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No. 126

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOLDEN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 9, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TIM HOLDEN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Dr. Benny Tate, Rock Springs Church, Milner, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Our heavenly Father, as we bow our heads in Your presence, today we are reminded of the prayer of President Lincoln, who said, "I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere to go. My own wisdom, and that of all about me, seemed insufficient for that day." This morning, we also come to You, realizing we are insufficient and incapable. We come asking for divine protection for our men and women serving bravely in Iraq and Afghanistan and all over Your world. We acknowledge that freedom is not free and the trees of every generation are watered with the blood of its sons and daughters. We ask You to preserve and protect us. You said righteousness exalted the Nation but sin is a reproach to any people. May we seek righteousness and lives that please You.

We lift up our Congress, Senate, and President. May our leaders acknowledge their dependence upon You and seek wisdom and direction from You.

We pray this prayer, respecting all faiths, but we pray this prayer in the

name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Until You come, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

HONORING THE REVEREND DR. BENNY TATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our guest chaplain for the day here in the House, the Reverend Dr. Benny Tate. Dr. Tate has served the members of Rock Springs Congregational Methodist Church in Milner, Georgia, for 20 years, and I'm honored to count him as a friend.

Dr. Tate is a leader among God's followers. He's well known in Georgia for delivering powerful, informative, and even life-changing messages from the pulpit of his church and from behind the microphone of his radio show, Apples of Gold, which is broadcast statewide on 15 stations.

Rock Springs Congregational Methodist Church has thrived during Dr. Tate's tenure. The church has grown from 35 members when he took the helm 20 years ago to more than 4,600 worshippers today.

The church has put those resources into the service of God's people and the church's community. Every day, Rock Springs teaches the next generation to live by biblical principles at Rock Springs Christian Academy. Dr. Tate's church also conducts a prison ministry and a nursing home ministry, and it sponsors a medical clinic for the uninsured. Georgia's Third District is privileged to have wise and selfless religious leaders such as Dr. Tate. It's a great honor to have him with us here today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HEALTH CARE REFORM WILL HELP SMALL BUSINESSES

(Ms. KILROY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KILROY. Mr. Speaker, for the last couple of years I have been talking to small businesses in my district, and one of the things that I consistently hear from them that they ask for help with is the issue of the cost of health care for small business. Small business is telling me they can't afford to buy health care or they are precluded from buying it because one of the members in their small group has a pre-existing condition, and insurance companies don't even sell to them. I'm here to tell them that we are listening to them and that, if health care reform passes this House and is signed into law, it can reform dramatically the small business health care costs.

□ 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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It can help small businesses by providing an exchange that they can access which will provide a bigger pool and shared risk and lower health care costs for them. And many small businesses would qualify for substantial tax credits to help small businesses make worker health care costs more affordable.

This bill will not cost small business jobs. In fact, it will help save jobs, giving them more opportunities to spend their money to help add to their jobs rather than paying extremely high health care costs.

HEALTH CARE SOLUTIONS

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, you know, rather than complaining about the thousand-page, \$1 trillion health care bill that rations care and increases costs, in my district I hosted a forum on health care solutions.

A panel of experts shared some Texas-sized solutions they have used to fix what is broken in our health care system.

These folks didn't rely on government bureaucrats to solve their problems. They didn't wait for a Washington bailout. They forged ahead with innovative programs that improved the quality of life for Texans—ideas that both Democrats and Republicans can agree on.

My constituents have told me loud and clear: one, they don't want government-controlled health care; two, the President and Democrats in Congress need to start over and listen to America. Go for real bipartisan solutions.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, which begins on September 15 and runs through October 15. During this time we will celebrate the culture of people who trace our roots to Spain, Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean, and their contributions to American life.

The achievements of the Hispanic community in America have positively affected so many aspects of our society. For example, there are now over 1.6 million Hispanic-owned businesses in America. Of these businesses, over 29,000 generate over \$1 million worth of revenues every year.

Hispanics in America are also succeeding in a wide variety of challenging fields. There are currently over 79,000 Hispanic executives, almost 51,000 Hispanic physicians and surgeons, almost 49,000 Hispanic post-sec-

ondary teachers, and over 38,000 Hispanic lawyers.

And lastly, let us not forget that there are over 1.1 million Hispanic veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

THERE ARE MANY SOLUTIONS TO HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the President continues to try to sell the false myth that the health care debate is only between the Democrat bill or the status quo. This is completely inaccurate.

Republicans have offered different solutions and legislation to fix what is wrong with our health insurance system. Unfortunately, Democrats are unwilling to acknowledge that there may be other proposals, reforms that do not add billions to the national debt, cost millions of jobs or expand the size and powers of the Federal Government. Republicans believe we can make health insurance more affordable by giving Americans more of their own tax dollars to purchase insurance, shop for plans across State lines, and association health plans for small businesses.

The debate should be built on the honest exchange over what proposals are best to expand health insurance coverage, not on the false effort that we enact a big government takeover or do nothing.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. This was an important August for America and for Members of this House. Back in Missouri, I had a number and variety of health care forums, from traditional townhalls to telephone townhalls, to roundtables of health care experts to kitchen table conversations with constituents. What we know is that the current system is broken, unsustainable, and unaffordable.

So the number one contributor to our deficit, to personal bankruptcies and costs of those who have insurance has doubled in 10 years. We also know we consider the source of the opponents peddling this information in this debate, the political gamers who just want to bring the President down, the profiteers who are making massive profits over the broken system.

We need to have important insurance reforms to reduce costs through competition, and this needs to be deficit neutral.

As Congress reconvenes and we prepare to hear the President tonight, we

need to continue this great debate, even a spirited debate that we have to find commonsense solutions for the American people. That's what they expect, and that's what they deserve.

UTOPIAN ILLUSION: GOVERNMENT RUN HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, my grandmother used to say "If you have your health, you have everything." Health is a personal and private matter with people. Individuals want to control who their doctor is. Now we are embarked upon a new philosophy regarding health care.

The government thinks it knows better how to take care of Americans than individuals do. Kind of like the sarcastic statement, "We're from the government, we're here to help you."

More government intrusion into personal lives alarms and scares people, especially seniors. They are afraid that additional government control of health care will take their personal choices away and give decisions and power to unelected, unaccountable 23-year-old bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. Frankly, many of my neighbors in Texas don't have the confidence that big government can provide better quality of health for this Nation.

People are also worried about the billions of dollars to pay for this utopian illusion: money that will have to be borrowed, then paid back in more taxes. The people I represent think this new plan will make matters worse. Sort of like what my grandmother also said, "If you think the problems government creates are bad, just wait until you see government solutions."

And that's just the way it is.

HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. PASCRELL. I have a quote from Republican Chief Justice Earl Warren, no longer with us. He said, Many people consider the things which government does for them to be social progress, but they consider the things government does for others as socialism. He said it. It is a message to everybody in this House. The fearmongering that's gone on in the last 2 months does not bring us any closer to resolution.

Look, private insurance companies are for-profit businesses. I can't blame them, you can't blame them for being in the business of denying access to needed care, avoiding and dumping the sick, and confusing consumers. They are, after all, driven by profits, not patients.

I aim in my business, what I have to do here in the House is look out for my constituents, for the hard-working families in New Jersey that are being

tossed aside so that insurance companies can maximize their profits. I support America's Affordable Health Choice Act because it creates a rational marketplace where Americans can find transparent information about their insurance options, guaranteeing coverage that won't discriminate based on health, gender, or job, and meaningful coverage that won't leave families laden with debt.

THE PRESIDENT'S RHETORIC SHOULDN'T BE TAKEN LITERALLY

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in a speech before the American Medical Association, the President made a promise to the American people which he has often repeated: If you like your doctor, you will be able to keep your doctor. If you like your health care plan, you will be able to keep your health care plan. No one will take it away, no matter what end.

However, when asked about this, White House officials told the Associated Press, The President's rhetoric shouldn't be taken literally.

So when it comes to serious concerns that most Americans have about health care proposals, White House officials admit you can't believe what the President says. That's astounding. If we can't take the President literally on his promises to the American people, why aren't the national media all over this? The American people need the facts about health care reform, not political cover for the President.

□ 1015

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, during the August recess, not only did I conduct townhall meetings, but I toured medical facilities throughout my district. One of those visits has been etched vividly in my mind.

In Elizabeth City, North Carolina, I met Derrick Williams at DaVita Dialysis Center. He tearfully explained to me that he had received a kidney transplant from his sister. The kidney worked well, but he was required to take a variety of antirejection medicines. He liked his insurance.

His insurance company started reimbursing for the medicines, and he was very happy. But after just 2 years, the insurance company refused further reimbursement. Unable to afford the medicines, the kidney failed, he's back on dialysis, his sister is without a kidney, and Derrick is awaiting another kidney. What a tragedy.

Health insurers should work with us and their policyholders. Instead, they continue to rake in huge profits by

raising premiums \$1,800 per year and cutting back on coverage.

I urge the insurance industry to embrace health care reform, please.

CONFIRMING CZARS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, last Friday the so-called "green jobs czar" resigned from his post after it was revealed that he supported 9/11 Truth organization statements insinuating that the government permitted the attacks to happen.

This official was just one of the many czars the administration has appointed this year. There's a car czar, a pay czar, a science czar, a Great Lakes czar, plus 30 other czars.

Typically, high-ranking officials go through a Senate confirmation process to ensure their fitness for the position, but none of President Obama's czars went through this process required by the Constitution.

The Constitution calls for the Senate to give advice and consent for the appointment of its principal officers, a fitting definition for the power wielded by these czars.

It is not too late for the President to properly vet his next green jobs czar and to willingly submit all of these high officials to a transparent process that can only strengthen his administration.

When he was Senator, Obama said, "The biggest problems that we're facing right now have to do with George Bush trying to bring more and more power into the executive branch and not go through Congress at all. And that's what I intend to reverse when I'm President of the United States."

Mr. Obama, it's time to keep your word.

HEALTH CARE REFORM: DISPELLING MYTHS FOR SENIORS

(Ms. HIRONO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HIRONO. The most damaging aspect of the misinformation circulating about health care insurance reform is the use of scare tactics targeted at our seniors. The cynical irony is that the misinformation targeting seniors is largely perpetuated by the very people who fought the establishment of Medicare and wanted to privatize Social Security.

Here are the facts about some common myths:

Myth No. 1, there will be rationing of health care. Not true. The bill promotes effective treatments through research.

Myth No. 2, Medicare will be eliminated. Not true. In fact, reform will lower prescription drug costs for people in the doughnut hole, allow them to keep the doctors of their choice, im-

prove the quality of care and eliminate billions in waste.

Closing the doughnut hole is especially important for Hawaii's seniors. We have the highest percentage; 36 percent compared to 26 percent nationally of our beneficiaries fall into this doughnut hole.

Our current health care system, the costliest in the world for what we get, with ever increasing costs year after year, can't be sustained. I urge my colleagues to support reform now.

UNACCOUNTABLE POLICY CZARS

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the recent controversy and resignation by one of President Obama's policy czars highlights a very real problem: the President's use of unaccountable policy czars to circumvent the Constitution. Now, by one count, the White House has 32 policy czars, including a science czar, a regulatory czar, and even a Great Lakes czar.

These czars are tasked with leading major policy efforts for the administration and have simply been granted a great deal of authority. Yet each czar, unlike a Cabinet secretary, is not subject to congressional oversight.

Members of the Cabinet have to be approved by Congress, and they report to Congress. Policy czars have no such obligation. So what we have now is a situation where major policy decisions are being made by a group of people who are not approved by Congress, not subjected to congressional oversight, and operate without any transparency or accountability. This is not what our Constitution intended.

OUR AILING HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

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

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, we have a health care system that is ailing and is almost on life support. It needs a major operation, and it needs it in three ways.

First, we have to stop discriminating against people with prior illnesses. It's wrong and probably unconstitutional under the 14th Amendment.

Second, small businesses and individuals can't get health care insurance because they are too small or they're by themselves and have no pool. We need to make insurance and health care financing available to small businesses and to individuals.

Third, we are on the cusp of some tremendous breakthroughs in medicine and in health care which will help us with heart disease, diabetes and cancer, but in general, wellness across the board, which will save this country a lot of money.

We have the most expensive health care system in the world. We deserve

the best health care system and financing, and that is the operation we are undertaking here in the Congress.

WHERE IS THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF CONGRESS?

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, before the August recess, I introduced a resolution to hold Members accountable for their health care reform decisions. House Resolution 615 simply states that if Members of Congress vote for the government takeover of health care, they agree to give up their private insurance paid for by the taxpayers and enroll in the government-run plan. So far, 78 Republican Members have joined as cosponsors but not one Democrat.

Over 750,000 Americans from every State have contacted my office in support of this resolution. They are demanding that if government-run health care is good enough for Americans young and old, then it should certainly be good enough for the Members of Congress and their families.

How dare Congress force government-run health care down the throats of our fellow Americans and not be willing to choose it for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, you have heard people speak out on this. Isn't it time for every Member of this body to stand up and be accountable to the people they represent by taking a dose of their same medicine they prescribe to their constituents?

To my fellow Congressmen, won't you now join me in cosponsoring House Resolution 615 and prove that personal accountability finally does exist in Washington?

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, throughout the August recess, like my colleagues, I met with thousands of my constituents in Maryland's Fourth Congressional District. I heard the stories of so many who go to work every day but who also go without health insurance or with inadequate insurance to meet their family's needs.

I heard from seniors whose out-of-pocket costs are soaring, families with insurance but who have been broken and bankrupt because of a tragic illness, parents concerned about their newly adult children who are no longer eligible for health benefits, and small businesses that want to provide health insurance but can't because of the staggering costs.

It's time for us to stop talking and to start acting to provide quality, affordable, and accessible health care for all. We can't allow the loudest voices

backed by corporate special interests, health insurance companies, and drug companies to stand in the way of meaningful reform. And we can't just tinker around the edges of reform either without bringing down costs and providing accountability.

I join my colleagues in Congress in support of a robust public health insurance option that relies on Medicare providers as an essential mechanism to encourage real competition, lower costs for all Americans and keep insurance and drug companies honest.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, tonight President Obama will address a joint session of Congress to make yet another appeal for his health care plan.

According to an analysis by CBS News, the President has already delivered 27 speeches on the issue of health care. Tonight will mark speech number 28. Yet with each passing day, as the American public digs deeper into the details of the plan, they learn that the President's rhetoric doesn't always fit with reality.

Pushing for a government takeover of health care with new spin will not change the minds of the American people who strongly and correctly oppose a government-run insurance plan.

Tonight the President should reset on his health care plan and begin working with Republicans on bipartisan reform that addresses the concerns of Americans and that the American people can support.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, Maureen Dowd had it right in her column today when she said there's a lot of confusion and skepticism out in the American public about the health care plan. There isn't, however, a lot of opposition. What I've found is that once you spend time with the American people explaining things like the public option, they become very supportive, as national polls now show. And why shouldn't they? There are lots of examples of public and private competition in this country.

We spend billions of dollars as a society on bottled water every day when there is a public option, a much less expensive public option, turning on the faucet. Millions of Americans every day face the choice, they can drive their car to work or they can take the public option, a bus or a metro line.

We understand in this country that sometimes competition and choice make a difference for the American people. When we adopt the public option as part of our health care reform package, we will make a difference in

the health care delivery system in this country, and the American people will benefit from it.

PASSING ALONG CONCERNS OF HEALTH CARE REFORM FROM ARKANSAS' THIRD DISTRICT RESIDENTS

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, during the August work period, I heard from thousands of Arkansans about health care reform. I promised my constituents that I would bring their stories and thoughts back to Washington so we can enact commonsense health reforms and have wide support throughout the country.

While residents of the Third District are supportive of reform to cut the cost of health care and make it more affordable and accessible to all Americans, there is a consensus that the reforms currently under consideration by Congress aren't what they want. The overwhelming majority of citizens I heard from don't want the government to federalize their health care.

We can create a better plan for health care reform that includes fixing the fraud in the Medicare and Medicaid systems, implementing tort reform and allowing Americans to own their own health insurance like they own their own car insurance.

Congress needs to listen to what the American public is saying. Do not support federalizing health care. Don't destroy the good things of the American health system while trying to fix the bad.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I, like other Members of Congress, went home and had a townhall meeting on health care and met with many doctors. What I found is that the American public knows that the system is broken and that we need to change. The difficulty I have got in my district is I'm for a public option. But I'm not drawing a line in the sand to say I won't vote for a bill that improves the health care system, that takes care of the problem concerning preexisting conditions, that gives more wellness and preventative programs and that sees that we have more family doctors and health centers.

For that, the liberals in my district, and I'm a liberal, are upset with me because I haven't said I won't vote for a bill that doesn't have a public option. On the other hand, there are people that are against health care at all, and if I vote for anything, they will be upset.

Tonight the President of the United States will address the Nation. I plan

to listen, and I plan to support the President of the United States in providing health care and making the greatest reforms in welfare moves for the people of our Nation and improvement in health care since 1965 when Medicaid and Medicare were passed. Those were great days for America.

HONORING NEW JERSEY SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE MARILYN RHYNE HERR

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

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize former New Jersey Superior Court Judge Marilyn Rhyne Herr for her 15 years of outstanding service to our State. I was honored to be part of the celebration recently honoring Judge Herr as her portrait was unveiled for permanent display in the Hunterdon County, New Jersey, courthouse.

Judge Herr was sworn in to the New Jersey Superior Court in 1989, becoming the second woman resident of Hunterdon County to be named a Superior Court judge and the first assigned to the bench in our home County. She was for many years in the family division, a court Judge Herr called the most important court there is.

More than a jurist, Judge Herr served for many years as a Girl Scout leader and two terms as president of the Rolling Hills Girl Scout Council. She is a patron of the arts, an avid reader of historical biographies, a former pilot, world traveler, and competitive tennis player.

Like my wife and me, she is a resident of Clinton Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and my wife and I are proud to call Marilyn Rhyne Herr our friend and neighbor.

Congratulations, Judge Herr, and thank you for your service to New Jersey.

□ 1030

THE WIND ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2009

(Mr. LUJÁN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to commend my colleague, Representative PAUL TONKO, for his work on the Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009, a bill that I proudly cosponsored and supported during the committee markup process.

Much of our clean energy future depends on our ability to harness and use the renewable power of wind. New Mexico is well positioned to be a leader in renewable energy development, and wind and solar energy have the potential to power an entire country.

New Mexico's wind energy resources are vast. And as home to Department

of Energy national laboratories in New Mexico, with Sandia and Los Alamos, New Mexico is a hub of scientific discovery and innovative technology.

We are also investing in clean energy job training and education programs. In my district, the North American Wind Research and Training Center at Mesalands Community College has established curriculum and provided job training opportunities to create a strong labor force to support a robust renewable energy economy.

Still, we have a lot of work to do, and we must continue to invest in renewable energy research and development. Investment in science and technology will be the key to our clean energy future, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

THE PRESIDENT'S JOINT SESSION ADDRESS

(Mrs. BIGGERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, tonight when the President addresses the joint session of Congress, I hope that he will turn a new page in the health care debate, setting aside demands for a government-run, taxpayer-funded health care system and instead he will express support for real reforms that will reduce costs and increase access to quality health care for everyone regardless of preexisting conditions.

I hope to hear that the President finally will fix the medical malpractice crisis that continues to drive costs up and drives doctors out of Illinois and other States. I hope the President will finally commit to our small businesses by allowing them to band together in an association health plan so that they can provide affordable health care to their employees. And, finally, I hope that the President will join Members on both sides of the aisle to end waste, fraud and abuse plaguing Medicare and robbing seniors of much-needed health benefits.

It is my hope that after tonight's address the President and congressional Democrats will focus on bipartisan, commonsense reforms that will actually increase health care affordability and accessibility for all.

IT'S TIME TO ENACT REAL HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. TITUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TITUS. As Congress returns to Washington to focus on the Nation's business, we bring back the many stories we heard while we were home in our districts.

I spent much of August traveling around my district in southern Nevada talking to folks about health care. I held roundtables, I convened a Congress on the Corner, I participated in

telephone town halls, and I visited community health clinics. I shared my views on reform; I dispelled many of the myths that were circulating by those who want to protect the status quo; and I heard from people who cannot afford health care or found out that they don't have the coverage for the medical treatment that they need.

It is clear that we can no longer afford business as usual. The worst we can do is do nothing. The current health care system obviously isn't working, so it's time to enact real health care reform, health care reform that provides people with choice, lowers the cost of care, expands access, and provides Nevadans and all Americans with peace of mind should they or their families become ill.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN; IS WASHINGTON LISTENING?

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. After a tumultuous month of townhall meetings across the Nation, the American people have spoken, and House Republicans are on the side of the American people.

As the President comes into this well of Congress tonight to deliver a speech on health care reform, one thing is clear: the American people don't want just another speech on health care; they want another health care plan.

What I heard back home is that the folks want us to take action here in Washington that will lower the cost of health insurance and lower the cost of health care in the long term, but the American people don't want us to launch a new government-run insurance plan that will lead to a government takeover of health care paid for with \$800 billion in higher taxes.

As the President knows, House Republicans have a broad range of legislative ideas, and we hope to hear and reflect on some of them tonight. Why not let Americans purchase health insurance the way Members of Congress can across State lines? Why not bring about reasonable restrictions and limits on medical malpractice claims to end the era of defensive medicine?

House Republicans will welcome the President of the United States respectfully to the well of Congress tonight, and we stand ready to work with the Democratic majority to solve our health care challenges.

The American people have spoken. Tonight we'll see if Washington is listening.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. SPEIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, ever since President Truman proposed a system

to keep Americans from going bankrupt due to medical bills, the for-profit insurance industry has painted any effort at reform as un-American. I want to talk today about health and wealth.

Unlike then, there is now broad consensus that our system is unsustainable. Premiums are rising at three times the rate of inflation, 4,000 Americans are losing their coverage every day, and more and more are unable to get insurance simply because they have preexisting conditions. Still, those who profit most by the status quo, the for-profit insurers, continue to lie to the American people while they take home between \$70,000 a day and \$300,000 a day.

Let me be clear: no one in Congress is trying to nationalize medical care. On the contrary, providing Americans a basic low-cost public option simply expands access so that consumers can visit the doctors of their choice.

It's time we start caring less about making private insurance companies and their CEOs wealthy and get back to making Americans healthy.

WAKE UP AMERICA: THIS IS THE TIME FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. OLIVER. Mr. Speaker, there are those in America who claim that we can't fix our broken health care system during an economic crisis. The truth is that we can't afford not to fix it.

Health care premiums have risen every year for more than a decade, at least three times as fast as family incomes have risen. If we doing nothing, those rising health insurance premiums will eat up an ever larger slice of family incomes. Businesses that provide health insurance as a benefit for workers and their families will be ever more competitively disadvantaged. That is a loss of jobs that America cannot afford to lose.

Others in America claim that reform will mean a government takeover of health care decisions. The opposite is true. Every American will be able to choose their insurance plan and their doctor, but dropping a person's coverage because of a preexisting condition will be prohibited from all insurance plans.

Reform will ensure that the doctor and the family make the critical decisions on needed care. Now the insurance company executives make those decisions, and they only care about their profits.

Wake up, America; this is the time for health care reform.

HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM DAILY MYTH BUSTER: IMPACT ON SENIORS

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, we have nothing but myths and scare tactics to our seniors about health care.

What is one of the myths? Under the health care reform, a government panel, a bureau, will tell you when you can die. Nothing can be further from the truth. It will be up to your doctor and your family. It simply provides reimbursement for Medicare for doing this.

Another myth: health care reform will lead to rationed care. No such thing. We have it now. As a matter of fact, nothing will stand between you and your doctor to make the best decision. Reform actually takes insurance company bureaucrats out of this decision and let's you make it.

What about the myth about health care reform is a government takeover? Just another lie. Under the bill, there is no government takeover of health care. Every American will still be able to choose their doctor and their health insurance plan and make decisions that they want.

The fourth out of these five myths: health care will reform and end Medicare. Untrue. As a matter of fact, it will strengthen Medicare and it will lower prescription drug benefits—take that doughnut out of Medicare.

And, finally: We can't afford to fix health care during an economic downturn. We can't afford not to fix it.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE JEAN SCHMIDT, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable JEAN SCHMIDT, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Washington, DC, August 11, 2009.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for documents issued by the Ohio Elections Commission.

After consultation with counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

JEAN SCHMIDT,
Member of Congress.

ELECTING A MINORITY MEMBER TO A STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 723

Resolved, That the following member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee:

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM—Mr. Luetkemeyer.

Mr. PENCE (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agreed to the following resolution:

S. RES. 255

In the Senate of the United States, September 8, 2009.

Whereas the Honorable Edward Moore Kennedy was elected to the Senate in 1962 and served the people of Massachusetts in the United States Senate with devotion and distinction for nearly 47 years, the third longest term of service in Senate history;

Whereas the Honorable Edward Moore Kennedy became the youngest Majority Whip in Senate history at the age of 36;

Whereas the Honorable Edward Moore Kennedy served as Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee from 1979–1981 and as Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee for nearly 13 years between 1987–2009;

Whereas the Honorable Edward Moore Kennedy made the needs of working families and the less fortunate among us the work of his life, particularly those of the poor, the disenfranchised, the disabled, the young, the old, the working class, the service member and the immigrant;

Whereas his efforts on behalf of the citizens of Massachusetts and all Americans earned him the esteem and high regard of his colleagues;

Whereas more than 300 laws bear his name and he co-sponsored more than 2,000 others covering civil rights, health care, the minimum wage, education, human rights and many other issues; and

Whereas with his death his State and the Nation have lost an outstanding lawmaker and public servant: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate has received with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the passing of the honorable Edward Moore Kennedy, the great Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the Kennedy family.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 179. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas

and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

WIND ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3165) to provide for a program of wind energy research, development, and demonstration, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3165

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. WIND ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of Energy shall carry out a program of research and development to—

(1) improve the energy efficiency, reliability, and capacity of wind turbines;

(2) optimize the design and adaptability of wind energy systems to the broadest practical range of atmospheric conditions; and

(3) reduce the cost of construction, generation, and maintenance of wind energy systems.

(b) *PROGRAM.*—The program under this section shall focus on research and development of—

(1) new materials and designs to make larger, lighter, less expensive, and more reliable rotor blades;

(2) technologies to improve gearbox performance and reliability;

(3) automation, materials, and assembly of large-scale components to reduce manufacturing costs;

(4) low-cost transportable towers greater than 100 meters in height to capitalize on improved wind conditions at higher elevations;

(5) advanced computational modeling tools to improve—

(A) the reliability of aeroelastic simulations of wind energy systems;

(B) understanding of the interaction between each wind turbine component;

(C) siting of wind energy systems to maximize efficiency and minimize variable generation;

(D) integration of wind energy systems into the existing electric grid to ensure reliability; and

(E) understanding of the wake effect between upwind and downwind turbine operations;

(6) advanced control systems and blade sensors to improve performance and reliability under a wide variety of wind conditions;

(7) advanced generators, including—

(A) medium-speed and low-speed generators;

(B) direct-drive technology; and

(C) the use of advanced magnets in generator rotors;

(8) wind technology for offshore applications;

(9) methods to assess and mitigate the effects of wind energy systems on radar and electromagnetic fields;

(10) wind turbines with a maximum electric power production capacity of 100 kilowatts or less;

(11) technical processes to enable—

(A) scalability of transmission from remotely located renewable resource rich areas; and

(B) optimization of advanced infrastructure design, including high voltage transmission; and

(12) other research areas as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 3. WIND ENERGY DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of Energy shall conduct a wind energy demonstration program. In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall ensure that—

(1) the program is of sufficient size and geographic diversity to measure wind energy system performance under the full productive range of wind conditions in the United States;

(2) demonstration projects carried out under this program are—

(A) conducted in collaboration with industry and, as appropriate, with academic institutions; and

(B) located in various geographic areas representing various wind class regimes; and

(3) data collected from demonstration projects carried out under this program is useful for carrying out section 2(b).

(b) *COST-SHARING.*—The Secretary shall carry out the program under this section in compliance with section 988(a) through (d) and section 989 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16352(a) through (d) and 16353).

SEC. 4. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY.

In carrying out this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall—

(1) coordinate with the Office of Minority Economic Impact and with the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization; and

(2) provide special consideration to applications submitted by institutions, businesses, or entities containing majority representation by individuals identified in section 33 or 34 of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885a or 1885b).

SEC. 5. COMPETITIVE AWARDS.

Awards under section 2 and section 3 shall be made on a competitive basis with an emphasis on technical merit.

SEC. 6. COORDINATION AND NONDUPLICATION.

To the maximum extent practicable the Secretary of Energy shall coordinate activities under this Act with other programs of the Department of Energy and other Federal research programs.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Energy to carry out this Act \$200,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2010 through 2014.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3165, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased that today we are considering H.R. 3165, the Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009.

The United States has enough wind energy resources to meet all of our electricity needs several times over, but experience over the last several years has shown that many significant technical issues remain before wind can serve as a major provider of base-load electricity. This bipartisan bill

will establish a far more comprehensive research, development and demonstration program for wind technologies at the Department of Energy than currently exists. It is based on several recent assessments of the challenges that need to be overcome for wind power to reach its full potential in the United States and has been fully endorsed by the American Wind Energy Association.

If enacted, H.R. 3165 would become the first law to set an authorization level for wind research and development since DOE's immediate predecessor, the Energy Research and Development Administration, was established in 1975. As we continue to develop a national energy strategy, this will provide crucial guidance for the Department in the years ahead.

I would like to thank my colleagues on the Science and Technology Committee on both sides of the aisle for working with me to make this bill as strong as possible. In particular, I have great thanks for our chairman of the committee, who has made a stalwart effort in advancing our legislation.

In addition to the two Democratic amendments offered, we approved all five Republican amendments offered by voice vote. Thus, the bill ensures geographic diversity, coordination across the Federal Government, and a merit-reviewed award process, among other important provisions.

I ask my colleagues in the House to support H.R. 3165, and look forward to working with our counterparts in the Senate to get this to the President's desk as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3165, the Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009.

Wind energy has been and continues to be a very important part of the electricity-generating portfolio in this country, and in particular in my State of Texas, which I understand is the largest producer of wind energy in our country. However, the technology can be improved upon to make the wind turbines, systems and farms more efficient and more effective at producing energy.

Renewable energy from wind currently makes up almost 2 percent of the energy generated in this country, but industry experts believe that number can be as high as 20 percent. H.R. 3165 can help this country reach that goal.

The bill addresses the key research areas needed to expand our country's production of wind energy, and I thank Mr. TONKO for his work on this important renewable energy source and for working with both sides of the aisle to move this bill unanimously out of the Science Committee and before the House today.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1045

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3165, the Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009.

My home State of Nebraska is sixth in the Nation in wind energy potential, yet lacks in transmission capacity and development for additional generation. As this legislation made its way through the Science and Technology Committee, we adopted my amendment, which will allow for research and development into ways to efficiently and cost effectively create high-voltage transmission for renewable energy.

America needs a comprehensive national energy plan. An all-of-the-above approach to our energy policy, one which includes offshore oil and gas production, as well as the advancement of technologies to develop alternative sources of energy such as wind power, needs to be on the table.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, as we continue to grow our dependency on wind power to meet this Nation's energy needs, it is important, critically important that we move forward aggressively with all efforts towards energy efficiency. This measure will do that. I strongly encourage our colleagues to support H.R. 3165.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 447) recognizing the remarkable contributions of the American Council of Engineering Companies for its 100 years of service to the engineering industry and the Nation.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 447

Whereas the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and its thousands of member firms are celebrating the Council's 100th anniversary in 2009;

Whereas the ACEC is the oldest and largest business association of America's engineer-

ing industry, representing more than 5,000 engineering firms that employ 500,000 professionals, engaged in a wide range of practices that propel our economy and ensure a high quality of life for all people in the United States;

Whereas the ACEC represents engineers in private practice, who design the infrastructure, energy, and technological projects that ensure our Nation enjoys the highest standard of living in the world and continues to compete successfully in the 21st century economy;

Whereas the ACEC member firms have been responsible for many of the Nation's most significant achievements over the past 100 years, including the roads, bridges, subways, airports, buildings, industrial facilities, and water systems that are the most advanced in the world; and

Whereas the ACEC member firms have also been at the forefront of the environmental movement, cleaning up hazardous waste sites and incorporating sustainable solutions in infrastructure works: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates the American Council of Engineering Companies for its 100 years of service.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on House Resolution 447, the resolution now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 447, recognizing the remarkable contributions of the American Council of Engineering Companies for its 100 years of service to the engineering industry and our Nation. I also want to thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. SHULER) for introducing this resolution.

The American Council of Engineering Companies is the oldest and largest business association representing America's engineering industry. It represents more than 5,000 engineering firms that employ more than 500,000 engineers, architects, land surveyors, scientists and others. Its members engage in a wide range of engineering work, including designing the infrastructure, energy and technological projects that contribute to our economy and our quality of life.

The American Council of Engineering Companies traces its roots back to 1909, when a group of engineers in private practice established the American Institute of Consulting Engineers. Today, the American Council of Engineering Companies is a large federation of 51 State and regional councils representing a large section of America's engineering industry.

I congratulate the American Council of Engineering Companies on its 100 years of service and urge passage of House Resolution 447.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today, of course, in support of House Resolution 447, recognizing the very remarkable contributions of the American Council of Engineering Companies for its 100 years of service to the engineering industry and to the Nation. ACEC is a large federation of 51 State and regional councils representing the great breadth of America's engineering industry. This includes one of the largest councils serving 325 firms in my home State of Texas.

ACEC represents more than 5,000 engineering firms that employ more than 500,000 engineers, architects, land surveyors, scientists and other specialists responsible for more than \$100 billion of private and public works annually.

It's an effective and growing advocate for advancing the practice of consulting engineering and the promotion of private enterprise, working to further the business interests and opportunities of the world's most respected engineering companies, those that design and build the roads, the bridges, the subways and the airports, industrial facilities and water systems of America. These buildings and infrastructure have truly been the backbone of American commerce and industry during the last 100 years. The ACEC member companies that have helped to construct them will no doubt be on the front lines of the economic recovery that lies ahead of us.

I commend ACEC and its member companies and employees for the immeasurable service and contribution to the country.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN).

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 447, which recognizes the significant contributions of the American Council of Engineering Companies during its 100 years of service.

The American Council of Engineering Companies, or ACEC, represents more than 5,000 engineering firms across the Nation who work to enhance and safeguard America's quality of life. These companies are involved in every aspect of our economy, from highways and infrastructure to drinking water to new technologies. In 1909, a loosely organized group of engineers in private practice established the American Institute of Consulting Engineers, AICE, the forerunner of ACEC.

Since then, the organization has grown to encompass member firms that employ more than hundreds of thousands of engineers, architects, land surveyors, scientists and other specialists

responsible for more than \$200 billion of public and private works annually.

There are now 51 State and regional ACEC councils, including a chapter in my State of Arkansas. The 2008–2009 Arkansas chapter president, Jerry Martin; vice president, Matt Crafton; treasurer, Barry McCormick; and state director, Brent Massey, all are doing a tremendous job. I can attest firsthand to the Arkansas chapter's hard work and the tremendous job that they have done in contributing to the State of Arkansas.

Mr. Speaker, the American Council of Engineering Companies' mission is to contribute to America's prosperity and welfare. I believe they do just that, and I commend the Council and their members for 100 years of outstanding service to the United States and urge adoption of H. Res. 447.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 3 minutes to Representative EARL BLUMENAUER of the State of Oregon. He is an outspoken voice for energy and environment matters and understands the role of engineers in that entire process.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Thank you. I appreciate the gentleman's courtesy and his leadership.

If you spend a little time around here and work on a variety of issues, occasionally the various awards and honorary memberships come your way. Well, I am pleased to be an honorary fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Nothing gives me more pride.

In the fight to rebuild and renew America, the American Council of Engineering Companies is in the forefront. ACEC provides, as referenced by my colleagues on the floor, the technical know-how to plan, develop design projects and help manage them through construction. These companies are at the heart of the essential building blocks of the built environment, the bridges, roads, water, sanitation, transit, rail, buildings, environmental protection and cleanup. They are leaders in the policy areas as well.

We have watched the engineering profession provide leadership and insight, counsel and advice in dealing with the reauthorization of our transportation bill, dealing with the recent legislation we have offered for a water trust fund, and with the reinstitution of the Superfund, the accountability that the ASCE has provided with an invaluable report card on the State of American infrastructure. They have done the study on a repeated basis, most recently issuing a new report that showed that we are still rated about a "D" in all the different categories. They do this on an ongoing basis to provide information that policymakers, businesses, the media can rely upon. Nobody else does it as well and as systematically.

For years, Congress has ducked the tough questions of accountability and finance. Here again, ACEC is in the forefront.

There are lots of jokes about engineers and the pocket-protector crowd, but I am deeply appreciative of how the American Council of Engineering Companies, and their thousands of engineers across the country, are playing a critical role in rebuilding and renewing America and making sure our communities are more liveable, our families are safer, healthier and more economically secure.

I hope our Members not only celebrate this 100th anniversary, but maybe use this as an opportunity to take the time to look at the resources that ACEC gives to us to help us do our job better.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan, Dr. EHLERS.

Mr. EHLERS. I thank you for recognizing me, and I wish to join in the accolades. You just heard from the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) about the pocket-protector crowd, and I am proud to say that I am a member of the pocket-protector crowd, although I am not an engineer; I am a physicist. But I rise to commend the engineers for the work that they do and to recognize not just the companies—you have already heard all the companies lauded, and they do great and marvelous work—but the engineers behind it are also essential.

Whenever you step on an elevator, whenever you drive your car, whenever you go down a road or across a bridge, you are using engineering products. Throughout your entire life everything you touch, almost everything you do is related to engineers who designed and built the objects that you are using.

We fail to recognize the importance of this. Other countries have not failed to. India, for example, which has a much bigger population than the U.S., is now producing more engineers than we do.

China, with a very large population, is producing considerably more engineers than we do. If we want to maintain our preeminent position as a Nation, we have to provide more emphasis and more incentives to engineers, and especially incentives to students to get into the engineering profession.

And that is why it is extremely important that we improve our math and science curricula in the elementary and secondary schools, because it has become true that if students don't study enough math or science in the elementary and secondary schools, they will not go into engineering when they get to the university because they simply don't have the right background. So it is essential that we develop better programs and better-trained teachers for elementary and secondary school math and science courses, so that we can once again capture the lead in engineering and manufacturing that we have had for many years and which we are in danger of losing.

So I urge that, as we celebrate what this particular organization has done, we also recognize that they need good

engineers to accomplish their objectives and we, as a Congress, have a responsibility to make sure that we train the people who will become the engineers of the future.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, as an engineer serving in the House, I want to commend Representative SHULER for his work on House Resolution 447, which recognizes the American Council of Engineering Companies for its 100 years of service. Obviously the impact made by engineers and related scientists on our society is profound.

We need them to continue through their professionalism to lead us along the ways of discovery of creating new concepts and certainly designs that will lift us as a society. This Nation relies heavily on their professionalism and their services, and they will be those agents that transition this economy to an innovation economy.

So I would ask that our colleagues strongly support House Resolution 447.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 447.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1100

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL AEROSPACE DAY

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 167), supporting the goals and ideals of National Aerospace Day, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 167

Whereas the missions to the Moon by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration are recognized around the globe as one of the most outstanding achievements of humankind;

Whereas the United States is a leader in the International Space Station, the first permanent human habitation and scientific laboratory in space;

Whereas the first aircraft flight occurred in the United States, and the United States operates the largest and safest aviation system in the world;

Whereas the United States aerospace industry is a powerful, reliable source of employment, innovation, and export income, directly employing 831,000 people in the United States and supporting more than 2,000,000 jobs in related fields;

Whereas space exploration is a source of inspiration that captures the interest of young people;

Whereas aerospace education is an important component of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and helps to develop the science and technology workforce in the United States;

Whereas aerospace innovation has led to the development of advanced meteorological forecasting, which has saved lives around the world;

Whereas aerospace innovation has led to the development of the Global Positioning System, which has strengthened national security and increased economic productivity;

Whereas the aerospace industry assists and protects members of the Armed Forces with military communications, unmanned aerial systems, situational awareness, and satellite-guided ordinances; and

Whereas September 16 is an appropriate date to observe "National Aerospace Day":

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of "National Aerospace Day"; and

(2) recognizes the contributions of the aerospace industry to the history, economy, security, and educational system of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on House Concurrent Resolution 167, the resolution now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 167, supporting the goals and ideals of National Aerospace Day. Since it opened in 1976, the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum has been the most popular museum in our Nation's Capital, with over 6 million visitors each year. This is indicative of our Nation's love of flight and the importance of flight to our country's well-being.

In this museum, you can see the Wright Flyer, which was the world's first powered airplane. You can also see the X-1 that Chuck Yeager first powered past the speed of sound and the Apollo XI capsule that returned Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins from their remarkable trip to the Moon. These are truly great achievements, and they deserve their hallowed place in our Nation's history.

The industry and individuals that support our aerospace endeavors also

deserve our recognition, because they are the ones that make the great achievements in flight and space exploration possible.

The aerospace industry directly employs over 800,000 people in the United States with high-paying and high-tech jobs. In addition, the industry supports more than 2 million jobs in related fields. The United States is the unquestioned leader in aerospace technology, and it is a leadership position made possible only through the dedication of the talented aerospace workforce.

I want to thank Representative EHLERS for introducing this resolution to recognize the contributions of the aerospace industry to our country and urge my colleagues to support its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 167, supporting the goals and ideals of National Aerospace Day, introduced by my good friend Representative VERN EHLERS and co-sponsored by a number of leading Members from both sides of the aisle.

Domestic aerospace products, services and technologies underpin the Nation's quality of life, our security and economic vitality. These are fundamental to our ability to travel safely and conveniently throughout this country and the world. This enables our military to reach trouble spots quickly, to monitor those who wish to do us harm, and to accurately defeat imminent threats. Just as importantly, aerospace makes it possible for people and industries all across our country to quickly and inexpensively be part of our economic mainstream.

The capabilities made possible by aerospace products in outer space are just as extraordinary. These have enabled safely landing men on the Moon, sending satellites to all the planets in our solar system, landing a satellite on an asteroid, building a permanently inhabited space station, monitoring weather, measuring changes to our planet, and providing instant communications to all parts of the globe. Space applications have enriched our lives and our understanding of the universe.

The history of aerospace is long and storied, from the Wright Brothers, to the creation of the Federal National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics and NASA, to the vigorous industrial growth and technological innovation led by the likes of companies such as Rockwell, McDonald Douglas, Grumman, North American, Boeing, Pratt and Whitney, and Beechcraft. That list could go on and on. These companies and many, many others have led the world in innovation and engineering excellence. It is because of their talented researchers, their engineers and machinists that our country leads the world in the production of aerospace products.

Before closing, it bears repeating that aerospace products and services are one of the largest sources of export income in our balance of trade. Not only is aerospace a large source of domestic sales to our airplanes and our government, it is also an extraordinarily large source of foreign income.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 167 designates September 16th as National Aerospace Day to highlight the industry's importance to our economy and our way of life and to remind Americans of the extraordinary achievements it has fostered and continues to provide. I urge all Members to support this very worthwhile bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan, Dr. EHLERS.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As the author of this resolution and as a co-Chair of the House Aerospace Caucus, along with co-Chair Congressman NORM DICKS, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 167, which supports the goals and ideals of creating a National Aerospace Day, in addition to recognizing the contributions of the aerospace industry to the history, economy, security and the educational system of the United States. I thank the gentleman from New York and the gentleman from Texas for their detailed recital of the many successes that the American aerospace industry has had, and I will not repeat those.

But as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Apollo Moon landing this year, it is appropriate that we pass this resolution recognizing the important achievements made possible by the aerospace industry. In addition to landing on the Moon, some other noteworthy achievements include leading the International Space Station project, innovative developments in meteorological forecasting, national defense, communications, and creating the Global Positioning System which has come to be used by consumers throughout the world in guiding them where they travel in their daily lives.

The United States also maintains the largest, most complex and safest aviation system in the world, comprised of more than 230,000 general aviation aircraft which use nearly 19,000 small and regional airports throughout our Nation, and more than 7,000 commercial passenger and cargo airline aircraft which utilize over 500 commercial airports. Our aviation system, especially business aviation, allows U.S. companies to stay competitive because our workers can be more productive and more efficient.

The United States aerospace industry is a powerful, reliable source of employment, innovation and export income, employing more than 840,000 people in the United States and supporting

more than 2 million jobs in related fields. Although unemployment remains high, especially in my home State of Michigan, these high-value, good-paying jobs continue to be available because of the shortage of qualified workers in this field.

Therefore, in order for the United States to remain at the forefront of aerospace development, we must do a better job of educating our children in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, commonly referred to as STEM education. Flying and space exploration remain a powerful inspiration that captures the interest of young people, and I applaud the efforts by the aerospace community to get involved with children and schools to nurture this interest and improve our STEM education programs.

I am proud to report that in my hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan, a young gentleman, Patrick Johnson, who is a pilot, has formed the West Michigan Flight Academy, and been teaching aviation to children in the elementary schools, particularly those who are lagging behind. He has been helping them build model airplanes and fly them. Just about a month ago, I was with him when we went to a local meeting of the Experimental Aircraft Association chapter in my community.

Many of these children went up in an airplane for the first time in their life. They got to stand by the airplanes and hear an explanation of what the different parts of the airplanes were and how they work. And, believe it or not, most of those children are now very interested in studying math and science to better understand aviation, and may enter an occupation they had never thought of before. So aviation also has a very important educational impact, and I am pleased that the aerospace industry has helped schools and teachers learn more and teach more about aviation, and through that has inspired children to study science and mathematics.

I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring the aerospace industry for their good service by supporting the creation of a National Aerospace Day on September 16th. I also urge all members to vote for this concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 167.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I would again like to commend Representative EHLERS for his outstanding work on this resolution, drawing our attention to a National Aerospace Day. It is no small feat to have seen the history of the aerospace arena grow in leaps and bounds over the last century, and certainly writing much of that history was America and Americans who have, through their investment, given great opportunities to careers, to jobs that have been developed in that arena of a high-tech capacity, and certainly that have provided great hope and inspiration to many.

With all that being said, I would strongly encourage the Members of the House to support H. Con. Res. 167.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 167.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HEAVY DUTY HYBRID VEHICLE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION ACT OF 2009

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 445) to establish a research, development, demonstration, and commercial application program to promote research of appropriate technologies for heavy duty plug-in hybrid vehicles, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 445

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Heavy Duty Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. ADVANCED HEAVY DUTY HYBRID VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, DEMONSTRATION, AND COMMERCIAL APPLICATION PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a competitive research, development, demonstration, and commercial application program (referred to in this Act as the "program") to provide grants to applicants to carry out projects to advance research and development and to demonstrate technologies for advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicles.

(b) APPLICATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall issue requirements for applying for grants under the program.

(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall establish selection criteria for awarding grants under the program. In evaluating applications, the Secretary shall—

(A) consider the ability of applicants to successfully complete both phases described in subsection (c); and

(B) give priority to applicants who are best able to—

(i) fill existing research gaps and achieve the greatest advances beyond the state of current technology; and

(ii) achieve the greatest reduction in fuel consumption and emissions.

(3) PARTNERS.—An applicant for a grant under this section may carry out a project in partnership with other entities.

(4) SCHEDULE.—

(A) APPLICATION REQUEST.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register, and elsewhere as appropriate, a request for applications to undertake projects under the program. Applica-

tions shall be due not later than 90 days after the date of such publication.

(B) APPLICATION SELECTION.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which applications for grants under the program are due, the Secretary shall select, through a competitive process, all applicants to be awarded a grant under the program.

(5) NUMBER OF GRANTS.—The Secretary shall determine the number of grants to be awarded under the program based on the technical merits of the applications received. The number of grants awarded under the program shall not be less than three or more than seven, and at least half of the grants awarded shall be for plug-in hybrid technology.

(6) AWARD AMOUNTS.—The Secretary shall award not more than \$3,000,000 to each recipient per year for each of the 3 years of the project.

(c) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS; TWO PHASES.—Each grant recipient shall be required to complete two phases:

(1) PHASE ONE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In phase one, the recipient shall research and demonstrate advanced hybrid technology by producing or retrofitting one or more advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicles.

(B) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the completion of phase one, the recipient shall submit to the Secretary a report containing data and analysis of—

(i) the performance of each vehicle in carrying out the testing procedures developed by the Secretary under subparagraph (E);

(ii) the performance during such testing of each vehicle's components, including the battery, energy management system, charging system, and power controls;

(iii) the projected cost of each vehicle, including acquisition, operating, and maintenance costs; and

(iv) the emissions levels of each vehicle, including greenhouse gas levels.

(C) TERMINATION.—The Secretary may terminate the grant program with respect to the project of a recipient at the conclusion of phase one if the Secretary determines that the recipient cannot successfully complete the requirements of phase two.

(D) TIMING.—Phase one begins upon receipt of a grant under the program and has a duration of one year.

(E) TESTING PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall develop standard testing procedures to be used by recipients in testing each vehicle. Such procedures shall include testing a vehicle's performance under typical operating conditions.

(2) PHASE TWO.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In phase two, the recipient shall demonstrate advanced manufacturing processes and technologies by producing or retrofitting fifty advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicles.

(B) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the completion of phase two, the recipient shall submit to the Secretary a report containing—

(i) an analysis of the technological challenges encountered by the recipient in the development of the vehicles;

(ii) an analysis of the technological challenges involved in mass producing the vehicles; and

(iii) the manufacturing cost of each vehicle, the estimated sale price of each vehicle, and the cost of a comparable non-hybrid vehicle.

(C) TIMING.—Phase two begins at the conclusion of phase one and has a duration of two years.

(d) RESEARCH ON VEHICLE USAGE AND ALTERNATIVE DRIVE TRAINS.—The Secretary shall conduct research into alternative power train designs for use in advanced

heavy duty hybrid vehicles. Such research shall compare the estimated cost, including operating and maintenance costs, emissions reductions, and fuel savings of each design with similar non-hybrid power train designs under the conditions in which these vehicles are typically used, including, for each vehicle type—

- (1) number of miles driven;
- (2) time spent with the engine at idle;
- (3) horsepower requirements;
- (4) length of time the maximum or near maximum power output of the vehicle is needed; and
- (5) any other factors that the Secretary considers appropriate.

(e) **REPORT TO THE CONGRESS.**—Not later than 60 days after the Secretary receives the reports from grant recipients under subsection (c)(2)(B), the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a report containing—

- (1) an identification of the grant recipients and a description of the projects to be funded;
- (2) an identification of all applicants who submitted applications for the program;
- (3) all data contained in reports submitted by grant recipients under subsection (c);
- (4) a description of the vehicles produced or retrofitted by recipients in phase one and phase two of the project, including an analysis of the fuel efficiency of such vehicles; and
- (5) the results of the research carried out under subsections (d) and (h).

(f) **COORDINATION AND NONDUPLICATION.**—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall coordinate, and not duplicate, activities under this Act with other programs and laboratories of the Department of Energy and other Federal research programs.

(g) **COST SHARING.**—Section 988 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16352) shall apply to the program established pursuant to this section.

(h) **ELECTRICAL GRID RESEARCH PILOT PROGRAM.**—The Secretary shall establish a pilot program through the National Laboratories and Technology Centers of the Department of Energy to research and test the effects on the domestic electric power grid of the widespread use of plug-in hybrid vehicles, including plug-in hybrid vehicles that are advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicles.

(i) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this section:

(1) **ADVANCED HEAVY DUTY HYBRID VEHICLE.**—The term “advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicle” means a vehicle with a gross weight between 14,000 pounds and 33,000 pounds that is fueled, in part, by a rechargeable energy storage system.

(2) **GREENHOUSE GAS.**—The term “greenhouse gas” means—

- (A) carbon dioxide;
- (B) methane;
- (C) nitrous oxide;
- (D) hydrofluorocarbons;
- (E) perfluorocarbons; or
- (F) sulfur hexafluoride.

(3) **PLUG-IN HYBRID.**—The term “plug-in hybrid” means a vehicle fueled, in part, by electrical power that can be recharged by connecting the vehicle to an electric power source.

(4) **RETROFIT.**—The term “retrofit” means the process of creating an advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicle by converting an existing, fuel-powered vehicle.

(5) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy.

(j) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—

(1) There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$16,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2012 to carry out this section.

(2) Of the funds authorized under paragraph (1), not more than \$1,000,000 per fiscal year may be used for—

(A) carrying out the studies required under subsection (d);

(B) carrying out the pilot program required under subsection (h); and

(C) the administration of the program.

SEC. 3. EXPANDING RESEARCH IN HYBRID TECHNOLOGY FOR LARGE VEHICLES.

Subsection (g)(1) of the United States Energy Storage Competitiveness Act of 2007 (enacted as section 641(g)(1) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17231(g)(1))) is amended by inserting “vehicles with a gross weight over 16,000 pounds,” before “stationary applications”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 445, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to put before the House today H.R. 445 by Mr. JIM SENSENBRENNER. The House passed a nearly identical bill, H.R. 6323, in the 110th Congress and, unfortunately, that is as far as the bill got. Hopefully we can get some movement on this measure this time around.

By enhancing the Department of Energy's research program in heavy duty hybrid trucks, this bill draws much needed focus to a very critical component of the transportation sector, that being commercial trucks.

We have repeatedly learned the hard way just how much the health of our economy can hinge on the commercial transportation sector. Costly fuel translates directly into higher prices for consumers since the large majority of products we consume or use, from food to building materials, are at some point transported by a medium to heavy duty truck. We must take measures to ensure that this remains a vibrant economic sector.

The heavy truck sector also plays a role in our energy security and environmental health. Approximately one-fourth of the Nation's fuel use and the majority of transportation-based emissions can be attributed to heavy duty trucks. One large tractor-trailer rig uses as much fuel annually as 48 passenger vehicles. We can see how even small improvements in their efficiency can have a substantial impact.

As with passenger vehicles, hybrid technologies hold the greatest promise for improving the fuel economy and emissions of commercial trucks, but considerable research and development is required to put these technologies on the road. While the technological requirements for hybrid trucks are very

different, advances in this sector can benefit the domestic automotive sector as a whole by providing invaluable lessons learned in the designing and manufacturing of these systems.

□ 1115

Mr. SENSENBRENNER's bill represents a commonsense approach to chipping away at our energy challenge. I believe this is an important piece of legislation in the large and complex puzzle that is our transportation sector. And I urge my colleagues to support the measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I rise today in support of H.R. 445, the Heavy Duty Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 2009, sponsored by my good friend, Congressman SENSENBRENNER. H.R. 445 was originally introduced in the 110th Congress as H.R. 6323, where it passed out of the Committee on Science and Technology with bipartisan support and input from both sides of the aisle and was passed by the House of Representatives under suspension of the rules by voice vote.

I'm pleased that Mr. SENSENBRENNER reintroduced his bill in this Congress that we're debating on the floor today. While most of the attention on hybrid vehicles has been focused on passenger cars, large, heavy duty hybrid trucks have received limited funds for Federal research and development programs. However, because trucks generally use much more fuel per year than passenger vehicles, the overall potential on satisfaction is very significant. The Environmental Protection Agency establishes that a typical delivery truck using a hydraulic hybrid system could save up to 1,000 gallons of fuel per year.

In light of the proposed savings in fuel use and resulting emissions reduction, the Heavy Duty Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 2009 aims to encourage the advancement of the needed technology to bring about these savings. The bill directs the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program for the development of advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicles.

These grants are awarded in two phases. In phase one, grant recipients are required to build or retrofit one or more advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicles and to collect required data. In phase two, grant recipients are required to produce or retrofit 50 advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicles, collect required data, and report on the results.

In addition, the bill directs the Secretary to conduct a study of alternative power train designs for use in advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicles and, further, directs the Secretary to establish a pilot program through DOE's national laboratories to research and test the effects on the domestic electric power grid of the widespread use of plug-in hybrid vehicles,

including heavy duty plug-in hybrid trucks.

Again, I thank Congressman SENSENBRENNER for introducing this bill, and Chairman GORDON for helping to advance it. I think it makes good sense and deserves passage.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I again commend Representative SENSENBRENNER for his work on H.R. 445, which will speak to heavy duty hybrid vehicle research and development. The deployment of the improvements that we can make in that transportation sector will aid us tremendously in responding favorably to the environment and to our energy needs. For that purpose and many of the related energy and environment benefits that come from such research and development, I strongly urge our colleagues to support H.R. 445.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the remainder of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 445, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ACT

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 556) recognizing the 75th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act and the vibrant Federal credit union community that was created as a result of this important piece of legislation.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 556

Whereas, on June 26, 1934, President Franklin Roosevelt signed into law the Federal Credit Union Act, thus enabling credit unions to be organized throughout the United States under the charters approved by the Federal Government;

Whereas the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act enabled credit unions to play an instrumental role in helping hard-working people in the United States recover after the Great Depression;

Whereas credit unions have continued to exemplify the American values of thrift, self-help, and volunteerism, carving out a special place for themselves among the Nation's financial institutions;

Whereas credit unions operate with the credo, "Not for profit, not for charity, but for service" and have consistently reflected this philosophical tradition and the cooperative spirit of "people helping people" that gave birth to the Federal Credit Union Act;

Whereas credit unions continue to provide valuable services to their members, financial

alternatives for the underserved, and economic stimulus to our Nation even as we face a financial crisis today; and

Whereas, June 26, 2009, will mark the 75th anniversary of the enactment of the Federal Credit Union Act: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes the 75th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act and the vibrant Federal credit union community that was created as a result of this landmark piece of legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on June 26, 1934, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed into law the Federal Credit Union Act, establishing the Federal credit union system and creating the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions, the predecessor to the National Credit Union Administration, to charter and oversee Federal credit unions. June 26, 2009 marked the 75th anniversary of the passage of that act to create a not-for-profit financial institution formed for the purpose of promoting thrift among its members and providing them with a source of low-cost credit.

Given the presence of some of the oldest Federal credit unions in my home State of Connecticut and their important role that they play in their communities, I am pleased to offer this resolution.

Today there are more than 4,700 federally chartered credit unions. Together they serve nearly 50 million Americans and have nearly \$500 billion in combined assets. In my district alone, Federal credit unions serve about 60,000 members and manage approximately \$430 million in assets. Private sector organizations such as Pitney Bowes, the Fairfield University employees, Arnold Bakers run Federal credit unions. The Bridgeport police, Bridgeport hospital run successful credit unions, labor organizations such as the UFCW Local 371 are running successful Federal credit unions.

In these turbulent times, the not-for-profit cooperative business model of credit unions has been an example of safety and soundness providing credit at reasonable rates and important financial services to its members. Federal credit unions continue to seek opportunities to extend crucial financial services to underserved areas. They are inherently invested in the their mem-

bers and in their communities and have helped their members in these troubling economic times by promoting financial security and economic well-being for all.

I am happy to recognize the 75th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act and to acknowledge their valuable services to their members and communities across the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, with that I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of the legislation, and I commend my colleague on the other side of the aisle as well for his work on this piece as well and his support.

If you look to the legislation, page 2, I think this is an interesting portion and it really cuts to the quick of what we're talking about with regard to credit unions. It says: whereas credit unions operate with the credo, not for profit, not for charity, but for service and have consistently reflected this philosophical tradition and the cooperative spirit of people helping people that gave birth to the Federal Credit Union Act.

Well, when you think about it, that is exactly what the credit union industry is in this country: not for profit, not for charity but for service. And when I think of my district back in the great State of New Jersey in the Fifth Congressional District and the credit unions that are in that area, whether it was the very first credit union that I ever joined when I worked for Selective Insurance Company many years ago and the services that they provided to the employees of that company or other credit unions that have grown up over time in the various counties in northwest New Jersey and across the State of New Jersey, working to fill a particular niche for their members that perhaps were not being met by the rest of the industries for these individuals, they were doing so in a manner that was not for profit, the people coming together and saying that there is a need to be fulfilled and that they were going to make sure that they served it.

Now, it's interesting as I come to the floor here to speak to the benefits of credit unions that our country has seen over the last several decades. I just returned from meeting with officials from the European Union and also from Great Britain where they, right now, in light of all the financial difficulties they are experiencing in their financial markets, are looking across the Atlantic to see whether they can learn some things from us to see what they can do to provide, A, some services and, B, some stability to their markets as well.

And you know what the number one thing that the Conservative Party, the folks who I met with over there, said that they wanted to do and that was in Great Britain was to provide credit unions for the people of that country.

So they have a problem that's a little bit different from our country and that is that we have the traditional entrepreneurial spirit in the banking industry, that we have so many banks across the country, which is a good thing that provides services from the small individual right up to the large. They don't have it quite as extensively as we do in this country, and so they have a need even greater than we do to provide that niche marketplace for the individual.

So they will be looking to the United States to take the lead in this area and probably emulate much of what we have already learned and instituted with regard to the solvency issues and the prudential regulation issues and the like in that industry. So it's good to come back to the United States and say that in this area we have been a leader on this matter, and I stand in support of this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HIMES. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey. It's good to know that as we do the hard work of recasting the regulatory apparatus in this country, that there are models including the credit unions that others are looking to as things that we do right.

With that, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I appreciate the gentleman's courtesy in permitting me to speak on this bill. As we mark a year of near collapse of the American financial system, we're still trying to sort out exactly what happened and how to ensure it never happens again, to allow reckless behavior to drive our economy into the ditch.

With that as a background, it is appropriate for us to commemorate the 75 years of service by one part of the financial sector that didn't add to the problem, America's credit unions. Starting 75 years ago as small scale not-for-profit groups of people joined together to provide essential affordable financial services, we have watched it grow over the years. Personally, I can testify as a satisfied member of credit unions for over 25 years, including two currently, I've had firsthand experience of the personal, high-quality service. While certainly they've grown and expanded their services and membership over the years, we've seen that they still work well, managing to provide helpful competition.

When some of the largest banks in this country have stopped lending, not so with credit unions. Indeed, most credit unions have continued to lend to individuals and small businesses around the country, despite the challenging economic climate. Unlike many other lenders, credit unions saw their loans increase by 7 percent to over \$575 billion in 2008, up about \$35 billion from the previous year. By providing financial diversity, credit unions lend strength to American communities. By providing competition for other financial institutions, credit

unions help hold down costs for borrowers and provide greater access to capital, more choices for individuals.

And on a small scale, I've watched as they've worked with people who otherwise would have fallen prey to payday lenders to design short-term loans to help people in financial difficulty who may not be particularly financially sophisticated.

I thank the gentleman for introducing this legislation. I think it's important to recognize the contributions of the credit unions and to continue to work with them to provide their vital services to American consumers.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I now yield such time as he may consume to Mr. ROYCE.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES) for sponsoring this resolution. And this resolution recognizes the 75th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act and the vibrant Federal credit union community that was created as a result of this important piece of legislation. The purpose of this law passed back in 1934 was to make credit available and to promote savings through a national system of nonprofit cooperative credit unions.

□ 1130

This act established what is now the federal credit union system, and it created the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions, which eventually became the National Credit Union Administration. Its intent was to charter and to regulate Federal credit unions.

While much of the economic downturn originated in the financial crisis, credit unions, for the most part, did not play a major role in the excessive risk-taking, over-leveraging or lax underwriting standards. Unlike many of the other mortgage originators throughout the housing bubble, credit unions held most of the mortgages they originated. They held them in their portfolios. As of late last year, roughly 70 percent of credit union mortgage originations were held in portfolio with only 30 percent having been sold into the secondary market.

Because credit unions generally took a conservative approach to banking, they avoided many of the problems that we saw in other institutions. This approach has left them well-suited to play a significant role in the economic recovery.

Certainly, the 90 million credit union members nationwide will continue to rely on these institutions for their everyday banking needs. I think it is worth noting the impact credit unions have had on communities around the world. Credit unions provide a great opportunity for people to pool resources. Thereby, they create an important source of liquidity for personal or capital investment.

Serving on the Foreign Affairs Committee has given me the opportunity to work on issues impacting countries

around the globe and to see credit unions at work around the globe. In this capacity, I have seen credit unions take shape and give hope to thousands looking for a better life.

Credit unions have helped and continue to help many African countries build a safe financial system for the first time. The fact of the matter is that credit unions work whether they're in Orange County, California or in Johannesburg, South Africa. They help families save hard-earned money, buy cars, purchase homes, and send their children to college. Indeed, credit unions are helping the futures of over 90 million members across this country and of countless others around the globe.

In closing, I would like to again thank the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES) for taking the lead on this resolution. Hopefully, the credit unions that have served so many communities around our country will continue to do great work.

Mr. HIMES. I thank the gentleman for his very apt observations.

Mr. Speaker, clearly, we are in agreement here that credit unions are unique entities to be studied for the fact that they better, perhaps than other entities in our financial services world, align the interests of their shareholders with the interests of their customers, and as the gentleman from Oregon observed, are often the first point of entry into the formal financial system for families and for people who otherwise would be using informal or shady mechanisms of credit. As my friend from New Jersey points out, they're a model internationally and not just for foreign countries but for those of us who are really intent on studying how one balances prudence with the necessity for the availability of credit.

I urge my colleagues to pass House Resolution 556, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I would just close then by thanking the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) for taking the lead role as the Republican sponsor of this legislation and also for his work in the past with regard and on behalf of credit unions as well and also for making the significant point that he just did, which is, with regard to this time of financial crisis, that the American public could look to the resounding, strong support of the credit unions. So I thank Mr. ROYCE for his lead role, and I appreciate the role Mr. HIMES as well has played in bringing this legislation to the floor.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 556, which recognizes the 75th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act and the vibrant Federal credit union community that was created as a result of this important piece of legislation.

The Federal Credit Union Act was created to promote savings, fight against unfair lending practices and extend credit to people to whom banks and other financial institutions forgot.

I have long been a supporter of credit unions, especially federal credit unions. There was a period of time when the major banks and other financial institutions abandoned many Los Angeles communities, including those within my district. Federal credit unions did the opposite and decided to invest in the people of communities such as Inglewood, Hawthorne, Gardena and Manhattan Beach. Credit unions have made a strong commitment to serve the communities where their members reside and have created a model more financial institutions should follow.

I am proud to recognize the improvements credit unions have made in Los Angeles and across our country. I urge other members to join me in supporting H. Res. 556.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 556.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY IN FINANCIAL REPORTING ACT OF 2009

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2664) to require annual oral testimony before the Financial Services Committee of the Chairperson or a designee of the Chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, relating to their efforts to promote transparency in financial reporting.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2664

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Promoting Transparency in Financial Reporting Act of 2009”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Transparent and clear financial reporting is integral to the continued growth and strength of our capital markets and the confidence of investors.

(2) The increasing detail and volume of accounting, auditing, and reporting guidance pose a major challenge.

(3) The complexity of accounting and auditing standards in the United States has added to the costs and effort involved in financial reporting.

SEC. 3. ANNUAL TESTIMONY ON REDUCING COMPLEXITY IN FINANCIAL REPORTING.

The Securities and Exchange Commission, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board shall annually provide oral testi-

mony by their respective Chairpersons or a designee of the Chairperson, beginning in 2009, and for 5 years thereafter, to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives on their efforts to reduce the complexity in financial reporting to provide more accurate and clear financial information to investors, including—

(1) reassessing complex and outdated accounting standards;

(2) improving the understandability, consistency, and overall usability of the existing accounting and auditing literature;

(3) developing principles-based accounting standards;

(4) encouraging the use and acceptance of interactive data; and

(5) promoting disclosures in “plain English”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2664, the Promoting Transparency in Financial Reporting Act, drafted by the gentleman from New York, Congressman CHRIS LEE.

I commend his work on this bill, H.R. 2664. It is a bipartisan bill that is also sponsored by Congressmen DAVID SCOTT, GEOFF DAVIS, MIKE CASTLE, and ADAM PUTNAM.

Following the financial crisis our country faced last year, it is clear that we need to improve the oversight and transparency of the financial services industry. This bill would require the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Financial Accounting Standards Board and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board to provide annual testimony to Congress for 5 years. Their testimony will help us to understand and support their efforts to reduce the complexity in financial reporting and to provide more accurate and clear financial information to investors.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I commend Congressman LEE for his work on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEE of New York. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2664, the Promoting Transparency in Financial Reporting Act.

I would like to thank the cosponsors of this bipartisan measure, including Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, who championed this proposal in earlier Congresses, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. CASTLE, and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.

Every day, I hear from constituents who are experiencing a great amount of anxiety over what is happening to their portfolios—from younger families who are trying to save for their first homes or older workers who have had to put off long-planned retirements. While they certainly understand most of these losses can be attributed to the turmoil of our economy, we now know the role that faulty financial reporting, be it intentional or otherwise, played in affecting investors' decisions.

This issue, of course, features prominently in ongoing discussions of regulatory reform frameworks, and rightly so. We won't be able to fully restore investor and consumer confidence unless we have a system that allows for the clearest and most accurate financial reporting. That's why we need transparency.

It's not enough, however, just to pursue and to promote transparency for its own sake. Having run a business, I know that, if you want to have a healthy corporate environment, you have to have sound financial reporting. I also understand how time-consuming and costly these accounting processes can be. So it is critical, in bringing information to light, that we also take care to identify the complexities that trip up everyone from small businesses to large corporations and then pursue reforms that may simplify and improve the process.

That's why, with this simple bipartisan measure, we would require annual congressional testimony by the Securities and Exchange Commission, by the Financial Accounting Standards Board and by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board on efforts being undertaken to reduce the complexity and costs of financial reporting and to increase transparency for investors.

Specifically, H.R. 2664 helps Congress exercise legitimate oversight authority to hold these institutions accountable for protecting taxpayers and for making progress on the following critical issues: First, reassessing complex and outdated accounting standards; second, increasing the usability of the existing accounting and auditing literature; third, developing principle-based accounting standards; fourth, encouraging the use and acceptance of interactive data; and fifth, promoting disclosure in plain English.

This bipartisan Promoting Transparency in Financial Reporting Act represents a critical step towards protecting taxpayers by creating a process for simplifying and for improving our financial reporting framework. I urge the immediate passage of this important bipartisan legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, the Promoting Transparency in Financial Reporting Act will help provide greater transparency and clarity for investors. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2664.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NONADMITTED AND REINSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2009

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2571) to streamline the regulation of nonadmitted insurance and reinsurance, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2571

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2009”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
Sec. 2. Effective date.

TITLE I—NONADMITTED INSURANCE

Sec. 101. Reporting, payment, and allocation of premium taxes.
Sec. 102. Regulation of nonadmitted insurance by insured’s home State.
Sec. 103. Participation in national producer database.
Sec. 104. Uniform standards for surplus lines eligibility.
Sec. 105. Streamlined application for commercial purchasers.
Sec. 106. GAO study of nonadmitted insurance market.
Sec. 107. Definitions.

TITLE II—REINSURANCE

Sec. 201. Regulation of credit for reinsurance and reinsurance agreements.
Sec. 202. Regulation of reinsurer solvency.
Sec. 203. Definitions.

TITLE III—RULE OF CONSTRUCTION

Sec. 301. Rule of construction.
Sec. 302. Severability.

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Act, this Act shall take effect upon the expiration of the 12-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

TITLE I—NONADMITTED INSURANCE

SEC. 101. REPORTING, PAYMENT, AND ALLOCATION OF PREMIUM TAXES.

(a) **HOME STATE’S EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY.**—No State other than the home State of an insured may require any premium tax payment for nonadmitted insurance.

(b) **ALLOCATION OF NONADMITTED PREMIUM TAXES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The States may enter into a compact or otherwise establish procedures to allocate among the States the premium taxes paid to an insured’s home State described in subsection (a).

(2) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Except as expressly otherwise provided in such compact or other

procedures, any such compact or other procedures—

(A) if adopted on or before the expiration of the 330-day period that begins on the date of the enactment of this Act, shall apply to any premium taxes that, on or after such date of enactment, are required to be paid to any State that is subject to such compact or procedures; and

(B) if adopted after the expiration of such 330-day period, shall apply to any premium taxes that, on or after January 1 of the first calendar year that begins after the expiration of such 330-day period, are required to be paid to any State that is subject to such compact or procedures.

(3) **REPORT.**—Upon the expiration of the 330-day period referred to in paragraph (2), the NAIC may submit a report to the Committee on Financial Services and Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate identifying and describing any compact or other procedures for allocation among the States of premium taxes that have been adopted during such period by any States.

(4) **NATIONWIDE SYSTEM.**—The Congress intends that each State adopt nationwide uniform requirements, forms, and procedures, such as an interstate compact, that provides for the reporting, payment, collection, and allocation of premium taxes for nonadmitted insurance consistent with this section.

(c) **ALLOCATION BASED ON TAX ALLOCATION REPORT.**—To facilitate the payment of premium taxes among the States, an insured’s home State may require surplus lines brokers and insureds who have independently procured insurance to annually file tax allocation reports with the insured’s home State detailing the portion of the nonadmitted insurance policy premium or premiums attributable to properties, risks or exposures located in each State. The filing of a nonadmitted insurance tax allocation report and the payment of tax may be made by a person authorized by the insured to act as its agent.

SEC. 102. REGULATION OF NONADMITTED INSURANCE BY INSURED’S HOME STATE.

(a) **HOME STATE AUTHORITY.**—Except as otherwise provided in this section, the placement of nonadmitted insurance shall be subject to the statutory and regulatory requirements solely of the insured’s home State.

(b) **BROKER LICENSING.**—No State other than an insured’s home State may require a surplus lines broker to be licensed in order to sell, solicit, or negotiate nonadmitted insurance with respect to such insured.

(c) **ENFORCEMENT PROVISION.**—With respect to section 101 and subsections (a) and (b) of this section, any law, regulation, provision, or action of any State that applies or purports to apply to nonadmitted insurance sold to, solicited by, or negotiated with an insured whose home State is another State shall be preempted with respect to such application.

(d) **WORKERS’ COMPENSATION EXCEPTION.**—This section may not be construed to preempt any State law, rule, or regulation that restricts the placement of workers’ compensation insurance or excess insurance for self-funded workers’ compensation plans with a nonadmitted insurer.

SEC. 103. PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL PRODUCER DATABASE.

After the expiration of the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, a State may not collect any fees relating to licensing of an individual or entity as a surplus lines broker in the State unless the State has in effect at such time laws or regulations that provide for participation by the State in the national insurance producer database of the NAIC, or any other equivalent

uniform national database, for the licensure of surplus lines brokers and the renewal of such licenses.

SEC. 104. UNIFORM STANDARDS FOR SURPLUS LINES ELIGIBILITY.

A State may not—

(1) impose eligibility requirements on, or otherwise establish eligibility criteria for, nonadmitted insurers domiciled in a United States jurisdiction, except in conformance with such requirements and criteria in sections 5A(2) and 5C(2)(a) of the Non-Admitted Insurance Model Act, unless the State has adopted nationwide uniform requirements, forms, and procedures developed in accordance with section 101(b) of this Act that include alternative nationwide uniform eligibility requirements; and

(2) prohibit a surplus lines broker from placing nonadmitted insurance with, or procuring nonadmitted insurance from, a nonadmitted insurer domiciled outside the United States that is listed on the Quarterly Listing of Alien Insurers maintained by the International Insurers Department of the NAIC.

SEC. 105. STREAMLINED APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL PURCHASERS.

A surplus lines broker seeking to procure or place nonadmitted insurance in a State for an exempt commercial purchaser shall not be required to satisfy any State requirement to make a due diligence search to determine whether the full amount or type of insurance sought by such exempt commercial purchaser can be obtained from admitted insurers if—

(1) the broker procuring or placing the surplus lines insurance has disclosed to the exempt commercial purchaser that such insurance may or may not be available from the admitted market that may provide greater protection with more regulatory oversight; and

(2) the exempt commercial purchaser has subsequently requested in writing the broker to procure or place such insurance from a nonadmitted insurer.

SEC. 106. GAO STUDY OF NONADMITTED INSURANCE MARKET.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of the nonadmitted insurance market to determine the effect of the enactment of this title on the size and market share of the nonadmitted insurance market for providing coverage typically provided by the admitted insurance market.

(b) **CONTENTS.**—The study shall determine and analyze—

(1) the change in the size and market share of the nonadmitted insurance market and in the number of insurance companies and insurance holding companies providing such business in the 18-month period that begins upon the effective date of this Act;

(2) the extent to which insurance coverage typically provided by the admitted insurance market has shifted to the nonadmitted insurance market;

(3) the consequences of any change in the size and market share of the nonadmitted insurance market, including differences in the price and availability of coverage available in both the admitted and nonadmitted insurance markets;

(4) the extent to which insurance companies and insurance holding companies that provide both admitted and nonadmitted insurance have experienced shifts in the volume of business between admitted and nonadmitted insurance; and

(5) the extent to which there has been a change in the number of individuals who have nonadmitted insurance policies, the type of coverage provided under such policies, and whether such coverage is available in the admitted insurance market.

(c) CONSULTATION WITH NAIC.—In conducting the study under this section, the Comptroller General shall consult with the NAIC.

(d) REPORT.—The Comptroller General shall complete the study under this section and submit a report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate regarding the findings of the study not later than 30 months after the effective date of this Act.

SEC. 107. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this title, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) ADMITTED INSURER.—The term “admitted insurer” means, with respect to a State, an insurer licensed to engage in the business of insurance in such State.

(2) AFFILIATE.—The term “affiliate” means, with respect to an insured, any entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the insured.

(3) AFFILIATED GROUP.—The term “affiliated group” means any group of entities that are all affiliated.

(4) CONTROL.—An entity has “control” over another entity if—

(A) the entity directly or indirectly or acting through one or more other persons owns, controls or has the power to vote 25 percent or more of any class of voting securities of the other entity; or

(B) the entity controls in any manner the election of a majority of the directors or trustees of the other entity.

(5) EXEMPT COMMERCIAL PURCHASER.—The term “exempt commercial purchaser” means any person purchasing commercial insurance that, at the time of placement, meets the following requirements:

(A) The person employs or retains a qualified risk manager to negotiate insurance coverage.

(B) The person has paid aggregate nationwide commercial property and casualty insurance premiums in excess of \$100,000 in the immediately preceding 12 months.

(C)(i) The person meets at least one of the following criteria:

(I) The person possesses a net worth in excess of \$20,000,000, as such amount is adjusted pursuant to clause (ii).

(II) The person generates annual revenues in excess of \$50,000,000, as such amount is adjusted pursuant to clause (ii).

(III) The person employs more than 500 full time or full time equivalent employees per individual insured or is a member of an affiliated group employing more than 1,000 employees in the aggregate.

(IV) The person is a not-for-profit organization or public entity generating annual budgeted expenditures of at least \$30,000,000, as such amount is adjusted pursuant to clause (ii).

(V) The person is a municipality with a population in excess of 50,000 persons.

(ii) Effective on the fifth January 1 occurring after the date of the enactment of this Act and each fifth January 1 occurring thereafter, the amounts in subclauses (I), (II), and (IV) of clause (i) shall be adjusted to reflect the percentage change for such five-year period in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor.

(6) HOME STATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term “home State” means, with respect to an insured—

(i) the State in which an insured maintains its principal place of business or, in the case of an individual, the individual’s principal residence; or

(ii) if 100 percent of the insured risk is located out of the State referred to in subparagraph (A), the State to which the greatest percentage of the insured’s taxable premium for that insurance contract is allocated.

(B) AFFILIATED GROUPS.—If more than one insured from an affiliated group are named insureds on a single nonadmitted insurance contract, the term “home State” means the home State, as determined pursuant to subparagraph (A), of the member of the affiliated group that has the largest percentage of premium attributed to it under such insurance contract.

(7) INDEPENDENTLY PROCURED INSURANCE.—The term “independently procured insurance” means insurance procured directly by an insured from a nonadmitted insurer.

(8) NAIC.—The term “NAIC” means the National Association of Insurance Commissioners or any successor entity.

(9) NONADMITTED INSURANCE.—The term “nonadmitted insurance” means any property and casualty insurance permitted to be placed directly or through a surplus lines broker with a nonadmitted insurer eligible to accept such insurance.

(10) NON-ADMITTED INSURANCE MODEL ACT.—The term “Non-Admitted Insurance Model Act” means the provisions of the Non-Admitted Insurance Model Act, as adopted by the NAIC on August 3, 1994, and amended on September 30, 1996, December 6, 1997, October 2, 1999, and June 8, 2002.

(11) NONADMITTED INSURER.—The term “nonadmitted insurer” means, with respect to a State, an insurer not licensed to engage in the business of insurance in such State.

(12) QUALIFIED RISK MANAGER.—The term “qualified risk manager” means, with respect to a policyholder of commercial insurance, a person who meets all of the following requirements:

(A) The person is an employee of, or third party consultant retained by, the commercial policyholder.

(B) The person provides skilled services in loss prevention, loss reduction, or risk and insurance coverage analysis, and purchase of insurance.

(C) The person—

(i)(I) has a bachelor’s degree or higher from an accredited college or university in risk management, business administration, finance, economics, or any other field determined by a State insurance commissioner or other State regulatory official or entity to demonstrate minimum competence in risk management; and

(II)(aa) has three years of experience in risk financing, claims administration, loss prevention, risk and insurance analysis, or purchasing commercial lines of insurance; or

(bb) has one of the following designations: (AA) a designation as a Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter (in this subparagraph referred to as “CPCU”) issued by the American Institute for CPCU/Insurance Institute of America;

(BB) a designation as an Associate in Risk Management (ARM) issued by the American Institute for CPCU/Insurance Institute of America;

(CC) a designation as Certified Risk Manager (CRM) issued by the National Alliance for Insurance Education & Research;

(DD) a designation as a RIMS Fellow (RF) issued by the Global Risk Management Institute; or

(EE) any other designation, certification, or license determined by a State insurance commissioner or other State insurance regulatory official or entity to demonstrate minimum competency in risk management;

(ii)(I) has at least seven years of experience in risk financing, claims administration, loss prevention, risk and insurance coverage

analysis, or purchasing commercial lines of insurance; and

(II) has any one of the designations specified in subitems (AA) through (EE) of clause (i)(II)(bb);

(iii) has at least 10 years of experience in risk financing, claims administration, loss prevention, risk and insurance coverage analysis, or purchasing commercial lines of insurance; or

(iv) has a graduate degree from an accredited college or university in risk management, business administration, finance, economics, or any other field determined by a State insurance commissioner or other State regulatory official or entity to demonstrate minimum competence in risk management.

(13) PREMIUM TAX.—The term “premium tax” means, with respect to surplus lines or independently procured insurance coverage, any tax, fee, assessment, or other charge imposed by a government entity directly or indirectly based on any payment made as consideration for an insurance contract for such insurance, including premium deposits, assessments, registration fees, and any other compensation given in consideration for a contract of insurance.

(14) SURPLUS LINES BROKER.—The term “surplus lines broker” means an individual, firm, or corporation which is licensed in a State to sell, solicit, or negotiate insurance on properties, risks, or exposures located or to be performed in a State with nonadmitted insurers.

(15) STATE.—The term “State” includes any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

TITLE II—REINSURANCE

SEC. 201. REGULATION OF CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE AND REINSURANCE AGREEMENTS.

(a) CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE.—If the State of domicile of a ceding insurer is an NAIC-accredited State, or has financial solvency requirements substantially similar to the requirements necessary for NAIC accreditation, and recognizes credit for reinsurance for the insurer’s ceded risk, then no other State may deny such credit for reinsurance.

(b) ADDITIONAL PREEMPTION OF EXTRATERRITORIAL APPLICATION OF STATE LAW.—In addition to the application of subsection (a), all laws, regulations, provisions, or other actions of a State that is not the domiciliary State of the ceding insurer, except those with respect to taxes and assessments on insurance companies or insurance income, are preempted to the extent that they—

(1) restrict or eliminate the rights of the ceding insurer or the assuming insurer to resolve disputes pursuant to contractual arbitration to the extent such contractual provision is not inconsistent with the provisions of title 9, United States Code;

(2) require that a certain State’s law shall govern the reinsurance contract, disputes arising from the reinsurance contract, or requirements of the reinsurance contract;

(3) attempt to enforce a reinsurance contract on terms different than those set forth in the reinsurance contract, to the extent that the terms are not inconsistent with this title; or

(4) otherwise apply the laws of the State to reinsurance agreements of ceding insurers not domiciled in that State.

SEC. 202. REGULATION OF REINSURER SOLVENCY.

(a) DOMICILIARY STATE REGULATION.—If the State of domicile of a reinsurer is an NAIC-accredited State or has financial solvency requirements substantially similar to the requirements necessary for NAIC accreditation, such State shall be solely responsible

for regulating the financial solvency of the reinsurer.

(b) NONDOMICILIARY STATES.—

(1) LIMITATION ON FINANCIAL INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS.—If the State of domicile of a reinsurer is an NAIC-accredited State or has financial solvency requirements substantially similar to the requirements necessary for NAIC accreditation, no other State may require the reinsurer to provide any additional financial information other than the information the reinsurer is required to file with its domiciliary State.

(2) RECEIPT OF INFORMATION.—No provision of this section shall be construed as preventing or prohibiting a State that is not the State of domicile of a reinsurer from receiving a copy of any financial statement filed with its domiciliary State.

SEC. 203. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this title, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) CEDING INSURER.—The term “ceding insurer” means an insurer that purchases reinsurance.

(2) DOMICILIARY STATE.—The terms “State of domicile” and “domiciliary State” means, with respect to an insurer or reinsurer, the State in which the insurer or reinsurer is incorporated or entered through, and licensed.

(3) REINSURANCE.—The term “reinsurance” means the assumption by an insurer of all or part of a risk undertaken originally by another insurer.

(4) REINSURER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “reinsurer” means an insurer to the extent that the insurer—

(i) is principally engaged in the business of reinsurance;

(ii) does not conduct significant amounts of direct insurance as a percentage of its net premiums; and

(iii) is not engaged in an ongoing basis in the business of soliciting direct insurance.

(B) DETERMINATION.—A determination of whether an insurer is a reinsurer shall be made under the laws of the State of domicile in accordance with this paragraph.

(5) STATE.—The term “State” includes any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

TITLE III—RULE OF CONSTRUCTION

SEC. 301. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or amendments to this Act shall be construed to modify, impair, or supersede the application of the antitrust laws. Any implied or actual conflict between this Act and any amendments to this Act and the antitrust laws shall be resolved in favor of the operation of the antitrust laws.

SEC. 302. SEVERABILITY.

If any section or subsection of this Act, or any application of such provision to any person or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act, and the application of the provision to any other person or circumstance, shall not be affected.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2571, the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2009.

I drafted this bipartisan legislation with Congressman SCOTT GARRETT, Congressman PAUL KANJORSKI, Chairman BARNEY FRANK, and Ranking Member SPENCER BACHUS. I appreciate their support and the support of the bill's 22 cosponsors.

This bill will provide much-needed reform in the nonadmitted and reinsurance markets. In the 109th Congress, this House unanimously approved the bill by a vote of 417-0. In the 110th Congress, our bill was unanimously approved by voice vote. Unfortunately, the Senate has yet to act, but I believe the third time will be the charm.

Before he retired, Senator MEL MARTINEZ introduced the Senate version of the bill with Senators EVAN BAYH, MIKE CRAPO, and BILL NELSON. I know the other three will pick up where Senator MARTINEZ left off to help enact this legislation into law. Often called the “safety net of the insurance market,” surplus lines provides for coverage when the traditional market is not available.

Under today's laws, the regulation of the surplus lines market is, unfortunately, fragmented and cumbersome. This situation reduces insurance availability, leaving policyholders uninsured and with little choice in providers. Similarly, regulation of the reinsurance market is outdated and needs to be improved.

Accordingly, H.R. 2571 specifies that only the tax policies, licensing and other regulatory requirements of the home State of the policyholder govern a surplus lines transaction; it allows sophisticated commercial entities direct access to the surplus lines market; and it prohibits States from voiding established contractual arbitration agreements between reinsurers and primary companies.

Policyholders in a number of States are facing skyrocketing rates. The Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act provides commonsense solutions to the nonadmitted and reinsurance market. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking several people who played a significant role in getting us to where we are today, starting, of course, with the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE), who is the sponsor of the bill. He has exhibited tremendous leadership and persistence as well, as he indicated, in moving this legislation to the floor today, and so he should be commended for his hard work.

I would also like to congratulate the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN-

WAITE), for she was the Republican lead sponsor on this bill in the last two Congresses, and she has worked tirelessly on this very important issue. So I am pleased now to have the opportunity to take up the mantle from Ms. BROWN-WAITE and to move this legislation forward.

Finally, I would like to thank the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and specifically Dr. Theresa Vaughan for their efforts in working closely with all of the interested parties.

Now, I believe that the inclusive and deliberative process that this legislation has undergone should serve, really, as a model as we continue to work on revamping and modernizing other aspects of our financial regulatory framework. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2571, the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2009, will reform and will streamline the regulation of the nonadmitted—that's surplus lines—insurance market as well as the reinsurance market.

Title I, which addresses the surplus lines market, will reduce regulatory overlap, and will clarify where the appropriate taxing authority really should lie with each market transaction. It also will establish the NAIC's eligibility requirements as a standard for the participation in the surplus lines marketplace. These provisions will basically increase efficiency. They will work to reduce transaction costs, and they will work to improve access to the entire market for our consumers.

□ 1145

Now, if we go into Title II legislation, that section addresses several important areas within the reinsurance market. What the bill will do is create a procedure to establish a single solvency regulator for each reinsurer, eliminate the extraterritorial application of State law with regards to reinsurance, and it also will provide for a more meaningful and really a simplified process in determining the credit for reinsurance that the companies will receive. So both the surplus lines and the reinsurance titles are vital to promoting further harmonization for transactions occurring across State lines and eliminating unnecessary red-tape, which basically will help to reduce costs for consumers.

So in this increasingly complex world, it is essential that consumers and businesses be able to purchase insurance from risks outside of their traditional realm. And I believe this legislation will further increase efficiency and reduce costs for these very important transactions.

Similar variations of this legislation, as Mr. MOORE indicated, have passed the House in the last two Congresses by unanimous votes, and it is my hope that this bipartisan legislation will once again pass today unanimously. So I ask all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank, again, my friend, the gentleman from New Jersey, SCOTT GARRETT, for his work on the bill. The Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act provides bipartisan, commonsense solutions to improve the regulation of the nonadmitted and reinsurance markets. So I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my support of H.R. 2571, the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2009, and urge my colleagues to vote for its passage under suspension of the rules today.

While there are many complex regulatory programs pending before our committee, today we are seeking to advance a modest but long-overdue measure to streamline the current system for surplus lines insurance and for reinsurance.

Surplus lines insurance, also known as “nonadmitted” insurance, is highly specialized property and casualty insurance for exceptional risks, such as hazardous materials or amusement parks.

H.R. 2571 would adopt a “home state” approach to address inconsistencies in state regulation of the surplus lines insurance market, and the bill generally follows the model law on nonadmitted insurance adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

This legislation also addresses reinsurance in a similar way by designating the home state of the insurer purchasing reinsurance as the primary regulator of credit for reinsurance and the home state of the reinsurer as the primary regulator for the reinsurer’s solvency.

As an original cosponsor of H.R. 2571, I want to commend the bill’s primary sponsors, Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee Chairman MOORE and Capital Markets Subcommittee Ranking Member GARRETT.

They deserve credit for working together to move this bipartisan legislation through the House again this year and eventually we all hope into law.

I also want to commend Congresswoman BROWN-WAITE, the original champion of this effort in the 109th Congress as well as a lead cosponsor in the 110th Congress and an original cosponsor again in this Congress.

This will be the third time we are sending this important insurance reform proposal to the other body, and I hope our colleagues across the way will be able to see the value of enacting H.R. 2571 soon.

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following exchange of letters regarding H.R. 2571.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, September 9, 2009.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK: In recognition of the desire to expedite consideration of H.R. 2571, the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2009, the Committee on the Judiciary agrees to waive formal consideration of the bill as to provisions that fall within its rule X jurisdiction.

The Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 2571 at this time, it does not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation,

and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward, so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction. The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for any such request.

I would appreciate your including this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of the bill on the House floor.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and for the cooperative working relationship between our two committees.

Sincerely,

JOHN CONYERS, Jr.,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, September 9, 2009.

Hon. JOHN CONYERS,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CONYERS: Thank you for your letter concerning H.R. 2571, the “Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2009.” This bill will be considered by the House shortly.

I want to confirm our mutual understanding with respect to the consideration of this bill. I acknowledge that portions of the bill fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary and I appreciate your cooperation in moving the bill to the House floor expeditiously. I further agree that your decision to not to proceed with a markup on this bill will not prejudice the Committee on the Judiciary with respect to its prerogatives on this or similar legislation. I would support your request for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction in the event of a House-Senate conference.

I will include your letter and this response in the Congressional Record. Thank you again for your assistance.

BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman.

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I also yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2571.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STAR-SPANGLED BANNER COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2097) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the Star-Spangled Banner, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2097

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) During the Battle for Baltimore of the War of 1812, Francis Scott Key visited the British fleet in the Chesapeake Bay on September 7, 1814, to secure the release of Dr. William Beanes, who had been captured after the British burned Washington, DC.

(2) The release of Dr. Beanes was secured, but Key and Beanes were held by the British during the shelling of Fort McHenry, one of the forts defending Baltimore.

(3) On the morning of September 14, 1814, after the 25-hour British bombardment of Fort McHenry, Key peered through the clearing smoke to see a 42-foot by 30-foot American flag flying proudly atop the Fort.

(4) He was so inspired to see the enormous flag still flying over the Fort that he began penning a song, which he named *The Defence of Fort McHenry*, to commemorate the occasion and he included a note that it should be sung to the tune of the popular British melody *To Anacreon in Heaven*.

(5) In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson ordered that the anthem, which had been popularly renamed the *Star-Spangled Banner*, be played at military and naval occasions.

(6) On March 3, 1931, President Herbert Hoover signed a resolution of Congress that officially designated the *Star-Spangled Banner* as the National Anthem of the United States.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the *Star-Spangled Banner*:

(1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 100,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

(A) weigh 8.359 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

(C) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 500,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

(A) weigh 26.73 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the War of 1812 and particularly the Battle for Baltimore that formed the basis for the *Star-Spangled Banner*.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year “2012”; and

(C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation with the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) **QUALITY OF COINS.**—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) **MINT FACILITY.**—Only one facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) **PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.**—The Secretary may issue coins under this Act only during the calendar year beginning on January 1, 2012.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) **SALE PRICE.**—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (1) the face value of the coins;
- (2) the surcharge provided in section 7 with respect to such coins; and
- (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) **BULK SALES.**—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) **PREPAID ORDERS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) **DISCOUNT.**—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of—

- (1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin; and
- (2) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin.

(b) **DISTRIBUTION.**—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be paid to the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission for the purpose of supporting bicentennial activities, educational outreach activities (including supporting scholarly research and the development of exhibits), and preservation and improvement activities pertaining to the sites and structures relating to the War of 1812.

(c) **AUDITS.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall have the right to examine such books, records, documents, and other data of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission as may be related to the expenditures of amounts paid under subsection (b).

(d) **LIMITATION.**—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. **WATT**) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. **LEE**) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. **WATT**. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2097, the Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act, and applaud my colleague, Mr. **RUPPERSBERGER**, for introducing the bill.

The bill instructs the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue \$5 gold coins and \$1 silver coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the “Star-Spangled Banner.” The issuing of this coin will begin during the calendar year. The “Star-Spangled Banner” is set to music to a poem entitled “In Defense of Fort McHenry” written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key, who wrote the poem after seeing the bombardment of Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland, by the Royal British Navy during the War of 1812. The American victory and the sight of the large American flag that survived the 25-hour British bombardment inspired the poem and the anthem.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson ordered that the anthem, which had been popularly renamed the “Star-Spangled Banner,” be played at military and naval occasions. On March 6, 1931, President Herbert Hoover signed a resolution of Congress that officially designated the “Star-Spangled Banner” as the national anthem of the United States.

Throughout the course of American history, the “Star-Spangled Banner” has played a significant role in the democracy and freedom of this country and symbolizes our enduring respect for those who have fought and died to preserve the future of this great nation.

In the 110th Congress, similar legislation passed the House and had 298 cosponsors. I again urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. **LEE** of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2097, the Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act introduced by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. **RUPPERSBERGER**).

This simple measure is designed to ensure that the United States properly pays tribute to an important moment in its history, namely, the writing of the “Star-Spangled Banner.”

The story of Francis Scott Key at Fort McHenry is familiar to Americans old and young alike, but it bears some retelling. It was on the night of September 13, 1814, that Mr. Key negotiated the release of Dr. William Beanes, taken captive by the British and held on board a vessel in Baltimore Harbor. Not long after securing the doctor's release, Key and his party were not allowed to leave because they had become familiar with the British strength and positioning, as well as their attack strategy.

Over the next 25 hours they waited in the harbor as the British mercilessly bombarded Fort McHenry, all while remaining out of range of U.S. firepower.

When the barrage ended, Key peered out through the clearing smoke at daybreak to see in the distance the flag of the United States, its 15 stars and 15 stripes tattered but standing tall. In-

spired, Key scribbled down a poem that he later set to a British melody. More than a century later, an act of Congress declared that tune was this Nation's anthem.

Mr. Speaker, as our Nation prepares to mark the 8th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks, we are reminded not only of the many challenges that this Nation has faced in its history, but the symbols and words that have brought us together to endure these trials.

Five years from now the people of the State of Maryland will be joined by all Americans in celebrating the bicentennial of the writing of the “Star-Spangled Banner.” H.R. 2097, the Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act, provides for the minting of coins in commemoration of this historic event and ensures that surcharges on the sales of these coins will be used to support activities related to the bicentennial, including education and outreach activities. All of these will be done at no cost to the taxpayers.

I want to again commend my colleague from Maryland (Mr. **RUPPERSBERGER**) for introducing this bipartisan measure. I urge its immediate passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. **WATT**. I yield to Mr. **RUPPERSBERGER** from Maryland as much time as he may consume.

Mr. **RUPPERSBERGER**. Thank you.

I rise today to ask my colleagues to support H.R. 2097, the Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act. This legislation will create a commemorative coin to honor America's national anthem. I would particularly like to thank Chairman **FRANK** for his support.

The United States Mint creates two commemorative silver coins each year. The topic is congressionally directed. All expenses of minting, design and production of the coin are included in the final selling price of the coin. This bill does not trigger any PAYGO rules and is revenue neutral.

This happens to be the second time I've gathered more than 290 cosponsors and have been on the floor to speak about this bill.

The \$1 silver coin will be minted in 2012 for the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812. Proceeds will help fund the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, which will hold celebrations along the east coast kicking off in June of 2012 and running through September of 2014. These celebrations include a naval review, reenactment, festivals, historical lectures, parades, the creation of a national curriculum for students and the opportunity to honor the brave men and women who withstood the British during the War of 1812.

My hometown of Baltimore is proud to be the home of America's national anthem. During a nightlong attack on Baltimore by British forces, Francis Scott Key was held captive aboard a British ship in the Chesapeake Bay. The morning after the bombardment, he looked out his window and saw a

large American flag had survived the assault, still flying proudly over Fort McHenry. He knew the American forces had successfully defended the city of Baltimore at the fort. The next day, he was inspired to pen his famous poem in honor of that event.

His brother-in-law, Judge Joseph H. Nicholson, set the poem to the tune of a popular British melody. A few days later, it was printed in Baltimore and quickly spread to newspapers from New Hampshire to Georgia. The song gained popularity and was often played at public events and Fourth of July celebrations. However, it would be many years before the "Star-Spangled Banner" became our official national anthem.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson ordered that the song be played at military events and other official occasions. By the late 1920s, a consensus formed across the country that America needed an official anthem. John Philip Sousa, a famous U.S. composer, argued in favor of the "Star-Spangled Banner" and on March 3, 1931, President Hoover signed legislation adopting it as the national anthem for the United States of America. For more than 75 years, the "Star-Spangled Banner" has evoked pride and patriotism among Americans.

I hope this collectable coin will inspire more Americans to learn the lyrics of the "Star-Spangled Banner" and the role Baltimore played in the history of our Nation during the War of 1812.

All Americans are welcome to come to Baltimore to visit Fort McHenry. Right now, Americans can enjoy the rich history of this country. There are Civil War battlefields being preserved; a Star-Spangled Banner trail being created which runs through Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia; and the War of 1812 Commissions being organized in States from New York to Georgia.

Folks can visit the original Star-Spangled Banner flag here in Washington at the American Museum of National History.

I ask that my colleagues vote for H.R. 2097 and join me in honoring Francis Scott Key, "The Star-Spangled Banner," and the War of 1812—an event that changed the history of our Nation.

Mr. LEE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time.

I yield back.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following exchange of letters regarding H.R. 2097.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, September 8, 2009.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman, Financial Services Committee,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK: I am writing regarding H.R. 2097, the "Star Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act."

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means maintains jurisdiction over bills that raise revenue. H.R. 2097 contains a provision that establishes a surcharge for the sale of

commemorative coins that are minted under the bill, and thus falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

However, as part of our ongoing understanding regarding commemorative coin bills and in order to expedite this bill for Floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of Conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 2097, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Record.

Sincerely,

CHARLES B. RANGEL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, September 8, 2009.

Hon. CHARLES B. RANGEL,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHARLIE: I am writing in response to your letter regarding H.R. 2097, the "Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act," which was introduced in the House and referred to the Committee on Financial Services on April 23, 2009. It is my understanding that this bill will be scheduled for floor consideration shortly.

I wish to confirm our mutual understanding on this bill. As you know, section 7 of the bill establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill. I acknowledge your committee's jurisdictional interest in such surcharges as revenue matters. However, I appreciate your willingness to forego committee action on H.R. 2097 in order to allow the bill to come to the floor expeditiously. I agree that your decision to forego further action on this bill will not prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation. I would support your request for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction should this bill be the subject of a House-Senate conference.

I will include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record when this bill is considered by the House. Thank you again for your assistance.

BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I simply encourage my colleagues to support this historic bill and thank Mr. RUPPERSBERGER for its introduction.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2097.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WATT. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill just under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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APPOINTING FRANCE A. CORDOVA TO BOARD OF REGENTS OF SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 9) providing for the appointment of France A. Córdova as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

S.J. RES. 9

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 43), the vacancy on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in the class other than Members of Congress, occurring by reason of the resignation of Eli Broad of California is filled by the appointment of France A. Córdova of Indiana. The appointment is for a term of 6 years, effective on the later of April 7, 2009, or the date of enactment of this joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this joint resolution will appoint Dr. France Córdova as a citizen regent of the Smithsonian Institution for a 6-year term beginning on the day of its enactment into law. The appointment would fill a long-standing vacancy and would bring the Board of Regents back up to full strength again for the first time in several years.

Dr. Córdova is the president of Purdue University in Indiana. She also served as chief scientist at NASA in the 1990s. The members of the Committee on House Administration met with her in July, and we found her to be very qualified to represent the

American people on the Smithsonian's governing body.

I urge approval of the joint resolution so that Dr. Córdova can assume her seat in time for the Regents' next meeting later this month.

I now reserve the balance of my time. Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As a member of the House Administration Committee, I am pleased to support the appointment of Dr. France Córdova to be a citizen regent of the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Córdova recently joined committee members to discuss her extensive educational background and ongoing work which will be of inestimable benefit to the ongoing mission of the Smithsonian. Because she is so distinguished and is involved in many activities, I did ask her whether she could give the time to this appointment that it deserves, and she assured us that she could. She recognized the importance of the Smithsonian Institution and felt that this was a more than worthy obligation on her part and felt that it was a contribution she would make to the American people.

In addition to the many national boards of which she is a member, Dr. Córdova serves as the 11th president of Purdue University in Indiana. She was the first woman chancellor of a University of California campus, but perhaps also indicative of her leadership, in the area of discovery, she was, I'm informed, the youngest chief scientist at NASA.

As a scientist, administrator, and ongoing researcher, the richness of her background in academic exploration would be difficult to overstate. As the Smithsonian Institution continues toward new achievements, I am confident that Dr. Córdova will be a critical piece in ensuring that James Smithson's original intent, that the institution would be "an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge," is preserved with excellence.

I would urge my colleagues to join me in supporting Dr. Córdova's appointment to the Smithsonian's Board of Regents.

Since I have no other speakers, I would yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I thank the ranking member on the House Administration Committee for his cooperation, as always.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. France A. Córdova on her nomination by the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents and appointment by joint resolution of Congress to serve as one of the Smithsonian's nine citizen regents. Her outstanding scientific contributions in the areas of observational and experimental astrophysics, multi-spectral research on x-ray and gamma ray sources, and space-borne instrumentation make her an ideal candidate for this prestigious position.

Born in France, Dr. Córdova attended high school in California and went on to graduate cum laude from Stanford University in less

than four years. She then earned a PhD in Physics from the California Institute of Technology, and in 1997, she was awarded an honorary doctorate by Loyola Marymount University. In 2007, Dr. Córdova moved to the Hoosier State and was appointed the eleventh president of Purdue University, as well as professor of physics and astronomy for the University.

Again, I commend the excellent work of Dr. Córdova and her many scientific contributions. Hoosiers are blessed to have the talent and expertise of Dr. Córdova at Purdue University, and her appointment to the Smithsonian's Board of Regents is a true honor for Indiana. I am confident that she will prove a valuable asset in her new position at the Smithsonian Institution.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, S.J. Res. 9.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the joint resolution was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR CELEBRATION OF CITIZENSHIP DAY

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 136) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for a celebration of Citizenship Day.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 136

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS TO CELEBRATE CITIZENSHIP DAY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Korean American Service and Education Consortium (in this resolution referred to as the "sponsor") shall be permitted to sponsor a public event (in this resolution referred to as the "event") on the Capitol Grounds to celebrate Citizenship Day.

(b) DATE OF EVENT.—The event shall be held on September 17, 2009, or on such other day as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate.

SEC. 2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board, the event shall be—

(1) free of admission charge and open to the public; and

(2) arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 3. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the sponsor is authorized to

erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for the event.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. 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. Con. Res. 136.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia?

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 136 authorizes use of the Capitol Grounds for a celebration of Citizenship Day. This event will be sponsored by the National Korean American Service and Education Consortium. The bill is sponsored by Congresswoman WATSON and has bipartisan support.

The Capitol Hill event will be part of a national program for Korean Americans who will gather in Washington on that day. The date for the event is planned for September 17, 2009. September 17 marks the anniversary of the ratification of the U.S. Constitution and is commemorated as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. Citizenship Day was authorized by P.L. 108-447. As is required of all events on the Capitol Grounds, this event will be free and open to the public.

I support this resolution and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I might yield my time to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) to control.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. The chairwoman has just explained this legislation, and it is obviously one that I support. It authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for a celebration of Citizenship Day, something that many people take for granted and yet we should not take for granted. This is the freest, the most wonderful, the most generous country that God has ever allowed men and women to create on this planet, and nothing is more sacred than citizenship of this wonderful land.

Again, it is wonderful that we are actually going to be celebrating that along with Constitution Day. The Constitution, again, is that document that has allowed all of this enterprise to take place, limited government, which our Founding Fathers understood was the key to greatness.

So, again, she already explained what this does, allowing the use of the Capitol Grounds for a celebration of Citizenship Day, and I would urge the adoption of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. I thank the gentleman. I ask the gentleman if he has any further speakers.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I do not.

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

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 136, to authorize the use of the Capitol Grounds for a public event to honor citizenship day.

September 17th marks the anniversary of the ratification of the U.S. Constitution and is commemorated as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. It designates a time to honor the Constitution of the United States and learn more about this famous piece of legislation.

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day also recognizes "all those who, whether by coming of age or by naturalization, have become citizens." The day is intended to encourage "the complete instruction of citizens in their responsibilities and opportunities as citizens of the United States and of the State and locality in which they reside."

H. Con. Res. 136 authorizes the National Korean American Service and Education Consortium to sponsor a free public event on the Capitol Grounds to celebrate Citizenship Day on September 17, 2009.

Activities on the Capitol Grounds conducted under H. Con. Res. 136 will be coordinated with the Architect of the Capitol, and will be free and open to the public.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 136.

Ms. NORTON. I yield back the remainder of my time and ask that the bill be approved by the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 136.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI FEDERAL BUILDING

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2498) to designate the Federal building located at 844 North Rush Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the "William O. Lipinski Federal Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2498

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building located at 844 North Rush Street in Chicago, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "William O. Lipinski Federal Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "William O. Lipinski Federal Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 2498.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia?

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2498 and am pleased today to speak in support of a bill that names a Federal building located in Illinois as the "William O. Lipinski Federal Building."

Representative William Lipinski was a leader on the Public Works and Transportation Committee and later on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee throughout the time of his service in the Congress when he represented the Third and Fifth Congressional District of Illinois. He served as a senior Democrat on the Railroads Subcommittee, the Aviation Subcommittee, and the Highways and Transit Subcommittee.

He had a lifelong passion to address transportation and connectivity issues in his district, whether it was providing a local airport with access for financing infrastructure improvements or providing public transit options to areas in his congressional district that lacked access. Representative Lipinski also played a large role in national transportation policy by taking leadership roles in the past two transportation authorization bills that provided funding for local priorities in highways, highway safety, mass transit and surface transportation programs.

Representative Lipinski was born in Chicago on December 22, 1937. He attended Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, and served in the United States Army Reserves from 1961 to 1967. After serving in the Armed Forces, Representative Lipinski served in several different public service capacities in Chicago, Illinois. He was an alderman in Chicago,

a city councilman, and later held several different positions within the Democratic Party in Chicago. Congressman Lipinski was eventually elected to Congress in 1982 and served in the 10 succeeding Congresses.

Representative Lipinski retired in 2005 and is succeeded by his son, Representative DANIEL LIPINSKI.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2498, which names this building located at 844 North Rush Street in Chicago as the "William O. Lipinski Federal Building."

I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, again, the chairwoman described this very, very well. I want to add just one more thing. I'm not quite sure if she touched on it.

Obviously he has a long and distinguished career in this body and in the Transportation Committee as well, but he was also in the United States Army Reserve. And one of the things we should never, never forget are those who are willing to serve in our Nation's Armed Forces. He was willing to do so, and he did so honorably.

So, again, naming this Federal building in Chicago after Representative Lipinski I think is an appropriate recognition of his commitment to public service.

I do not believe that I have any other speakers. Can I inquire if there are any other speakers?

Ms. NORTON. I have no other speakers.

Does the gentleman have any other speakers?

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I have no other speakers, so I would yield back the remaining part of my time.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the bill, H.R. 2498, which I introduced, to designate the Federal building located at 844 North Rush Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the "William O. Lipinski Federal Building" in honor of our former colleague and national leader in transportation issues, Bill Lipinski.

William O. Lipinski was born in Chicago, and lived there for most of his life. He attended Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, and served in United States Army Reserves from 1961 to 1967. After serving in the armed forces, he was active in public service in Chicago, Illinois. He served as an Alderman, a city councilman, and several different positions within the Democratic Party in Chicago. William O. Lipinski was elected to Congress in 1982, where he went on to serve in 10 succeeding Congresses. In his Congressional career, Congressman Lipinski served as the senior Democrat on the Subcommittee on Railroads, the Subcommittee on Aviation, and the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.

Our colleague, Bill Lipinski, was a leader on transportation issues while he represented the 3rd and 5th Congressional Districts of Illinois. He strongly advocated for the transportation and connectivity issues in his district, whether it was providing a local airport with access for financing for infrastructure improvement or providing public transit options to areas in his Congressional district that lacked access.

In the early 1990s, Congressman Lipinski was instrumental in securing the Passenger Facility Charge (PFC), which enabled airports to finance infrastructure improvements. He also served in leadership roles in the past two surface transportation authorization bills, providing funding for highway, highway safety, and public transit programs.

It is most fitting that we honor his civic career, his leadership role on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and his contributions to the transportation industry with this designation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2498.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1215

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PASITOR of Arizona). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2498.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

TRANSFER OF CERTAIN FEDERAL PROPERTY TO GALVESTON HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2121) to provide for the transfer of certain Federal property to the Galveston Historical Foundation, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2121

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

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY IN GALVESTON, TEXAS, TO GALVESTON HISTORICAL FOUNDATION.

(a) CONVEYANCE.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services shall offer to convey, by quitclaim deed, to the Galveston Historical Foundation all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the parcel of real property located at 502 20th Street in Galveston, Texas, including the improvements thereon.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for conveyance of the parcel under subsection (a), the Administrator shall require the Galveston Historical Foundation to pay to the Administrator the fair market value of the parcel, as determined based on an appraisal that is acceptable to the Administrator.

(c) COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.—The Galveston Historical Foundation shall be responsible for the costs of an appraisal conducted under subsection (b) and for all other costs related to the conveyance.

(d) PROCEEDS.—

(1) DEPOSIT.—Any proceeds received under subsection (b) shall be paid into the Federal Buildings Fund established under section 592 of title 40, United States Code.

(2) EXPENDITURE.—Amounts paid into the Federal Buildings Fund under paragraph (1) shall be available to the Administrator, in amounts specified in appropriations Acts, for expenditure for any lawful purpose consistent with existing authorities granted to the Administrator, except that the Administrator shall provide to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate 30 days advance written notice of any expenditure of the proceeds.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Administrator may require that any conveyance under subsection (a) be subject to such additional terms and conditions as the Administrator considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 2121.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 2121, as amended, authorizes the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property located at 502 20th Street in Galveston, Texas, to the Galveston Historical Foundation subject to certain requirements, but not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the bill.

The bill was introduced by Congressman PAUL. The building is the U.S. Custom House and is currently occupied by the historical foundation, which has a long-term lease on the facility. In 1998, the historical foundation signed a cooperative agreement with the General Services Administration to permit the foundation to lease and rehabilitate the building. Despite a dedicated and unanimous commitment to preservation, the building is not well suited for Federal tenants and the needs that we have for modern office space.

This bill allows the Galveston Historical Society to purchase the building outright at fair market value as determined by the administrator. The proceeds will be deposited into the Federal building fund. The General Services Administration supports the bill, and I strongly urge its passage as Chair of the Subcommittee.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I also support this resolution by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL). The chairwoman has done a great job explaining what it does, and I would urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2121, as amended, authorizes the Administrator of the General Services Administration (GSA) to transfer to the Galveston Historical Foundation the Federal property located at 502 20th St. Galveston, Texas.

The parcel of real property is the 1861 U.S. Custom House, one of the oldest buildings in Galveston, Texas, and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1970. The Galveston Historical Foundation was incorporated in 1954, and has since cultivated its work to cover community redevelopment, public education, historic preservation advocacy, maritime preservation, and stewardship of historic properties on Galveston Island. To date, the Galveston Historical Foundation has more than 2,000 members and has twice been awarded the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Honor Award.

In 1998, GSA and the Galveston Historical Foundation entered into a long-term lease agreement with respect to the 1861 U.S. Custom House. In exchange for the Galveston Historical Society rehabilitating the historical building, it was granted a long-term lease. This bill allows the Galveston Historical Society to purchase the building outright.

H.R. 2121 would convey the property at fair market value to the Galveston Historical Foundation. The proceeds will be deposited into the Federal Building Fund.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2121.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2121, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in Galveston, Texas, to the Galveston Historical Foundation."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALBERT ARMENDARIZ, SR., UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2053) to designate the United States courthouse located at 525 Magoffin Avenue in El Paso, Texas, as the "Albert Armendariz, Sr., United States Courthouse".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2053

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States courthouse located at 525 Magoffin Avenue in El Paso, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Albert Armendariz, Sr., United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Albert Armendariz, Sr., United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 2053.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 2053 honors an outstanding American jurist. Judge Albert Armendariz, Sr. had a long and distinguished career of public service and was a true patriot of the United States of America.

Judge Armendariz was a native Texan. After he served his country in World War II, he left the U.S. Army and used the GI bill to continue his education. He graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso, then the University of Southern California Law School where he was the only Mexican American in attendance. After graduating from USC law school in 1950, Judge Armendariz returned to El Paso, Texas.

Early in his career, Judge Armendariz tackled discrimination head on while serving on the El Paso Civil Service Commission and pushing the agency to end discrimination against Latino applicants for civil service positions. Judge Armendariz also served as an immigration judge within the U.S. Department of Justice. He was the first Latino judge to serve as a justice on the Eighth Judicial District Court of Appeals for the State of Texas.

In addition to his service in the government, Judge Armendariz also found time to serve in leadership positions in several influential civic organizations and helped form the influential Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund in 1968.

Judge Armendariz had a never-ending passion for service to his community and practiced law until his death at the age of 88 on October 4, 2004. Given his extraordinary service, it is fitting and proper to honor Judge Armendariz by designating the United States Courthouse located at 525 Magoffin Avenue in El Paso, Texas, in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, again, the gentlelady

has explained this resolution. I obviously have no objection to the passage of this bill. And I also want to thank the gentlelady for highlighting not only his distinguished career as a judge, but also the fact that he was part of what is known as the greatest generation.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2053, a bill to name the new El Paso Federal courthouse after the late Judge Albert Armendariz, Sr.

Judge Armendariz helped change the landscape for Latinos in Texas and nationwide. He dedicated his life to representing immigrants and is best remembered for his work on the landmark case, *Hernandez v. the State of Texas*, which established Latinos as a distinct class entitled to protection under the 14th amendment.

Over his lifetime, Judge Armendariz had a wide and varied career. Not only was he a distinguished judge and civil rights leader, but he was a WWII veteran, the founder of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), national president of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), a Federal immigration judge and founding board member of the Mexican American Bar Association of El Paso.

In addition, in the late 1950s and early 1960s, Judge Armendariz served on the El Paso Civil Service Commission and is credited with helping to open the city's police and fire departments to Mexican-Americans.

Judge Armendariz gave so much to the El Paso community and to our Nation. I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution to honor this great American.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2053, which designates the U.S. courthouse located at 525 Magoffin Avenue in El Paso, Texas, in honor of Albert Armendariz, Sr.

Judge Armendariz was one of the most significant figures in Latino history, especially in the southwest region of the United States. He was the president of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), and the founder of the Mexican American Legal Defense Education Fund. He was a life-long champion of civil rights, a fighter against racism, and a defender of the underserved.

Judge Armendariz was a World War II veteran, and obtained his law degree from the University of Southern California Law School. Upon graduation, he returned to El Paso, where he set up his law office. He quickly became a community leader and activist.

His judicial legacy includes his work on *Hernandez v. The State of Texas*, which established Latinos as a protected class entitled to protection under the 14th amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Judge Armendariz also served as an immigration judge within the U.S. Department of Justice. In addition, he was the first Latino judge to serve as a Justice on the Eighth Judicial District Court of Appeals for the State of Texas. Judge Armendariz had a never ending passion for service to his community and practiced law until his death at age 88 on October 4, 2007.

Given his extraordinary service, it is fitting and proper to honor Judge Armendariz by designating the United States courthouse located at 525 Magoffin Avenue in El Paso, Texas, as the "Albert Armendariz, Sr., United States Courthouse".

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2053.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep pride that I rise in strong support of H.R. 2053, a bill that seeks to name the new El Paso Federal courthouse after the late Judge Albert Armendariz, Senior.

Judge Armendariz dedicated his life to advocating on behalf underserved communities and it is through his leadership and tireless efforts that we witnessed an improved landscape for Latinos in Texas and nationwide. He was a trailblazer who began his distinguished legal career by opening his law office in downtown El Paso with a \$50 loan from his father. Judge Armendariz maximized that small investment by quickly becoming a national leader who served on countless committees and boards that addressed the issues he would advance in his legal practice. Judge Armendariz would go on to practice law in Texas for over 50 years and would argue before the United States Supreme Court. He is best remembered for his work on the landmark case, *Hernandez v. The State of Texas*, which established Latinos as a distinct class entitled to protection under the 14th Amendment.

Judge Armendariz graduated from El Paso High School in 1934. After graduation, he became a sergeant in the military and was responsible for overseeing the motor pool at Ft. Bliss in El Paso. He was later assigned to oversee the Italian prisoners of war at Ft. Bliss. When the war ended, he used the GI Bill to attend the University of Texas at El Paso for his undergraduate studies and then the University of Southern California Law School, where he was the only Mexican-American student at that time.

Judge Armendariz was a proud American who possessed a deep commitment to ensuring equal opportunity for all. In the late 1950's and early 1960's, Judge Armendariz served on the El Paso Civil Service Commission and is credited with helping to open the city's police and fire departments to Mexican-Americans. In 1976, Judge Armendariz was appointed an administrative judge for the Immigration and Naturalization Service and served in that capacity until 1985. He was later appointed to the 8th Court of Appeals of Texas. He was a founder of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF); national president of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC); and founding board member of the Mexican American Bar Association of El Paso.

Judge Armendariz was a great American who gave so much to the El Paso community and to our nation. I urge all Members to join me in voting in favor of H.R. 2053.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to support my colleague from Texas, Congressman SILVESTRE REYES, and his bill, H.R. 2053.

Albert Armendariz, Sr. was a great citizen and legal mind. His tireless work for the Latino community and under-represented citizens is his legacy that will be long remembered. His work on the landmark case, *Hernandez v. The State of Texas*, is part of this legacy and our judicial history. This case established protections under the 14th Amendment for Latinos and was a step forward in the American Civil Rights Movement.

Judge Armendariz served his community of El Paso, Texas, and his nation in WWII. He

attended the University of Southern California, School of Law and was the only Mexican-American graduate at that time. He was the founder of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), a founding board member of the Mexican American Bar Association of El Paso, and a federal immigration judge.

Judge Armendariz dedicated his life to the El Paso community and to our nation and it is fitting that we honor him in this manner.

I ask your support for this bill which will name the new El Paso Federal Courthouse after the late Judge Albert Armendariz, Sr.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3193.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALTO LEE ADAMS, SR., UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3193) to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 101 South United States Route 1 in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the "Alto Lee Adams, Sr., United States Courthouse".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3193

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States courthouse under construction at 101 South United States Route 1 in Fort Pierce, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Alto Lee Adams, Sr., United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Alto Lee Adams, Sr., United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3193.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia?

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3193 and am pleased today to speak in support of a bill that names the courthouse located in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the Alto Lee Adams, Sr. United States Courthouse.

Judge Alto Lee Adams was born in 1899 in Florida and served as a member of the U.S. Navy in World War I. Judge Adams later graduated from the University of Florida Law School in 1921 and began practice in Fort Pierce in 1924. After practicing law in Fort Pierce County for 14 years, Judge Adams was appointed to the Florida State Circuit Court in 1938. After serving as a circuit court judge, Judge Adams served two stints as a member of the Florida Supreme Court. He was an active member of his community, serving as president of the Florida State Elks Association and vice-chair of the State Welfare Board.

Because of Judge Adams' exemplary career in public service as both a member of the military and as a Florida Supreme Court justice, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3193, which names the Federal courthouse under construction at 101 South United States Route 1 in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the Alto Lee Adams, Sr. United States Courthouse.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to first thank Representative ROONEY for his leadership and work on this bill and would like to also yield the distinguished gentleman from Florida 3 minutes.

Mr. ROONEY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Today is a great day for the residents of Fort Pierce, Florida, and the Treasure Coast.

Over two decades ago, the late Congressman Tom Lewis and his district director, Ann Decker, started the long process of bringing a Federal courthouse to St. Lucie County. I was greatly honored that one of my first official events as Congressman was to participate in the historic groundbreaking of this new building. Shortly thereafter, I introduced legislation to honor the distinguished life and career of the late Florida supreme court chief justice, Alto Lee Adams, by naming this new building in his memory.

This courthouse will fill a vital role for the city of Fort Pierce, bringing much-needed jobs and investment to the community with a greatly needed new Federal courthouse to the area. It is only fitting that this courthouse be named in honor of a man who himself gave so much to his community.

Chief Justice Alto Lee Adams, Sr., attended the University of Florida College of Law and graduated in 1921. He practiced law in Fort Pierce from 1924 to 1938 until he was appointed as a circuit court judge for St. Lucie County.

After Florida voters adopted an amendment which created a seventh justice in the State supreme court in 1940, Alto Lee Adams, Sr. was appointed to the court by then-Governor Fred P. Cone. He served as a justice on the Florida supreme court from 1940 to 1951 and 1967 to 1968, and as chief justice from 1949 to 1951.

Chief Justice Adams believed it was important to give back to his community and even served as president of the Florida State Elks Association in 1937. His service to the St. Lucie community served as an example to his children and those who knew him. In addition to his distinguished career, Judge Adams started a successful cattle ranch named Adams Ranch in St. Lucie County which is still run by the Adams family.

Judge Adams set a standard of integrity and community service that lives on today, and I believe it's only fitting that a new courthouse be named in his honor.

I would like to thank Chairman OBERSTAR, Ranking Member MICA, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, and their staff, for helping support the moving of this legislation. I am proud to sponsor H.R. 3193 and ask my colleagues for their support.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3193, a bill to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 101 South United States Route 1 in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the "Alto Lee Adams, Sr., United States Courthouse".

Alto Lee Adams, Sr. was born and raised in Walton County, Florida, and graduated from the University of Florida Law School in 1921. After practicing law in Fort Pierce County for 14 years, Judge Adams was appointed to the Florida state circuit court in 1938.

In 1940, Florida citizens voted for the creation of a seventh seat on the State Supreme Court. Then-Governor Cone appointed Judge Adams to the State's highest court. He served on the Florida Supreme Court until 1951, the last two years as the Chief Justice. During this time, Justice Adams authored one of his most highly-regarded decisions in *Taylor v. State*, which illustrated Justice Adams' dedication to civil rights. He wrote that "[a]s to the relative rights and duties, the law makes no [racial] distinction." Justice Adams also continually advocated for individual property rights over the Federal Government's power of eminent domain. In 1967, then-Governor Kirk re-appointed Justice Adams to the State Supreme Court, where he remained on the court until his mandatory retirement in 1968.

Throughout his legal career, Justice Adams co-authored a book and wrote several articles regarding legal history and philosophy. His 13 years of service on the Florida State Supreme Court are marked by his fairness on the bench.

He was also an active member of his community serving as President of the Florida State Elks Association and as Vice Chair of the State Welfare Board.

Because of Judge Adams' exemplary career in public service, it is fitting to designate the United States Courthouse under construction at 101 South United States Route 1 in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the "Alto Lee Adams, Sr., United States Courthouse".

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3193.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3193.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1230

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 623) requesting that the President focus appropriate attention on neighborhood crime prevention and community policing, and coordinate certain Federal efforts to participate in National Night Out, which occurs the first Tuesday of August each year, including by supporting local efforts and community watch groups and by supporting local officials, to promote community safety and help provide homeland security.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 623

Whereas neighborhood crime is of continuing concern to the American people;

Whereas child safety is a growing concern for parents and communities, as evidenced by several cases of missing and abducted children;

Whereas homeland security remains an important priority for communities and the Nation;

Whereas crime, drugs, and violence in schools is of continuing concern to the American people due to the recent high-profile incidents that have resulted in fatalities at several schools in the United States;

Whereas the fight against neighborhood crime requires people to work together in cooperation with law enforcement personnel;

Whereas neighborhood crime watch organizations effectively promote awareness about, and the participation of volunteers in, crime prevention activities at the local level;

Whereas neighborhood crime watch groups can contribute to the Nation's war on drugs by helping to prevent communities from becoming markets for drug dealers;

Whereas neighborhood crime watch programs play an integral role in combating domestic terrorism by increasing vigilance and awareness and encouraging citizen participation in community safety and homeland security;

Whereas community-based programs involving law enforcement, school administrators, teachers, parents, and local communities work effectively to reduce school violence and crime and promote the safety of children;

Whereas citizens throughout the United States will take part in National Night Out,

a unique crime prevention event that will demonstrate the importance and effectiveness of community participation in crime prevention efforts;

Whereas over 37,000,000 people in more than 15,000 communities from all 50 States, territories, District of Columbia, and military bases worldwide participated in National Night Out in 2007;

Whereas National Night Out will celebrate its 26th anniversary on Tuesday, August 4, 2009, when citizens, businesses, local law enforcement officers, mayors, State and Federal officials, and others will celebrate "America's Night Out Against Crime" and participate in events to support community crime prevention;

Whereas National Night Out is supporting the Department of Homeland Security's Ready campaign by handing out materials and educating and empowering the public on how to prepare for, and respond to, potential terrorist attacks or other emergencies;

Whereas National Night Out is supporting the National Child Identification Program, a joint partnership between the American Football Coaches Association and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to provide identification kits to parents to help locate missing children;

Whereas the National Sheriffs Association, the United States Conference of Mayors, and the National League of Cities have officially expressed support for National Night Out; and

Whereas citizens and communities that participate on August 4, 2009, will send a positive message to other communities and the Nation, showing their commitment to reduce crime and promote homeland security: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Night Out; and

(2) requests that the President—

(A) issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to conduct appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for National Night Out;

(B) focus appropriate attention on neighborhood crime prevention, community policing, and reduction of school crime by delivering speeches, convening meetings, and directing the Administration to make crime reduction an important priority; and

(C) coordinate the efforts of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the USA Freedom Corps, the Citizen Corps, the National Senior Service Corps, and AmeriCorps to participate in National Night Out by supporting local efforts and neighborhood watches and by supporting local officials, including law enforcement personnel, to provide homeland security and combat terrorism in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR of Arizona). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution supports this year's National Night Out events coordinated by the National Association of Town Watch and encourages the President to focus attention on neighborhood crime prevention, community policing and Federal efforts to participate in various local events. The 26th Annual National Night Out, America's night out against crime, was held on Tuesday, August 4, 2009.

The National Night Out is designed to promote crime and drug prevention efforts, create support for local anti-crime programs and strengthen neighborhood camaraderie and police-community partnerships. Last year's National Night Out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from over 15,000 communities from all 50 States, as well as U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide.

In 2008, over 37 million people participated in National Night Out events. National Night Out has the support of many agencies and organizations, including the National Sheriffs Association, the United States Conference of Mayors, and the National League of Cities.

On August 4, people from communities around the country sat on their porches with their lights on to show their support for neighborhood crime prevention and drug abuse prevention efforts. Local sponsors also organized events such as block parties, cookouts, parades and visits with local law enforcement agencies, as well as rallies and marches. National Night Out events have become a very popular way to build police-community relations and to encourage people to volunteer in their communities.

For those reasons, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the resolution introduced by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK).

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) for sponsorship of this legislation.

On August 4, 2009, communities, businesses, local law enforcement officials and other individuals from all 50 States got together for what we call National Night Out. National Night Out, an annual event created to bring attention to the importance of community involvement in preventing crime and community awareness efforts throughout the country. It has successfully reached millions of people and thousands of communities in every State in our Nation.

Not only has the event grown in participation and size, but in production as well. The traditional "lights on," in which neighborhood families coordinate in turning on their porch lights,

has grown to include block parties, neighborhood walks, police meetings, cookouts and even parades.

Mr. Speaker, this is the only time of the year that many neighbors see each other. My grandfather used to say that people quit being as neighborly when builders quit building front porches on their homes. Anyway, National Night Out gives people the chance to visit with each other and be neighborly.

House Resolution 623 calls on the administration not only to highlight and urge participation in this nationwide campaign, but also to coordinate Federal efforts in other community crime-prevention initiatives.

The resolution reminds us that crime is local. Crime affects all Americans, regardless of where they live or who they are. In my 30 years as a prosecutor and a former judge, I saw for myself the terrible toll that crime puts on neighborhoods and on families and individuals.

We all suffer. Crime, especially violent crime, is a national health concern. Volunteer organizations such as neighborhood crime watch groups have proven to be invaluable, not just in awareness and prevention, but also in their coordination with local law enforcement.

National Night Out was created in 1984 to help bring members of our communities together to fight the scourge of crime in local neighborhoods. Since then, it has been the mission of Association of Town Watch and National Night Out to send a message to criminals that neighborhoods and communities are united in their fight against criminal conduct. Through the participation in local crime fighting programs and organizations, every American can make a difference in the safety of their community. Strong communities are safer communities.

In today's world, crime and violence can be found everywhere we look. Urban communities, rural communities, parks and even our schools. And while Federal coordination with local law enforcement plays a tremendous role in curbing criminal activity, the coordination of local law enforcement officials, volunteer groups and community leaders and neighbors is, without a doubt, the most effective way of attacking crime and protecting America's families.

So I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of the resolution, a law enforcement officer himself, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK).

Mr. STUPAK. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Stupak-Reichert resolution, House Resolution 623. This resolution commemorates the 26th Annual National Night Out event, which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch.

I would like to thank my Law Enforcement Caucus cochair, Congressman DAVE REICHERT, for introducing this resolution with me.

National Night Out, an annual nationwide grassroots crime prevention event, took place on Tuesday, August 4, and will actually take place in Texas on October 6, 2009. I appreciate the work of the Judiciary Committee and Chairman CONYERS and Chairman SCOTT in placing this resolution on the House calendar.

However, I must admit I am disappointed in the partisan, obstructionist tactics that precluded the recognition of National Night Out in a timely fashion in July. I am disappointed that this truly bipartisan resolution, that has been introduced year after year and passed by this House urging citizens to take back their streets from criminals, is hijacked by partisan politics. Now, a month later, we have to talk about this year's event in the past tense.

This year's event did bring together citizens, law enforcement agencies and civic groups throughout the United States. As Chairman SCOTT said, about 15,000 communities participated to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness and to strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

National Night Out is the largest, most cost-effective crime prevention campaign. Whether it is stopping illegal drug sales, making schools safer, locating missing children or remaining vigilant against terrorism, local law enforcement officials depend on the support of community networks to succeed.

This high profile, high impact National Night Out sends a message to criminals, letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. The active involvement of citizens and the presence of law enforcement in our communities is a winning combination that makes and keeps neighborhoods safe.

The Stupak-Reichert resolution expresses Congress' support for community crime prevention and asks that the President focus Federal attention on this issue. I urge all our Members to support this resolution.

Mr. POE of Texas. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlelady from Ohio, a strong supporter of law enforcement, Ms. SUTTON.

Ms. SUTTON. I thank the gentleman for the time and for his leadership on this very important issue.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, in strong support of H. Res. 623, and I commend Representative STUPAK for bringing this great resolution to the floor.

National Night Out is an innovative and unique crime fighting tool, and the administration's support for this effort is critically important. This resolution sends a strong message to criminals,

letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and are fighting back.

It also sends a strong message to volunteers and neighbors and block leaders that their hard work is not going unnoticed by this Congress and this administration. When people volunteer in their community, they are telling the world that their neighborhood matters, that their neighborhood is important, and that it has value. And we hear them, Mr. Speaker.

In these difficult times, volunteering is critical to supporting both our neighbors and our communities. While neighborhood watch groups work tirelessly every night throughout this country, a special night of the year is reserved to celebrate National Night Out.

And on the first Tuesday of every August, nearly 37 million Americans gather together to participate in National Night Out, walking door to door, handing out important safety information, greeting old neighbors and meeting some new people on their block. It takes a community to keep a neighborhood safe, and on August 4 people across America helped keep their neighborhoods just that much safer.

This August 4, I had the honor to participate in the 26th Annual National Night Out in Akron. It was a great experience, and I hope to participate again next year, along with millions of my fellow crime fighting Americans.

I commend the gentleman again for bringing the resolution to the floor.

Mr. POE of Texas. We have no other speakers, Mr. Speaker.

I will close by saying that this is a bipartisan piece of legislation. This body here contains many former law enforcement officers, peace officers, sheriffs, prosecutors, former judges, and victims of crime as well. Crime knows no boundaries in this country, and it affects all of us. This legislation is a stand for the volunteers who support National Night Out and the good work that they do.

I strongly urge the adoption of this resolution.

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 623, which requests that the President focus appropriate attention on neighborhood crime prevention and coordinate Federal efforts to participate in National Night Out.

Today our suburban communities and neighborhoods throughout the nation are under attack. When our children are no longer free to play outside after school and families no longer feel safe in their suburban communities because gangs, and all the violence and drugs they bring with them, have spread to their communities; and when children are no longer safe in their own homes because thousands of sex offenders are online just waiting for their next prey; when the "bad guy" has no face and there are no boundaries thanks to the Internet—our very freedom itself is threatened.

National Night Out is an extraordinary opportunity for citizens, law enforcement, businesses, and local officials to come together to raise awareness about these threats and fight

crime where we live. Last year, over 37 million people participated in National Night Out.

As a former Sheriff, I know how important it is to foster relationships between the community, law enforcement and local businesses and organizations. By coming together we really can create safer places for our children to grow and thrive.

I urge all my colleagues to support H. Res. 623 and community policing efforts throughout their communities.

Mr. POE of Texas. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for his introduction of the resolution and urge support of the resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 623.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 11 AS A NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 718) Recognizing September 11 as a "National Day of Service and Remembrance".

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 718

Whereas, on September 11, 2001, terrorists ruthlessly attacked the United States leading to the tragic deaths and injuries of thousands of innocent United States citizens and other citizens from more than 90 different countries and territories;

Whereas in response to the attacks in New York City, Washington, DC, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania, firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians, physicians, nurses, military personnel, and other first responders immediately and without concern for their own well-being rose to service, in a heroic attempt to protect the lives of those still at risk, consequently saving thousands of men and women;

Whereas in the immediate aftermath of the attacks, thousands of recovery workers including trades personnel, iron workers, equipment operators, and many others, joined with firemen, police officers, and military personnel to help to search for and recover victims lost in the terrorist attacks;

Whereas in the days, weeks, and months following the attacks, thousands of people in the United States and others spontaneously volunteered to help support the rescue and recovery efforts, braving both physical and emotional hardship;

Whereas many first responders, rescue and recovery workers, and volunteers, as well as survivors of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, continue to suffer from serious medical illnesses and emotional distress related to the physical and mental trauma of the 9/11 tragedy;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of brave men and women continue to serve every day,

having answered the call to duty as members of our nation's armed forces, with thousands having given their lives, or been injured to defend our nation's security and prevent future terrorist attacks;

Whereas the entire nation witnessed and shared in the tragedy of 9/11 and in the immediate aftermath of the September 11 attacks became unified under a remarkable spirit of service and compassion that inspired and helped heal the nation;

Whereas in the years immediately following the September 11, 2001, attacks, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics documented a marked increase in volunteerism among citizens in the United States;

Whereas families of 9/11 victims, survivors, first responders, rescue and recovery workers, and volunteers called for Congress to pass legislation to formally authorize the establishment of September 11 as an annually recognized "National Day of Service and Remembrance", and for the President of the United States to proclaim the day as such;

Whereas in 2004, Congress unanimously passed H. Con. Res. 473, expressing the sense of Congress that it is appropriate to observe the anniversary of the September 11, 2001, attacks with voluntary acts of service and compassion;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of people in the United States from all 50 States, as well as others who live in 170 different countries already observe the anniversary of the September 11, 2001, attacks each year by personally engaging in service, good deeds, and other charitable acts; and

Whereas, on March 31, 2009, Congress passed the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which included for the first time authorization and Federal recognition of September 11 as a "National Day of Service and Remembrance", a bill signed into law on April 21, 2009, by President Barack Obama: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) calls upon all people in the United States to annually observe a "National Day of Service and Remembrance", with appropriate and personal expressions of reflection, including performing good deeds, attending memorial and remembrance services, and voluntarily engaging in community service or other charitable activities of their own choosing in honor of those who lost their lives or were injured in the September 11, 2001, attacks, in tribute to those who rose to come to the aid of those in need, and in defense of our Nation; and

(2) urges all people in the United States to continue to live their lives throughout the year with the same spirit of unity, service, and compassion that was exhibited throughout the Nation following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TOWNS. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As we take time today to remember the tragic events of September 11, 2001,

let us also remember the great compassion that Americans showed each other following the attacks. They donated blood, searched through wreckage, and sat to comfort one another. The service of volunteers helped our country through their time of crisis, as it has so often during our history.

It is in their spirit that we observe the anniversary of the attacks by not only remembering those lost and injured on September 11, 2001, but by serving our fellow Americans in their honor. This is the proper tribute to those who served those in need on that day.

I am proud that we are taking time today to recognize these heroic volunteers. I would like to thank the leadership for allowing us to bring this bill to the floor today.

□ 1245

I would also like to thank the ranking member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Mr. Issa of California, for his support of the bill. I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) will control 20 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The resolution before us is a commitment to reaffirm a sense of urgency, of reminding all of us of the crisis that occurred not so long ago in the crumbling towers in New York and the crisis at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania. I appreciate the chairman bringing this item before us, and as a representative of the minority on the committee, I want to strongly urge its support.

I appreciate the fact that the gentleman has worked in a bipartisan fashion. I think this is one committee where the chairman and ranking member have proven that Washington, especially the House of Representatives, can work in a cooperative manner, and I think if there is any place the American people not only expect but demand that we find that bipartisan ground, I think we have found it in this resolution and on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL).

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and my good friend from New York for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, September 11 will always have a special meaning in our hearts and in our lives. I guess the previous generation, when you said December 7, Pearl Harbor Day, that was something that stuck in their minds. But, for us, September 11 is a date that will live, as President Roosevelt said, in infamy.

September 11 showed us the worst in people, the terrorists that killed approximately 2,000 people in New York

and at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania, but it also showed the best in people, New Yorkers and others who came to try to save people, certainly at the World Trade Center.

Every week when I go back to New York, I look at the skyline of New York and something is missing. It always feels, to me, empty. It always feels wrong. Of course, the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center are missing. But as much as I have pain in my heart for the missing towers, it is nothing like the pain in my heart and the grief I have for the thousands of people that were killed and for their families.

I was very proud to be a New Yorker that day. I said it on the floor of this House soon afterwards 8 years ago. I am still very, very proud to be a New Yorker.

But there is still much more work to be done. We have been fighting for years for a health care bill that would enable first responders and good Samaritans who came to the World Trade Center day in and day out, digging sometimes with their bare hands to try to find victims and who very often did find victims, and now who are suffering from irreparable injuries to their lungs and to their health. We need a bill, and the New York delegation has been fighting for a bill that will take care of these people who, by the way, come from all 50 States, and we need to do that. This Congress needs to do that.

But also, as Mr. TOWNS said, we need to remember those people, the people who perished and the thousands of people who came to the aid of and to help the victims, to save their lives, to escort them to safety, to come and try to find people in the rubble. That again showed the best of humanity, the best of Americans, the best of New Yorkers, the best of what this country has to offer.

Again, Mr. Speaker, September 11 will obviously never be the same and will hold a special meaning. I generally have not attended meetings or any kind of things on that day in the 8 years because it is, for me, a day of reflection, but I am very, very proud that this Congress is taking up this resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), the ranking member on the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I want to commend Chairman TOWNS and Ranking Member ISSA for bringing this bill to the floor. I want to thank Congresswoman MATSUI for the tremendous work that she has done in leading the way on this legislation. I am proud to be a cosponsor of the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I listened carefully to my good friend from New York, Mr. ENGEL, and he really articulated the way all New Yorkers feel. September 11 will be a day that none of us will ever

forget. It is a day that will just be embedded into us because of the terrible horror, the tragedy, all that occurred on that day, but also because of the tremendous valor, the tremendous dedication, and the tremendous sense of courage which was also demonstrated on that day.

I lost probably 150 constituents, friends, neighbors that day, and that is just all throughout downstate New York. Almost every Member of Congress can say the same thing about the large numbers of deaths in their districts and their friends, their neighbors who were murdered that day.

So it is really important, as we go forward, that September 11 never just be a day, never just be a holiday, never just be a day where maybe some people get off and some don't or a day that you use to go shopping. It should be a day where we find a way to remind ourselves of the sacrifice of that day, of the police officers and the firefighters and the EMTs and construction workers who actually ran into the burning towers and suffered those incalculable deaths, 343 firefighters, 60 police officers, a number of EMTs, a number of construction workers, all of whom were killed rescuing people that day.

Mr. Speaker, just as a historical note, this legislation initiated from an organization called MyGoodDeed, and this organization, one of the founders was Jay Winuk. His brother Glenn was a constituent of mine.

Glenn was actually working in Lower Manhattan that day as a lawyer, but he was also a volunteer firefighter. After he evacuated his own building, he ran into the World Trade Center and was killed. Just this past week, he was finally awarded the 9/11 Medal of Valor. But the Winuk family, in honor of Glenn, who really personified September 11 in that he was one of both a civilian and a firefighter, who in both capacities performed so brilliantly that day, his family was the starter of this organization, which was the genesis of this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. BILBRAY. I yield the gentleman an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, also, for instance, tomorrow, throughout my district, there will be various types of services being carried out. For instance, in my own office, we have a blood drive which is run by my assistant, Patricia Gartland, who will have people lined up from morning to night giving blood in honor of those killed on September 11.

In my own school district, the Seaford School District, there will be a large commemoration, and the coordinator, Ken Haskell, is a firefighter who lost two brothers on September 11. He is coordinating an effort where the students will show the good works that they did in honor of those who died on September 11.

So, Mr. Speaker, this is a day which, again, as tragic as it was, as horrible as

it was, it is also a day from which tremendous good came from that. So let's go forward. Let's adopt this legislation in the spirit of what happened on September 11, both in memory of those who were murdered and in honor of those who gave their lives, and in honor of those who in the days afterwards, as Congressman ENGEL said, not just from New York but from all over the country, came to Lower Manhattan, came to the World Trade Center, came to the Pentagon, went to Pennsylvania to try to do what they could to help those and to take part in the rescue operation and recovery operation and really showed the unity of the Nation, maybe as never before.

With that, again, I thank the chairman, I thank the ranking member, I certainly thank Congresswoman MATSUI, and I urge the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI), who really is responsible for us being here today. I want to thank her for her insight and, of course, making it possible for us to recognize people who really contributed so much on September 11.

Ms. MATSUI. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 718, which recognizes September 11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance. On April 21 of this year, with Senator Ted Kennedy standing by his side, President Obama signed into law the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act. This landmark legislation makes historical investments in both national and community service programs and helps to facilitate the extraordinary interest in volunteerism we are seeing throughout the country and in my hometown of Sacramento certainly, too.

The Serve America Act also designates September 11 of every year as a National Day of Service and Remembrance. This year, and with this resolution, we are recognizing the observance of the first-ever federally recognized National Day of Service and Remembrance.

This bipartisan resolution calls upon all Americans to engage in community service and contribute to local projects in their neighborhood on September 11 in tribute to those who selflessly served their communities during the attacks on that day, as was mentioned by our New Yorkers here and people throughout the country.

On that day and the days following, first responders, rescue and recovery workers and perfect strangers came together to help those in need. Their sense of patriotism and service truly made our Nation great. This year we will honor them not only by remembering their heroism, but by recommitting ourselves to bettering our communities and our country.

This Friday, we will join with Americans across the country and give back to our communities by volunteering to

build houses, participate in literacy programs, lead neighborhood cleanups, collect food and clothing for the coming winter, and really much, much more. As a result, extraordinary things will be happening all through this country. The service events taking place will help address some of our Nation's toughest problems, from poverty and unmet education needs to preparing for natural disasters.

As co-Chair of the National Service Caucus, it is a pleasure to call attention to the tremendous work of volunteers participating in the first-ever National Day of Service and Remembrance and to partner with my colleague PETER KING of New York on this legislation.

I also want to thank MyGoodDeed.org, the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the families of 9/11 who helped make this a reality and for promoting volunteerism and service in every corner of our country.

I am really proud that this body has come together and has been a leader in recognizing the importance of volunteerism and community service. Please join me in honoring this spirit of service by voting in support of this resolution.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER).

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

I have to say that I am rather struck as I listened to my California colleagues, Ms. MATSUI and Mr. BILBRAY. We have had three New Yorkers and now three Californians who have stood here to recognize the significance of what, unfortunately, is one of the most tragic days in the 220-year history of the United States of America.

All of the remarks have been extraordinarily thoughtful. They have focused on why it is that we are here, and it is to remember those thousands of lives that were lost. But, as was said by Mr. ENGEL, Mr. TOWNS and Mr. KING as well, and Ms. MATSUI and, I know, Mr. BILBRAY, the good that has come from one of the most tragic days in our Nation's history is that we saw a solidarity, the likes of which we have not seen in a long period of time, and we saw so many great things done by courageous people.

□ 1300

Now, we've heard about the New Yorkers, and no one sacrificed more than New Yorkers as we, for literally months, watched the cleanup take place at the World Trade Center. But I'm reminded of the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Department in Southern California. It was so moved they came together and provided a fire truck to the New York City Police Department. And when we've had three

New Yorkers and three Californians, I know that we speak for everyone across this country when we underscore how important it is to recognize this, one of the most tragic days in our Nation's history.

Now, there are other things that have come from this. And as I look at my friend, Mr. KING, I'm reminded that he is the former chairman, now the ranking member, of the Committee on Homeland Security that was established in the aftermath of September 11. And as we sit here, prepared to mark the eighth anniversary, I think it's important to note that another good thing has emerged.

That good thing is the fact that while most predicted that within a matter of months, and certainly years, we would have another terrorist attack on U.S. soil, it's due to the work of PETER KING and lots of other people in this institution, in the executive branch and around the country that have ensured that we have not to this point, and we hope and pray that this vigilance will continue and that we will never have an attack like we saw on September 11 of 2001.

And we also need to use this resolution, Mr. Speaker, to remind ourselves that we still live in a very, very dangerous world. There are people who would like to do us in. We know that. We find it out on a daily basis, and we see it in tragic terrorist attacks that take place in other parts of the globe.

And so I join, Mr. Speaker, with my colleagues in strong support of the effort that Ms. MATSUI and Mr. KING and others have put together on this resolution in hopes that this will be a learning experience, just, as Mr. ENGEL mentioned, as December 7, 1941, was a date for past generations. We all remember the history of December 7, 1941; and, similarly, we hope that this resolution will ensure that future generations will never forget what happened on September 11, 2001.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in saying that this was a day that I will never, never forget as I stood and I watched the second plane hit, and then I realized that this was a day that we would never, never forget. I also want to recognize those firefighters and those police officers and people who came from all over the Nation to help us at that time, and I mean New Yorkers. And of course, that's something that we cannot forget. People just packed up, came to help us clean up. And I've never seen people work together the way they worked during the crisis of September 11.

So I think it's only fitting that we stop and we recognize the great work of those volunteers. And I want to thank Congresswoman MATSUI, I want to thank Congressman PETER KING for sponsoring this resolution.

I remember on that day a gentleman by the name of Al Walden, who worked here in the Congress, served in the Congress with us, who was a judge, and his

office was in the building that caught on fire, the first building. And I recall standing out there talking to him as we were looking at the problem and the smoke coming from the building. And then as we heard the fire trucks and the volunteers running to help each other, and, of course, that's a day that I will never, never forget. I remember getting a call indicating that Fireman Glascoe, who was a very, very dear friend, was in the building, and that Officer Venable, I mean, I just can go down the list, calling the roll of all these people that lost their lives on that day.

But I can't help from thinking about the togetherness that came from this and how people said, let's do everything we can to assist the people in New York. So I want to thank people from all over this land for doing that.

I have no other speakers, and I reserve my time.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the chairman's words. And let me just say, December 7, 1941, was brought up earlier, and my father's birthday actually was December 7 and he was actually stationed at Pearl Harbor in 1941. And I think the big slogan we've always heard about December 7 is, never again shall we be not prepared to avoid this. I guess the goal that we need to say in remembrance is, never again with 9/11.

How many of us around this country, especially if you asked those in New York, how many thought that flight schools in Florida or California were going to affect their lives? Most New Yorkers would probably say, it doesn't affect me. I guess how many people around this country would think that if Virginia gave driver's licenses to people who were not legally in the country, did it really matter? And they would think, no it probably doesn't matter in my life. I think 9/11 has proven that what happens anywhere in the United States may have a major impact at corners across this country.

I'd have to say that we do talk about what happened at New York. We can identify where the Pentagon was hit. And, sadly, I don't think most of us could point out where in the field in Pennsylvania the heroes of that flight perished. In that field, somewhere in Pennsylvania, there were the heroes who chose to stop an act of terrorism dead in its tracks. And I think every Member of Congress, when we do a tour of the Capitol, we walk into the Capitol, every Member of Congress should remember those heroes who perished in that field in Pennsylvania because, Mr. Speaker, we stand here today and we have the privilege of showing our constituents this structure to representative government, the Capitol.

We stand today probably because these heroes were willing to give it all to protect the Capitol of the United States. As far as I know, this was, we were the next one in line. And so, as we stand here today and recognizing the sacrifice, the heroism and the loss of

9/11, I think that we should remember every day that a Member of Congress or the President has the privilege of serving the public in this building, in this temple of representative government, that we ought to thank those heroes for preserving for us the right to be able to represent them here in this structure because without that heroism, not only would the structure not be here, but there's many of us that will vote on this resolution today who may not be here today if it wasn't for their heroism.

So I ask that we support this resolution. I ask that we remember what it's about and we remember that the only way to make sure it doesn't happen again is to take the time to do the right things, learn from the mistakes of 9/11 and make sure we don't forget the mistakes of 9/11 so that we never repeat the tragedy of 9/11.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 10 minutes.

Mr. TOWNS. Let me just make the statement, then I will be prepared to yield back. Again, I want to thank the gentleman from California. I want to thank PETER KING. I want to thank Congresswoman MATSUI; I want to thank my colleague, of course, Congressman ENGEL, for his participation. And again I would like to urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing September 11 as an ideal opportunity for giving back to our Nation through service.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 718, which recognizes September 11 as a "National Day of Service and Remembrance."

I am honored to cosponsor this resolution, and I thank Representatives DORIS MATSUI and PETER KING for their work on it.

The horrific events of September 11, 2001 made a permanent mark on our Nation's history and the lives of thousands of American families.

In recognition of this, Congress passed the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which included for the first time authorization and Federal recognition of September 11 as a "National Day of Service and Remembrance."

As a co-chair of the National Service Caucus, I believe that it is very fitting that Americans be encouraged to voluntarily engage in community service or other charitable activities of their own choosing in honor of those who lost their lives or were injured in the September 11, 2001 attacks.

Charitable activities have a positive and immediate impact in our communities and often make a notable difference in the lives of the people whom they benefit. Recently, I had the opportunity to serve in my community by reading books to children at the local public library and through the Reach Out and Read program. I encourage other Members of Congress and staff to set an example by voluntary service in their communities.

I encourage all Members to support this important resolution.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today to honor the memory and

sacrifice of almost 3,000 innocent men and women who lost their lives 8 years ago in the worst act of terrorism this country has ever endured.

Terrorism anywhere is a threat to life, freedom and democratic values everywhere. The tragedy of September 11th was not just a tragedy for Americans, it will forever remain a global reminder that there are people who will stop at nothing and cross any border to spread hate and visit violence upon the innocent.

The President has expressed his determination to face the cancer of global terrorism with renewed purpose and to defeat it at its source. He has made this commitment not only to safeguard lives, but also to honor the commitment of the dedicated men and women in uniform serving in harms way, here at home, and around the world.

September 11th is a day to remember those who lost their lives and to express our solidarity with the families they left behind. It is a day to honor the heroic public servants who help keep us safe here and abroad and a day for Americans to express their gratitude for their sacrifice.

September 11th is also a day of acknowledgment of the dangerous world we live in today and of the difficult task that still lies ahead.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 718.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE FIRST RESPONDERS AND VICTIMS OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 724) honoring the first responders, paying tribute to the victims of the Southern California wildfires, and mourning the loss of the Firefighter Captain Tedmund "Ted" Hall, and Firefighter Specialist Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 724

Whereas beginning in August 2009, California has experienced a number of devastating wildfires which have burned hundreds of thousands of acres of public and private lands, destroyed and damaged structures and homes, and forced the evacuation of thousands of homes and businesses;

Whereas high temperatures and erratic winds caused the multiple fires to rapidly progress to a point that the Governor of California proclaimed a state of emergency in the counties of Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Santa Cruz, Monterey, Placer, and Mariposa;

Whereas loss of life and serious injuries have resulted from the fires;

Whereas beginning on August 26, 2009, the Station Fire, ignited by arson, has burned more than 160,000 acres of public lands and private property in Los Angeles County and the Angeles National Forest, including over 200 structures and homes;

Whereas the Station Fire is one of the largest in modern California history and the largest wildfire in the modern history of Los Angeles County;

Whereas as of September 9, 2009, the Station Fire continues to threaten 7,000 structures in the Angeles National Forest and nearby communities like Altadena, La Cañada Flintridge, Acton, Glendale, La Crescenta, Pasadena, Littlerock, Sunland, Sierra Madre, and Tujunga;

Whereas more than 8,000 fire personnel, 800 fire engines, approximately 40 helicopters, 13 fixed-winged aircraft, and 88 water tenders have been deployed statewide to assist with firefighting efforts;

Whereas the extraordinary effort made by firefighters throughout the region contributed to the preservation of the historic Mount Wilson Observatory, a national landmark for astronomical research;

Whereas on August 30, 2009, the lives of two firefighters with the County of Los Angeles Fire Department were lost while battling the Station Fire: Fire Captain Tedmund "Ted" Hall, 47, and Firefighter Specialist Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones, 34;

Whereas Fire Captain Tedmund Hall, of San Bernardino County, was a 26-year veteran of the fire service, and is survived by his wife, two sons, and his parents;

Whereas Firefighter Specialist Arnaldo Quinones, of Palmdale, was an 8-year veteran of the fire service and soon-to-be father and is survived by his wife and his mother;

Whereas more than 10 firefighters were injured as they put their lives on the line to respond to wildfires in California;

Whereas it is clear that the continued commitment and heroism exhibited by firefighters has saved countless lives, homes, and businesses;

Whereas additional emergency personnel, such as law enforcement and medical personnel, have coordinated with local authorities and firefighters and have performed beyond the call of duty in the preservation and protection of human lives; and

Whereas hundreds of volunteers gave their time to help ensure that evacuees are sheltered, clothed, fed, and emotionally comforted through this traumatic event: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) offers its deepest sympathy to the families of those servicemen who lost their lives fighting the Station Fire in Southern California;

(2) commends the thousands of firefighters and emergency responders who continue to risk their lives fighting the wildfires throughout California;

(3) expresses condolences to the individuals and families who lost their homes and other property in the wildfires;

(4) extends its appreciation for the ongoing work to protect the communities and businesses that continue to be threatened by fire; and

(5) condemns the acts of arson perpetrated in igniting the Los Angeles County Station Fire.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TOWNS. I now recognize the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHIFF. At the outset, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman for moving this resolution so expeditiously and in time for a memorial service that will be conducted at Dodger Stadium this Saturday. I rise today to speak in support of legislation I've introduced with my colleague, DAVID DREIER, my neighbor in California, honoring the first responders to the recent California wildfires, paying tribute to all those who helped during this crisis, and mourning the loss of Firefighter Captain Tedmund "Ted" Hall and Firefighter Specialist Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones who died while bravely fighting the Station fire. These courageous men made the ultimate sacrifice for their family and friends and greater community, deserve our recognition and have earned our undying gratitude.

It is, I suppose, fitting, Mr. Speaker, that we take up this resolution following the September 11 resolution. When we think of September 11, in addition to the terrible tragedy and the loss of so many innocent lives, we think of the bravery of the emergency responders who, while others were rushing out of those collapsing buildings, they were rushing in.

Similarly, in California, 3,000 miles away from the site of that terrible tragedy, we, once again see firefighters rushing in while others are rushing out. And none could exemplify this courage and this call to service more than Specialist Quinones and Captain Hall. Our thoughts today go out to the families of these brave men. And with this resolution we seek to honor their lives and also highlight the contributions of thousands of other personnel who helped fight these massive wild fires which have burned hundreds of thousands of acres of public and private lands, destroyed and damaged structures and homes and forced the evacuation of thousands of families.

The weather conditions in California have been mixed. At times the weather has been still; the wind has been still. But that has caused smoke to accumulate and hampered emergency aircraft. At other times the winds have fanned the flames and started new fires. Low humidity has also, and high ambient temperatures have, contributed to the heat of the blaze, to the point where the Governor of California proclaimed a state of emergency in several counties in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Santa Cruz, Placer, Monterey and Mariposa.

The Station fire, ignited by arson, began on August 26 and burned more

than 160,000 acres of public lands and private property in L.A. County and the Angeles National Forest where it continues to burn, including over 200 structures and homes. It is currently one of the largest fires in modern California history, and the largest wild fire in the history of Los Angeles County, as far as we can tell.

The Station fire continues to threaten 7,000 structures in the national forest and nearby communities like Altadena, Acton, Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, La Crescenta, Pasadena, Litterlock, Sunland, Sierra Madre, and Tujunga. More than 8,000 fire personnel, 800 fire engines and approximately 40 helicopters, 13 fixed-wing aircraft and 88 water tenders have been deployed statewide to assist with fire-fighting efforts.

The continuing commitment and heroism exhibited by fire fighters have saved countless lives, homes and businesses. We also recognize the additional emergency personnel such as law enforcement and medical personnel who have coordinated with local authorities and fire fighters and performed beyond the call of duty in the preservation and protection of human lives.

We also recognize hundreds of volunteers who gave their time to help ensure that evacuees are sheltered, clothed, fed and comforted during this traumatic event. I can recall visiting some of the shelters in La Crescenta and La Canada, meeting with volunteers for the Red Cross. One, Kim Lardia, who's a Glendale police officer, worked a full day in uniform as a police officer, then came out in the evening to volunteer at the shelter to make sure that people had a place to sleep. It's people like this, bravely serving the community that are such an inspiration to us and give us confidence that we will finally get this fire put out.

So I want to join with my colleague again, DAVID DREIER. We had the chance to visit the command center and speak with the fire chief and the incident commander, see the incredible coordination of Federal, State and local resources, had the chance to see not only acres and acres of burned forest land, but also homes that had been destroyed and devastated.

And we wanted to introduce this resolution today to acknowledge all the superb people who have come together to fight these fires and to pledge our commitment to make sure that the Federal Government continues to be a good partner. And once again, I urge support for this resolution.

□ 1315

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield as much time as he may consume to my colleague from California (Mr. DREIER), the coauthor of this resolution.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, let me begin by expressing appreciation to my friend, colleague and partner in dealing with this and with a wide range of issues that affect the Los Angeles area, Mr. SCHIFF.

It is true that we are in the midst, Mr. Speaker, of what is the largest recorded fire in the history of Los Angeles County, and it has been a difficult time. It started in a little, tiny area above La Canada Flintridge. Immediately, we saw the wonderful local, county and State officials come together, as is so often the case, to deal with this tragedy. We also were able to see—and we continue to see at this moment, Mr. Speaker—one of the unique capabilities shown by California, because of the fact that we regularly deal with fire, that being the Unified Command.

Under Captain Mike Dietrich, the incident commander, we have seen all of these firefighters—the 8,000, the number mentioned by my colleague Mr. SCHIFF—come from near and far to join together under this Unified Command to prosecute this fire, which, as of right now, has burned over 160,000 acres.

Now, to put this in context, the Angeles National Forest is made of 650,000 acres, and it is the number one, most utilized national park in the United States of America. Why? Because of its proximity to the Los Angeles basin. In excess of 160,000 acres have burned at this point, and it's about 60 percent contained. It is hoped that full containment will take place around the 15th of this month, meaning sometime next week.

So this is a problem with which we have dealt for a long period of time, and it is obviously one we will continue to face. We all know, Mr. Speaker, that fires are a national phenomenon, but when we see lives and property threatened, it is essential that we do everything that we can to put forward priority number one, and that is the protection first of life and then of property.

As Mr. SCHIFF has said, we also know that we have tragically lost two courageous firefighters, and having just gone through the resolution dealing with September 11 and the loss of those firefighters, we are reminded again of the courage of these individuals.

Just before getting onto the airplane at LAX yesterday, I had a lengthy conversation with Laurie Barrios, who is the sister of Captain Ted Hall. She talked about the sacrifice that their family has made.

In fact, I should say, with Mr. TOWNS here, jokingly, she said, We're like a New York family.

Her father had been a battalion chief. Her brothers and other relatives are firefighters in this California family. She quoted her brother, who said at a reunion that they had had just recently, I am not a hero. I am just an average guy, doing the job that I love.

That, I believe, really is the vision and the goal that so many firefighters have. They're not selfish. They very much want to make sure that they can ensure the safety of people and property. The sacrifice. Mr. SCHIFF mentioned the Glendale officer who was in uniform at day and who volunteered at night. These people are so extraordinarily dedicated.

So Captain Ted Hall was one of those tragically killed, working to save lives and property. Specialist Arnie Quinones is the other, and I know that he is a constituent of our colleague Mr. McKEON. Mr. BERMAN is here. I know that his area has been impacted, Mr. SHERMAN's as well, Mr. LEWIS', Mr. BACA's. This has had an impact all over the southern California area; but the unique tragedy here in the case of Mr. Quinones is that his wife, Laurie, is expecting a child in 2 weeks. So, as we look at the two lives that have been lost, Specialist Quinones will have passed away before his child is born. It underscores the fragility of life and the importance of the work that these people have engaged in.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also share a little bit more of the conversation that I had with Captain Hall's sister. She referred to their family as having been firefighters for—I guess now—generations, and she talked about their respect and reverence for the environment. She said that her father would always say, when they were out hiking, to put the pinecone back exactly where it was because that is God's gift to us. She had, as had every member of their family, a wonderful reverence for the environment.

Mr. Speaker, there is no way that I can stand here and articulate the emotion that Captain Hall's sister, Laurie Barrios, shared with me when she insisted that we pursue a balanced policy when it deals with the preservation of our environment. She went so far as to say that there are, obviously, steps that could have been taken that would have diminished the magnitude of this fire. Again, I can't speak as strongly as she, but I do believe that it is absolutely essential that we pursue that very, very balanced approach in dealing with fires.

With 160,000 acres burning, one of the challenges has been, as Mr. SCHIFF said, what has happened to the air quality in the area. Well, I think that controlled burns and taking steps to ensure that fires do not spread are essential. The great team in Los Angeles County, led by Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman, and others in the State of California, in the County of Los Angeles, and in these great cities that we're privileged to represent make it very, very clear that we want to take those preemptive steps to ensure that, while we'll always face fires in the future, we can diminish the level of damage that we have seen in the past 10 days in southern California.

So, Mr. Speaker, we recognize most importantly the loss of two heroes,

Captain Ted Hall and Specialist Arnie Quinones. We at the same time recognize the continued sacrifice that at this moment is going on in southern California to do everything that they possibly can to get this fire under control. In the names of Arnie Quinones and Ted Hall, I hope very much that we will do everything that we can to ensure that all levels of government and individuals take steps to make sure that we don't have the kind of tragedy through which we're going at this moment.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to close by saying I thank everyone for the cooperative effort here. Sadly, recently, we've talked a lot about heroes, and too often we mix up heroes and victims. I think we've got to remind ourselves that, when we talk about Ted Hall and Arnie Quinones, we're talking about true heroes. Victims are individuals who are at the wrong place at the wrong time and who have paid the ultimate price. Heroes are individuals who willfully put themselves in the wrong place at the wrong time and who pay the ultimate price. There is a huge difference between a hero and a victim.

Today, with this resolution, we're not only recognizing the men and women who are out fighting the fires today, but we're recognizing the heroes—all of the individuals who are fighting fires and who are addressing this issue—in the persons of Messrs. Hall and Quinones, the heroes who chose to serve their community and to put themselves in harm's way as a service. With this resolution, we do them honor and respect, not only to the two individuals but to everyone who chooses to put themselves in harm's way to protect others.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to associate myself with the remarks made by the gentleman from California by saying that, yes, they are truly real heroes. There is no question about it.

Again, I would like to urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the first responders who are fighting the California wildfires. I will tell you that that has been something that I have watched. Seeing people coming together around an issue is something for which we should all pause and say thank you.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer deep condolences to the victims of the recent California wildfires and the residents who have lost their homes and businesses; and to pay tribute to the brave firefighters and first responders still standing in harm's way.

The wildfires broke out in the last week of August. Since then, more than 160,000 acres have burned. More than 160 structures—houses and businesses—have been destroyed; nearly 4,000 more remain in harm's way.

At this stage, thousands of residents and families have been affected by the flames—

forced into shelters; displaced; facing the horrifying prospect of a home burned to the ground or a workplace caught in the blaze.

The prayers of every Member of Congress go out to every resident impacted by the fires.

As the Nation has watched the rapid spread of the wildfires, no one deserves greater praise or gratitude than our firefighters on the front lines.

These dedicated men and women stay through the night to get the job done. Their bravery is unparalleled, their heroism unmatched. Their efforts are the front line of defense against the fires, and their sacrifice is saving lives.

Two of these firefighters paid the ultimate price for the safety of LA County's residents.

Captain Tedmund "Ted" Hall and Specialist Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones represent our nation's best values: service and sacrifice, an obligation to help others and a responsibility to protect your community.

To ensure our firefighters have the resources they need to beat back the flames, Congress provided nearly \$490 million in extra funding this year, boosting the federal government's commitment to helping the people standing in the line of fire each year.

Congress will continue to watch closely the developments and spread of the wildfires across the State of California, and we will remain steadfast in our support for state and county emergency agencies in their efforts to protect local residents and rebuild in the days ahead.

In the words of this resolution, the Congress "condemns the acts of arson perpetrated in igniting the Los Angeles County Station Fire," and we extend our appreciation to the volunteers, law enforcement and medical personnel for helping evacuees, sheltering the displaced, and treating injuries in recent weeks.

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to both send my deepest condolences to the families of the two brave firefighters lost in the "Station Fire," which directly impacted my district, and to thank the thousands of fire and rescue personnel who have fought the largest blaze in Los Angeles County history.

The tragic loss of Fire Captain Tedmund "Ted" Hall, 47, of San Bernardino County, and Firefighter Specialist Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones, 35, of Palmdale, has hit our communities very hard. These brave men paid the ultimate price to protect lives and property of individuals they had never met before. This kind of heroism serves as a constant reminder of what it means to "sacrifice." Each man and woman who dons a fireman's uniform does so knowing that there is always the possibility that they may not make it home to see their families. But in the face of this adversity, they still serve.

Firefighter Specialist Quinones was a constituent of mine. He lived in Palmdale, California, with his wife Loressa. They are expecting their first child in the next few weeks. My heart goes out to his family. I know his spirit will live on and endure forever within their family.

Fire Captain Ted Hall was a resident of Hesperia, California. He graduated from the Fire Academy in 1983 and served ever since. He was survived by his wife Katherine, and sons Randall, 21, and Steven, 20. My deepest condolences go out to his family as well.

I was on the ground the past couple of weeks and witnessed, first hand, the bravery

of the firefighters and rescue personnel during this fire. As I speak, firefighters have contained 61 percent of a fire that has, thus far, scorched 160,357 acres in the Angeles National forest. Firefighters have greatly limited the loss of property because of their valiant efforts to beat back the flames. The hot, dry conditions of southern California, coupled with swift winds make fighting these fires treacherous. Add in the geographic landscape that the firefighters must deal with and you can begin to understand the risk that every firefighter takes.

For all of the work that I have witnessed and for all that none of us has seen, I thank you. Thank you for putting your lives in danger to protect those you don't know. Thank you for giving us all that comfort, knowing that you are there to help us in our time of need. And thank you to the families that must endure sleepless nights, wondering whether they will see their loved ones walk through the door one more time.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 724, a resolution that honors the first responders who are courageously fighting the California wildfires and that pays tribute to the victims who lost their lives.

Hundreds of firefighters throughout the country have been working tirelessly in this effort, risking their lives to put out wildfires so that the lives of others can be protected. Included in this group of brave responders are 20 firefighters from the National Park Service in Hawaii, including William Akima, Jordan Barthold, Tessa Chieves, Andrew Christie, Christopher Derman, Raymond Eselu, Michael Ferguson, Brandon Figueroa, Sean Grossman, William Konanui, Elias Kuamoo, Michael Kyser, Paul Kelihoomalu, Jon Makaie, Nicholas Martin, Sky Mullins, Arnold Nakata, Dexter Pacheco, Jr., Russell Rosario, and Lowe Thomas, who have put themselves in harm's way to battle the raging wildfires. We are proud of your commitment and grateful for your service. We also pay tribute to the two firefighters who died, Captain Tedmund Hall and Specialist Arnaldo Quinones, and hope that the eleven people who have been injured make a full and speedy recovery.

I urge my colleagues to honor those who have served by voting for H. Res. 724.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 724.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 722) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 722

Whereas on the morning of September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked and destroyed four civilian aircraft, crashing two of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City and a third into the Pentagon outside of Washington, DC;

Whereas the passengers and crew aboard United Flight 93 fought heroically and sacrificed their own lives by crashing the plane in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, to prevent terrorist hijackers from killing additional innocent Americans;

Whereas nearly 3,000 innocent men, women, and children were murdered in the attacks;

Whereas eight years later, the United States of America continues to mourn the lives lost on September 11, 2001;

Whereas by targeting symbols of American strength and prosperity, the attacks were intended to assail the principles and values of the American people and to intimidate the Nation and its allies;

Whereas the United States remains steadfast in its determination to defeat, disrupt, and destroy terrorist organizations and seeks to harness all elements of national power, including its military, economic, and diplomatic resources, to do so;

Whereas Congress has passed, and the President has signed, numerous laws to protect the Nation, prevent terrorism at home and abroad, assist victims of terrorism, and support, in the field and upon return, the members of the Armed Forces who courageously defend the United States;

Whereas the terrorist attacks that have occurred around the world since September 11, 2001, serve as reminders that the hateful inhumanity of terrorism poses a common threat to the free world and to democratic values;

Whereas the United States has worked cooperatively with the nations of the free world to capture terrorists and bring them to justice;

Whereas the United States remains committed to building strong and productive counterterrorism alliances;

Whereas immediately following September 11, 2001, the United States Armed Forces moved swiftly against al-Qaeda and the Taliban, which the President and Congress had identified as enemies of America;

Whereas in doing so, brave members of the Armed Forces left loved ones in order to defend the Nation; and

Whereas many members of the Armed Forces remain abroad, defending the Nation from further terrorist attacks and continuing to battle al-Qaeda and the Taliban; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the House of Representatives, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes September 11 as both a day to mourn and remember those taken from their loved ones and fellow citizens, and a day for the people of the United States to recommit to the Nation and to each other;

(2) once again extends its deepest sympathies to the friends, families, and loved ones of the innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

(3) honors the heroic service and sacrifices of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and others who aided the victims and, in so doing, bravely risked and often sacrificed their own lives and health;

(4) expresses gratitude to the foreign leaders and citizens of all nations who continue to stand in solidarity with the United States

against the international scourge of terrorism;

(5) asserts, in the strongest possible terms, that the fight against terrorism is not a war on any nation, any people, or any faith;

(6) recognizes the heroic service of United States personnel, including members of the United States Armed Forces, United States intelligence agencies, and the United States diplomatic service, and their families, who have sacrificed much, including their lives and health, to defend their country against terrorists;

(7) vows that it will continue to take whatever actions are appropriate to defend the people of the United States and to identify, intercept, and defeat terrorists, including providing the United States Armed Forces, United States intelligence agencies, and the United States diplomatic service with the resources and support to effectively accomplish this mission; and

(8) calls on all Americans to renew their devotion to the universal ideals that make the Nation great: freedom, pluralism, equality, and the rule of law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BERMAN. I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution pays homage to the lives lost on September 11, 2001, and recognizes the anniversary as not only a time of solemn commemoration but also as a demonstration of America's great resolve in combating terrorism. It extends our enduring and deeper condolences to the friends, families and loved ones of the innocent victims, and recognizes the heroism of U.S. service men and women who defend our country today. It honors the Nation's first responders and others whose valiant efforts were a credit to their country on that horrible day, and it honors them as they continue to help keep us safe.

□ 1330

It expresses gratitude to the leaders and citizens of other countries who assisted, supported, and stood by the United States in the aftermath of the attack.

In America's modern and fragmented society, collective memories are few. But each of us remembers where we were on 9/11 when we heard the news. We remember the days of unity that followed when we acted together to protect this country from those who were determined to bring us to our knees. We remember the efforts that Congress, the executive branch, and

the American people have made since then to protect our Nation from a real and ongoing threat. And even though 8 years have passed, we must remember that al Qaeda, while under pressure everywhere, remains a serious threat to the United States.

The very al Qaeda leadership responsible for ordering the attacks on September 11 continues to rally those who would do us harm and, along with its Taliban allies, seeks to defeat our troops in Afghanistan.

This is a time when we must transcend partisan politics and stand together to recall a moment when terrorists targeted the very symbols of American strength. Our values and our very foundation were under attack, and yet we persevered, and we will carry on the fight against extremists who seek to do us harm.

In this battle, the global realities of the 21st century require that we use not only our military but all of the tools available to us: economic, financial, diplomatic, and cultural resources to promote a better alternative to extremism and to protect our national security.

Mr. Speaker, none of us will forget what happened 8 years ago. We will always remember the victims of 9/11 and the loved ones who survived them. We will always honor the first responders who lost their lives that day and those in uniform at home and abroad who risk their lives today and every day to defend America.

We will continue to promote our founding principles of freedom and equality and ensure that the lives lost in pursuit of our ideals are never forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it has been 8 years since our country and the entire world stopped and looked on helplessly as the slaughter of innocents at the hands of al Qaeda unfolded before our eyes. And although we watched in safety, our fear and hopes were enmeshed with those who, without warning, were suddenly forced to fight for their lives and for those of the friends and strangers around them. It is a true miracle that so many escaped destruction, but we will forever mourn the thousands who perished on that terrible day. Our sorrow, however deep, cannot match those whose loved ones were taken away from them on 9/11. But we will always share a part of it even for those whom we will never know. The passage of years has not smoothed the deep impressions that we will bear for the rest of our lives.

But as Americans, it is not in our nature to resign ourselves to helplessness, even when facing seemingly impossible challenges. Instead, we instinctively rally and focus our minds and efforts on meeting and overcoming the threats that we face. We have always done so, and we have always won.

If there is anything useful that we could take away from this tragedy it is the unmistakable warning we have been given of the unseen dangers that we face in this new century. From that, a clarity of vision and a new understanding of the world has emerged. Over the past 8 years we have come to know our enemies. We have learned that their hatred of us, our success, and our freedom is too deep to be changed by concessions and appeals to reason. We now grasp the magnitude of the threat, and it is a global one. Other countries have come under attack and so can no longer deceive themselves that, once again, this is a menace for the United States to handle alone while they stand safely on the sidelines. We have uncovered their hiding places in caves, in villages, in deserts, in cities, in jungles, in back alleys in nations far away, as well as right here in our own homeland.

But it would be a mistake if our successes lead us to believe that the danger has passed. We have seen destruction descend from clear and sunny skies and know that it can happen again. To hope that our enemies will abandon their mission, to relax our watch, is to invite destruction.

President Lincoln said that those who are responsible for our Nation's course, which includes the Members of this body, cannot escape history. We have a responsibility to do all in our power to ensure that our country is secure and that America's promise for the world that generations have labored and fought for and died to protect remains whole and unbounded.

How we meet this reality will repeatedly test our national character. We are right to remember and mourn those men, women, and children who died on that day so sharply etched in our minds that it seems like yesterday. But this tragedy must be redeemed by a new understanding of our duty to our beloved country and to our fellow citizens and by what it is to be an American.

As long as we draw breath, we will remember those who, asking nothing other than to live their lives in peace, were brutally murdered by men without conscience or mercy. Let those of us who remain be steadfast, be courageous, and live lives worthy of their great sacrifice and thereby honor their memories.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. BERMAN. I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the distinguished chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, 8 years ago on September 11, 2001, this Chamber was empty, the Capitol was evacuated, the Pentagon was burning, the Twin Towers in New York lay crumpled, and almost 3,000 of our citizens were dead. We can never forget them, and we should never forget what we owe them.

Today we will once again mourn the families and those that are fallen, and we express our deepest sympathy to their friends and their loved ones. This is only right, but it's not enough. We owe it to the victims, to their loved ones, to the survivors, to ourselves to make sure that those who carried out this awful attack are brought to justice and to ensure that they can never again attack and kill our people here at home.

For too long the war in Afghanistan was the forgotten war. Only recently have we refocused our attention on the war on al Qaeda and the Taliban who sheltered them as they carried out their plot to murder thousands of Americans.

We can debate the best way to prosecute the fight against al Qaeda and the Taliban. For my part, the President has proposed a strategy for Afghanistan with which I agree. What we cannot do is walk away from the fight. We cannot allow the memory of this horrific event to be forgotten, and we cannot forget how important it is to bring those who caused it to justice.

Failing in Afghanistan brings clear and compelling dangers. Failing means the Taliban will once again control Afghanistan and permit their al Qaeda terrorist allies to operate from there. Failure means we let down those who died on 9/11. We can and we should consider how best to prosecute the war in Afghanistan. It's not a simple war, it's not an easy war. But for the first time, we have a real strategy. And for the first time, we are providing the resources needed for the fight. We have a new commander who is breathing new life into our effort, and now we must show that we have the resolve to give our men and women in uniform the time and resources they need to show progress in the fight against enemies who carried out this and supported the attacks of 9/11.

America was attacked on 9/11 by a ruthless, callous enemy. We cannot forget that. And we cannot walk away from the war in Afghanistan against them.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), our respected Republican leader.

Mr. BOEHNER. Let me thank my colleagues for yielding and thank them for this resolution that's on the floor.

All of us will remember, I think quite clearly, where we were on the morning of September 11, 2001. I think all of us will remember the victims of this heinous act that occurred that day. But while we today remember those victims and remember their families and we remember those first responders who put their lives in danger as well, I think we, today, need to resolve that we will never forgive those who perpetrated that attack and vow that we will continue to go after them.

I want to associate myself with the remarks of the gentleman from Missouri, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, who understands quite

clearly that if we walk away from our efforts in Afghanistan, the Taliban will once again be in control, providing safe haven for those who perpetrated these attacks.

And while it's been now 8 years since that attack, our enemies are still out there, still attempting to injure Americans, kill Americans, both here and abroad.

I think it's critically important that we, as a Nation, never forget what happened on 9/11 and vow what many of us believe is important: that our number one job is to provide safety and security to the American people.

So I thank my colleagues for the resolution that's on the floor and honor those who gave their lives on 9/11 and think of their families and the first responders who continue to suffer today.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to a member of our committee, the distinguished Member from New York, Mr. ENGEL.

Mr. ENGEL. I thank the chairman for his yielding to me, and I rise in strong support of this resolution. And I want to reiterate some of the things I said before with Mr. TOWNS.

When I go back to New York every week and look at the skyline of New York, it will never be the same. The World Trade Center is no longer there, and as much as that pains me, it pales in comparison to the fact that we lost nearly 3,000 people that day, and each and every one of those lives was precious.

And what September 11 means to me, it means to me what the previous generation talked about December 7. President Roosevelt said during December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor, that was a day of infamy. Well, to us, September 11, 2001, will always be a day of infamy.

But yet it was a day that showed the best in people as well as obviously the worst in people. The terrorists who attacked us showed the worst in people. But the first responders and the people from all parts of the country who came to save people's lives and try to dig people out of the rubble, that's the best in people.

I want to mention that the New York delegation has been fighting for a health bill which would ensure that those who were first responders and others who came as volunteers at the World Trade Center saving lives, that their health needs should be taken care of by this country, and there are people who live in all 50 States.

So, Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate and mourn the lives that were lost at the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, and at Shanksville, Pennsylvania—and there were many people in my district who were killed, as there were in all districts in New York—we have to redouble our efforts to fight terrorism.

But I want to say that I was very, very proud that day to be an American and proud to be a New Yorker because the way the people of New York responded was exemplary.

So every day we hear more and more people who were lost at the World Trade Center. So I hope we can pass this unanimously.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE), the chairman of our Republican Conference.

□ 1345

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, let me rise in gratitude to the distinguished majority leader, Mr. HOYER, and the minority leader, Mr. BOEHNER, for bringing this important resolution to the floor. Bringing a bipartisan resolution to the floor is perhaps the best way to commemorate the bipartisanship that followed the extraordinary events of 8 years ago this Friday.

I was here on Capitol Hill that day as my colleagues were. It was just as pretty a day as it is today, and the shock and horror of the images on the television screens, the smoke rising from the Pentagon, still are with me today and informs my service in this building, as it does all of our colleagues.

Let me say today's resolution is important because, as the Old Book says, we are to mourn with those who mourn and grieve with those who grieve. And we are also to pay the debts of honor and gratitude to those that are owed. This resolution today remembers those we lost that day, and this Nation should never forget the lives that were lost at the Pentagon, in the heart of our great City of New York, or in a field in Pennsylvania. So we remember them today, and we think of their families.

We rise to pay a debt of gratitude to all those who rushed in when others were rushing out, who filled recruiting offices, who put on the uniform of the United States and went in and confronted this terror where it all began. As we grieve and as we mourn, as we remember and as we pay debts of gratitude, let us also resolve to continue to do all that we can to maintain that bipartisan commitment that began on that very day and continues to this day to make sure that our Nation and our soldiers and those who protect us at home and abroad have the resources that they need to get the job done and come home safe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ACKERMAN) will control the remainder of the time.

There was no objection.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege now to recognize the cosponsor, the main sponsor of the resolution, the majority leader of the House.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the distinguished chairman and gentleman from New York. I thank Mr. PENCE for his remarks. On many days, this floor is a place for heated debate, and that is, of course, as it should be. That is what

our Founders intended. But at this moment, as Mr. PENCE, the chairman of the Republican Conference pointed out, and as I will point out as the majority leader on the Democratic side, there are no Democrats or Republicans on this floor because we join to remember and mourn the attack on America, not on Democrats or Republicans, but on America and on its values and on what it stands for throughout the world: freedom and justice.

September 11, 2001, was a day of grief and of shock, of fear and of anger. But today it can and must be something more: a day to rededicate ourselves with memory and with service to the ideals that make our Nation great, as I said earlier, freedom, pluralism, equality, the rule of law, and justice. Those, no less than our buildings and our citizens, were the targets of the 9/11 terrorists.

Though buildings crumbled and the dead are lost to us, it is in our power to see our ideals remain strong and unscathed.

So on this eighth anniversary, along with the Republican leader, Mr. BOEHNER, I am proud to introduce this resolution marking September 11 not only as a day of remembrance, but also a day of resolve.

So many conflicting emotions marked this indelible day: grief for nearly 3,000 men, women and children murdered; heartfelt sympathy for those who loved and lost them; and an unspeakable pride in the first responders, firemen, policemen and medical personnel who served and, indeed, sacrificed on that day. Among the 3,000 are numbered 343 firefighters, 37 port authority officers and 23 police officers who died serving their fellow citizens as they ran into danger's jaws, not away from.

Alongside them in honor stand the passengers of the United Flight 93, ordinary Americans, who discovered their extraordinary heroism at a moment of crisis and who quite possibly saved this building, this Chamber, and the Capitol dome from ruin. It is my own view that that was the target of this third plane, to strike down that dome which here in America and throughout the world is a symbol of freedom, pluralism, justice and, yes, democracy.

We also remember the sacrifices of our troops, not only those who lost their lives under our flag, but those who make the everyday sacrifice of separation from family and home. Not all of us are called to serve as heroically, but in hundreds of small acts of dedication to our communities, we can emulate their service in ways both large and small. That is our resolve today. And along with it, we resolve to take the lesson of our vulnerability to heart.

We commit ourselves to defending America from whatever threats may confront it, with all of our military force, all of our diplomatic skill, and all the power of our moral example.

Our lives are limited, but we have in our keeping the ideals and truths that have animated our Nation since its founding, and that, we trust, will outlive us, outlive all of us, to light the lives of our children and grandchildren, and as a great-grandfather, let me say for generations to come.

They have lived through war, through economic crisis, and through the gravest attacks. Now, while they are in our keeping, let us defend them, serve them, live for them, and pass them down unharmed and undamaged.

All that, my fellow colleagues, on behalf of the 300 million people who have sent 435 of us here to represent their views and their aspirations, their courage and their commitment. Let us again resolve today, may we hold it for tomorrow and every day thereafter.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), the ranking member of the Committee on Homeland Security, who lost so many of his constituents that day on 9/11.

Mr. KING of New York. I thank the gentlelady for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise in support of this resolution today. And at the outset, let me commend the majority leader, Mr. HOYER, and the Republican leader, Mr. BOEHNER, for introducing the resolution and showing the spirit of bipartisanship that is so essential.

Mr. Speaker, September 11 is not just history. It is real. It is with us every day. As the ranking member, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, said, I lost approximately 150 friends, neighbors and constituents on September 11, and that is true of almost every Member of the downstate delegation from New York. In fact, I can't drive throughout my district without seeing sign after sign, street signs commemorating the police officers and firefighters who were killed on that day. So this was a real tragedy. It is a real tragedy that continues today in those families, with their friends and with their neighbors.

It is also an ongoing threat against the United States of America. The attacks on September 11 do not end on September 11. The fact is we have an enemy of Islamic terrorism, al Qaeda, which threatens us throughout the world and, indeed, here in our own country. In New York alone, there have been attacks foiled against the Brooklyn Bridge, Herald Square, against Fort Dix in neighboring New Jersey, against the synagogues in Riverdale in the north Bronx. So these are issues. This is a threat which is ongoing and it is real. We always have to keep our defenses up.

We have to thank the men and women of our Armed Forces who are fighting throughout the world, the men and women of our intelligence agencies, the men and women of the State and local police departments in New York, of the New York City Police Department, of the Nassau County Police

Department, and of the Suffolk County Police Department. There are more than 1,000 police officers dedicated to fighting terrorism in counterterrorism units. And again, it is a daily, daily effort.

As the ranking member of the Homeland Security Committee, I'm aware of many of the threats we have stopped, and we are realizing again how the enemy is never going to stop, and we can't let our guard down.

Also, in the interests of bipartisanship, I believe we should give President Bush credit for setting up the international level of cooperation with so many countries throughout the world and also for breaking down barriers with their own intelligence agencies and requiring them to share information with local police departments. It is not because of luck we haven't been attacked in 8 years. On September 12, 2001, no one would have thought we would go 8 years without being attacked the way we were on that horrible day of September 11.

Also, in the interest of bipartisanship, it is important for us, as Republicans, to stand with President Obama with his policy in Afghanistan, which is a continuation of efforts that we began against the Taliban and al Qaeda after the attacks of September 11. This issue of international terrorism is too important to allow us to be divided by partisan politics. We came together as a Nation on September 11 and the days after. It is important that we stay together.

This, as President Kennedy said in 1961, is going to be a long twilight struggle. But we won that Cold War, and we're going to win this war. We are going to prevail if we stand together as one, stand together as a Nation and realize that our enemy is attempting to destroy us. But if we stand together as one with our allies and with our forces here in this country, we can never be defeated.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the resolution and commend the majority leader and the minority leader for their good work. We have before us an excellent memorial resolution. It is succinct and strong and truly expresses what I believe to be the position of the entire House.

As we consider this resolution, I would suggest that every Member take a moment to close their eyes, if they are in their offices, turn off the chattering of the television or the importuning of their staff and try to think back to September 11, 2001. It really was 8 years ago.

Remember how beautiful that day was. Perfect. A clear, crisp September day with a cloudless sky. Remember where you were when you heard that our Nation was under attack, when you first saw those awful images of the towers gushing black smoke and the Pentagon in flames. Remember the thousands of our fellow Americans who

perished in the World Trade Center and at the Pentagon. Remember the inconceivable heroism of the first responders who rushed into the flames and the chaos in order to save others.

Remember the defiant courage of the passengers on United Flight 93 who lost their lives but probably saved the most glorious symbol of our democracy in the world, the U.S. Capitol, and many, many who were working here on that day. Remember our shock and fury. Remember our national unity and the feeling of common purpose. Remember how the whole world stood with us and shared our outrage and our agony.

These memories are available to all of us if we take but that one moment. We all experienced these events, and all that's needed is to take a moment, to set aside a little bit of time and let it all come back. Why? Is it a morbid fascination with catastrophe? Is it merely to justify some policy or expenditure? I would suggest two other reasons.

First, memory is what we owe to those who were so unjustly murdered. We cannot bring them back and we cannot give meaning to the horrific act that took them from us, but we can remember them as our fellow Americans, as people whose lives were connected to thousands of our fellow citizens who still mourn them to this very day.

Second, I think we should take a moment to ponder the last 8 years. What have we done in response to that day? What have we learned? What do we still owe to those who died? And what we have used their deaths to justify? Have we made the world a safer place? Have we made our homeland more secure? Will the next generation of Americans face more or less danger because of our actions? Each of us will still have our own answers to those questions, just as each one of us remembers that awful day uniquely.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. ACKERMAN. I yield myself another 15 seconds.

In this great Nation which gives each person complete freedom of thought, belief and expression, in which the governed choose who will govern them, the meaning of 9/11 and the consequences of that terrible, terrible, terrible day remain for us to decide, each man and woman for themselves. All it takes is that moment to remember.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), the ranking member on the Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia.

□ 1400

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I thank the gentlelady from Florida for yielding me this time.

I would just like to say to my colleague, Mr. ACKERMAN, I really appreciate your remarks; I think they were right on the money.

I've heard a lot of my colleagues talking about how we should remember those who died and sacrificed their lives on September 11, and I think that's fitting and proper; but one of the things that I don't want to ever happen again is a repeat of 9/11. And for the past 8 years, we have not had another attack due in very large part to the Homeland Security people and to the CIA and to the FBI. We have intercepted information from terrorists and we've been able to prevent additional attacks because of the work they've done. And I think it is improper for us today, while we're remembering those who sacrificed their lives on that day, the firemen and the people on those planes, I think we would be remiss if we didn't think about the future and be concerned about that never happening again.

Right now, the Justice Department of the United States is investigating the CIA. And those people have been involved in stopping terrorist activity by going after the terrorists and making them give us information that would stop an additional terrorist attack. Today they are under scrutiny, and some of them may be prosecuted for doing their job. I think that's improper.

Everybody in America owes our intelligence agencies a debt of gratitude and Homeland Security a debt of gratitude for protecting this country for the last 8 years. And if we don't want to see another 9/11—and none of us do, and there have been some prevented like the one in California that was going to take place—if we don't ever want to see that again, we must support the intelligence agencies who are stopping the terrorists. And right now, the attack that's taking place by the Justice Department on the CIA only discourages those who do their job to protect this country from doing their job.

If you're a CIA agent today and you know the Justice Department is watching every single thing you do in trying to stop a terrorist attack, are you going to want to take the risk of being prosecuted because you're going after a terrorist to make him give you information that will stop another terrorist attack?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. We're demoralizing our intelligence agencies by doing this right now. It may be unintentional, I don't know, but we certainly should not be doing it. They were doing their job. If you don't agree with waterboarding, or whatever it was, okay, but that's something that's in the past. We shouldn't discourage our intelligence agencies from doing their jobs now. We want to protect every single American from another terrorist attack, and the way to do it is certainly not by attacking our intelligence people.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs).

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the resolution expressing the sense of the House regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001. As the district I represent sits across from downtown Manhattan, my constituents and I are faced with a constant visual reminder of that day's tragic events.

As time passes, we must continue to commemorate this sad day. We will remember the innocent lives that were lost, the heroes that emerged from this disaster, and we will remember how this day forever changed our lives.

As new generations grow older, we must pass on the lessons of this day and its significance to our country. For 8 years, we have mourned the lives lost, and we have worked at home and abroad to protect our great Nation, its people, and the ideals it represents.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in remembering this significant day and recognize how it continues to affect all our lives. I thank my colleagues for introducing this resolution.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL).

Mr. McCAUL. I thank the gentledady.

Mr. Speaker, today we rise as Americans, first and foremost, to remember: to remember the victims of 9/11, the 3,000 Americans who were killed on that day; to remember the fallen heroes, the firefighters, the police officers who rescued so many lives and some who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

I remember watching the television on 9/11 with my daughter as the second airplane flew into the building and she said, Daddy, why did that airplane fly into the building? And by the time the second one hit, we all knew that this was no accident; this was an intentional act of terrorism, an act of war against the United States.

I was a counterterrorism prosecutor in the Justice Department. We saw many warning signs—the embassies in Africa, the USS Cole, 1993 World Trade Center, Ramzi Yousef, who almost brought the World Trade Center down that day—when they arrested him in Islamabad, many of you may not know this, but they found 12 baby dolls stuffed with chemical explosives that he intended to take on airplanes, part of the Bojinka plot to blow up 12 airplanes simultaneously.

The evil genius, his uncle, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the mastermind of 9/11, who to this day the information we obtained from him has saved American lives, the most chilling experience I've had as a Member of Congress was to see Khalid Sheikh Mohammed imprisoned down in Guantanamo, the man who was responsible for killing 3,000 Americans.

As the 9/11 Commission said, the only way we will ultimately prevail in this twilight struggle is through good intelligence. We cannot tie the hands of the

intelligence community. We cannot threaten them with prosecution. We cannot have a global justice policy that Mirandizes terrorists captured on the battlefield in Afghanistan when the first words we say to them is, You have the right to remain silent. How in the world will we get good intelligence with that kind of policy?

And if I could close with an FBI quote before 9/11 that said, "Some day someone will die and the public will not understand why we were not more effective at throwing every resource we had at certain problems, especially since the biggest threat to us now, Osama bin Laden, is now getting the most protection."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Ross). The gentleman's time has expired.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. McCAUL of Texas. I thank the gentledady.

We will never forget that day. We can never make the same mistake again. We owe that to the victims and the heroes of 9/11. It is our most solemn obligation to first and foremost protect and defend the American people.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. McMAHON).

Mr. McMAHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 722 and to honor all those who were murdered or injured in the terrorist attacks of September 11.

As we honor that day, we are reminded that on that day we saw the worst in humanity and the best in humanity. And let us focus on the best, because when I think of that day, I think of people like one of the more than 300 people from my district who lost their lives that day, like Stephen Siller, a devoted husband and father of five who served as a member of the New York City Fire Department.

Stephen was on his way home from a tour of duty that ended at 9 o'clock that morning when he was on the Verrazano Bridge and heard the call of what happened. He turned his private vehicle around and drove back to the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel, took all his gear out, put it on—because of traffic he couldn't get through—ran back through that tunnel to the World Trade Center, where he joined his brothers from the fire department, and others, rescued tens of thousands, but they lost their lives.

Each September since that day Stephen's family and the people of New York City honor his memory and bravery with a 5K race known as the "Tunnel to Towers" race that retraces Stephen's steps. In addition, Stephen's memory lives on in the good works the family has done by building Stephen's House and Home for Orphans.

So today I urge all of my colleagues and all Americans to not only honor those we lost, but to honor the bravery and spirit of countless people like Stephen Siller who made the ultimate sacrifice to save others.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN), an esteemed member of the Committee on Appropriations who also lost constituents that day.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me, and I rise in support of the resolution.

Eight years have now passed since tragedy struck our Nation. In lower Manhattan, the fields of Pennsylvania, and across the river at the Pentagon more than 3,000 of our fellow Americans lost their lives. The events of that day remain indelibly etched in our collective memory.

Of those lost, 700 of the victims came from New Jersey, many from my congressional district, and many more from New York, other States, and 80 nations. For those of who us had this tragedy hit so close to home, I know that each September 11 brings with it a great deal of sorrow. Later this week, all of us will have the honor of attending a number of 9/11 remembrances, especially in New Jersey, the home of so many good people who died, as well as to honor those who sought to save them, our first responders.

My constituents remember that day every day. That day dawned like most days in New Jersey, bright and clear; crowded train stations in the morning taking people across the Hudson to lower Manhattan, parking lots packed with cars as they are most mornings. That evening, however, the scene was far different; trains weren't full, cars remained unclaimed in parking lots, and many families were left wondering what had happened to their loved ones. A single day that changed how each of us would think for the rest of their lives.

At one of those small train stations in Chatham there is a tree at whose base is a plaque inscribed: "We shall never forget our friends and neighbors who rode the rails with us that morning but did not return with us that night." That remarkable poignant quotation. We will never forget those victims. We will never forget those who sought to save them at the Pentagon, in Pennsylvania, and in lower Manhattan. Their bravery will never be forgotten.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentlelady from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I thank the distinguished gentleman from New York and the distinguished gentlelady from Florida.

This is a duty that we do not relish, but that we obligate ourselves to be able to be reminded of the lost souls of September 11, 2001. It changed the innocence of America, but yet we stood tall as we mourned with these families from far and wide that we are America that believes in justice and civil liberties and, yes, the Bill of Rights.

The Homeland Security effort was born during that time. I began to serve on the Select Committee and now the

Homeland Security Committee. The work we do every day should be silent work, but it is work to ensure that the Nation's airlines and airports, train stations and railroads and mass transit and everywhere we go protects the American people. It is a world that stands up against terrorism, but understands that America can be a friend.

So today, as we come together as a Congress, as we did those few years ago and stood on the front steps singing "God bless America," I rise today to tell those families we will never forget them. And it is our obligation to be diligent, to be responsive, and to be remembered.

God bless America.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the H. Res. 722. The legacy of the events of September 11, 2001 still resonates today. We will never forget the harrowing experience of the loss of more than 3,000 lives that marked this national tragedy. We will never forget the events of that day, nor those who paid the ultimate price. We will forever remember how the country suffered profound sadness, the likes of which we as a nation hope to never experience again.

Mr. Speaker, I recall vividly the intense emotions evoked as the attacks unfolded. The nation watched in horror as two airliners crashed into the Twin Towers and brought down the World Trade Center. That horror intensified as we witnessed an attack on the Pentagon, and a crashed airplane in Pennsylvania. Horror turned to anger as it came to light that the attacks were the actions of hate-filled cowards who had no respect for human life. I remember too, that in the aftermath of these senseless attacks, we came together as a nation and with friends from around the world united in grief and sadness. That moment transformed our country and the world, as the resolve of our nation strengthened and our principles hardened.

We remember the heroes from that day; those who ran into the danger, sacrificing themselves to save strangers. They were the brave firefighters, police officers, and civil servants who died in the service of protecting others. We remember the heroes from United Flight 93 who overpowered the terrorists and gave their own lives to prevent the deaths of countless others. We hope that their families can take some small measure of comfort knowing that Americans have made a permanent place for those heroes in our hearts.

In Houston, we mourned the loss of two of our own: Naval Petty Officer 3rd Class Daniel Martin Caballero and Army Lieutenant Colonel Karen Wagner. Twenty-one year old Petty Officer Caballero was an electronics technician who had a bright life ahead of him. Forty-year-old Lt. Col. Wagner had a distinguished career as a medical personnel officer in the office of the Army surgeon general. Both lives were taken when United Flight 77 was steered into the Pentagon. Also Councilmember Toni Lawrence lost her dear sister to this horrible tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we also pay tribute today to those who have fought the wars born from September 11. In the years since that tragic day, our country has fought ardently to eliminate the enemies who would work to perpetuate the culture of fear and violence born from 9/11.

The men and women of the U.S. military prove daily that their commitment to protecting and defending our country is steadfast. Let us remember those who fought and died while serving the country, let us honor those who continue to fight, and let us pledge our unending support for our soldiers and their families.

As a Senior Member of the Foreign Affairs and Homeland Security Committees, I believe that we must continue to honor the fallen by working to prevent needless deaths. In the years since September 11, 2001, Congress has worked hard to make sure that such a tragedy will never happen again. In large part, we have taken heed of the advice of the 9/11 Commission and built a strong system to prevent future attacks.

Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body to say that our work is not yet done. Our nation's rail and mass transit lines continue to be vulnerable. Millions of Americans rely on our rail and mass transit for transportation. Terrorist attacks in Madrid in 2004 and London in 2006 indicate that transportation routes continue to be potential security threats. We must not let another tragedy occur. As Chair of the Transportation Security Subcommittee—we are working to increase America's security.

Preventing terrorism at home begins with addressing terrorism abroad. We must engage nations that are susceptible to the influence of extremists and arm them with the tools to fight radicalism. That means increasing education, improving living conditions, and increasing the capacity to govern. The struggle against terrorism will be won in the hearts and minds of people around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all members to join me in supporting H. Res. 722. Let us remember this day and the tragedy that befell the nation by properly honoring the victims with our renewed commitment to America's security and Democracy.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH).

Mr. KUCINICH. I rise in support of the resolution. It's important that we remember 9/11, those innocents who lost their lives, those who put their lives at risk while saving lives, and those who survived to grieve the loss of irreplaceable loved ones.

We have a responsibility to remember 9/11. It would be good, too, for us to remember the course of action our Nation embarked upon as a consequence of 9/11. We have a right, a duty to defend ourselves, but in the name of 9/11 war was waged against the people of Iraq who had nothing to do with 9/11.

At this point, let us remember our troops, too, and their sacrifices since 9/11, and the over 1 million innocent civilian casualties everywhere who also paid a price because of 9/11. We should never forget 9/11, and we should never forget the truth.

In our grief, we know the truth is our ultimate defense. The truth is our security. It is the truth which sets us free and the truth which keeps us free. God bless America.

WASHINGTON, SEPT. 11, 2001.—America grieves this day for the victims of these terrorist attacks, and for their families and friends. Our prayers are with them and our

hearts go out to those who have endured unbearable loss today. Our most hopeful thoughts are with those who have risked their lives in heroic rescue efforts. In this grim moment, we must be resolute in protecting the fabric of our democracy and the individual freedoms that make America a great nation. As we grieve, we cannot let terrorists win by turning the United States into a national security state. We cannot let their dialogue become our dialogue.

America must remain calm because such calm is essential to preserving our liberties. America must bring to justice those responsible for these cowardly deeds. We must be cautious about rolling back freedoms at home or placing blame in the wrong place.

America must continue to be a beacon of democracy for the world. Let this sad moment cause all governments and all people of good will around the world to unite and to move together to challenge and uproot those who have destructive goals which seek to create death and drive the world toward chaos. Now, more than ever, America must continue to be a force for peace in the world. We must not let the terrorists win.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, could I request of the gentlewoman from Florida if she has the time and would be willing to lend us one of her minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Yes, we would be more than happy to do so. We were waiting to see if some of the speakers who had reserved time would show up; but since they are not here yet, we would be more than pleased to give you some of our time, 1 minute.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Thank you so much. And if someone shows up and you need the time, I would be happy to make a unanimous request that that be restored to you.

Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to recognize the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) for 1¼ minutes.

□ 1415

Mr. PASCRELL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I rise today as this Congress commemorates perhaps the most horrific day in our Nation's history, that day being September 11, 2001. So many of us in New Jersey and New York lost our friends, our loved ones, acquaintances and people we never met before.

It's difficult to believe that it was almost 8 years to the day when our Nation was attacked by foreign terrorists and claimed almost 3,000 lives, including 411 of our Nation's bravest first responders. As a Member of the Homeland Security Committee, I am proud of the steps that we have taken since that fateful day to make the American people safer, but our work obviously is far from complete. This is a mission we, as public servants, can never stop striving to achieve.

I am also proud that earlier this year we passed the aptly named Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which will designate September 11 as the first annual National Day of Service and Remembrance. On September 11, more so than any other day of the year, we should come together as Americans and find new ways to save our Nation, and hopefully that will spill over to the days after.

So I say to all of you that many of the wounds of that fateful day will heal over time, but that we will never forget the heroism we witnessed, the lessons we learned, the redemption the American people earned through our own strength. And so we pray that this never happens again.

Mr. ACKERMAN. I yield myself 10 seconds.

We have no further additional Members, so if the gentlewoman would like to close we will wait on the Speaker if she chooses to close as well.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Do you need an additional minute? I think we only have how much time, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Florida has 2 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from New York has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, the day after that horrific event, I was back in New York. I went to the piers where the people were waiting to claim bodies and hear of missing loved ones.

There was a gentleman before this huge wall where people had posted pictures of relatives that were missing. And there was one gentleman standing there—it was close to midnight—all by himself, in traditional Orthodox Jewish garb, with a long black coat and large black-brimmed hat standing in front of a picture of someone who looked remarkably like him.

And he just stood there stone-faced. And I just went over and stood next to him as one of the firemen called him to my attention. And he said, without turning away from the picture that he was looking at on the wall, the missing person, he said, That was my brother. He is gone. He called me moments before the building collapsed. He said he knew what was happening, but he would not leave his workplace.

He worked in a station next to a young man from Puerto Rico who was sitting in a wheelchair and who was frightened. And he said, My brother told me I will not let him stay here to die alone. And they were holding hands when his brother hung up the phone. That was the kind of bravery we saw from Americans, all kinds of Americans on that fateful day.

Let us remember them and the sacrifice they made.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank my good friend from New York and our chairman, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. HOYER and Mr. BOEHNER for this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, when we talk about the 9/11 attacks on our Nation, we must also recall that it was an attack on our way of life. It was an attack on what we stand for, on what we represent. What is it that we represent? Freedom, democracy, liberty.

These are the values that distinguish our Nation, our people, from our

attackers, the belief in freedom, the belief in democracy, the belief in liberty. And as we recall this somber anniversary of this resolution before us, let us honor the memory of those whom we lost, the murdered, for it was a crime, and the heroism of our public servants, our first responders, our ordinary fellow citizens who were so extraordinary that day, who discovered the extraordinary courage of self-sacrifice on behalf of their fellow citizens, some of whom they had never met, including many of us in this building.

And let us resolve that 9/11 will not just be an anniversary that we commemorate with an interesting and touching ceremony, but that 9/11 is really a symbol of what America is about, how we dealt with that struggle, how we dealt with that devastation, how we dealt with that sorrow and what we said we would do as a people, that we would not let this attack go unanswered.

And to frame the events of that day as they should be framed, as freedom versus oppression, as tolerance versus hatred, as incitement versus understanding. And this is what we fight for to this day: for freedom, for tolerance, to make sure that we can just not recall the days of 9/11, but also honor the memory and what they stood for.

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

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield for the purpose of a unanimous consent request to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE).

(Ms. CLARKE asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to add my voice to those who have spoken in support of this bipartisan 9/11 resolution, H. Res. 722.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise in support of the bipartisan 9–11 Resolution, H. Res. 722, which recognizes September 11 as both a day to mourn and remember those that were taken from us, and a day for the people of the United States to recommit to the Nation and to each other.

Today, Congress pauses to reflect on the life and legacy of the men and women whose lives were tragically altered or cut short as a result of the violent attacks on 9–11–01.

I began my public life as a member of the New York City Council shortly after the attacks of September 11th changed America's perception on the world. From that first day, I have dedicated myself to the issues of security and preparedness.

As the only New York City member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, I am humbled at the opportunity to commemorate this day with my colleagues and victims' families.

We will never forget that almost 3,000 lives were lost, including 343 firefighters and 23 police officers, on that day. Their contributions and legacies will forever be honored and revered.

I salute the many World Trade Center and Pentagon workers who may not have held a corner office with their names on the door, but

were an integral part of our thriving economy and communities.

I salute the mothers, teachers, doctors, flight crews and other valuable members of our society that were taken from us on that tragic day.

As we prepare to commemorate that tragic day with several victims' families on the front steps of the U.S. Capitol, I offer my prayers to all 9–11 families and the survivors whose lives are forever changed.

I especially send my condolences to the parents and families of the children whose precious lives were tragically taken from us on that fateful day.

The collective sacrifices, strength, and compassion of these individuals and all Americans, as well as the fallen soldiers that we have lost in the fight against terror and the families they've left behind—all of whom represent diverse backgrounds and beliefs—remind us that our national resiliency lies within our ability to come together as a nation for the greater good of our society.

Mr. ACKERMAN. I thank the distinguished gentlelady from Florida for her cooperation in this bipartisan effort and expression of the House.

I yield the balance of our time, 1 minute, to the distinguished Speaker of the House to close the debate, Ms. PELOSI.

Ms. PELOSI. I thank the gentleman for yielding. I thank Congressman ACKERMAN and Congresswoman ROS-LEHTINEN for bringing this opportunity to the floor to speak about the unspeakable horror of 9/11.

When we talk about this subject, Mr. Speaker, we are treading on sacred ground, a ground we thought we would never see in our country.

But as Congresswoman ROS-LEHTINEN said, it has defined us, how we dealt with it, and how we carry on afterward. One of the goals of terrorists is to instill fear. So not only do they take lives and destroy a community, try to destroy a community, they also instill fear as to how we will act upon the challenges that we have as we go forward. That did not happen with 9/11.

The American people rallied in a way that removed all doubt that we would not suffer that consequence. But it's the families of 9/11 who made the biggest sacrifice, that's self-evident. But when they turned their grief into action, working with the 9/11 Commission to help ensure that this doesn't happen again, they did a great service to our country.

In just a few moments, in the Capitol, we will unveil a marker of bravery to recall the sacrifice, in particular of the men and women on Flight 93 who died in rural Pennsylvania. We gather to honor their families, who will be with us. This is the day that they have chosen for that and to ensure that we never forget their heroic deeds, their bravery and the sacrifices of those individuals. They made a decision in that flight not to fly into Washington, D.C., perhaps into this Capitol.

Again, it is to those families that we owe so much, whether it was in rural Pennsylvania, in the Pentagon, or in New York at the Twin Towers.

Following that ceremony, we will go to Statuary Hall where leaders of both parties in both Houses of Congress will gather to recognize the heroes of 9/11, the firefighters and first responders, the rescue workers and all who perished on Flight 93, in the Pentagon and the World Trade Center on that terrible morning. It is in their names that we mark this day.

It is in memory of those who died that we, in the words of this resolution, renew our devotion to the universal ideals that make this Nation great: freedom, pluralism, equality and the rule of law. It is their voices that remind us not just of the images of destruction and despair, but of the unity we all felt in the wake of the attacks and of our common humanity and shared strength, of our potential to move forward as one community, one Nation. When we take inspiration from the memories of the heroes of 9/11, may this resolution rekindle a spirit of service and sacrifice among all Americans.

May God continue to bless the United States of America.

Mr. TEAGUE. Mr. Speaker, like all Americans I still mourn the innocent lives that were lost on September 11, 2001. Though I was not in Washington, DC or New York City on that day, I am often reminded of the attacks when I pass the Pentagon on my way to the Capitol. And when I think of the thousands of family members that lost a loved one on that day, I admit that it makes me want to visit with my own children a little more often, play with my grandchildren a little longer and hold my wife a little closer.

On September 11th, 2001, America was exposed to a darker side of the human condition—one that is so fueled by hate and fear that it would drive individuals to come to a foreign land and dedicate themselves to studying the most efficient way to murder innocent civilians.

The 9/11 attacks were cowardly actions by desperate, evil men, but, like we've seen on other tragic days in our Nation's history, the attacks also shined a light on American bravery and heroism.

Our firefighters and other first-responders ran into buildings that were about to collapse, sometimes sacrificing their own lives to save others. The passengers of United Flight 93 became true citizen-soldiers when they chose to take on the hijackers and sacrifice themselves to save others, demonstrating to the world what makes us strong and good as a country.

These brave people showed that even in one of the darkest hours in our history, Americans were resolute, resilient and committed to see the light of our liberty burn steady and bright.

Let us remember that while these horrendous acts may have toppled over buildings and taken the lives of innocent Americans, they neither destroyed our Republic nor the principles upon which our country was built.

Eight years after that dark day, it is appropriate for us to take time to remember those that lost their lives in these attacks and those who gave their lives so that others would live. And it is equally important for us to acknowledge that despite these tragic events America has remained free, strong and committed to liberty.

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, this week we commemorate the eighth anniversary of the most devastating attack on our country since Pearl Harbor. The planes which destroyed the World Trade Center towers took off from Boston. The planes carried 142 passengers and crew members, many of them were our neighbors, and the catastrophe almost 200 miles south in Manhattan was also a catastrophe for victims' families and their loved ones and friends in communities across Massachusetts.

The September 11th attacks demonstrated that America's very strengths—its technology and its open society—could be turned into weapons and used against us. We have spent much of the past eight years trying to reduce the opportunities for terrorists to exploit our vulnerabilities; while we can claim significant achievements we must admit that the job is not done.

Two years ago, the Democratic Congress passed legislation to implement the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission, designating it as our top priority—H.R. 1. But much work to implement the bill's provisions and other needed homeland security upgrades is still needed, and it is now up to the Obama Administration to end the years of delays, obstruction and catering to industry's demands that was characteristic of the Bush Administration's homeland security policy.

I authored a provision in the 9/11 law to require the screening, within three years, of all the cargo carried on passenger planes to a level of security commensurate with the level of security applied to passengers' checked bags. The statutory deadline is less than one year from now, in August 2010. I am concerned that the system developed by the previous administration to implement the 100 percent screening requirement is facing significant challenges and must be quickly remedied by this Administration in order to comply with the law.

A requirement that I helped to insert into the 9/11 law contains a mandate to scan all inbound maritime cargo at its point of origin by 2012, unless the Department of Homeland Security chooses to extend the deadline for a particular port or group of ports because of technological, economic or other barriers. I believe that Congress included sufficient flexibility in the statutory requirements to address any delays in meeting the 2012 statutory deadline for maritime scanning that may have been caused as a result of inaction by the last Administration, and now the Obama Administration is tasked with implementing this vital security safeguard.

Since 9/11, Congress has enacted legislation to secure the aviation, maritime, rail, mass transit, nuclear energy and other sectors. But what we have yet to do is act on comprehensive legislation to secure the facilities that make or store dangerous chemicals. Instead, we have relied on the incomplete, inadequate and loophole-ridden legislative language that was inserted into a 2007 Appropriations bill behind closed doors that amounted to little more than a long run-on sentence. The Energy and Environment Subcommittee which I chair will soon act on comprehensive chemical security legislation that will close the loopholes in part by requiring each high-risk facility to assess whether it could use safer processes or technologies and provide authority to ensure that the highest-risk facilities do so if it is economically and technologically possible.

The upcoming anniversary is a time for reflection and commemoration. But it is also an opportunity to review the progress we have made towards improving the security of all Americans.

On this 8th anniversary of a terrible tragedy, I am taking time to both remember those who we lost and to rededicate myself to ensuring that such a tragedy will never again be allowed to occur.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 722.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 965, CHESAPEAKE BAY GATEWAYS AND WATERTRAILS NETWORK CONTINUING AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. PERLMUTTER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-249) on the resolution (H. Res. 726) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 965) to amend the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 to provide for the continuing authorization of the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Resolution 447, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 2097, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 2498, by the yeas and nays;

House Resolution 722, by the yeas and nays.

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

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 447, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 447.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 420, nays 0, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 690]

YEAS—420

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bocchieri
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen

Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Fox
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)

Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hereth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovich
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebach
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)

Marshall
Massa
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mittell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarella
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Paulsen
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello

Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shea-Porter
Sherman

Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Rohrabacher
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—13

Baldwin
Boyd
Davis (IL)
Delahunt
Lynch
Maffei
McCarthy (NY)
McMorris
Rodgers
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Sutton
Tanner
Young (AK)

□ 1452

Mr. NUNES changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE COMMEMORATING THE 9/11 ATTACKS

The SPEAKER. The Chair would ask all present to rise for the purpose of a moment of silence. The Chair asks that the House now observe a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

There was no objection.

Abercrombie	Cassidy	Frelinghuysen
Ackerman	Castle	Fudge
Aderholt	Castor (FL)	Galleghy
Adler (NJ)	Chaffetz	Garrett (NJ)
Akin	Chandler	Gerlach
Alexander	Childers	Giffords
Altmire	Chu	Gingrey (GA)
Andrews	Clarke	Gohmert
Arcuri	Clay	Gonzalez
Austria	Cleaver	Goodlatte
Baca	Clyburn	Gordon (TN)
Bachmann	Coble	Granger
Bachus	Coffman (CO)	Graves
Baird	Cohen	Grayson
Barrett (SC)	Cole	Green, Al
Barrow	Conaway	Green, Gene
Bartlett	Connolly (VA)	Griffith
Barton (TX)	Conyers	Grijalva
Bean	Cooper	Guthrie
Becerra	Costa	Gutierrez
Berkley	Costello	Hall (NY)
Berman	Courtney	Hall (TX)
Berry	Crenshaw	Halvorson
Biggett	Crowley	Hare
Bilbray	Cuellar	Harman
Bilirakis	Culberson	Harper
Bishop (GA)	Cummings	Hastings (FL)
Bishop (NY)	Dahlkemper	Hastings (WA)
Bishop (UT)	Davis (AL)	Heinrich
Blackburn	Davis (CA)	Heller
Blumenauer	Davis (KY)	Hensarling
Blunt	Davis (TN)	Herger
Bocciari	Deal (GA)	Hersteth Sandlin
Boehner	DeFazio	Higgins
Bonner	DeGette	Hill
Bono Mack	DeLauro	Himes
Boozman	Dent	Hinchey
Boren	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hinojosa
Boswell	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hirono
Boucher	Dicks	Hodes
Brady (PA)	Dingell	Hoekstra
Brady (TX)	Doggett	Holden
Braley (IA)	Donnelly (IN)	Holt
Bright	Doyle	Honda
Broun (GA)	Dreier	Hoyer
Brown (SC)	Driehaus	Hunter
Brown, Corrine	Duncan	Inglis
Brown-Waite,	Edwards (MD)	Inslee
Ginny	Edwards (TX)	Israel
Buchanan	Ehlers	Issa
Burgess	Ellison	Jackson (IL)
Burton (IN)	Ellsworth	Jackson-Lee
Butterfield	Emerson	(TX)
Buyer	Engel	Jenkins
Calvert	Eshoo	Johnson (GA)
Camp	Etheridge	Johnson (IL)
Campbell	Fallin	Johnson, E. B.
Cantor	Farr	Johnson, Sam
Cao	Fattah	Jones
Capito	Filner	Jordan (OH)
Capps	Flake	Kagen
Capuano	Fleming	Kanjorski
Cardoza	Forbes	Kaptur
Carnahan	Fortenberry	Kennedy
Carney	Foster	Kildee
Carson (IN)	Fox	Kilpatrick (MI)
Carter	Franks (AZ)	Kilrov

Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Massa
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan

Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Oliver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Paulsen
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer

Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—14

Baldwin
Boustany
Boyd
Davis (IL)
Delahunt

Frank (MA)
Lynch
Maffei
McCarthy (NY)
Rush

Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Tanner
Young (AK)

□ 1510

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 722, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 722.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 416, nays 0, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 693]

YEAS—416

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggett
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bocciari
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)

Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Clever
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxy
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords

Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseht Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)

Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Massa
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan

Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Oliver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Petriello
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff

Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—18

Baldwin
Boyd
Carnahan
Coble
Davis (IL)
Delahunt

Lynch
Maffei
McCarthy (NY)
McHugh
Ros-Lehtinen
Schmidt

Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Tanner
Wilson (OH)
Wu
Young (AK)

□ 1528

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes Nos. 690, 691, 692 and 693. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes Nos. 690, 691, 692 and 693.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 6, 2009.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on August 6, 2009, at 8:27 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3435.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 7, 2009.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on August 7, 2009, at 9:16 a.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 1016.

That the Senate passed without an amendment H.R. 3325.

Appointments:
British-American Interparliamentary Group.

Board of Directors of the Mickey Leland National Urban Air Toxics Research Center.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 7, 2009.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on August 7, 2009, at 12:52 p.m.:

Appointments:
Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

□ 1530

The SPEAKER pro tempore. After consultation among the Speaker and the majority and minority leaders, and with their consent, the Chair announces that, when the two Houses meet tonight in joint session to hear an address by the President of the United States, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those immediately to her left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House. Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly enforced. Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor. The cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of reserving seats prior to the joint session by placard will not be allowed. Members may reserve their seats only by physical presence following the security sweep of the Chamber.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule 1, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 7:35 p.m. for the purpose of receiving in joint session the President of the United States.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 7:35 p.m.

□ 1945

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 7 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.

JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS
PURSUANT TO HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION 179 TO RECEIVE
A MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT

The Speaker of the House presided.

The Majority Floor Services Chief, Mr. Barry Sullivan, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER);

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN);

The gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON);

The gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA);

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN);

The gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER);

The gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO);

The gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY);

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER);

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR);

The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE);

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS);

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY); and

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as a committee on the part of the Senate to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber:

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID);

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN);

The Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER);

The Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY);

The Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ);

The Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN);

The Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW);

The Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL);

The Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL);

The Senator from Tennessee (Mr. AL-EXANDER);

The Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI);

The Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE); and

The Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN).

The Majority Floor Services Chief announced the Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, His Excellency Abdulwahab A. Al Hajjri, Ambassador of the Republic of Yemen.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him.

The Majority Floor Services Chief announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 8 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m., the Majority Floor Services Chief and the Sergeant at Arms, the Honorable Wilson Livingood, announced the President of the United States.

The President of the United States, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and stood at the Clerk's desk.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of the Congress, I have the high privilege and the distinct honor of presenting to you the President of the United States.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The PRESIDENT. Madam Speaker, Vice President BIDEN, Members of Congress, and the American people:

When I spoke here last winter, the Nation was facing the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. We were losing an average of 700,000 jobs per month. Credit was frozen. And our financial system was on the verge of collapse.

As any American who is still looking for work or a way to pay their bills will tell you, we are by no means out of the woods. A full and vibrant recovery is still many months away. And I will not let up until those Americans who seek jobs can find them; until those businesses that seek capital and credit can thrive; until all responsible homeowners can stay in their homes. That is our ultimate goal. But thanks to the bold and decisive action we have taken since January, I can stand here with confidence and say that we have pulled this economy back from the brink.

I want to thank the Members of this body for your efforts and your support in these last several months, and especially those who have taken the difficult votes that have put us on a path to recovery. I also want to thank the American people for their patience and resolve during this trying time for our Nation.

But we did not come here just to clean up crises. We came here to build a future. So tonight, I return to speak to all of you about an issue that is central to that future—and that is the issue of health care.

I am not the first President to take up this cause, but I am determined to be the last. It has now been nearly a century since Theodore Roosevelt first called for health care reform. And ever since, nearly every President and Congress, whether Democrat or Republican, has attempted to meet this challenge in some way. A bill for comprehensive health reform was first introduced by John Dingell, Sr. in 1943. Sixty-five years later, his son continues to introduce that same bill at the beginning of each session.

Our collective failure to meet this challenge—year after year, decade after decade—has led us to a breaking point. Everyone understands the extraordinary hardships that are placed on the uninsured, who live every day just one accident or illness away from bankruptcy. These are not primarily people on welfare. These are middle-class Americans. Some can't get insurance on the job. Others are self-employed and can't afford it, since buying insurance on your own costs you three times as much as the coverage you get from your employer. Many other Americans who are willing and able to pay are still denied insurance due to previous illnesses or conditions that insur-

ance companies decide are too risky or too expensive to cover.

We are the only advanced democracy on Earth—the only wealthy nation—that allows such hardships for millions of its people. There are now more than 30 million American citizens who can't get coverage. In just a 2-year period, one in every three Americans goes without health care coverage at some point. And every day, 14,000 Americans lose their coverage. In other words, it can happen to anyone.

But the problem that plagues the health care system is not just a problem for the uninsured. Those who do have insurance have never had less security or stability than they do today. More and more Americans worry that if you move, lose your job, or change your job, you'll lose your health insurance too. More and more Americans pay their premiums, only to discover that their insurance company has dropped their coverage when they get sick, or won't pay the full cost of care. It happens every day.

One man from Illinois lost his coverage in the middle of chemotherapy because his insurer found that he hadn't reported gallstones that he didn't even know about. They delayed his treatment, and he died because of it. Another woman from Texas was about to get a double mastectomy when her insurance company canceled her policy because she forgot to declare a case of acne. By the time she had her insurance reinstated, her breast cancer had more than doubled in size. That is heart-breaking, it is wrong, and no one should be treated that way in the United States of America.

Then there's the problem of rising costs. We spend one-and-a-half times more per person on health care than any other country, but we aren't any healthier for it. This is one of the reasons that insurance premiums have gone up three times faster than wages. It's why so many employers—especially small businesses—are forcing their employees to pay more for insurance, or are dropping their coverage entirely. It's why so many aspiring entrepreneurs cannot afford to open a business in the first place, and why American businesses that compete internationally—like our automakers—are at a huge disadvantage. And it's why those of us with health insurance are also paying a hidden and growing tax for those without it—about \$1,000 per year that pays for somebody else's emergency room and charitable care.

Finally, our health care system is placing an unsustainable burden on taxpayers. When health care costs grow at the rate they have, it puts greater pressure on programs like Medicare and Medicaid. If we do nothing to slow these skyrocketing costs, we will eventually be spending more on Medicare and Medicaid than every other government program combined. Put simply, our health care problem is our deficit problem. Nothing else even comes close.

These are the facts. Nobody disputes them. We know we must reform this system. The question is how.

There are those on the left who believe that the only way to fix the system is through a single-payer system like Canada's, where we would severely restrict the private insurance market and have the government provide coverage for everybody. On the right, there are those who argue that we should end the employer-based system and leave individuals to buy health insurance on their own.

I have to say that there are arguments to be made for both these approaches. But either one would represent a radical shift that would disrupt the health care most people currently have. Since health care represents one-sixth of our economy, I believe it makes more sense to build on what works and fix what doesn't, rather than try to build an entirely new system from scratch. And that is precisely what those of you in Congress have tried to do over the past several months.

During that time, we have seen Washington at its best and at its worst.

We've seen many in this Chamber work tirelessly for the better part of this year to offer thoughtful ideas about how to achieve reform. Of the five committees asked to develop bills, four have completed their work, and the Senate Finance Committee announced today that it will move forward next week. That has never happened before. Our overall efforts have been supported by an unprecedented coalition of doctors and nurses; hospitals, seniors' groups, and even drug companies—many of whom opposed reform in the past. And there is agreement in this Chamber on about 80 percent of what needs to be done, putting us closer to the goal of reform than we have ever been.

But what we have also seen in these last months is the same partisan spectacle that only hardens the disdain many Americans have toward their own government. Instead of honest debate, we've seen scare tactics. Some have dug into unyielding ideological camps that offer no hope of compromise. Too many have used this as an opportunity to score short-term political points, even if it robs the country of our opportunity to solve a long-term challenge. And out of this blizzard of charges and countercharges, confusion has reigned.

Well, the time for bickering is over. The time for games has passed. Now is the season for action. Now is when we must bring the best ideas of both parties together, and show the American people that we can still do what we were sent here to do. Now is the time to deliver on health care.

The plan I'm announcing tonight would meet three basic goals:

It will provide more security and stability to those who have health insurance. It will provide insurance to those who don't. And it will slow the growth

of health care costs for our families, our businesses, and our government. It's a plan that asks everyone to take responsibility for meeting this challenge—not just government, not just insurance companies, but everybody, including employers and individuals. And it's a plan that incorporates ideas from Senators and Congressmen; from Democrats and Republicans—and yes, from some of my opponents in both the primary and general election.

Here are the details that every American needs to know about this plan:

First, if you are among the hundreds of millions of Americans who already have health insurance through your job, or Medicare, or Medicaid, or the VA, nothing in this plan will require you or your employer to change the coverage or the doctor you have. Let me repeat this: nothing in our plan requires you to change what you have.

What this plan will do is make the insurance you have work better for you. Under this plan, it will be against the law for insurance companies to deny you coverage because of a pre-existing condition. As soon as I sign this bill, it will be against the law for insurance companies to drop your coverage when you get sick or water it down when you need it the most. They will no longer be able to place some arbitrary cap on the amount of coverage you can receive in a given year or in a lifetime. We will place a limit on how much you can be charged for out-of-pocket expenses, because in the United States of America, no one should go broke because they get sick. And insurance companies will be required to cover, with no extra charge, routine checkups and preventive care, like mammograms and colonoscopies—because there's no reason we shouldn't be catching diseases like breast cancer and colon cancer before they get worse. That makes sense, it saves money, and it saves lives.

That's what Americans who have health insurance can expect from this plan—more security and more stability.

Now, if you're one of the tens of millions of Americans who don't currently have health insurance, the second part of this plan will finally offer you quality, affordable choices. If you lose your job or you change your job, you will be able to get coverage. If you strike out on your own and start a small business, you'll be able to get coverage. We will do this by creating a new insurance exchange—a marketplace where individuals and small businesses will be able to shop for health insurance at competitive prices. Insurance companies will have an incentive to participate in this exchange because it lets them compete for millions of new customers. As one big group, these customers will have greater leverage to bargain with the insurance companies for better prices and quality coverage. This is how large companies and government employees get affordable insurance. It's how everyone in this Congress gets

affordable insurance. And it's time to give every American the same opportunity that we've given ourselves.

For those individuals and small businesses who still can't afford the lower-priced insurance available in the exchange, we'll provide tax credits, the size of which will be based on your need. And all insurance companies that want access to this new marketplace will have to abide by the consumer protections I already mentioned. This exchange will take effect in 4 years, which will give us time to do it right. In the meantime, for those Americans who can't get insurance today because they have preexisting medical conditions, we will immediately offer low-cost coverage that will protect you against financial ruin if you become seriously ill. This was a good idea when Senator JOHN MCCAIN proposed it in the campaign, it's a good idea now, and we should all embrace it.

Now, even if we provide these affordable options, there may be those—especially the young and the healthy—who still want to take the risk and go without coverage. There may still be companies that refuse to do right by their workers by giving them coverage. The problem is, such irresponsible behavior costs all the rest of us money. If there are affordable options and people still don't sign up for health insurance, it means we pay for these people's expensive emergency room visits. If some businesses don't provide workers health care, it forces the rest of us to pick up the tab when their workers get sick, and give those businesses an unfair advantage over their competitors. And unless everybody does their part, many of the insurance reforms we seek—especially requiring insurance companies to cover preexisting conditions—just can't be achieved.

That's why under my plan, individuals will be required to carry basic health insurance—just as most States require you to carry auto insurance. Likewise, businesses will be required to either offer their workers health care, or chip in to help cover the cost of their workers. There will be a hardship waiver for those individuals who still can't afford coverage, and 95 percent of all small businesses, because of their size and narrow profit margin, would be exempt from these requirements. But we can't have large businesses and individuals who can afford coverage game the system by avoiding responsibility to themselves or their employees. Improving our health care system only works if everybody does their part.

While there remain some significant details to be ironed out, I believe a broad consensus exists for the aspects of the plan I just outlined: consumer protections for those with insurance, an exchange that allows individuals and small businesses to purchase affordable coverage, and a requirement that people who can afford insurance get insurance.

And I have no doubt that these reforms would greatly benefit Americans

from all walks of life, as well as the economy as a whole. Still, given all the misinformation that's been spread over the past few months, I realize that many Americans have grown nervous about reform. So tonight I want to address some of the key controversies that are still out there.

Some of people's concerns have grown out of bogus claims spread by those whose only agenda is to kill reform at any cost. The best example is the claim, made not just by radio and cable talk show hosts, but by prominent politicians, that we plan to set up panels of bureaucrats with the power to kill off senior citizens. Such a charge would be laughable if it weren't so cynical and irresponsible. It is a lie, plain and simple.

There are also those who claim that our reform efforts will insure illegal immigrants. This, too, is false. The reforms I am proposing would not apply to those who are here illegally. And one more misunderstanding I want to clear up—under our plan, no Federal dollars will be used to fund abortions, and Federal conscience laws will remain in place.

My health care proposal has also been attacked by some who oppose reform as a "government takeover" of the entire health care system. As proof, critics point to a provision in our plan that allows the uninsured and small businesses to choose a publicly sponsored insurance option administered by the government just like Medicaid or Medicare.

So let me set the record straight here. My guiding principle is, and always has been, that consumers do better when there is choice and competition. That's how the market works. Unfortunately, in 34 States, 75 percent of the insurance market is controlled by five or fewer companies. In Alabama, almost 90 percent is controlled by just one company. Without competition, the price of insurance goes up and the quality goes down. And it makes it easier for insurance companies to treat their customers badly—by cherry-picking the healthiest individuals and trying to drop the sickest; by overcharging small businesses who have no leverage; and by jacking up rates.

Insurance executives don't do this because they are bad people. They do it because it's profitable. As one former insurance executive testified before Congress, insurance companies are not only encouraged to find reasons to drop the seriously ill; they are rewarded for it. All of this is in service of meeting what this former executive called "Wall Street's relentless profit expectations."

Now, I have no interest in putting insurance companies out of business. They provide a legitimate service, and employ a lot of our friends and neighbors. I just want to hold them accountable. The insurance reforms that I've already mentioned would do just that. But an additional step we can take to keep insurance companies honest is by

making a not-for-profit public option available in the insurance exchange. Let me be clear—it would only be an option for those who don't have insurance. No one would be forced to choose it, and it would not impact those of you who already have insurance. In fact, based on Congressional Budget Office estimates, we believe that less than 5 percent of Americans would sign up.

Despite all this, the insurance companies and their allies don't like this idea. They argue that these private companies can't fairly compete with the government. And they'd be right if taxpayers were subsidizing this public insurance option. But they won't be. I have insisted that like any private insurance company, the public insurance option would have to be self-sufficient and rely on the premiums it collects. But by avoiding some of the overhead that gets eaten up at private companies by profits, excessive administrative costs and executive salaries, it could provide a good deal for consumers. It would also keep pressure on private insurers to keep their policies affordable and treat their customers better, the same way public colleges and universities provide additional choice and competition to students without in any way inhibiting a vibrant system of private colleges and universities.

It's worth noting that a strong majority of Americans still favor a public insurance option of the sort I've proposed tonight. But its impact shouldn't be exaggerated—by the left, or the right, or the media. It is only one part of my plan, and shouldn't be used as a handy excuse for the usual Washington ideological battles. To my progressive friends, I would remind you that the driving idea behind reform has been to end insurance company abuses and make coverage affordable for those without it. The public option is only a means to that end—and we should remain open to other ideas that accomplish our ultimate goal. And to my Republican friends, I say that rather than making wild claims about a government takeover of health care, we should work together to address any legitimate concerns you may have.

For example, some have suggested that the public option go into effect only in those markets where insurance companies are not providing affordable policies. Others have proposed a co-op or another nonprofit entity to administer the plan. These are all constructive ideas worth exploring. But I will not back down on the basic principle that if Americans can't find affordable coverage, we will provide you with a choice. And I will make sure that no government bureaucrat or insurance company bureaucrat gets between you and the care that you need.

Finally, let me discuss an issue that is a great concern to me, to Members of this Chamber, and to the public—and that's how we pay for this plan.

Here's what you need to know. First, I will not sign a plan that adds one

dime to our deficits—either now or in the future. Period. And to prove that I'm serious, there will be a provision in this plan that requires us to come forward with more spending cuts if the savings we promised don't materialize. Part of the reason I faced a trillion-dollar deficit when I walked in the door of the White House is because too many initiatives over the last decade were not paid for—from the Iraq war to tax breaks for the wealthy. I will not make that same mistake with health care.

Second, we've estimated that most of this plan can be paid for by finding savings within the existing health care system—a system that is currently full of waste and abuse. Right now, too much of the hard-earned savings and tax dollars we spend on health care don't make us any healthier. That's not my judgment—it's the judgment of medical professionals across this country. And this is also true when it comes to Medicare and Medicaid.

In fact, I want to speak directly to seniors for a moment, because Medicare is another issue that's been subjected to demagoguery and distortion during the course of this debate.

More than four decades ago, this Nation stood up for the principle that after a lifetime of hard work, our seniors should not be left to struggle with a pile of medical bills in their later years. That's how Medicare was born. And it remains a sacred trust that must be passed down from one generation to the next. That is why not a dollar of the Medicare trust fund will be used to pay for this plan.

The only thing this plan would eliminate is the hundreds of billions of dollars in waste and fraud, as well as unwarranted subsidies in Medicare that go to insurance companies—subsidies that do everything to pad their profits but don't improve the care of seniors. And we will also create an independent commission of doctors and medical experts charged with identifying more waste in the years ahead.

These steps will ensure that you—America's seniors—get the benefits you've been promised. They will ensure that Medicare is there for future generations. And we can use some of the savings to fill the gap in coverage that forces too many seniors to pay thousands of dollars a year out of their own pockets for prescription drugs. That's what this plan will do for you. So don't pay attention to those scary stories about how your benefits will be cut—especially since some of the same folks who are spreading these tall tales have fought against Medicare in the past, and just this year supported a budget that would essentially have turned Medicare into a privatized voucher program. That will not happen on my watch. I will protect Medicare.

Now, because Medicare is such a big part of the health care system, making the program more efficient can help usher in changes in the way we deliver health care that can reduce costs for everybody. We have long known that

some places, like the Intermountain Healthcare in Utah or the Geisinger Health System in rural Pennsylvania, offer high-quality care at costs below average. So the commission can help encourage the adoption of these commonsense best practices by doctors and medical professionals throughout the system—everything from reducing hospital infection rates to encouraging better coordination between teams of doctors.

Reducing the waste and inefficiency in Medicare and Medicaid will pay for most of this plan. Much of the rest would be paid for with revenues from the very same drug and insurance companies that stand to benefit from tens of millions of new customers. This reform will charge insurance companies a fee for their most expensive policies, which will encourage them to provide greater value for the money—an idea which has the support of Democratic and Republican experts. And according to these same experts, this modest change could help hold down the cost of health care for all of us in the long run.

Finally, many in this Chamber—particularly on the Republican side of the aisle—have long insisted that reforming our medical malpractice laws can help bring down the cost of health care. I don't believe malpractice reform is a silver bullet, but I have talked to enough doctors to know that defensive medicine may be contributing to unnecessary costs. So I am proposing that we move forward on a range of ideas about how to put patient safety first and let doctors focus on practicing medicine. I know that the Bush administration considered authorizing demonstration projects in individual States to test these ideas. I think it's a good idea, and I am directing my Secretary of Health and Human Services to move forward on this initiative today.

Add it all up, and the plan I'm proposing will cost around \$900 billion over 10 years—less than we have spent on the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, and less than the tax cuts for the wealthiest few Americans that Congress passed at the beginning of the previous administration. Most of these costs will be paid for with money already being spent—but spent badly—in the existing health care system. The plan will not add to our deficit. The middle class will realize greater security, not higher taxes. And if we are able to slow the growth of health care costs by just one-tenth of 1 percent each year, it will actually reduce the deficit by \$4 trillion over the long term.

This is the plan I'm proposing. It's a plan that incorporates ideas from many of the people in this room tonight—Democrats and Republicans. And I will continue to seek common ground in the weeks ahead. If you come to me with a serious set of proposals, I will be there to listen. My door is always open.

But know this: I will not waste time with those who have made the calculation that it's better politics to kill this plan than to improve it. I won't stand by while the special interests use the same old tactics to keep things exactly the way they are. If you misrepresent what's in this plan, we will call you out. And I will not accept the status quo as a solution. Not this time. Not now.

Everyone in this room knows what will happen if we do nothing. Our deficit will grow. More families will go bankrupt. More businesses will close. More Americans will lose their coverage when they are sick and need it the most. And more will die as a result. We know these things to be true.

That is why we cannot fail. Because there are too many Americans counting on us to succeed—the ones who suffer silently, and the ones who shared their stories with us at town halls, in e-mails, and in letters.

I received one of those letters a few days ago. It was from our beloved friend and colleague, Ted Kennedy. He had written it back in May, shortly after he was told that his illness was terminal. He asked that it be delivered upon his death.

In it, he spoke about what a happy time his last months were, thanks to the love and support of family and friends, his wife, Vicki, and his amazing children, who are all here tonight. And he expressed confidence that this would be the year that health care reform—"that great unfinished business of our society," he called it—would finally pass. He repeated the truth that health care is decisive for our future prosperity, but he also reminded me that "it concerns more than material things." "What we face," he wrote, "is above all a moral issue; at stake are not just the details of policy, but fundamental principles of social justice and the character of our country."

I've thought about that phrase quite a bit in recent days—the character of our country. One of the unique and wonderful things about America has always been our self-reliance, our rugged individualism, our fierce defense of freedom and our healthy skepticism of government. And figuring out the appropriate size and role of government has always been a source of rigorous and, yes, sometimes angry debate. That's our history.

For some of Ted Kennedy's critics, his brand of liberalism represented an affront to American liberty. In their minds, his passion for universal health care was nothing more than a passion for big government.

But those of us who knew Teddy and worked with him here—people of both parties—know that what drove him was something more. His friend ORRIN HATCH knows that. They worked together to provide children with health insurance. His friend JOHN MCCAIN knows that. They worked together on a Patient's Bill of Rights. His friend CHUCK GRASSLEY knows that. They

worked together to provide health care to children with disabilities.

On issues like these, Ted Kennedy's passion was born not of some rigid ideology, but of his own experience. It was the experience of having two children stricken with cancer. He never forgot the sheer terror and helplessness that any parent feels when a child is badly sick; and he was able to imagine what it must be like for those without insurance; what it would be like to have to say to a wife or a child or an aging parent—there is something that could make you better, but I just can't afford it.

That large-heartedness—that concern and regard for the plight of others—is not a partisan feeling. It is not a Republican or a Democratic feeling. It, too, is part of the American character. Our ability to stand in other people's shoes. A recognition that we are all in this together; that when fortune turns against one of us, others are there to lend a helping hand. A belief that in this country, hard work and responsibility should be rewarded by some measure of security and fair play; and an acknowledgment that sometimes government has to step in to help deliver on that promise.

This has always been the history of our progress. In 1935, when over half of our seniors could not support themselves and millions had seen their savings wiped away, there were those who argued that Social Security would lead to socialism. But the men and women of Congress stood fast, and we are all the better for it. In 1965, when some argued that Medicare represented a government takeover of health care, Members of Congress, Democrats and Republicans, did not back down. They joined together so that all of us could enter our golden years with some basic peace of mind.

You see, our predecessors understood that government could not, and should not, solve every problem. They understood that there are instances when the gains in security from government action are not worth the added constraints on our freedom. But they also understood that the danger of too much government is matched by the perils of too little; that without the leavening hand of wise policy, markets can crash, monopolies can stifle competition, and the vulnerable can be exploited. And they knew that when any government measure, no matter how carefully crafted or beneficial, is subject to scorn; when any efforts to help people in need are attacked as un-American; when facts and reason are thrown overboard and only timidity passes for wisdom, and we can no longer even engage in a civil conversation with each other over the things that truly matter—that at that point we don't merely lose our capacity to solve big challenges. We lose something essential about ourselves.

What was true then remains true today. I understand how difficult this health care debate has been. I know

that many in this country are deeply skeptical that government is looking out for them. I understand that the politically safe move would be to kick the can further down the road—to defer reform one more year, or one more election, or one more term.

But that is not what this moment calls for. That's not what we came here to do. We did not come to fear the future. We came here to shape it. I still believe we can act even when it's hard. I still believe we can replace acrimony with civility, and gridlock with progress. I still believe we can do great things, and that here and now we will meet history's test.

Because that is who we are. That is our calling. That is our character. Thank you, God bless you, and may God bless the United States of America.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 9 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m., the President of the United States, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Majority Floor Services Chief escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet;

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

JOINT SESSION DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint session of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 9 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m., the joint session of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I move that the message of the President be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered printed.

The motion was agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, September 10, 2009, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of Rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3203. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Sabine-Neches Canal, Sabine River, Orange, TX [USCG-2008-1269] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3204. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River (LMR), Mile Marker 532 to 530, Greenville, MS [COTP Lower Mississippi River-08-020] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3205. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Apalachicola River, Chattahoochee, FL [COTP Mobile-08-008] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3206. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; 200 yards east to 200 west of the Lewis Street Swing Bridge at MM52.5 Bayou Teche, New Iberia, Louisiana, bank to bank [COTP Morgan City-07-009] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3207. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; 200 yards east to 200 yards west of the Lewis Street Swing Bridge at MM52.5 Bayou Teche, New Iberia, Louisiana, bank to bank [COTP Morgan City-07-017] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3208. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway MM45 to MM47, WHL, bank to bank [COTP Morgan City-08-006] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3209. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Position 29-37.30N, 090-55.54W on Shell Canal, off Bayou Black, extending 500 yards in all directions, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3210. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile Marker 138.5 to Mile Marker 139.85, Above Head of Passes, Reserve, LA [COTP New Orleans-07-012] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3211. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile Marker 175 to Mile Marker 176, Above Head of Passes, Donaldsonville, LA [COTP New Orleans-07-013] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3212. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Harvey Canal, Mile Marker 4.0 to Mile Marker 5.0, Harvey, LA [COTP New Orleans-07-016] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009,

pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3213. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile Marker 228.8 to Mile Marker 229.8, Above Head of Passes, Baton Rouge, LA [COTP New Orleans-07-017] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3214. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile Marker 229.4 to Mile Marker 230, Above Head of Passes, Baton Rouge, LA [COTP New Orleans-07-018] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3215. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile 105.6 to Mile 106.6, Above Head Passes, Jefferson Parish, LA [COTP New Orleans-08-012] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3216. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Mile Marker 338 to 339 Galveston County, TX [Docket No.: USCG-2008-1027] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3217. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Wolf River Chute, Mile Marker 1 to Mile Marker 2, Memphis, TN [Docket No.: USCG-2008-1047] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3218. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Ouachita River, Mile Marker 167 to Mile Marker 169, Monroe, LA [Docket No.: USCG-2008-1160] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3219. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Tennessee River, Mile 446.0 to 455.0, Chattanooga, TN [Docket No.: USCG-2008-1271] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3220. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regattas and Marine Parades; The Snow Row, Hull, MA [Docket No.: USCG-2009-0012] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3221. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Missouri River, Mile 377.6 to 377.8 [COTP Upper Mississippi River-08-40] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3222. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Illinois River, Mile 162.5 to 162.7 [COTP

Upper Mississippi River-08-41] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3223. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Ohio River, Mile 469.2 to 470.2, Cincinnati, OH [Docket No.: USCG-2008-0518] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3224. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Kanawha River Mile 46.1 to 47.1, Saint Albans, WV [Docket No.: USCG-2008-0528] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3225. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Clinch River Mile Marker 0.5 to 1.5, Kingston, TN [Docket No.: USCG-2008-0567] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3226. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Kanawha River, Mile Marker 54.6 to 56.00, Charleston, WV [Docket No.: USCG-2008-0577] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3227. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Cumberland River, Mile 190.6 to 191.1, Nashville, TN [Docket No.: USCG-2008-0797] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3228. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Ohio River, Mile 601.5 to 603.8, Louisville, KY [Docket No.: USCG-2008-0868] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3229. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Kanawha River Mile 57.8 to 59.3, Charleston, WV [Docket No.: USCG-2008-0980] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3230. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River at MM 0.5 — 2.0 [Docket No.: USCG-2008-0994] (RIN: 1625-AA00), pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3231. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GICW) [COTP Port Arthur-08-002] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3232. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Gulf of Mexico, Sabine, TX [COTP Port Arthur-08-003] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to

the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3233. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GICW) [COTP Port Arthur-08-004] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3234. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Sabine River and Sabine-Neches Canal [COTP Port Arthur-08-005] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3235. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Ohio River, Mile 469.0 to 471.0, Cincinnati, OH [Docket No.: USCG-2008-0767] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3236. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Neches River and Sabine-Neches Canal [COTP Port Arthur-08-008] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3237. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Sabine-Neches Canal [COTP Port Arthur-08-009] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3238. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Calcasieu Ship Channel [COTP Port Arthur-08-011] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3239. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Safe Passing Distance and Minimum Safe Speed for Vessels Operating near Coast Guard ATON Vessels, Sector Houston-Galveston; Harris, Galveston, Brazoria and Chambers Counties, Texas [Docket No.: USCG-2008-1025] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3240. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 707 Airplanes and Model 720 and 720B Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0645; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-358-AD; Amendment 39-15969; AD 2009-15-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received July 28, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3241. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Model BAE 146 and Avro 146-RJ Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0398; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-193-AD; Amendment 39-15971; AD 2009-15-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received July 28, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3242. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness

Directives; Airbus Model A330-301, -321, -322, -341, and -342 Series Airplanes, and Airbus Model A340-211, -212, -213, -311, -312, and -313 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0645; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-034-AD; Amendment 39-15973; AD 2009-15-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received July 28, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3243. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A380-841, -842, and -861 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0644; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-059-AD; Amendment 39-15972; AD 2009-15-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received July 28, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3244. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Aerospatiale Model SN-601 (Corvette) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0646; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-055-AD; Amendment 39-15974; AD 2009-15-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received July 28, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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. ARCURI: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 726. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 965) to amend the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 to provide for the continuing authorization of the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network (Rept. 111-249). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California:

H.R. 3542. A bill to direct the Architect of the Capitol to fly the flag of a State over the Capitol each year on the anniversary of the date of the State's admission to the Union; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

H.R. 3543. A bill to direct the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a product carbon disclosure program to facilitate carbon content labeling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FILNER:

H.R. 3544. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide guidelines for the establishment of new national cemeteries by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HOYER (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. MASSA, Mr. SARBANES, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. SIREN, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. HIMES, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. STARK, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HONDA, Mr. TONKO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON of Indiana,

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HARE, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. OLVER, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SCHAUER, and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 3545. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants for the support of full-service community schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SESTAK (for himself, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. KAGEN):

H.R. 3546. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to make permanent the Community Express Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. PENCE:

H. Res. 723. A resolution electing a minority member to a standing committee; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr.

DREIER, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. MCKEON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. RADANOVICH, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. BONO MACK, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. NUNES, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. ISSA, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. HERGER, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. FARR, Mr. CAMPBELL, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. GALLEGLY, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. BACA, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. FILNER, and Ms. CHU):

H. Res. 724. A resolution honoring the first responders, paying tribute to the victims of the Southern California wildfires, and mourning the loss of Firefighter Captain Tedmund "Ted" Hall, and Firefighter Specialist Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FILNER (for himself, Mr.

BILBRAY, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BACA, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. FARR, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H. Res. 725. A resolution congratulating the Chula Vista Park View Little League team of Chula Vista, California, for winning the 2009 Little League World Series Championship; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. ISRAEL (for himself, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. ISSA):

H. Res. 727. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mrs. BONO MACK, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington):

H. Res. 728. A resolution recognizing the importance of "National Drug Facts Chat Day" on November 10, 2009; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 25: Mr. BONNER.
H.R. 43: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.
H.R. 82: Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 104: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 156: Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 197: Mr. WALDEN, Mrs. SCHMIDT, and Mr. BOCCIERI.
H.R. 240: Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky.
H.R. 275: Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. CHANDLER, and Mr. LOBIONDO.
H.R. 303: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 422: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 450: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. SOUDER, and Mr. TIAHRT.
H.R. 460: Mr. WAXMAN.
H.R. 510: Mr. BLUNT, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. LEE of New York, and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 615: Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 621: Mr. MASSA, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. STARK, and Mr. DAVIS of Alabama.
H.R. 673: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 678: Mr. MASSA.
H.R. 690: Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 721: Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 725: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona, Mr. REYES, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 734: Mr. MILLER of North Carolina and Mr. SHULER.
H.R. 745: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and Mr. MILLER of North Carolina.
H.R. 758: Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts.
H.R. 795: Ms. GIFFORDS and Mr. STARK.
H.R. 848: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 884: Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 949: Mr. COSTELLO and Mr. LATOURETTE.
H.R. 959: Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 983: Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 995: Mr. WU.
H.R. 1017: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 1142: Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 1176: Mr. MORAN of Kansas.
H.R. 1182: Mr. ADLER of New Jersey, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, and Mr. MORAN of Kansas.
H.R. 1207: Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 1210: Mr. LATOURETTE.
H.R. 1215: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 1255: Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. ROSS, and Mr. HELLER.
H.R. 1278: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H.R. 1283: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 1339: Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 1361: Mr. HOLT and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 1362: Mr. EHLERS, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, and Mr. WU.
H.R. 1378: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1423: Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LEVIN, and Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 1476: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and Mr. ACKERMAN.
H.R. 1479: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. MATSUI, and Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 1503: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 1557: Mr. EDWARDS of Texas.
H.R. 1581: Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 1585: Mr. PETRI.
H.R. 1618: Mr. VISCLOSKY.
H.R. 1625: Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. BERRY, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1646: Mr. RYAN of Ohio and Mr. ETHERIDGE.
H.R. 1682: Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 1691: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.
H.R. 1702: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 1799: Mr. DAVIS of Alabama.

H.R. 1826: Mr. STARK and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 1866: Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 1908: Mr. BARTLETT, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 1928: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 1964: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 1995: Mr. WU and Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 2000: Mrs. HALVORSON, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. GUTIERREZ.
H.R. 2002: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 2016: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 2024: Mr. HOEKSTRA.
H.R. 2067: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 2068: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 2149: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.
H.R. 2156: Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 2170: Mr. MINNICK.
H.R. 2239: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 2254: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 2280: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.
H.R. 2310: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 2339: Mrs. MALONEY.
H.R. 2365: Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. OLVER, and Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 2377: Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 2406: Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, and Mr. KING of Iowa.
H.R. 2425: Mr. PAUL and Mr. WU.
H.R. 2452: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SIREs, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. SPACE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. OLSON, and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 2456: Ms. SUTTON.
H.R. 2528: Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS and Mr. HERGER.
H.R. 2538: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 2554: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 2555: Mr. SHULER, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. CHILDERS.
H.R. 2556: Mr. KLINE of Minnesota.
H.R. 2562: Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 2590: Mr. WU.
H.R. 2626: Mr. MINNICK.
H.R. 2676: Mr. POMEROY.
H.R. 2692: Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MASSA, and Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 2695: Mr. SULLIVAN.
H.R. 2697: Mr. KRATOVL.
H.R. 2698: Mr. ROONEY.
H.R. 2699: Mr. ROONEY.
H.R. 2711: Mr. CHAFFETZ and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2713: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2835: Ms. CLARKE.
H.R. 2866: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 2894: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 2897: Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 2900: Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 2909: Mr. ELLISON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mr. SIREs.
H.R. 2941: Mr. POSEY, Mr. WU, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 2954: Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 2964: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 3019: Mr. DINGELL, Mr. BUYER, and Mr. STEARNS.
H.R. 3164: Mr. PLATTS and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 3166: Mr. HALL of New York.
H.R. 3167: Mr. TIAHRT.
H.R. 3178: Mr. BOCCIERI.
H.R. 3226: Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. COLE, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. POSEY, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. TERRY, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. DENT, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. MICA, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. AKIN, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.R. 3238: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. REYES, Mr. MEEK of Florida, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 3266: Mr. CAO, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. BOSWELL.
H.R. 3286: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. WATERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. BOUCHER, and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 3295: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 3382: Mr. PITTS.
H.R. 3404: Mr. SESTAK, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. YARMUTH, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 3464: Mr. BERRY and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 3472: Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. MASSA.
H.R. 3519: Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. EDWARDS of Texas, and Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois.
H.R. 3522: Mr. BOCCIERI and Mr. RODRIGUEZ.
H.R. 3532: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 3535: Ms. SUTTON.
H.R. 3536: Mr. STUPAK, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. DELAURIO, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. HINCHEY.
H. Con. Res. 42: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H. Con. Res. 43: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H. Con. Res. 44: Mr. PAYNE and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H. Con. Res. 46: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H. Con. Res. 73: Mr. PAYNE.
H. Con. Res. 94: Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan.
H. Con. Res. 97: Ms. BALDWIN.
H. Con. Res. 129: Mr. SPRATT, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. DRIEHAUS, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H. Con. Res. 147: Mr. MASSA.
H. Con. Res. 158: Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. LEVIN.
H. Con. Res. 178: Mr. CARNAHAN, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. MCMAHON, and Mr. UPTON.
H. Res. 148: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H. Res. 167: Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H. Res. 252: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. GALLEGLY, and Ms. RICHARDSON.
H. Res. 291: Mr. PLATTS and Mr. LOBIONDO.
H. Res. 364: Mr. HELLER.
H. Res. 419: Mr. SESTAK.
H. Res. 458: Mr. SESTAK.
H. Res. 459: Mr. PAULSEN.
H. Res. 487: Mr. KIND.
H. Res. 494: Mr. TURNER.
H. Res. 510: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H. Res. 547: Mr. SESTAK.
H. Res. 601: Mr. SESTAK.
H. Res. 605: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H. Res. 615: Mr. THORNBERRY and Ms. FOXX.
H. Res. 633: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H. Res. 638: Mr. COBLE.
H. Res. 649: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. SESTAK, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H. Res. 655: Mr. BACA.
H. Res. 659: Ms. RICHARDSON.
H. Res. 671: Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. FORBES, and Mr. PITTS.
H. Res. 677: Mr. WEINER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. PETERS.
H. Res. 686: Mr. ADLER of New Jersey, Mr. NADLER of New York, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. ENGEL, Mr.

MCINTYRE, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. MORAN of Kansas.

H. Res. 704: Mr. CLAY, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. BARTLETT, and Mr. POE of Texas.

H. Res. 707: Mr. TONKO and Mr. HARE.

H. Res. 712: Mr. BLUNT and Mr. GORDON of Tennessee.

H. Res. 716: Mr. LANCE, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. MANZULLO, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. SCHAUER.

H. Res. 718: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. POE of Texas, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. POLIS.

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:

The amendment to be offered by Representative BISHOP of Utah, or a designee, to H.R. 965, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization 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. RAHALL

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Natural Resources, in H.R. 965, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization 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.