

leadership on this effort, I do not think this provision would be in the bill and he deserves our credit and our support for that leadership.

This bill also provides a framework for VA to achieve cost savings at the Audie Murphy VA Medical Center in San Antonio, TX, through contracts with a non-Federal institution for construction and shared use of an energy production facility.

I would like to commend my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. TEJEDA], for his hard work on this provision. While Mr. TEJEDA is not here on the floor today because of a recent operation, our debt of thanks goes out to him. And if he happens to be watching this today, I know I speak on behalf of all of my colleagues in this House in saying we wish him well and appreciate his leadership and input on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, once again, it must be either a Monday or a Tuesday and it must once again be veterans legislation, because the chairman of the committee, the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP], and the ranking member, the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. MONTGOMERY], have done their business one more time. They have crafted, with the help of the gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON], a bipartisan piece of legislation that is important to our Nation's veterans and they have brought it to the floor without discord, without fighting.

Mr. Speaker, there will not be anyone in the press gallery reporting on this, but, hopefully, once again, as happened last week and so many times before, the cooperative efforts of Mr. STUMP and Mr. MONTGOMERY have resulted in positive, good, constructive legislation coming through this House that will benefit millions of our Nation's veterans who have served our country.

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

Mr. EDWARDS. I yield to the gentleman from Mississippi.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's mentioning the gentleman from Texas [Mr. TEJEDA], who is a member of the committee, and we are certainly pulling for him.

One thing I talked to the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP] about is, usually veterans bills are always up first in number. This time we are at the bottom, but I am sure that correction will be looked into, and I appreciate the gentleman's yielding.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. I am sure they just saved the best for last.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to congratulate the gentleman from Mississippi, [Mr. MONTGOMERY] and the gentleman from Arizona, [Mr. STUMP] and I urge support of this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the very diligent work of

the gentleman from Texas [Mr. EDWARDS]. He is always there, always willing to compromise, and stays right there. I thank both he and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX] for resolving the issues of the POW-MIT problem of flying the flag at the VA centers and in working out their differences, and I commend both of them.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX].

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I too want to thank very much the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP], the chairman of the committee, and the ranking member, the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. MONTGOMERY], and, of course, my colleague who has worked with me on this bill, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. EDWARDS], for his help in making this day possible, and also to the gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON], the chairman of the subcommittee, and to my good friend, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SMITH], for his efforts in moving ahead this important veterans legislation.

In addition to extending expiring health care authorities, we act today to honor our commitment to the 2,202 brave American soldiers who are still missing or unaccounted for, and to their families.

It is our duty to remember these proud warriors and their families and to do everything within our power to obtain a full accounting. Particularly in light of the President's recent normalization of relations with Vietnam, we must ensure that we remain vigilant. Mr. Speaker, in our duty to American POW and MIA's. Today I am proud to join my colleagues on the Veterans' Affairs Committee in offering H.R. 2353, which includes a provision to have the POW/MIA flag flown daily at each Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center until the President determines that the fullest possible accounting has been made.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the National League of Families POW/MIA flag has been recognized by law as the Symbol of the Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the data on Americans still prisoner, missing, and unaccounted for. It is appropriate that this flag be flown at the institutions which we have established to care for those who have served our great country.

The POW/MIA flag is already flown daily at the Coatesville VA Medical Center in Coatesville, PA. Veterans there are grateful for this visible symbol of the concern and commitment of the U.S. Government to their missing brethren.

I would like to thank again Chairman STUMP, ranking member MONTGOMERY, Chairman HUTCHINSON, ranking member EDWARDS, with whom I have worked with so long, the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. SMITH, the American Legion, and the national

POW/MIA legislative network for their support and I urge my colleagues to fully support H.R. 2353.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RIGGS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. STUMP] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2353, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 5 p.m.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 5 p.m.

□ 1700

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RIGGS) at 5 p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, the Chair will now put the question on each question on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today in the order in which that question was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

First, the approval of the Journal, followed by votes on H.R. 2070 de novo and H.R. 2353 by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

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

Ms. MOLINARI. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 344, nays 53, answered “present” 2, not voting 33, as follows:

## [Roll No. 714]

## YEAS—344

Andrews	Edwards	Laughlin
Archer	Ehlers	Lazio
Armey	Ehrlich	Leach
Bachus	Emerson	Levin
Baesler	Engel	Lewis (CA)
Baker (CA)	English	Lewis (KY)
Baker (LA)	Eshoo	Lightfoot
Baldacci	Ewing	Lincoln
Ballenger	Farr	Linder
Barr	Fattah	Livingston
Barrett (NE)	Fawell	LoBiondo
Barrett (WI)	Fields (TX)	Lofgren
Bartlett	Flake	Lucas
Barton	Flanagan	Luther
Bass	Foley	Maloney
Bateman	Forbes	Manton
Beilenson	Ford	Manzullo
Bentsen	Fowler	Markley
Bereuter	Fox	Martinez
Berman	Frank (MA)	Martini
Bevill	Franks (CT)	Mascara
Bilbray	Franks (NJ)	Matsui
Bilirakis	Frelinghuysen	McCarthy
Bishop	Frisa	McCollum
Bliley	Frost	McCrery
Blute	Funderburk	McDermott
Boehlert	Furse	McHale
Boehner	Gallegly	McHugh
Bonilla	Ganske	McIntosh
Bonior	Gejdenson	McKeon
Bono	Gekas	McKinney
Borski	Geren	Meek
Boucher	Gilchrest	Metcalfe
Brewster	Gilman	Meyers
Browder	Gonzalez	Mica
Brownback	Goodlatte	Miller (FL)
Bryant (TN)	Goodling	Minge
Bryant (TX)	Goss	Molinari
Bunn	Graham	Mollohan
Bunning	Green	Montgomery
Burr	Greenwood	Moorhead
Burton	Gunderson	Moran
Buyer	Gutknecht	Morella
Callahan	Hall (OH)	Murtha
Calvert	Hall (TX)	Myers
Camp	Hamilton	Myrick
Canady	Hancock	Nadler
Cardin	Hansen	Nethercutt
Castle	Hastert	Neumann
Chabot	Hastings (WA)	Norwood
Chenoweth	Hayes	Nussle
Christensen	Hayworth	Oberstar
Chrysler	Hefner	Obey
Clayton	Heineman	Olver
Clement	Herger	Ortiz
Clinger	Hobson	Orton
Clyburn	Hoekstra	Owens
Coble	Hoke	Oxley
Coburn	Holden	Packard
Collins (GA)	Horn	Pallone
Collins (IL)	Hostettler	Parker
Collins (MI)	Houghton	Pastor
Combest	Hunter	Paxon
Condit	Hutchinson	Payne (VA)
Cooley	Hyde	Pelosi
Costello	Inglis	Peterson (FL)
Cox	Istook	Peterson (MN)
Coyne	Johnson (CT)	Petri
Cramer	Johnson (SD)	Pomeroy
Crapo	Johnson, Sam	Porter
Cremeans	Johnston	Portman
Cubin	Jones	Poshard
Cunningham	Kanjorski	Pryce
Danner	Kaptur	Quillen
de la Garza	Kasich	Quinn
Deal	Kelly	Radanovich
DeFazio	Kennedy (RI)	Rahall
DeLauro	Kennelly	Ramstad
DeLay	Kildee	Rangel
Dickey	Kim	Reed
Dingell	King	Regula
Dixon	Kingston	Richardson
Doggett	Klecza	Riggs
Dooley	Klink	Rivers
Doolittle	Klug	Roemer
Dornan	Knollenberg	Rogers
Doyle	Kolbe	Rohrabacher
Dreier	LaHood	Ros-Lehtinen
Duncan	Lantos	Rose
Dunn	Largent	Roth
Durbin	LaTourette	Roukema

Royce	Smith (TX)	Vucanovich
Salmon	Smith (WA)	Walker
Sanders	Souder	Walsh
Sanford	Spence	Wamp
Sawyer	Spratt	Ward
Saxton	Stearns	Watts (OK)
Schaefer	Stenholm	Waxman
Schiff	Stokes	Weldon (FL)
Schumer	Studds	Weldon (PA)
Scott	Stupak	Weller
Seastrand	Talent	White
Sensenbrenner	Tanner	Whitfield
Serrano	Tate	Williams
Shadegg	Tauzin	Wilson
Shaw	Taylor (NC)	Wise
Shays	Thomas	Wolf
Shuster	Thornberry	Woolsey
Sisisky	Thornton	Wyden
Skaggs	Thurman	Wynn
Skeen	Tiahrt	Yates
Skelton	Torres	Young (AK)
Slaughter	Torricelli	Young (FL)
Smith (MI)	Trafficant	Zeliff
Smith (NJ)	Upton	

## NAYS—53

Allard	Gutierrez	Rush
Becerra	Hastings (FL)	Sabo
Brown (CA)	Hefley	Scarborough
Brown (FL)	Hilliard	Schroeder
Brown (OH)	Jacobs	Stark
Clay	Johnson, E. B.	Stockman
Coleman	LaFalce	Stump
Conyers	Lewis (GA)	Taylor (MS)
Crane	Longley	Thompson
Davis	McNulty	Torkildsen
Dicks	Mfume	Velazquez
Evans	Miller (CA)	Vento
Everett	Neal	Visclosky
Fazio	Ney	Waters
Filner	Pickett	Watt (NC)
Gephardt	Pombo	Wicker
Gibbons	Roberts	Zimmer
Gillmor	Roybal-Allard	

## ANSWERED “PRESENT”—2

Hoyer	Lipinski
	NOT VOTING—33

Abercrombie	Gordon	Meehan
Ackerman	Harman	Menendez
Barcia	Hilleary	Mink
Chambliss	Hinchee	Moakley
Chapman	Jackson-Lee	Payne (NJ)
Dellums	Jefferson	Solomon
Deutsch	Kennedy (MA)	Tejeda
Diaz-Balart	Latham	Towns
Ensign	Lowey	Tucker
Fields (LA)	McDade	Volkmer
Foglietta	McInnis	Waldholtz

□ 1724

Mr. ALLARD changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

Mr. JOHNSTON of Florida changed his vote from “present” to “yea.”

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER  
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RIGGS). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which the vote by electronic device may be taken on each motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question de

novo of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 2070.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SMITH] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2070.

The question was taken.

## RECORDED VOTE

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 403, noes 2, not voting 27, as follows:

## [Roll No. 715]

## AYES—403

Allard	Cox	Goss
Andrews	Coyne	Graham
Archer	Cramer	Green
Armey	Crane	Greenwood
Bachus	Crapo	Gunderson
Baesler	Cremeans	Gutierrez
Baker (CA)	Cubin	Gutknecht
Baker (LA)	Cunningham	Hall (OH)
Baldacci	Danner	Hall (TX)
Ballenger	Davis	Hamilton
Barr	de la Garza	Hancock
Barrett (NE)	Deal	Hansen
Barrett (WI)	DeFazio	Hastert
Bartlett	DeLauro	Hastings (FL)
Barton	DeLay	Hastings (WA)
Bass	Dellums	Hayes
Bateman	Diaz-Balart	Hayworth
Becerra	Dickey	Hefley
Beilenson	Dicks	Hefner
Bentsen	Dingell	Heineman
Bereuter	Dixon	Herger
Berman	Doggett	Hilliard
Bevill	Dooley	Hobson
Bilbray	Doolittle	Hoekstra
Bilirakis	Dornan	Hoke
Bishop	Doyle	Holden
Bliley	Dreier	Horn
Blute	Duncan	Hostettler
Boehlert	Dunn	Houghton
Boehner	Durbin	Hoyer
Bonilla	Edwards	Hunter
Bonior	Ehlers	Hutchinson
Bono	Ehrlich	Hyde
Borski	Emerson	Inglis
Boucher	Engel	Istook
Brewster	English	Jacobs
Browder	Eshoo	Johnson (CT)
Brown (CA)	Evans	Johnson (SD)
Brown (FL)	Everett	Johnson, E. B.
Brown (OH)	Ewing	Johnson, Sam
Brownback	Farr	Johnston
Bryant (TN)	Fattah	Jones
Bryant (TX)	Fawell	Kanjorski
Bunn	Fazio	Kaptur
Bunning	Fields (TX)	Kasich
Burr	Filner	Kelly
Burton	Flake	Kennedy (RI)
Buyer	Flanagan	Kennelly
Callahan	Foley	Kildee
Calvert	Forbes	Kim
Camp	Ford	King
Canady	Fowler	Kingston
Cardin	Fox	Klecza
Castle	Frank (MA)	Klink
Chabot	Franks (CT)	Klug
Chenoweth	Franks (NJ)	Knollenberg
Christensen	Frelinghuysen	Kolbe
Chrysler	Frisa	LaFalce
Clay	Frost	LaHood
Clayton	Furse	Lantos
Clement	Gallegly	Largent
Clinger	Ganske	LaTourette
Clyburn	Gejdenson	Laughlin
Coble	Gekas	Lazio
Coburn	Gephardt	Leach
Coleman	Geren	Levin
Collins (GA)	Gibbons	Lewis (CA)
Collins (IL)	Gilchrest	Lewis (GA)
Collins (MI)	Gillmor	Lewis (KY)
Combest	Gilman	Lightfoot
Condit	Gonzalez	Lincoln
Conyers	Goodlatte	Linder
Costello	Goodling	Lipinski