

Miller (MI)	Putnam	Sodrel	Inglis (SC)	Miller (MI)	Saxton	Sanchez, Loretta	Spratt	Van Hollen
Miller, Gary	Radanovich	Souder	Issa	Miller, Gary	Schmidt	Sanders	Stark	Velázquez
Moran (KS)	Ramstad	Stearns	Istook	Moran (KS)	Schwarz (MI)	Schakowsky	Strickland	Visclosky
Murphy	Regula	Sullivan	Jenkins	Murphy	Sensenbrenner	Schiff	Stupak	Wasserman
Murtha	Rehberg	Sweeney	Jindal	Musgrave	Sessions	Schwartz (PA)	Tanner	Schultz
Musgrave	Reichert	Tancredo	Johnson (CT)	Myrick	Shadegg	Scott (GA)	Tauscher	Waters
Myrick	Renzi	Taylor (MS)	Johnson (IL)	Neugebauer	Shaw	Scott (VA)	Taylor (MS)	Watson
Neugebauer	Reynolds	Taylor (NC)	Johnson, Sam	Ney	Shays	Serrano	Thompson (CA)	Watt
Ney	Rogers (AL)	Terry	Jones (NC)	Northup	Sherwood	Sherman	Thompson (MS)	Waxman
Northup	Rogers (KY)	Thomas	Keller	Norwood	Shimkus	Skelton	Tierney	Weiner
Norwood	Rogers (MI)	Thornberry	Kelly	Nunes	Shuster	Slaughter	Towns	Wexler
Nunes	Rohrabacher	Tiahrt	Kennedy (MN)	Nussle	Simmons	Smith (WA)	Udall (CO)	Woolsey
Nussle	Ros-Lehtinen	Tiberi	King (IA)	Osborne	Simpson	Snyder	Udall (NM)	Wu
Osborne	Royce	Turner	King (NY)	Otter	Smith (NJ)	Solis	Upton	Wynn
Otter	Ryan (WI)	Upton	Kingston	Oxley	Smith (TX)			
Oxley	Ryun (KS)	Walden (OR)	Kirk	Paul				
Paul	Saxton	Walsh	Kline	Pearce				
Pearce	Schmidt	Wamp	Knollenberg	Pence				
Pence	Schwarz (MI)	Weldon (FL)	Kolbe	Peterson (PA)				
Peterson (MN)	Sensenbrenner	Weldon (PA)	Kuhl (NY)	Petri				
Peterson (PA)	Sessions	Weller	LaHood	Pickering				
Petri	Shadegg	Westmoreland	Latham	Pitts				
Pickering	Shaw	Whitfield	LaTourette	Platts				
Pitts	Shays	Wicker	Lewis (CA)	Poe				
Platts	Sherwood	Wilson (NM)	Lewis (KY)	Pombo				
Poe	Shimkus	Wilson (SC)	Linder	Porter				
Pombo	Shuster	Wolf	LoBiondo	Price (GA)				
Porter	Simmons	Young (AK)	Lucas	Pryce (OH)				
Price (GA)	Simpson	Smith (TX)	Lungren, Daniel	Putnam				
Pryce (OH)			E.	Radanovich				
			Mack	Ramstad				
			Manzullo	Regula				
			Marchant	Rehberg				
			Marshall	Reichert				
			McCaul (TX)	Renzi				
			McCotter	Reynolds				
			McCrery	Rogers (AL)				
			McHenry	Rogers (KY)				
			McHugh	Rogers (MI)				
			McIntyre	Rohrabacher				
			McKeon	Ros-Lehtinen				
			McMorris	Royce				
			Mica	Ryan (WI)				
			Miller (FL)	Ryun (KS)				

NOT VOTING—5

Boozman	Hastings (WA)
Brown-Waite,	Markey
Ginny	Smith (NJ)

□ 1513

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS). The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 234, nays 197, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 621]

YEAS—234

Aderholt	Capito	Forbes
Akin	Carter	Fortenberry
Alexander	Castle	Fossella
Bachus	Chabot	Fox
Baker	Chocola	Frelinghuysen
Barrett (SC)	Coble	Gallely
Barrow	Cole (OK)	Garrett (NJ)
Bartlett (MD)	Conaway	Gerlach
Barton (TX)	Cramer	Gibbons
Bass	Crenshaw	Gilchrest
Bean	Cubin	Gillmor
Beauprez	Cuellar	Gingrey
Biggart	Culberson	Gohmert
Bilirakis	Davis (KY)	Goode
Bishop (UT)	Davis (TN)	Goodlatte
Blackburn	Davis, Jo Ann	Gordon
Blunt	Davis, Tom	Granger
Boehner	Deal (GA)	Graves
Bonilla	DeLay	Green (WI)
Bonner	Dent	Gutknecht
Bono	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hall
Boozman	Diaz-Balart, M.	Harris
Boren	Doolittle	Hart
Boustany	Drake	Hastert
Bradley (NH)	Dreier	Hayes
Brady (TX)	Duncan	Hayworth
Brown (SC)	Ehlers	Hefley
Burgess	Emerson	Hensarling
Burton (IN)	English (PA)	Herger
Buyer	Everett	Hobson
Calvert	Feeney	Hoekstra
Camp (MI)	Ferguson	Hostettler
Campbell (CA)	Fitzpatrick (PA)	Hulshof
Cannon	Flake	Hunter
Cantor	Foley	Hyde

Abercrombie	Engel	Markey
Ackerman	Eshoo	Matheson
Allen	Etheridge	Matsui
Andrews	Evans	McCarthy
Baca	Farr	McCollum (MN)
Baird	Fattah	McDermott
Baldwin	Filner	McGovern
Becerra	Ford	McKinney
Berkley	Frank (MA)	McNulty
Berman	Gonzalez	Meehan
Berry	Green, Al	Meek (FL)
Bishop (GA)	Green, Gene	Meeke (NY)
Bishop (NY)	Grijalva	Melancon
Blumenauer	Gutierrez	Menendez
Boehert	Harman	Michaud
Boswell	Hastings (FL)	Millender-
Boucher	Herseth	McDonald
Boyd	Higgins	Miller (NC)
Brady (PA)	Hinchee	Miller, George
Brown (OH)	Hinojosa	Mollohan
Brown, Corrine	Holden	Moore (KS)
Butterfield	Holt	Moore (WI)
Capps	Honda	Moran (VA)
Capuano	Hooley	Murtha
Cardin	Hoyer	Nadler
Cardoza	Inslee	Napolitano
Carnahan	Israel	Neal (MA)
Carson	Jackson (IL)	Oberstar
Case	Jackson-Lee	Obey
Chandler	(TX)	Oliver
Clay	Jefferson	Ortiz
Cleaver	Johnson, E. B.	Owens
Clyburn	Jones (OH)	Pallone
Conyers	Kanjorski	Pascarell
Cooper	Kaptur	Pastor
Costa	Kennedy (RI)	Payne
Costello	Kildee	Pelosi
Crowley	Kilpatrick (MI)	Peterson (MN)
Cummings	Kind	Pomeroy
Davis (AL)	Kucinich	Price (NC)
Davis (CA)	Langevin	Rahall
Davis (FL)	Lantos	Rangel
Davis (IL)	Larsen (WA)	Reyes
DeFazio	Larson (CT)	Ross
DeGette	Leach	Rothman
Delahunt	Lee	Roybal-Allard
DeLauro	Levin	Ruppersberger
Dicks	Lewis (GA)	Rush
Dingell	Lipinski	Ryan (OH)
Doggett	Lofgren, Zoe	Sabo
Doyle	Lowe	Salazar
Edwards	Lynch	Sánchez, Linda
Emanuel	Maloney	T.

NOT VOTING—3

Brown-Waite,	Franks (AZ)
Ginny	Hastings (WA)

□ 1523

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 621 (final passage H.R. 4297), had I been present, I would have voted "aye".

VACATING ORDERING OF YEAS AND NAYS ON H.R. 1400, SECURING AIRCRAFT COCKPITS AGAINST LASERS ACT OF 2005

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the House vacate the ordering of the yeas and nays on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1400 to the end that the Chair may put the question on the motion de novo.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1400, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to rule IX, I rise in regard to a question of the privileges of the House, and I offer a privileged resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 591

Whereas the recurring practice of improperly holding votes open for the sole purpose of overturning the will of the majority, including bullying and threatening Members to vote against their conscience, has occurred eight times since 2003, and three times in the 109th Congress alone;

Whereas on November 22, 2003, the Republican Leadership held open the vote on H.R. 1, the Prescription Drug Conference Report, for nearly three hours, the longest period of time in the history of electronic voting in the U.S. House of Representatives;

Whereas the normal period of time for a recorded vote is 15 minutes, and the Speaker of the House has reiterated that policy on Opening Day of each Congress by saying, "The Chair announced, and then strictly enforced, a policy of closing electronic votes as soon as possible after the guaranteed period of 15 minutes";

Whereas the sole purpose of holding the Prescription Drug vote open was to undermine the will of the House, and reverse the position that a majority of the House of Representatives had taken during the entire vote;

Whereas it was widely reported in the press that former Representative Nick Smith (R-MI) was bribed on the House floor, and the incident was described in Robert Novak's column in the Chicago Sun-Times, November 27, 2003: "Nick Smith was told business interests would give his son \$100,000 in return for his father's vote. When he still declined, fellow Republican House members told him they would make sure Brad Smith never came to Congress. After (Rep.) Nick Smith voted no and the bill passed, (Rep.) Duke Cunningham of California and other Republicans taunted him that his son was dead meat";

Whereas the cost of the Prescription Drug bill was a critical factor in determining the votes of many Members of Congress and Richard S. Foster, the chief actuary for the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services, conducted numerous estimates indicating the cost to be much higher, including a June 11, 2003 analysis of a similar plan in the Senate which would have cost \$551 billion over ten years and Members were not made aware of this;

Whereas the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated the cost of the Republican Prescription Drug bill to be \$395 billion over ten years and, yet just two months after the vote in Congress, Joshua Bolten, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, disclosed that the Administration's estimate of the cost was actually \$534 billion;

Whereas Representative Bill Thomas, the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and a key negotiator on the bill, told HHS Secretary Thompson on February 10, 2004 in a hearing before the Ways and Means Committee, "I know some people were surprised that your (HHS) number was higher. I personally was not . . ." (Hearing Transcript, February 10, 2004);

Whereas, Representative Nancy Johnson, the Chairman of the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee and a key negotiator on the bill, said she knew of the higher estimates and stated, "Absolutely, we knew about these numbers." (The New York Times, March 18, 2004);

Whereas the Republican Leadership and the Committees of jurisdiction chose to ignore the warnings of higher cost estimates and intentionally misled Members of the House for the sole purpose of winning passage of an extremely controversial bill;

Whereas in a clear conflict of interest the Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, former Representative Billy Tauzin (R-LA), was actively engaged in a job search with the pharmaceutical industry at the same time that he was a key negotiator on major provisions in the bill, and after its passage, he subsequently left Congress to take a highly paid executive position with the head of the pharmaceutical lobby, and is reportedly making many times his congressional salary;

Whereas the Republican Leadership's submissiveness to the influence of corporate interests, and their illegitimate efforts to overturn the will of the House to pass flawed legislation like the Prescription Drug bill, which was written to meet the needs of drug

companies, call into question the legitimacy of the laws they enact and the agenda they pursue;

Whereas the culture of corruption has so permeated the Republican Leadership that they will violate their own rules and the customs and decorum of the House to win votes on the floor of the House of Representatives; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House denounces the culture of corruption exhibited by the Republican Leadership, denounces the ongoing resort to illegitimate actions taken to pass legislation like the Prescription Drug bill under false pretenses, rejects the practice of improperly holding votes open beyond a reasonable period of time for the sole purpose of circumventing the will of the House, and directs the Speaker to take such steps as necessary to prevent any further abuse.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. BURTON of Indiana (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I would like to raise a point of order. I know that we are talking about a previous Member, but is it in order for them to impugn the integrity of the House or of a previous Member by making statements like that in a resolution of this type?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is in order first for the Clerk to read the resolution.

The Clerk will proceed.

The Clerk continued to read the resolution.

□ 1530

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS). The resolution presents a question of the privileges of the House.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. PUTNAM

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I move to table the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion that the resolution be laid on the table.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 219, noes 188, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 622]

AYES—219

Abercrombie	Burgess	Dreier
Aderholt	Burton (IN)	Duncan
Akin	Calvert	Ehlers
Alexander	Camp (MI)	Emerson
Bachus	Campbell (CA)	English (PA)
Baker	Cannon	Feeney
Barrett (SC)	Cantor	Ferguson
Bartlett (MD)	Capito	Fitzpatrick (PA)
Barton (TX)	Carter	Flake
Bass	Castle	Foley
Beauprez	Chabot	Forbes
Biggert	Cole (OK)	Fortenberry
Bilirakis	Conaway	Fossella
Bishop (UT)	Crenshaw	Fox
Blackburn	Cubin	Franks (AZ)
Blunt	Culberson	Frelinghuysen
Boehert	Davis (KY)	Gallegly
Boehner	Davis, Jo Ann	Garrett (NJ)
Bonilla	Davis, Tom	Gerlach
Bonner	Deal (GA)	Gibbons
Bono	DeLay	Gilchrest
Boozman	Dent	Gillmor
Boustany	Diaz-Balart, L.	Gingrey
Bradley (NH)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Gohmert
Brady (TX)	Doolittle	Goode
Brown (SC)	Drake	Goodlatte

Granger	Manzullo	Rohrabacher
Graves	Marchant	Ros-Lehtinen
Green (WI)	McCaul (TX)	Royce
Gutknecht	McCotter	Ryan (WI)
Hall	McCrary	Ryun (KS)
Harris	McHenry	Saxton
Hart	McHugh	Schmidt
Hastert	McKeon	Schwarz (MI)
Hayworth	McMorris	Sensenbrenner
Hefley	Mica	Sessions
Hensarling	Miller (FL)	Shadegg
Herger	Miller (MI)	Shaw
Hobson	Miller, Gary	Shays
Hoekstra	Moran (KS)	Sherwood
Hostettler	Murphy	Shimkus
Hulshof	Musgrave	Shuster
Hunter	Myrick	Simmons
Inglis (SC)	Neugebauer	Simpson
Issa	Ney	Smith (NJ)
Istook	Northup	Smith (TX)
Jenkins	Norwood	Sodrel
Jindal	Nunes	Souder
Johnson (CT)	Nussle	Stearns
Johnson (IL)	Osborne	Sweeney
Johnson, Sam	Otter	Tancredo
Keller	Oxley	Taylor (NC)
Kelly	Pearce	Terry
Kennedy (MN)	Pence	Thomas
King (IA)	Petri	Thornberry
King (NY)	Pickering	Tiahrt
Kingston	Pitts	Tiberi
Kirk	Platts	Turner
Kline	Poe	Upton
Knollenberg	Pombo	Walsh
Kolbe	Porter	Wamp
Kuhl (NY)	Price (GA)	Weld (FL)
LaHood	Pryce (OH)	Weldon (PA)
Latham	Putnam	Weller
LaTourette	Radanovich	Westmoreland
Leach	Ramstad	Whitfield
Lewis (CA)	Regula	Wicker
Lewis (KY)	Rehberg	Wilson (NM)
Linder	Reichert	Wilson (SC)
LoBiondo	Renzi	Wolf
Lucas	Reynolds	Young (AK)
Lungren, Daniel	Rogers (AL)	Young (FL)
E.	Rogers (KY)	
Mack	Rogers (MI)	

NOES—188

Ackerman	Dingell	Lofgren, Zoe
Allen	Doggett	Lowey
Andrews	Edwards	Lynch
Baca	Emanuel	Maloney
Baird	Engel	Markey
Baldwin	Eshoo	Marshall
Barrow	Evans	Matheson
Bean	Farr	Matsui
Becerra	Fattah	McCarthy
Berkley	Filmer	McCollum (MN)
Berman	Ford	McGovern
Berry	Frank (MA)	McIntyre
Bishop (GA)	Gonzalez	McKinney
Bishop (NY)	Gordon	Meehan
Boren	Green, Al	Meek (FL)
Boswell	Grijalva	Meeks (NY)
Boucher	Gutierrez	Melancon
Brady (PA)	Harman	Michaud
Brown (OH)	Hastings (FL)	Millender-
Brown, Corrine	Herseth	McDonald
Butterfield	Higgins	Miller (NC)
Capps	Hinchey	Miller, George
Capuano	Hinojosa	Mollohan
Cardin	Holt	Moore (KS)
Cardoza	Honda	Moore (WI)
Carnahan	Hooley	Moran (VA)
Carson	Hoyer	Murtha
Case	Inslee	Nadler
Chandler	Israel	Napolitano
Clay	Jackson (IL)	Neal (MA)
Cleaver	Jackson-Lee	Oberstar
Clyburn	(TX)	Obey
Conyers	Jefferson	Olver
Cooper	Johnson, E. B.	Ortiz
Costello	Jones (OH)	Owens
Cramer	Kanjorski	Pallone
Crowley	Kaptur	Pastor
Cuellar	Kennedy (RI)	Payne
Cummings	Kildee	Pelosi
Davis (AL)	Kilpatrick (MI)	Peterson (MN)
Davis (CA)	Kucinich	Pomeroy
Davis (FL)	Lance	Price (NC)
Davis (IL)	Lantos	Rahall
Davis (TN)	Larsen (WA)	Rangel
DeGette	Larson (CT)	Reyes
Delahunt	Lee	Ross
DeLauro	Levin	Rothman
Dicks	Lewis (GA)	Roybal-Allard
	Lipinski	Ruppersberger

Rush	Skelton	Towns
Ryan (OH)	Slaughter	Udall (CO)
Sabo	Smith (WA)	Udall (NM)
Salazar	Snyder	Van Hollen
Sánchez, Linda	Solis	Velázquez
T.	Spratt	Visclosky
Sánchez, Loretta	Stark	Wasserman
Sanders	Strickland	Schultz
Schakowsky	Stupak	Watson
Schiff	Tanner	Watt
Schwartz (PA)	Tauscher	Waxman
Scott (GA)	Taylor (MS)	Weiner
Scott (VA)	Thompson (CA)	Wexler
Serrano	Thompson (MS)	Wu
Sherman	Tierney	Wynn

NOT VOTING—27

Blumenauer	Everett	Menendez
Boyd	Green, Gene	Pascarell
Brown-Waite,	Hastings (WA)	Paul
Ginny	Hayes	Peterson (PA)
Buyer	Holden	Sullivan
Chocola	Hyde	Walden (OR)
Coble	Jones (NC)	Waters
DeFazio	Kind	Woolsey
Doyle	McDermott	
Etheridge	McNulty	

□ 1548

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida changed her vote from "aye" to "no." Mr. SOUDER changed his vote from "no" to "aye."

So the motion to table was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4297.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCHENRY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4437, BORDER PROTECTION, ANTITERRORISM, AND ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION CONTROL ACT OF 2005

(Mr. PUTNAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, the Rules Committee may meet next week to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 4437, the Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H-312 of the Capitol by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13, 2005. Members should draft their amendments to the bill as reported by the Judiciary Committee on December 8, 2005, which is expected to be filed with the House next week. Members are also advised that the text should be available for their review on the Web sites of the Judiciary and Rules Committees by Friday, December 9.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that

their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 4099

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 4099.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3875

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 3875.

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

There was no objection.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the acting majority leader, for the purpose of inquiring about the schedule for the week to come.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the House will convene on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider several measures under suspension of the rules. A final list of those bills will be sent to Members' offices by the end of the week. Any votes called on these measures will be rolled until 6:30 p.m.

For Wednesday and the balance of the week, the House will consider additional legislation under suspension of the rules, as well as H.R. 4437, the Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005, under a rule. We also anticipate the House will consider additional conference reports, including the USA PATRIOT Act; the Labor, Health and Human Services and Department of Defense appropriations bills; and possibly the deficit reduction and tax relief packages.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that information.

As you know, a lot of work remains to be done which is supposed to be, as I understand it, may be, I suppose, our last week. Many hope it will be our last week, at least for the month, including the completion of the conference report, as you have said, on Labor-Health and DOD appropriation, the DOD authorization, TRIA, PATRIOT Act.

So for Members' planning purposes, can you tell me when you expect to finish work for the year?

Mr. BLUNT. Once we return on Tuesday, the Members should expect the House to be in session and voting every day until we adjourn. That could happen as early as next Thursday, but certainly by next Saturday or possibly Sunday, and we would not anticipate returning until we return after the first of the year.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that information.

If we do not pass, for whatever reasons, the DOD appropriation bill and the Labor-Health appropriation bill, presumably we will need a CR. Could the leader tell me how long you would anticipate that CR being?

Mr. BLUNT. We have not contemplated that because we do expect to pass both of those bills next week before we leave. I think we are absolutely committed to do that and expect to see both of those on the floor individually, and we will then have brought all of our appropriations work to the floor individually, though certainly one of those bills, probably the Department of Defense bill, will include whatever additional appropriations have to be handled before we leave this year. But we would expect to handle those under regular order and would only contemplate a CR if that became the absolute only resort left to us. I would not anticipate that.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that information.

Focusing on the DOD bills, the authorization and the appropriation bill, technically, as I understand it, we have not gone to conference on either one of those at this point in time. One of the reasons is, I presume, that there will be a motion to instruct on the McCain amendment on one of those bills. Can the gentleman tell me when we might have a motion to go to conference? I know you have talked about them coming on the floor as conference reports, but in light of the fact we have not gone to conference yet, could the gentleman inform me as to when we might have a motion to go to conference?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my friend for yielding and would say that we expect those motions early in the week. I thought even today we might get one of those motions today as the work is done to try to work through some of the things that appear to be problems in the conference that need to be worked out, and I would expect to see that happen early in the week in both instances.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, this is not a question, but let me tell you the difficult position this puts us in, which I hope we ought to really preclude in the future in fairness.

The purpose of a motion to instruct conferees is obviously to convey to them the opinion of the House as it relates to the product of the conference. Clearly, if that motion is not made until essentially after the conference work is done, the motion essentially is of little, if any, value. I understand the