

Castro (FL)	Himes	Payne
Castro (TX)	Honda	Pelosi
Chu, Judy	Hoyer	Peters
Cicilline	Huffman	Pingree
Clark (MA)	Israel	Pocan
Clarke (NY)	Jackson Lee	Polis
Clay	Jeffries	Price (NC)
Cleaver	Johnson (GA)	Quigley
Clyburn	Johnson, E. B.	Rangel
Cohen	Kaptur	Rice (NY)
Connolly	Keating	Richmond
Conyers	Kelly (IL)	Roybal-Allard
Cooper	Kennedy	Ruiz
Courtney	Kildee	Ruppersberger
Crowley	Kilmer	Rush
Cummings	Kirkpatrick	Ryan (OH)
Davis (CA)	Langevin	Sánchez, Linda
Davis, Danny	Larsen (WA)	T.
DeFazio	Larson (CT)	Sanchez, Loretta
DeGette	Lawrence	Sarbanes
Delaney	Lee	Schakowsky
DeLauro	Levin	Schiff
DeSaulnier	Lipinski	Scott (VA)
Deutch	Lofgren	Serrano
Dingell	Lowenthal	Sewell (AL)
Doggett	Lowe	Sherman
Doyle, Michael	Lujan Grisham	Sires
F.	(NM)	Slaughter
Duckworth	Luján, Ben Ray	Smith (WA)
Edwards	(NM)	Speier
Ellison	Lynch	Swalwell (CA)
Engel	Maloney,	Takano
Eshoo	Carolyn	Thompson (CA)
Esty	Matsui	Thompson (MS)
Farr	McCollum	Tonko
Foster	McDermott	Torres
Frankel (FL)	McGovern	Tsongas
Fudge	McNerney	Van Hollen
Gabbard	Meeks	Vargas
Gallego	Meng	Veasey
Graham	Moore	Velázquez
Grayson	Moulton	Visclosky
Green, Al	Murphy (FL)	Wasserman
Green, Gene	Nadler	Schultz
Grijalva	Napolitano	Waters, Maxine
Gutiérrez	Neal	Watson Coleman
Hahn	Norcross	Wilson (FL)
Hastings	O'Rourke	Yarmuth
Heck (WA)	Pallone	
Higgins	Pascrell	

NOT VOTING—12

Crawford	Hinojosa	Roby
Curbelo (FL)	Johnson, Sam	Takai
Fattah	Lewis	Titus
Herrera Beutler	Lieu, Ted	Whitfield

□ 1452

So (two-thirds not being in the affirmative) the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON S. 524, COMPREHENSIVE ADDICTION AND RECOVERY ACT OF 2016

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JOYCE). Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees on S. 524:

For consideration of the Senate bill and the House amendments, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. UPTON, PITTS, LANCE, GUTHRIE, KINZINGER of Illinois, BUCSHON, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Messrs. GOODLATTE, SENSENBRENNER, SMITH of Texas, MARINO, COLLINS of Georgia, TROTT, BISHOP of Michigan, MCCARTHY, PAL-LONE, BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, SARBANES, GENE GREEN of Texas, CONYERS, Mses. JACKSON LEE, JUDY CHU of California, Mr. COHEN, Mses. ESTY, KUSTER, and Mr. COURTNEY.

From the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of title VII of the House amendment, and modifications committed to con-

ference: Messrs. BARLETTA, CARTER of Georgia, and SCOTT of Virginia.

From the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for consideration of title III of the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. WALORSKI, and Mr. RUIZ.

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of sec. 705 of the Senate bill, and sec. 804 of the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. MEEHAN, DOLD, and MCDERMOTT.

There was no objection.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 4909.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 732 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 4909.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1455

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, with Mr. SIMPSON in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I am honored to bring to the House today H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017.

The House Armed Services Committee reported it favorably 3 weeks ago by a vote of 60-2. The only way a vote like that is possible is that members are willing to work together for the best interests of the country.

I want to start by thanking my partner on this committee, Mr. SMITH, for his work, his insight, and his commitment to work together to try to do the

right thing for our servicemembers and for the good of the Nation.

Now, I am sure that he does not agree with everything in this bill, nor do I. It is the product of difficult choices, of compromise, of input from many members of this body.

But, as a whole, I think this bill is good for the troops, good for the country, and is faithful to the constitutional responsibilities that we have on our shoulders to provide for the military of the United States and defend the country.

I want to thank all the members of the committee as well as the staff. We had a compressed schedule this year. At the same time, the country is facing national security challenges that are growing more complex and more dangerous and we are still dealing with the consequences of defense budget cuts.

Coupled with an ambitious reform agenda, all of those things meant that our job was not easy, but members on both sides of the aisle put in the hours, attended the briefings and hearings, and contributed to this product.

This bill was built from the ground up. We started with about 2,000 legislative provisions that were suggested by members of our committee. We then received many additional requests from members who are not on our committee through testimony, letters, and other forms of communication.

For example, some members of the Small Business Committee all came together with a package of proposals to help small businesses contribute to our defense efforts.

We had subcommittee markups and then a full committee markup that lasted about 16 hours and considered 248 amendments.

Now we have more than 370 amendments that have been filed with the Rules Committee, and many of them will be considered over the next 2 days on this floor.

Mr. Chairman, I think that is the epitome of a regular legislative process and is particularly appropriate for this bill because providing for the common defense is the first job, I believe, of the Federal Government.

I would add that servicemembers here and around the world deserve to know that we in this body are doing our job and that we support them and are actually trying to do our job, inspired by the courage and dedication and selfless sacrifice that they exhibit in doing their jobs.

I want to just highlight two primary thrusts of this bill in addition to fulfilling our constitutional responsibilities. Those thrusts are readiness and reform.

The term "readiness" is often used by the military. It is sometimes not understood by those who are not in the military. Readiness involves the preparation and support required to successfully accomplish what the political leadership asks the military to do.