWELL, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mrs. CUBIN.
H.R. 1459: Mr. MACK and Mr. BOUSTANY.
H.R. 1507: Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 1553: Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico.
H.R. 1567: Mr. SHERMAN and Mrs. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 1589: Mr. KELLER and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 1644: Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. JEFFERSON, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 1647: Mr. WEXLER, Mr. WELLER, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. EHLERS.
H.R. 1665: Mr. COOPER, Mr. GORDON, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Mr. BECERRA.
H.R. 1683: Mr. WYNN.
H.R. 1687: Mr. ELLISON and Mrs. JONES of Ohio.
H.R. 1695: Mr. DENT.
H.R. 1713: Ms. SOLIS.
H.R. 1843: Mr. WELLER, Ms. LINDA T. SÃNCHEZ of California, Mr. REGULA, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1845: Mr. PERLMUTTER and Mr. ALEXANDER.
H.R. 1932: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 1956: Ms. HOOLEY.
H.R. 2000: Mr. GERLACH and Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 2012: Mr. PLATTS and Mr. KIRK.
H.R. 2054: Mr. HINOJOSA.
H.R. 2060: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 2064: Ms. ESHOO and Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 2122: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. KILDEE, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2159: Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 2164: Mr. DELAHUNT and Mr. RODRIGUEZ.
H.R. 2183: Mr. HOEKSTRA.
H.R. 2185: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 2188: Mr. STARK, Mr. SERRANO, and Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota.
H.R. 2189: Ms. WATERS and Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 2205: Mr. STUPAK.
H.R. 2208: Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 2221: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 2233: Mr. ROTHMAN and Mr. STARK.
H.R. 2236: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 2265: Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 2266: Ms. SOLIS.
H.R. 2289: Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. EVERETT.
H.R. 2295: Mr. MORAN of Kansas.
H.R. 2327: Mr. ANDREWS.
H.R. 2349: Ms. CLARKE.
H.R. 2380: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 2395: Ms. SOLIS.
H.R. 2478: Ms. SOLIS.
H.R. 2537: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2567: Mr. RODRIGUEZ.
H.R. 2576: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2585: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan.
H.R. 2596: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 2606: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. ALEXANDER.
H.R. 2607: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.
H.R. 2639: Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina.
H.R. 2674: Ms. SOLIS.
H.R. 2708: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2723: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. PRYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 2740: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 2744: Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. DICKS, and Ms. SOLIS.
H.R. 2746: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 2761: Ms. HOOLEY.
H.R. 2762: Mr. BONNER, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. ETHERIDGE.
H.R. 2802: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. AKIN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 2828: Mr. HOYER and Mr. CLYBURN.
H.R. 2833: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 2859: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 2899: Mr. PRICE of Georgia and Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 2902: Mr. UDALL of Colorado and Mr. HODES.

H.R. 2910: Mr. MILLER of Florida and Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 2914: Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 2922: Mr. HINCHEY and Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 2927: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. CONAWAY, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, and Mr. SHADEGG.
H.R. 2941: Mr. NADLER and Ms. SOLIS.
H.R. 2942: Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. GOHMERT, and Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.
H.R. 2966: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 3001: Mr. ROTHMAN.
H.R. 3004: Mr. CRAMER, Mr. ROSS, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. CARDOZA, and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 3005: Mr. WEINER and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 3013: Ms. BEAN and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 3024: Mr. MCNULTY and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 3026: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. FORBES, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. RENZI, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. BOUCHER.
H.R. 3035: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, and Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 3040: Mr. WILSON of Ohio.
H.R. 3046: Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 3055: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 3059: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. MARCHANT, Ms. GRANGER, Ms. FALLIN, and Mr. ROYCE.
H.R. 3096: Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 3103: Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 3138: Mr. BACHUS, Mr. LOBIONDO, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. BONNER, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. NUNES, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. WAMP, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. GILLMOR, and Mr. DENT.
H.R. 3140: Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. HODES, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina.
H.R. 3145: Mr. GERLACH, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. MARCHANT, and Mr. GINGREY.
H.R. 3148: Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 3151: Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 3155: Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 3159: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 3162: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 3174: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. ALEXANDER.
H.R. 3175: Ms. SOLIS.
H.R. 3191: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 3197: Mr. EHLERS and Ms. CLARKE.
H.R. 3213: Mr. BOREN and Mr. SHULER.
H.R. 3225: Mr. GILLMOR.
H. Con. Res. 24: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H. Con. Res. 28: Mr. ALEXANDER.
H. Con. Res. 37: Mr. BOOZMAN.
H. Con. Res. 185: Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. KIND, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. DONNELLY, and Mr. RODRIGUEZ.
H. Con. Res. 193: Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. GILCHREST, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, and Mr. KIND.
H. Res. 32: Mr. SHERMAN.
H. Res. 68: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H. Res. 95: Mr. GOODE, Mr. HOLT, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. OLVER, Mr. GERLACH, Mrs. DAVIS of California, and Mr. CARNAHAN.
H. Res. 111: Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. WEINER, and Mr. BOOZMAN.
H. Res. 238: Ms. BORDALLO.
H. Res. 356: Mr. RAHALL.
H. Res. 405: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.
H. Res. 433: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H. Res. 447: Mr. CAPUANO.
H. Res. 548: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Mr. NADLER.
H. Res. 549: Mr. COBLE.
H. Res. 550: Mr. BOOZMAN.
H. Res. 557: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. SHERMAN.
H. Res. 572: Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
H. Res. 575: Ms. LEE, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. HOLT, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. SHERMAN.
H. Res. 576: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H. Res. 584: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, and Mr. SHAYS.
H. Res. 585: Mr. HINOJOSA and Mr. EDWARDS.
H. Res. 587: Mr. STUPAK and Mr. MARSHALL.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. NICK J. RAHALL, II

H.R. 3221, the New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. GEORGE MILLER OF CALIFORNIA

Among the provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Education and Labor, H.R. 3221, the New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.

OFFERED BY JOHN D. DINGELL

Among the provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, H.R. 3221, the New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. TOM LANTOS

Among the provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, H.R. 3221, the New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. IKE SKELTON

Among the provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Armed Services, H.R. 3221, the New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.

THE HONORABLE JAMES L. OBERSTAR,

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XXI

Among the provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, H.R. 3221, the ''New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act'', contains the following congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI:

Section 8603—$30 million to install a photovoltaic system for the headquarters building of the Department of Energy, at 1000 Independence Avenue, Southwest, Washington, DC, requested by James L. Oberstar, Eleanor Holmes Norton, and John L. Mica.

Section 8651—Such sums as may be necessary for the Architect of the Capitol to perform a feasibility study regarding construction of a photovoltaic roof for the Rayburn House Office Building requested by James L. Oberstar.

Section 8652—Such sums as may be necessary for the Architect of the Capitol to construct a fuel tank and pumping system for E–85 fuel at or within close proximity to the Capitol Grounds Fuel Station requested by James L. Oberstar.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. CONAWAY

AMENDMENT NO. 29: At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following (and make such technical and conforming changes as may be appropriate):

TITLE VIII—OTHER GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 801. None of the funds appropriated, or otherwise made available, in this Act may be used to carry out any amendment to section 11(e)(6) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2020(e)(6)).

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. BOOZMAN

AMENDMENT NO. 30: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to implement a National Animal Identification System unless the participation by livestock owners in such a system is voluntary.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 31: Page 2, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 32: Page 2, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 33: Page 2, line 26, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 34: Page 4, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 35: Page 5, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 36: Page 6, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 37: Page 7, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 38: Page 8, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 39: Page 8, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 40: Page 9, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $54,823,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 41: Page 19, line 3, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $4,957,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 42: Page 29, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 43: Page 30, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 44: Page 33, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 45: Page 48, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000)''.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. FLAKE

AMENDMENT NO. 46: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Aquaculture Initiatives for Mid-Atlantic: Highlands, Leetown, WV, project.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Agricultural Research Service—Salaries and Expenses'' is hereby reduced by $543,693.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. FLAKE OF ARIZONA

AMENDMENT NO. 47: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available to the Beet Sugar Development Foundations for the Sugarbeet Research Program, Kimberly, ID.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Agricultural Research Service—Salaries and Expenses'' is hereby reduced by $702,592.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. FLAKE

AMENDMENT NO. 48: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available to the Auburn University for the Catfish Pathogen Genomic Project, Auburn, AL.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Agricultural Research Service—Salaries and Expenses'' is hereby reduced by $878,046.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. FLAKE

AMENDMENT NO. 49: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available to Cornell University for Grape Genetics research, Geneva, NY.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Agricultural Research Service—Salaries and Expenses'' is hereby reduced by $628,843.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. FLAKE

AMENDMENT NO. 50: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available to the U.S.D.A. Agricultural Research Service for research on genetic improvement of U.S. peanuts, Stillwater, OK.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Agricultural Research Service—Salaries and Expenses'' is hereby reduced by $178,200.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. FLAKE

AMENDMENT NO. 51: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Alternative Uses for Tobacco, Maryland grant.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—Research and Education Activities'' (and the amount specified under such heading for special grants for agricultural research) are hereby reduced by $400,000.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. FLAKE

AMENDMENT NO. 52: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Hydroponic Production, Ohio grant.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—Research and Education Activities'' (and the amount specified under such heading for special grants for agricultural research) are hereby reduced by $177,000.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. FLAKE

AMENDMENT NO. 53: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Ruminant Nutrition Consortium (MT, ND, SD, WY) grant.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—Research and Education Activities'' (and the amount specified under such heading for special grants for agricultural research) are hereby reduced by $489,000.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. FLAKE

AMENDMENT NO. 54: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Wood Utilization (OR, MS, NC, MN, ME, MI, ID, TN, AK, WV) grant.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—Research and Education Activities'' (and the amount specified under such heading for special grants for agricultural research) are hereby reduced by $6,371,000.

H.R. 3161

OFFERED BY: MR. FLAKE

AMENDMENT NO. 55: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Food Marketing Policy Center, Connecticut grant.

(b) CORRESPONDING REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—The amount otherwise provided by this Act for ''Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—Research and Education Activities'' (and the amount specified under such heading for special grants for agricultural research) are hereby reduced by $573,000.

H.R. 3222

OFFERED BY: MR. CARNAHAN

AMENDMENT NO. 1: In title II, in the item relating to ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'', after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

In title VI, in the item relating to ''Defense Health Program'', after the fourth dollar amount (relating to research, development, test and evaluation), insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

H.R. 3222

OFFERED BY: MR. STEARNS

AMENDMENT NO. 2: Page 32, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $200,000,000)''.

Page 33, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $200,000,000)''.

H.R. 3222

OFFERED BY: MR. ROGERS OF MICHIGAN

AMENDMENT NO. 3: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for the National Drug Intelligence Center.

H.R. 3222

OFFERED BY: MR. ISSA

AMENDMENT NO. 4: At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following new section:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to disclose to the public the aggregate amount of funds appropriated by Congress for the National Intelligence Program (as defined in section 3(6) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 401a(6))) for a fiscal year.

H.R. 3222

OFFERED BY: MR. TOM DAVIS OF VIRGINIA

AMENDMENT NO. 5: Page 55, line 2, insert before the period the following: ''and that adequate infrastructure is in place to support such a relocation''.

H.R. 3222

OFFERED BY: MR. WALBERG

AMENDMENT NO. 6: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to award a grant or contract based on the race, ethnicity, or sex of the grant applicant or prospective contractor.

H.R. 3222

OFFERED BY: MS. BORDALLO

AMENDMENT NO. 7: In section 8071, strike ''the District of Columbia, within the District of Columbia,'' and insert ''the District of Columbia or any United States territory, within the District of Columbia or that territory,''.

H.R. 3222

OFFERED BY: MR. ROGERS OF MICHIGAN

AMENDMENT NO. 8: Page 19, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $45,000,000)''.

Page 35, line 21, after both dollar amounts, insert ''(reduced by $45,000,000)''.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S10339–S10529

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1903–1909, and S. Res. 285–287. **Pages S10423–24**

Measures Reported:

S. 675, to provide competitive grants for training court reporters and closed captioners to meet requirements for realtime writers under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 110–138)

S. 1565, to provide for the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign recipients. (S. Rept. No. 110–139)

S. 1607, to provide for identification of misaligned currency, require action to correct the misalignment, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S10422**

Measures Passed:

Temporary Extension: Senate passed H.R. 3206, to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through December 15, 2007, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S10524–25**

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 7, providing for the reappointment of Roger W. Sant as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, and the resolution was then passed. **Page S10525**

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 8, providing for the reappointment of Patricia Q. Stonesifer as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, and the resolution was then passed. **Page S10525**

Peacekeeping In Darfur: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 276, calling for the urgent deployment of a robust and effective multinational peacekeeping mission with sufficient size, resources, leadership, and mandate to protect civilians in Darfur, Sudan, and for efforts to strengthen the renewal of a just and inclusive peace process, and the resolution was then agreed to after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Page S10525**

Tester (for Biden) Amendment No. 2591, of a perfecting nature. **Page S10525**

Tester (for Biden) Amendment No. 2592 (to the preamble), to urge all participants in the conflict in Darfur to engage in a political process led by the United Nations and African Union, to express disapproval of failure to participate in such political process. **Page S10525**

National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day: Senate agreed S. Res. 285, designating September 9, 2007, as ''National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day''. **Pages S10525–26**

Recognizing Heroic Firefighters: Senate agreed S. Res. 286, recognizing the heroic efforts of firefighters to contain numerous wildfires throughout the Western United States. **Pages S10526–27**

Honoring Iowa National Guard: Senate agreed S. Res. 287, honoring and expressing gratitude to the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry (''Ironman Battalion'') of the Iowa National Guard. **Page S10527**

National Anthem Project: Senate agreed to S. Res. 236, supporting the goals and ideals of the National Anthem Project, which has worked to restore America's voice by re-teaching Americans to sing the national anthem. **Page S10527**

Recognizing Long Distance Runs: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 255, recognizing and supporting the long distance runs that will take place in the People's Republic of China in 2007 and the United States in 2008 to promote friendship between the peoples of China and the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S10527–28**

Commemorating Archdiocese of New York 200th Anniversary: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 277, commemorating the 200th anniversary of the

Archdiocese of New York, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S10528**

Regarding Announcement of the Russian Federation: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 278, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the announcement of the Russian Federation of its suspension of implementation of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S10528–29**

Recognizing 75th Anniversary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 26, recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and commending recipients of the Purple Heart for their courageous demonstrations of gallantry and heroism on behalf of the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S10529**

Measures Considered:

Small Business Tax Relief Act: Senate began consideration of H.R. 976, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for small businesses, after agreeing to the motion to proceed to its consideration, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S10346–89, S10401–08

Rejected:

By 37 yeas to 59 nays (Vote No. 286), Allard Amendment No. 2536 (to Amendment No. 2530), to standardize the determination of income for purposes of eligibility for SCHIP. **Pages S10363–74**

Pending:

Baucus Amendment No. 2530, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S10346–57**

Grassley (for Ensign) Amendment No. 2538 (to Amendment No. 2530), to amend the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1986 to create a Disease Prevention and Treatment Research Trust Fund.

Pages S10357–58

Bunning Amendment No. 2547 (to Amendment No. 2530), to eliminate the exception for certain States to cover children under SCHIP whose income exceeds 300 percent of the Federal poverty level.

Pages S10358–63

Dorgan Amendment No. 2534 (to Amendment No. 2530), to revise and extend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. **Pages S10374–82**

Gregg Amendment No. 2587 (to Amendment No. 2530), to limit the matching rate for coverage other than for low-income children or pregnant women covered through a waiver and to prohibit any new waivers for coverage of adults other than pregnant women. **Pages S10382–89**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, August 1, 2007, and Senate resume consideration of Grassley (for Ensign) Amendment No. 2538 (to Amendment No. 2530) (listed above), with 30 minutes of debate prior to a vote on or in relation to the amendment, with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators Ensign and Baucus, or their designees, and that no second-degree amendments be in order prior to the vote. **Page S10529**

House Messages:

Legislative Transparency and Accountability Act: Senate began consideration of the amendment of the House to S. 1, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S10389–S10401**

Pending:

Senator Reid entered a motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill. **Page S10400**

Senator Reid entered a motion to concur in the amendment of the House with Amendment No. 2589, to change the enactment date. **Pages S10400–01**

Reid Amendment No. 2590 (to Amendment No. 2589), of a perfecting nature. **Page S10401**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, August 2, 2007. **Page S10400**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Robert L. Smolen, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration.

Andrew R. Cochran, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency.

Page S10529

Messages from the House: **Page S10414**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S10414**

Executive Communications: **Pages S10415–16**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S10416–22**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S10422–23**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S10424–25**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S10425–32

Additional Statements: **Pages S10411–14**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S10432–S10523**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S10523–24

Privileges of the Floor: Page S10524

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—286) Pages S10373–74

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 9:31 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 1, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S10529.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing on the nominations of Admiral Michael G. Mullen, USN, for reappointment to the grade of admiral and to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and General James E. Cartwright, USMC, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 1,875 nominations in the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

SECURITIES MARKETS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the state of the securities markets, including protecting investors, fostering efficient markets, and promoting capital formation, after receiving testimony from Christopher Cox, Chairman, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Ronald Spoehel, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, William G. Sutton, Jr., of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, and Thomas J. Barrett, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary, who was introduced by Senator Murkowski, and Paul R. Brubaker, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, who was introduced by former Senator Cohen, both of the Department of Transportation, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

CREDIT REPAIR ORGANIZATION ACT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine telemarketing practices, focusing on H.R. 2885, to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act to clarify the applicability of certain provisions to credit monitoring services, after receiving testimony from Lydia Parnes, Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission; Iowa Assistant Attorney General Steve St. Clair, Des Moines; Richard Johnson, AARP, and Jerry Cerasale, Direct Marketing Association, Inc., both of Washington, DC; Joanne S. Faulkner, National Association of Consumer Advocates, New Haven, Connecticut, on behalf of sundry organizations; and Robin Holland, Equifax Inc., Atlanta, Georgia.

RENEWABLE FUELS INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy concluded an oversight hearing to examine how to improve the renewable fuels infrastructure to accommodate the increasing volumes of renewable fuels in the transportation sector, after receiving testimony from Senator Klobuchar; Alexander Karsner, Assistant Secretary of Energy for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; David Terry, Governors' Ethanol Coalition, Lincoln, Nebraska; Charles T. Drevna, National Petrochemical and Refiners Association, Washington, DC; Jonathon Lehman, VeraSun Energy, Brookings, South Dakota; Deborah L. Morrissett, DaimlerChrysler Corporation, Auburn Hills, Michigan; and Phillip J. Lampert, National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition, Jefferson City, Missouri.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

S. 742, to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to reduce the health risks posed by asbestos-containing products, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 595, to amend the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 to strike a provision relating to modifications in reporting frequency;

S. 1785, to amend the Clean Air Act to establish deadlines by which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall issue a decision on whether to grant certain waivers of preemption under that Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 775, to establish a National Commission on the Infrastructure of the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 50, to reauthorize the African Elephant Conservation Act and the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994;

S. 1429, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize the provision of technical assistance to small public water systems, with amendments;

H.R. 465, to reauthorize the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997;

S. 1498, to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit the import, export, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, or purchase in interstate or foreign commerce of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species, with an amendment; and

The nominations of R. Lyle Laverty, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, Department of the Interior, and Robert Boldrey, of Michigan, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation.

CARRIED INTEREST (PART II)

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine carried interest, the right to receive a percentage of private equity, venture capital, hedge funds, or similar investment profits without an obligation to contribute capital to the fund, (Part II), after receiving testimony from Joseph Bankman, Stanford Law School, Stanford, California; Charles I. Kingson, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia; Darryll K. Jones, Stetson University School of Law, Gulfport, Florida; Adam Ifshin, DLC Management Corporation, Tarrytown, New York, on behalf of the International Council of Shopping Centers and the Real Estate Roundtable; John B. Frank, Oaktree Capital Management, L.P., Los Angeles, California; Bruce Rosenblum, Private Equity Council, Washington, D.C.; and William D. Stanfill, Trailhead Ventures, L.P., Denver, Colorado.

SAFEGUARDING NUCLEAR FUEL

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine nuclear energy and nonproliferation challenges, focusing on nuclear fuel safeguards and assurances, after receiving testimony from Senator Bayh; Andrew Semmel, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Nuclear Nonproliferation Policy and Negotiations; and Henry Sokolski, Nonproliferation Policy Education Center, Fred McGoldrick, Bengelsdorf, McGoldrick and Associates, LLC., and Lawrence Scheinman, Monterey Institute of International Affairs James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, all of Washington, D.C.

LEEGIN DECISION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights concluded a hearing to examine the impact of the Leegin Decision relating to consumer discounts and antitrust policy, after receiving testimony from Pamela Jones Harbour, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission; Robery Pitofsky, Georgetown University Law School, and Janet L. McDavid, Hogan and Hartson, on behalf of the American Bar Association, both of Washington, D.C.; Stephen Bolerjack, Dykema Gossett PLLC, Detroit, Michigan, on behalf of the National Association of Manufacturers; and Marcy Syms, Syms Corp, Secaucus, New Jersey.

OXYCONTIN SETTLEMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the propriety and adequacy of the Oxycontin criminal settlement, after receiving testimony from John L. Brownlee, United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia, and Jay P. McCloskey, former United States Attorney for Maine, both of the Department of Justice; Virginia Pagano, Philadelphia Police Department, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Vikramaditya S. Khanna, University of Michigan Law School, Ann Arbor; Sidney M. Wolfe, Public Citizen, Washington, D.C.; James N. Campbell, Johns Hopkins University Blaustein Pain Treatment Center, Baltimore, Maryland; and Marianne Skolek, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

RETURNING SERVICE MEMBERS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense cooperation on the educational needs of returning service members, including S. 22, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a program of educational assistance for members of the Armed Forces who serve in the Armed Forces after September 11, 2001, after receiving testimony from Major General Ronald Young, Director, Manpower and Personnel, National Guard Bureau, United States Army, Tom Bush, Principal Director, Manpower and Personnel, and Curt Gilroy, Director, Accession Policy, all of the Department of Defense; Keith Wilson, Director of Education Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, and Dean Gallin, Deputy Counsel, Office of General Counsel, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs; G. Kim Wincup, former Vice Chairman, Congressional Commission on Servicemembers and Veterans Transition Assistance; James Bombard, Veterans Advisory Committee on Education, Albany, New York; Allison G. Jones, California State University Academic Affairs Student Academic Support, Ronald F. Chamrin, American Legion, Eric A. Hilleman, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and Patrick Campbell, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, all of Washington, D.C.; and Colonel Robert F. Norton, USA (Ret.), Military Officers Association of America, Alexandria, Virginia.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 38 public bills, H.R. 3232–3269; 6 resolutions, H. Res. 588–593 were introduced. **Pages H9274–76**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H9276–77**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

Conference report on H.R. 1495, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources and to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States (H. Rept. 110–280);

H.R. 3056, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the authority of the Internal Revenue Service to use private debt collection companies, to delay implementation of withholding taxes on government contractors and to revise the tax rules on expatriation, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–281);

H.R. 3159, to mandate minimum periods of rest and recuperation for units and members of the regular and reserve components of the Armed Forces between deployments for Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–282);

H.R. 3087, to require the President, in coordination with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other senior military leaders, to develop and transmit to Congress a comprehensive strategy for the redeployment of United States Armed Forces in Iraq, with amendments (H. Rept. 110–283); [Filed on August 1 (legislative day, July 31), 2007]

H.R. 3162, to amend titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the children's health insurance program, to improve beneficiary protections under the Medicare, Medicaid, and the CHIP program, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–284 Pt. I);

H. Res. 594, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3162) to amend titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the children's health insurance program, to improve beneficiary protections under the Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP program (H. Rept. 110–285);

H. Res. 595, A resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 110–286);

H. Res. 596, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3222) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008 (H. Rept. 110–287); and

H. Res. 597, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1495) to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorizes the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States (H. Rept. 110–288). **Pages H9058–H9188, H9274**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative McNerney to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H9055**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:25 a.m. and reconvened at 10:06 a.m. **Page H9057**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Richard D. Turpin, Second Baptist Church, Catskill, New York. **Pages H9057–58**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 214 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 774. **Pages H9058, H9230–31**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Providing greater transparency in the legislative process: S. 1, amended, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 411 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 763—clearing the measure for the President. **Pages H9192–H9210**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Monday, July 30th:

Darfur Accountability and Divestment Act of 2007: H.R. 180, amended, to require the identification of companies that conduct business operations in Sudan and to prohibit United States Government

contracts with such companies, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 418 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 764 and

Pages H9210–11

Iran Sanctions Enabling Act of 2007: H.R. 2347, amended, to authorize State and local governments to direct divestiture from, and prevent investment in, companies with investments of $20,000,000 or more in Iran's energy sector, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 408 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 765. **Page H9211**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To authorize State and local governments to direct divestiture from, and prevent investment in, companies with investments of $20,000,000 or more in Iran's energy sector, companies that sell arms to the Government of Iran, and financial institutions that extend $20,000,000 or more in credit to the Government of Iran for 45 days or more, and for other purposes.". **Pages H9211–12**

Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2007: The House passed H.R. 2831, to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to clarify that a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice that is unlawful under such Acts occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to the discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, by a yea-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 199 nays, Roll No 768. Consideration of the measure began on Monday, July 30th.

Pages H9219–22, H9226–27

H. Res. 579, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Monday, July 30th.

21st Century Competitiveness Act of 2007: The House disagreed to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 2272, to invest in innovation through research and development, and to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and agreed to a conference.

Pages H9222–23, H9227–28

Agreed to the Hall (TX) motion to instruct conferees on the bill by a yea-and-nay vote of 258 yeas to 167 nays, Roll No. 770. **Pages H9222–23, H9227–28**

Later, the Chair appointed the following Members of the House to the conference committee on the bill: from the Committee on Science and Technology for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Gordon, Lipinski, Baird, Wu, Lampson, Udall (CO), Giffords, McNerney, Hall (TX), Sensenbrenner, Ehlers, Biggert, Feeney, and Gingrey from the Committee on Education and Labor for consideration of Division C of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Miller, George, Holt, and McKeon.

Page H9231

From the Committee on Education and Labor, for consideration of Division C of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives George Miller (CA), Holt, and McKeon. **Page H9231**

Eightmile Wild and Scenic River Act: The House passed H.R. 986, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Eightmile River in the State of Connecticut as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, by a yea-and-nay vote of 253 yeas to 172 nays, Roll No. 767. Consideration of the measure began on Monday, July 30th. **Pages H9223–26**

Rejected the Pearce (NM) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 200 yeas to 225 nays, Roll No. 766.

Pages H9223–25

H. Res. 580, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to Monday, July 30th.

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Monday, July 30th:

Shirley A. Chisholm United States-Caribbean Educational Exchange Act of 2007: H.R. 176, amended, to authorize assistance to the countries of the Caribbean to fund educational development and exchange programs, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 371 yeas to 55 nays, Roll No. 771; **Pages H9228–29**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read "To authorize the establishment of educational exchange and development programs for member countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).".

Page H9229

Amending the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 to expand and clarify the entities against which sanctions may be imposed: H.R. 957, amended, to amend the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 to expand and clarify the entities against which sanctions may be imposed, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas to 11 nays, Roll No. 772; and **Page H9229**

Integrated Deepwater Program Reform Act: H.R. 2722, amended, to restructure the Coast Guard Integrated Deepwater Program, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 426 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 773. **Pages H9229–30**

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008: The House began consideration of H.R. 3161, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008. Further consideration is expected to resume Wednesday, August 1st. **Pages H9231–44, H9253–68**

Rejected the Price (GA) motion that the Committee rise by a recorded vote of 172 ayes to 231 noes, Roll No. 776. Earlier, a vote was called pending the absence of a quorum, and, subsequently 389 members recorded their presence, Roll No. 775. **Pages H9253–55**

Agreed to sustain the ruling of the chair on a point of order raised against the content of debate by a recorded vote of 220 ayes to 178 noes, Roll No. 777. **Pages H9256–67**

Agreed to the Hoyer motion that the Committee rise by a recorded vote of 235 ayes to 153 noes, Roll No. 778. **Pages H9267–68**

H. Res. 581, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by voice vote after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 769. **Pages H9212–19, H9227**

Recess: The House recessed at 7:47 p.m. and reconvened at 3:41a.m.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page S9219.

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page 9270.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One quorum call, twelve yea-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H9210, H9210–11, H9211, H9225, H9225–26, H9226–27, H9227, H9227–28, H9228–29, H9229, H9229–30, H9230–31, H9253–54, H9254, H9266–67, and H9267–68.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 3:45 a.m. on Wednesday, August 1st.

Committee Meetings

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held hearing on the Capitol Visitor Center. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol: Stephen T. Ayers, Acting Architect; and Bernard Ungar, Capitol Visitor Center Project Executive; Terrell Dorn, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

AUGMENTEE FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on Use of In Lieu Of, Ad Hoc and Augmentee Forces in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Testimony was heard from following officials of the Department of Defense: BG Jack B. Eggington, USAF, Deputy Director, Operations, U.S. Central Command; MG Jason K. Kamiya, USA, Director, Joint Training, U.S. Joint Forces Command; BG David D. Halverson, USA, Director, Operations, Readiness and Mobilization, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3/5/7. Headquarters U.S. Army; RADM Timothy M. Giardina, USN, Director, Information, Plans and Security, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations; and BG Marke F. Gibson, USAF, Director, Current Operations and Training, Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, Plans and Requirements, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force.

ALTERNATIVES FOR IRAQ's FUTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations continued hearings on A Third Way: Alternatives for Iraq's Future (Part 4). Testimony was heard from GEN Jack Keane, USA (ret.), former Vice Chief of Staff, Army; LTG Gregory S. Newbold, USMC (ret.), former Director, Operations (J–3), Joint Chiefs of Staff; former GEN Barry McCaffrey, USA, (ret.); and public witnesses.

IRAQ-AFGHANISTAN MILITARY COSTS

Committee on the Budget: Held a hearing on the Costs of Military Operations and Reconstruction in Iraq and Afghanistan. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the of the Department of Defense: Gordon England, Deputy Secretary; and LTG John F. Sattler, Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Staff; Robert Sunshine, Assistant Director, Budget Analysis, CBO; and the following officials of the Department of State: Joseph Saloom, Ambassador of the United States and Senior Transition Advisor; and John A. Gastright, Jr., Deputy Assistant Secretary, South and Central Asian Affairs; and Stuart W. Bowen, Jr., Special Inspector General, Iraq Reconstruction.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection approved for full Committee action, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 814, Children's Gasoline Burn Prevention Act; H.R. 1699, Danny Keysar Child Product Safety Notification Act; H.R. 1721, Pool and Spa Safety Act; and H.R. 2474, To provide for an increased maximum civil penalty for violations under the Consumer Product Safety Act.

NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND ACT OF 2007

Committee on Financial Services: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 2895, National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007.

Committee recessed until tomorrow.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 1567, Stop Tuberculosis (TB) Now Act of 2007; and H.R. 3096, Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2007.

The Committee also favorably considered the following measures and adopted a motion urging the Chairman to request that they be considered on the Suspension Calendar: H.R. 1302, amended, Global Poverty Act of 2007; H.R. 2185, amended, To amend the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 to provide debt relief to developing countries that take action to protect forests and coral reefs and associated coastal marine ecosystems, to reauthorize such Act through fiscal year 2010; H.R. 3062, amended, South Pacific Economic and Educational Development Act of 2007; H. Res. 32, amended, Denouncing the practices of female genital mutilation, domestic violence, ''honor'' killings, acid burning, dowry deaths, and other gender-based persecutions and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that participation, protection, recognition, and independence of women is crucial to achieving a just, moral, and honorable society; H. Res. 34, amended, Recognizing the 75th birthday of Desmond Mpilo Tutu, South African Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, and Nobel Peace Prize recipient; H. Res. 238, Commending the first democratic elections in Aceh, a province in Sumatra, Indonesia, and expressing support for the further democratic development and implementation of the Helsinki Memorandum of Understanding; H. Res. 508, amended, Recognizing the strong security alliance between the Government of Japan and the United States and expressing appreciation to Japan for its role in enhancing stability in the Asia-Pacific region and its efforts in the Global war against terrorism; H. Res. 518, amended, Recognizing the 50th anniversary of Malaysia's independence; H. Res. 548, amended, Expressing the ongoing concern of the House of Representatives for Lebanon's democratic institutions and unwavering support for the administration of justice upon those responsible for the assassination of Lebanese public figures opposing Syrian control of Lebanon; H. Res. 557, amended, Strongly condemning the United Nations Human Rights Council for ignoring severe human rights abuses in various countries, while choosing to unfairly target Israel by including it as the only country permanently placed on the Council's agenda; H. Res. 564, Recognizing that violence poses an increasingly serious to peace and stability in Central America and supporting expanded cooperation between the United States and the countries of Central America to combat crime and violence; H. Res. 575, Commending the people and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for their continued commitment to holding elections and broadening participation; and H. Res. 583, Recognizing the remarkable example of Sir Nicholas Winton who organized the rescue of 669 Jewish Czechoslovakian children from Nazi death camps prior to the outbreak of World War II.

BORDER PATROL SHOOTING CASE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight held a hearing on the Case of Ramos and Compean: the Across-Border Context. Testimony was heard from Charles S. Shapiro, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

REGISTERED TRAVELER PROGRAM

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection held a hearing entitled ''Managing Risk and Increasing Efficiency: An Examination of the Implementation of the Registered Traveler Program.'' Testimony was heard from Kip Hawley, Assistant Secretary, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

ENSURING ARTISTS FAIR COMPENSATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property held a hearing on Ensuring Artists Fair Compensation: Updating the Performance Right and Platform Parity for the 21st Century. Testimony was heard from Representative Hodes; Marybeth Peters, U.S. Register of Copyrights, U.S. Copyright Office, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—POLITICAL INTERVENTION AT THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT

Committee on Natural Resources: Held an oversight hearing on Crisis of Confidence: The Political Influence of the Bush Administration on Agency Science and Decision-Making. Testimony was heard from Representatives Thompson of California, Walden of Oregon, Doolittle, and Herger; the following officials of the Department of the Interior: Mary Kendall, Deputy Inspector General; and H. Dale Hall, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service; the following officials of the Department of Commerce: John M. Seeba, Assistant Inspector General, Auditing; and

William Hogarth, Assistant Administrator, NOAA; and public witnesses.

FEMA PREPAREDNESS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Held a hearing on FEMA Preparedness in 2007 and Beyond. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: R. David Paulison, Administrator, FEMA; and Matt Jadacki, Deputy Inspector General; MG Terry Scherling, USA, Director, Joint Staff, National Guard Bureau, Department of Defense; William Jenkins, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, GAO; Darrell Darnell, Director, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, GAO; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL COMPENSATION—PAY

Committee on Oversight an Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Services, and the District of Columbia held a hearing on Federal Compensation, Part I, Pay. Testimony was heard from Representatives Faleomavaega and Kennedy; Linda Springer, Director, OPM; Curtis Copeland, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue August 2.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEAR 2008

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, an open rule. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate on H.R. 3222, Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the Congressional Record. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule permits the Chair, during consideration of the bill in the House, to postpone further consideration of it to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Representatives Murtha and Young of Florida.

CONFERENCE REPORT—WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2007

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a voice vote, a rule providing for the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 1495, Water Resources Development Act of 2007. The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and its consideration. The rule also considers the conference report as read. Testimony was heard from Chairman Oberstar.

WAIVING CLAUSE 6(A) OF RULE XIII AGAINST CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE RULES COMMITTEE

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 8 to 4, a resolution waiving clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against certain resolutions reported from the Rules Committee. The rule applies the waiver to any resolutions reported on the legislative day of August 1, 2007, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3161) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND MEDICARE PROTECTION ACT OF 2007

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 8 to 4, a closed rule. The rule provides two hours of debate in the House on H.R. 3162, Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act of 2007, with one hour to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways & Means and one hour to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except for clauses 9 and 10 of Rule XXI. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways & Means now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill as amended and provides that the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule provides that the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard by Representatives McDermott, Pallone, Hastings of Washington, and Blackburn.

COAST GUARD ADMINISTRATION LAW SYSTEMS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing to review the Coast Guard Administration Law System. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security: RADM Brian Salerno, USCG, Director, Inspection and Compliance; and CAPT Thomas Sparks, USCG, Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Unit; and public witnesses.

VETERANS' MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 674, To amend title 38, United States Code, to repeal the provision of law requiring termination of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans as of December 31, 2009; H.R. 1273, To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to restore plot allowance eligibility for veterans of any war and to restore the headstone or marker allowance for eligible persons; H.R. 1900, To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend eligibility for pension benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans who receive an expeditionary medal during a period of military service other than a period of war; H.R. 1901, To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend eligibility for pension benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans who served during certain periods of time in specified locations; H.R. 2346. To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a process for determining whether a geographic area is sufficiently served by the national cemeteries located in that geographic area; H.R. 2696, Veterans' Dignified Burial Assistance Act of 2007; and H.R. 2697, To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for veterans' mortgage life insurance to include members of the Armed Forces receiving specially adapted housing assistance from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was heard from Representatives Rahall and Fossella; Bradley H.G. Mayes, Director, Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

DNI 100 DAY PLAN

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management held a hearing on DNI 100 Day Plan. Testimony was heard from Representatives Rahall, Gutierrez, and Fossella; Bradley G. Mayes, Director, Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representative of veterans organizations.

Joint Meetings

21ST CENTURY COMPETITIVENESS ACT

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2272, to invest in innovation through research and development, and to improve the competitiveness of the United States.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D1088)*

S. 966, to enable the Department of State to respond to a critical shortage of passport processing personnel. Signed on July 30, 2007. (Public Law 110–50)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2007

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 1677, to amend the Exchange Rates and International Economic Coordination Act of 1988, and original bills entitled, "Housing Assistance Authorization Act", "Private Student Loan Transparency and Improvement Act", and "Commission on Natural Catastrophe Risk Management and Insurance Act", 9:30 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Commerce, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold an oversight hearing to examine recent advances in clean coal technology, focusing on the prospects for deploying these technologies at a commercial scale in the near future, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

Subcommittee on Water and Power, to hold hearings to examine S. 1054 and H.R. 122, bills to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Inland Empire regional recycling project and in the Cucamonga Valley Water District recycling project, S. 1472, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to create a Bureau of Reclamation partnership with the North Bay Water Reuse Authority and other regional partners to achieve objectives relating to water supply, water quality, and environmental restoration, S. 1475 and H.R. 1526, bills to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program, H.R. 30, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater

and Groundwater Study andFacilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Eastern Municipal Water District Recycled Water System Pressurization and Expansion Project, H.R. 609, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project, and H.R. 1175, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to increase the ceiling on the Federal share of the costs of phase I of the Orange County, California, Regional Water Reclamation Project, 2:30 p.m., SD–366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on African Affairs, to hold hearings to examine the United States Africa Command, focusing on a new strategic relationship with Africa, 9:30 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider S. 579, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer, S. 625, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, and S. 1858, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 680, to ensure proper oversight and accountability in Federal contracting, H.R. 1254, to amend title 44, United States Code, to require information contributors to Presidential library fundraising organizations, an original bill to provide for the flexibility of certain disaster relief funds, and for improved evacuation and sheltering during disasters and catastrophes, S. 1000, to enhance the Federal Telework Program, S. 1446, to amend the National Capital Transportation Act of 1969 to authorize additional Federal contributions for maintaining and improving the transit system of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, S. 547, to establish a Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security for Management, S. 1245, to reform mutual aid agreements for the National Capitol Region, S. 597, to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years, H.R. 2570 and S. 1732, bills to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Boardwalk Drive in Fort Collins, Colorado, as the ''Dr. Karl E. Carson Post Office Building'', S. 1772, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 South Elm Street in Gardner, Kansas, as the ''Private First Class Shane R. Austin Post Office'', S. 1781, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 118 Minner Avenue in Bakersfield, California, as the ''Buck Owens Post Office'', H.R. 2127, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 408 West 6th Street in Chelsea, Oklahoma, as the ''Clem Rogers McSpadden Post Office Building'', H.R. 2563 and S. 1539, bills to designate the post office located at 309 East Linn Street, Marshalltown, Iowa, as the ''Major Scott Nisely Post Office'', S. 1596, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 South Getty Street in Uvalde, Texas, as the ''Dolph S. Briscoe, Jr. Post Office Building'', H.R. 1722, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 Banyan Trail in Boca Raton, Florida, as the ''Leonard W. Herman Post Office'', H.R. 1425, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4551 East 52nd Street in Odessa, Texas, as the ''Staff Sergeant Marvin ''Rex'' Young Post Office Building'', H.R. 2078, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14536 State Route 136 in Cherry Fork, Ohio, as the ''Staff Sergeant Omer T. 'O.T.' Hawkins Post Office'', H.R. 2077, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20805 State Route 125 in Blue Creek, Ohio, as the ''George B. Lewis Post Office Building'', H.R. 1617, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 561 Kingsland Avenue in University City, Missouri, as the ''Harriett F. Woods Post Office Building'', H.R. 2025, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11033 South State Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the ''Willye B. White Post Office Building'', and H.R. 1335, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 508 East Main Street in Seneca, South Carolina, as the ''S Sgt Lewis G. Watkins Post Office Building'', and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine the under-representation of Americans at the United Nations and its organizations; focusing on ways to build a stronger American diplomatic presence, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Donald M. Kerr, of Virginia, to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, on Capitol Power Plant Utility Tunnels, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on active Army, Army Guard and Army Reserve recruiting and retention, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce,, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, to continue hearings on Post-Katrina Health Care in the New Orleans Region: Progress and Continuing Concerns—Part II, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, to consider H.R. 2761, Terrorism Risk Insurance Revision and Extension Act of 2007,12 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment, hearing on the Impact of Coup-Related Sanctions on Thailand and Fiji:

Helpful or Harmful to U.S. Relations? 9 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia, hearing on Political Crises in South Asia: Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal, 3 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 1413, To direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to address vulnerabilities in aviation security by carrying out a pilot program to screen airport workers with access to secure and sterile areas of airports; H.R. 1717, To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a National Bio and Agro-defense Facility; and H.R. 1955, Homegrown Terrorism, Prevention Act of 2007, 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Management, Investigations, and Oversight, hearing entitled ''Playing by Its Own Rules: TSA's Exemption from the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and How it Impacts Partnerships with the Private Sector,'' 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, oversight hearing on The Smithsonian in Transition, 11 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 400, War Profiteering Prevention Act of 2007; H.R. 2102, Free Flow of Information Act; H.R. 3013, Attorney-Client Privilege Protection Act of 2007; H.R. 2740, MEJA Expansion and Enforcement Act of 2007; H.R. 1119, Purple Heart Family Equity Act of 2007; and H.R. 1071, September 11 Family Humanitarian Relief and Patriotism Act, 10:15 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, hearing on the Tillman Fratricide: What the Leadership of the Defense Department Knew, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, and the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, to continue joint hearings on the Department of Energy's Support for the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (SREL), Part II, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Regulation, Health Care and Trade, hearing entitled ''Ensuring Prompt Payment for Small Health Care Providers,'' 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, to consider the following measures: the Regional Economic and Infrastructure Development Act of 2007; the Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act of 2007; To improve the provision of disaster assistance for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita; H.R. 3068, Federal Protective Service Guard Contracting Reform Act of 2007; H.R. 2671, To designate the United States courthouse located at 301 North Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida, as the ''C. Clyde Atkins United States Courthouse''; H.R. 2728, To designate the station of the United States Border Patrol located at 25762 Madison Avenue in Murrieta, California, as the ''Theodore L. Newton, Jr. and George F. Azrak Border Patrol Station'', 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, hearing on Measuring Poverty in America, 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing on Aviation Taxes, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence Analysis and Counterintelligence and the Subcommittee on Technical and Tactical Intelligence, executive, joint briefing on SIGINT, 1 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, August 1

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 30 minutes), Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 976, Small Business Tax Relief Act, and after a period of debate, vote on or in relation to Grassley (for Ensign) Amendment No. 2538 (to Amendment No. 2530).

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, August 1

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Complete consideration of H.R. 3161—Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008.

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