

tell you, you go take care of yourself." They are telling my veterans that were willing to sacrifice their life for the good of this country, willing to do that, they are telling them it is all right for them to have to spend 8, 10, 12 hours a day just to see a doctor, and that the majority says they do not deserve good medical care.

I say the opposite. I say that our veterans, that is a priority. They need to have the medical care that not only we should give them but that we promised them.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. I thank the gentleman from Missouri.

I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. CLYBURN].

Mr. CLYBURN. I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for allowing me to participate in this special order. I am pleased to serve with the gentlewoman on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and I know of the gentlewoman's great commitment to the veterans of our Nation. And also to join with our friend from Missouri who too has displayed time and time again his concern for our veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I join the gentlewoman from Florida in her opposition to our Republican colleagues' plans to rescind funding for veterans programs. Our Republican colleagues have already displayed their callousness by proposing legislation that would harm our Nation's youth. Now they are going after our Nation's veterans, the men and women who have committed their lives to the defense of our country.

This so-called Contract With America has quickly revealed itself as a contract on Americans. The people who seem to be in the line of fire are the young and the helpless.

Is this how we want to honor our veterans, by rescinding \$206.1 million in fiscal year 1995 VA appropriations? Is this how we are going to care for our aging veterans, by rescinding money intended to fund 6 ambulatory health care projects totaling \$156 million, and \$50 million in medical equipment purchases?

Mr. Speaker, these facilities are not Government frills. This medical equipment, these are not Government frills. They all represent an alternative to costly inpatient care by providing more accessible, cost-effective and efficient outpatient care.

Mr. Speaker, when this rescission bill comes to the floor, I am going to join the gentleman from Missouri and the gentlewoman from Florida in opposing the bill and I will urge all my colleagues to vote against what has got to be one of the most ill-conceived pieces of legislation to be proposed by the Republican-controlled Congress thus far.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. If the gentleman will yield, I just want to ask the gentleman one quick question.

In my opinion, this is old politics, because the committee did not discuss at all with the authorizers, did not talk with the Secretary, did not talk to the

administration. It was just a group of good old boys from the bad old days getting together against the veterans. Would the gentleman agree?

Mr. CLYBURN. Absolutely. I think that most of our friends who have been looking at the Congress operate thus far have been surprised to wake up in the morning and all of a sudden see headlines indicating that such and such is about to happen.

□ 1615

We have always tended to take these kinds of decisions through a process of hearings; people would come before the committee to talk about the pros and the cons of all of these kinds of actions. But that is not what is happening here, not in this instance and in other instances as well. There are just two or three people, or whatever number, who have gotten together and decided what they need to do in order to make it work.

As our friend from Missouri said earlier, if this were being done in order to do something about the deficit, I am convinced that the veterans in my congressional district and the veterans all across America would be lining up to do their fair share, because they too want to see us take this deficit down even further. But that is not what is being done here. We are going through a process of deciding how much money can be moved to put over in a big pot that the friends and supporters of our Republican colleagues can dip into in order to see a tax break for themselves.

So that is what is happening here as a result of that. I hope that the American people will wake up and get in touch with their Congress people before we do our veterans what I consider to be irreparable harm.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. So we have here today coming up this afternoon and tomorrow reverse Robin Hood, robbing from the poor to give to the rich.

Mr. CLYBURN. That is exactly what we have got and I think it is being kind to call it that.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. I would also add that the Contract With America has turned out to be a contract on America.

Mr. CLYBURN. I think it is on Americans.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. On Americans. And this poster is a real example. If you look at it this is a baby, and of course it does not vote. This is one of the targets of the Republican group. And who is the target now that they have added the veterans and elderly?

Everybody needs to take a close look because I think their pink slip is in the mail, too. If they are not careful they are next on the Republicans' hit list.

Mr. CLYBURN. I agree with the gentlewoman, and I think it is time for me to yield back so she may close this special order. I thank the gentlewoman so much for allowing me to be a part of this special order.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentlewoman from Florida has expired.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. I want to thank my colleagues very much for coming and sharing with the American people the plight we are in here fighting for our veterans and for other groups that are not here in the House, represented here and given an opportunity to vote.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, as the ranking member of the Committee on Veterans Affairs, I rise to urge all my colleagues to support an amendment to the rescission bill reported last Thursday by the Appropriations Committee. The amendment is modest in scope but vital to VA health care. It would restore the \$206 million for veterans programs which the Committee on Appropriations proposes to rescind.

These rescissions don't make good sense. These funds were appropriated by Congress only a few months ago, primarily to help meet a critical need to improve veterans' access to outpatient care. The six VA projects which the committee now proposes to cancel would serve areas where more than 1.2 million veterans reside.

The budget for construction of veterans medical facilities has been pretty lean for the past 5 or 6 years. As a result, the VA says it now has almost 60 projects to improve outpatient services waiting to be funded. The VA could award construction contracts on these six projects in the next several months. We shouldn't put these projects off 1 day.

These are projects that can make VA health care delivery more cost-effective. This rescission bill would slam the door on veterans across this country. In some parts of the country, the VA doesn't have health facilities that meet veterans needs. In other places, the clinics are just too small. At one clinic, space is so tight that doctors are forced to perform eye examinations in the hallways. Veterans deserve better than this.

An increasing number of veterans are women; over 1.2 million. Many VA outpatient clinics still lack privacy for women veterans. In the face of such conditions, the rescission bill is a giant step backward.

Likewise, cutting funds for replacement equipment—as proposed by the rescission measure—forces VA to choose between obtaining a needed service at increased cost through contracting or continuing to use inefficient or even obsolete equipment. The VA's medical equipment backlog is more than \$800 million. We must assure that VA care is care of high quality. Cutting back on VA funds to replace old equipment is putting out veterans at risk.

I want to commend all of the Members who are working hard to restore these funds—the gentlewomen from Florida, Ms. BROWN and Mrs. THURMAN, the gentlewoman from Connecticut, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. VOLKMER, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ and the other Members who are gathered here tonight. They are all doing a good job looking out for our Nation's veterans.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 18 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. SHAYS] at 5 p.m.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAYS). Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal. The Journal was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Debate has been concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today in the order in which those motions were entertained. Votes will be taken in the following order: H.R. 531, as amended; H.R. 694, as amended; H.R. 562, as amended; H.R. 536, as amended; and H.R. 517, all by the yeas and nays.

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

DESIGNATING THE GREAT WESTERN SCENIC TRAIL AS A STUDY TRAIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 531.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 531, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 400, nays 15, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 230]

YEAS—400

Abercrombie	Barton	Borski
Ackerman	Bass	Boucher
Allard	Bateman	Brewster
Andrews	Beilenson	Browder
Archer	Bentsen	Brown (CA)
Armey	Bereuter	Brown (FL)
Bachus	Berman	Brown (OH)
Baesler	Bevill	Bryant (TN)
Baker (CA)	Bilbray	Bryant (TX)
Baker (LA)	Bilirakis	Bunn
Baldacci	Bishop	Bunning
Ballenger	Blute	Burr
Barcia	Boehlert	Burton
Barr	Boehner	Buyer
Barrett (NE)	Bonilla	Callahan
Barrett (WI)	Bonior	Calvert
Bartlett	Bono	Camp

Canady	Hamilton	Mica
Cardin	Hancock	Miller (CA)
Castle	Hansen	Miller (FL)
Chabot	Harman	Mineta
Chambliss	Hastert	Minge
Chapman	Hastings (FL)	Mink
Chenoweth	Hastings (WA)	Moakley
Chrysler	Hayes	Molinari
Clay	Hayworth	Mollohan
Clayton	Hefley	Montgomery
Clement	Hefner	Moorhead
Clinger	Heineman	Moran
Clyburn	Herger	Morella
Coleman	Hilleary	Murtha
Collins (GA)	Hilliard	Myers
Collins (IL)	Hinchey	Myrick
Combest	Hobson	Nadler
Condit	Hoekstra	Neal
Conyers	Hoke	Nethercutt
Costello	Holden	Neumann
Cox	Horn	Ney
Coyne	Hostettler	Norwood
Cramer	Houghton	Nussle
Crapo	Hoyer	Oberstar
Creameans	Hutchinson	Obey
Cunningham	Hyde	Olver
Danner	Inglis	Ortiz
Davis	Istook	Orton
Deal	Jackson-Lee	Owens
DeFazio	Jacobs	Oxley
DeLauro	Jefferson	Packard
DeLay	Johnson (CT)	Pallone
Dellums	Johnson (SD)	Parker
Deutsch	Johnson, E. B.	Pastor
Diaz-Balart	Johnston	Paxon
Dickey	Jones	Payne (NJ)
Dicks	Kanjorski	Payne (VA)
Dingell	Kaptur	Pelosi
Dixon	Kasich	Peterson (FL)
Doggett	Kelly	Peterson (MN)
Doolittle	Kennedy (MA)	Petri
Dornan	Kennedy (RI)	Pickett
Doyle	Kennelly	Pombo
Dreier	Kildee	Pomeroy
Duncan	Kim	Porter
Dunn	King	Portman
Durbin	Kingston	Poshard
Edwards	Klecza	Pryce
Ehlers	Klink	Quillen
Ehrlich	Klug	Quinn
Emerson	Knollenberg	Radanovich
Engel	Kolbe	Rahall
English	LaFalce	Ramstad
Ensign	LaHood	Rangel
Eshoo	Largent	Reed
Evans	Latham	Regula
Everett	LaTourette	Reynolds
Ewing	Laughlin	Richardson
Fattah	Lazio	Riggs
Fawell	Leach	Rivers
Fazio	Levin	Roberts
Fields (TX)	Lewis (CA)	Rohrabacher
Filner	Lewis (GA)	Ros-Lehtinen
Flake	Lewis (KY)	Rose
Flanagan	Lightfoot	Roth
Foglietta	Lincoln	Roukema
Foley	Linder	Roybal-Allard
Forbes	Lipinski	Royce
Ford	Livingston	Rush
Fowler	LoBiondo	Sabo
Fox	Lofgren	Salmon
Frank (MA)	Longley	Sanders
Franks (CT)	Lowey	Sanford
Franks (NJ)	Lucas	Sawyer
Frelinghuysen	Luther	Saxton
Frisa	Maloney	Schaefer
Frost	Manton	Schroeder
Funderburk	Markey	Schumer
Furse	Martinez	Scott
Gejdenson	Martini	Seastrand
Gekas	Mascara	Serrano
Gephardt	Matsui	Shadegg
Geren	McCarthy	Shaw
Gibbons	McCollum	Shays
Gilchrest	McCrery	Shuster
Gillmor	McDade	Sisisky
Gilman	McDermott	Skaggs
Gonzalez	McHale	Skeen
Goodlatte	McHugh	Skelton
Goodling	McInnis	Slaughter
Gordon	McIntosh	Smith (NJ)
Goss	McKeon	Smith (TX)
Graham	McKinney	Smith (WA)
Green	McNulty	Solomon
Greenwood	Meehan	Souder
Gunderson	Meek	Spence
Gutierrez	Menendez	Spratt
Gutknecht	Metcalf	Stark
Hall (TX)	Meyers	Stenholm

Stokes	Traficant	Weldon (PA)
Studds	Tucker	Weller
Stump	Upton	White
Stupak	Velazquez	Whitfield
Talent	Vento	Wicker
Tanner	Visclosky	Williams
Tate	Volkmer	Wilson
Tauzin	Vucanovich	Wise
Taylor (NC)	Waldholtz	Woolsey
Tejeda	Walker	Wyden
Thomas	Walsh	Wynn
Thompson	Wamp	Yates
Thornberry	Ward	Young (AK)
Thornton	Waters	Young (FL)
Torkildsen	Watt (NC)	Zeliff
Torres	Watts (OK)	Zimmer
Torricelli	Waxman	
Towns	Weldon (FL)	

NAYS—15

Brownback	Ganske	Sensenbrenner
Christensen	Johnson, Sam	Stearns
Coble	Manzullo	Stockman
Cooley	Roemer	Taylor (MS)
Crane	Scarborough	Tiahrt

NOT VOTING—19

Becerra	Farr	Rogers
Bliley	Fields (LA)	Schiff
Coburn	Gallegly	Smith (MI)
Collins (MI)	Hall (OH)	Thurman
Cubin	Hunter	Wolf
de la Garza	Lantos	
Dooley	Mfume	

□ 1724

Messrs. BROWNBAC, COOLEY, SENSENBRENNER, TIAHRT, CHRISTENSEN, COBLE, and STOCKMAN changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. THOMPSON changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MINOR BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PARK AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1995

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAYS). The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill H.R. 694, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 694, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

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 within which a vote by electronic device may be taken on each additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 337, nays 83, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 231]

YEAS—337

Abercrombie	Baesler	Barr
Ackerman	Baker (CA)	Bartlett
Allard	Baker (LA)	Bass
Andrews	Baldacci	Bateman
Armey	Ballenger	Beilenson
Bachus	Barcia	Bentsen