

RESCISSION PROPOSALS AFFECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, I herewith report three rescission proposals, totaling \$132.0 million.

The proposed rescissions affect the Departments of Justice and Transportation, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 2, 1995.

CONDEMNING THE BOMBING IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 135) condemning the bombing in Oklahoma City, and ask for its immediate consideration.

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

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 135

Whereas on Wednesday, April 19, 1995, a car bomb exploded outside the Alfred P. Murrah Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, collapsing the north face of this 9-story concrete building, killing and injuring innocent and defenseless children and adults;

Whereas authorities are calling this the "deadliest terrorist attack ever on United States soil";

Whereas Federal law provides for the imposition of the death penalty for terrorist murder; and

Whereas additional antiterrorism measures are now pending for consideration in the United States House of Representatives: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the heinous bombing attack against innocent children and adults at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City;

(2) sends its heartfelt condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of those whose lives were taken away by this abhorrent and cowardly act; and expresses its hopes for the rapid and complete recovery of those wounded in the bombing;

(3) applauds all those courageous rescue and volunteer workers who are giving unselfishly of themselves, and commends all law enforcement officials who are working determinedly to bring the perpetrators to justice;

(4) supports the President's and the United States Attorney General's position that Federal prosecutors will seek the maximum penalty allowed by law, including the death penalty, for those responsible;

(5) commends the rapid actions taken by the President to provide assistance to the victims of the explosion and for promptly beginning an investigation to find the perpetrators of this crime, and it urges the President to use all necessary means to continue this effort until the perpetrators and their accomplices are found and appropriately punished; and

(6) will expeditiously approve legislation to strengthen the authority and resources of all Federal agencies involved in combating such acts of terrorism.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. LUCAS] is recognized for 1 hour.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 135.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield 30 minutes to my friend and colleague, the senior member of the Oklahoma House delegation, the gentleman from Oklahoma, [Mr. BREWSTER], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I truly wish the first bill that I had managed on the House floor would have been anything other than the resolution that we have before us today. I would like to thank the leadership on both sides of the aisle for allowing the House to consider this measure in such an expeditious manner. Over the next hour we will talk of lost innocence, tragedy, death, resilience, human spirit, and rebuilding. I thank my colleagues for taking part in this debate.

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

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

(Mr. BREWSTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BREWSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that we have this resolution before the House today. I wish we were not here. I wish the tragic disaster that happened last April 19, had not happened. The deadliest terrorist attack that ever happened on America's soil happened in Oklahoma city.

This cowardly act killed more than 138 people, including 15 children. Over 40, including 4 children are still missing. Over 465 people were injured in the blast.

Mr. Speaker, it becomes very personal when you see and know the individuals affected. I have lost friends, and many of my friends have lost loved ones. I have attended memorial services and seen the pain—undescrivable pain—on these innocent faces. Children who have lost a parent; parents who have lost their children. Families torn

apart from the senseless act of terrorism.

The healing process will be long and difficult. Just today, Mr. Speaker, I read a letter written by one of the victims of the bombing. Susan Farrell, a 37-year-old attorney for HUD who grew up in Chandler, OK, was in the building during the explosion. She had written me only 2 days before the bombing asking for support for the Legal Services Corporation.

The shock waves from this cowardly act will long be felt in the heart of Oklahomans, and in the heart of Americans. April 19 has been burned into our history books as a day to remember the lives lost, the children who never saw another birthday, the families who felt the pain, and the innocence left behind in Oklahoma.

Mr. Speaker, today I stand proud to be an Oklahoman. Countless volunteers and workers have donated much of their time to help those suffering and help in the relief effort. I recall listening to those early news reports that continued to praise Oklahomans for being so kind, and reporting with shock that these citizens reached out with everything they had to help the victims. I was not surprised at the outpouring of love and support. Oklahomans are a proud and honorable people.

I want to also recognize the outpouring of all Americans. Relief groups traveled from all over the country to help Oklahomans in their time of need. Those people, and their efforts will not be forgotten.

It has been additionally heartwarming to hear the remarks by President Clinton, Rev. Billy Graham, Gov. Frank Keating and his wife Cathy, and Mayor Ron Norick throughout this tragedy. All have reached out to comfort and console those families and let them know this evil act will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution today expresses our condolences, sympathies, and prayer for the families of the victims, to the injured and also for the deceased. We pray for them and we want them to know of our outrage for the crime and our compassion for those individuals as well.

The resolution states our strong support for the President and the law enforcement officials who are doing everything within their power to apprehend and try and punish those people who are responsible, and it states that we support the President and the Attorney General as they say this is certainly a case in which the death penalty is appropriate.

This resolution also goes further to thank the volunteers and the countless people who have put so much into easing the pain.

In the aftermath of this terrible tragedy, we must be very careful not to go too far as we respond legislatively. We cannot be too careful when considering legislation which impacts every American—balancing constitutional rights with protections needed to prevent this

event from happening again should be weighed very carefully.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this House to first focus on finding those people responsible and punish them as swiftly as possible. I also urge this House to show compassion and assistance for the families whose lives have been shattered by this blast, and for those families who still have loved ones missing in the wreckage. And, finally I urge this House to thank and support the law enforcement officers, rescue workers, fire officials, volunteers, political leaders and so many other tireless efforts by all Americans.

We want them to know we support them and appreciate their efforts. We appreciate the sacrifices they made to show that good can overcome evil. I think we have seen that in my State. I am very proud of Oklahoma, and our country, as a result.

□ 1300

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

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5½ minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. ISTOOK].

Mr. ISTOOK. Mr. Speaker, everyone who was in this country in 1941 knows where they were on Pearl Harbor day. Everyone knows where they were when the *Challenger* blew up as it was launched from Cape Canaveral. And everyone in Oklahoma will always know where they were at 9:02 in the morning on April 19, 1995.

The shock from that blast was felt as far as 55 miles away. I myself was in a building 8 miles away and people were afraid from the shaking of it that it was going to come down as well.

We have all seen the depictions on TV, in the newspapers and in magazines about what happened there, but it does not capture it. If anyone on this floor has not seen some of the pictures, I have brought a collection. But nothing can convey what really occurred and to how many people it happened.

But if you see someone from Oklahoma with tears in their eyes right now, you cannot tell when it is tears of sorrow and when it is tears of pride. For our State, our city, our community has united like I believe no one has ever seen before in the face of a common disaster.

When the workers came in, and we are so grateful they did, from nearby Maryland here, from Virginia, from California, from Arizona, from Minnesota, from Texas, from all over this country, they came together with help, and we say thank you. To the brave workers who were there on the scene, people passing by on the street that rendered immediate aid, that did not worry about danger to themselves, that rushed into the building that was still in the process of collapsing, and while there were fires still burning from cars that had exploded in the chain reaction of the blast, we say thank you.

A plane full of doctors on their way to a meeting in Texas turned around and came back to help with the disas-

ter victims. Medical personnel were called all over.

Mr. Speaker, the sad thing was, after the first rush of over 400 injured people to the hospitals, they kept waiting. They kept waiting in the emergency rooms, they kept waiting in the downtown area. They kept waiting for more victims of about 200 people still known to be missing and, Mr. Speaker, the other injured never came, because they were the ones whose bodies were left shattered and torn in the rubble.

Our city has responded with outreach to the families, to the ones left behind. People could not all be rescue workers, could not all go down and dig through the rubble, could not all be part of the investigation. So they said, what do you need? Do you need people to go out and comfort the families? We'll do it. Do you need to take care of the rescue workers? We'll do it. Not out of Government response but just from private citizens.

About 100,000 meals were donated, from all over the community. If the rescue workers needed something to pick through the rubble, whether it be shovels, whether it be leather gloves, knee pads because they had to crawl through, flashlight batteries to try to dig through the cavern underneath, they just mentioned it, and it materialized downtown. No procurement process, no worry about payback. Just private citizens trying to do everything they could to help.

This is the spirit of brotherly love that we believe in in Oklahoma. We are grateful that all political differences were set aside. When we held a memorial service a week ago Sunday, the President and First Lady came in, half of the Cabinet came in, and they were received out of the respect of their concern for us and the dignity that is due their office.

About 20,000 Oklahomans came together, only 11,000 could fit in the building, the rest had to wait outside, to honor the dead, their families, our State, our city, and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, it was not just the Federal building. We have probably 19 buildings in downtown Oklahoma City that are going to have to be razed because of the structural damage. We have hundreds of others with degrees of damage because that was how tremendous the blast was.

One of the saddest things may be that a church immediately across the street to the east of the Federal building, in the midst of the shattered stained glass windows and the crumbling brick, they have had to take a church, a house of God, a house of worship, a house of prayer, and use it as the morgue to take care of the victims.

Mr. Speaker, I wear a ribbon and all true Oklahoma people are wearing ribbons in honor of the things that are being done. We want to say thank you.

We want to say thank you for everything everyone has done. If you come to Oklahoma City, and I hope and pray that you will have an occasion to do so,

to meet the people that fit the title of being in the heartland of America, you will find that in addition to all the ribbons flying, there are signs all over our town, and they say God bless Oklahoma City.

Mr. Speaker, I know He does. It says above you there and above the flag, in God we trust. Mr. Speaker, there is no other way we could have made it. We want to thank the Lord, as well as the people of this country, for the blessings that He has given us to make it through.

Mr. BREWSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California [Ms. HARMAN].

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I join all my colleagues, particularly those from Oklahoma, in condemning of the bombing of the Federal office building in Oklahoma City and in support of this resolution.

To the families and friends of the victims, I extend my heartfelt sympathies and those of every resident from California's South Bay. To the thousands of rescue workers who combed through the destruction looking for trapped individuals, I extend deepest thanks and appreciation for a job well done.

The gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. ISTOOK] has eloquently acknowledged and thanked many States for sending help. Among the rescue workers descending on Oklahoma City were two Torrance, CA fire fighters, Mark Andersen and Ian Burnett. Like hundreds of others, both men put their lives and safety at risk searching the devastation for victims of the bombing.

But while other workers exhausted themselves cutting re-bar with bolt cutters in their search for survivors, Andersen and Burnett easily sliced through the re-bar using Life Shears, a cutting tool developed by Hi-Shear Technology Corp., also of Torrance. The 20-pound, 18-inch long tool originally was designed for the military to cut communications cables. Andersen worked with Hi-Shear to adapt it to fire and rescue work. It uses a bullet-like propellant to shoot a sharp blade through the re-bar.

Rescue workers from other agencies were dazzled by the tool, so much so that the Federal Emergency Management Agency requested 40 additional Life Shears be sent to the bombing site. FEMA also advised other fire departments nationwide to buy the tool.

Funding for the development of Life Shears came from the Technology Reinvestment Program [TRP]. It is one of the many examples of the application of defense technology to civilian use.

Out of this tragedy came stories of heroism, selflessness, and compassion. It also became the venue for demonstrating technologies that can save lives.

Mr. Speaker, let's hope we can prevent incidents of this enormity, but let's also pledge to be prepared in the event of any future natural or human-made devastation. In doing so, we can

save lives and ease the difficult burden of rescue workers.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. WATTS].

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, the tragedy in Oklahoma City is the most horrific act of terrorism and violence ever to have occurred within the borders of our great Nation. I have been at the site several times and I have seen the destruction firsthand.

Yesterday afternoon I made a few remarks at the funeral of a dear friend, Clarence Wilson, who was the general counsel for HUD there in Oklahoma City. We lost more than two dozen residents in my district, including an 18-month-old child in Chickasha, OK.

My heart goes out to all the victims and all the people that are involved in this tragedy. Nothing can replace the loss, and only a lot of time, love, and prayers can begin to heal the wounds.

As the father of five healthy, vibrant children, I cannot imagine anything worse than losing a child. The sight of the fireman carrying Baylee Almon will be forever etched in the minds of Americans.

In the face of tragedy, once again the heart of this great Nation is shown to be strong and compassionate. The whole country has unified to support us, and the relief efforts have been tremendous. The support for our emergency service people, police, the fire, EMSA, Red Cross, the FBI, has been overwhelming. This has to be one of the most unifying, coordinated efforts we have ever seen.

I saw America firsthand from a bird's-eye view. I saw America respond not as Republicans or Democrats, not as rich or poor, not as black or white, not as man or woman, but I saw this country respond in a difficult time as Americans.

I want to say thank you, America, from the bottom of our collective hearts. If the perpetrators of this crime meant to send us a message, we have one for them: We will seek you out, and make sure you pay for the senseless tragedy.

As a member of the Committee on National Security, I will work to make sure our security is strong within this country as well as strong outside of this country.

However, one note of caution. During a senseless tragedy such as this, we must avoid recklessly affixing blame on people or groups who might be convenient targets for finger-pointing. This crime is being investigated by the appropriate law enforcement authorities and they will bring the perpetrators to justice.

□ 1315

We cannot allow the insanity of a few to become a justification for watering down the Bill of Rights. In short, we need to ensure that Washington-based elitists don't use this situation as a pretext for declaring open season on those with opposing views or God forbid—establishing a police state.

If we succumb to the fear, the bomber will have won. If we politicize the situation, the bomber will have won. If we abrogate our civil liberties and trample the Constitution, the bomber will have won. If we live with constant second-guessing and paranoia, the bomber will have won. If we allow people to label those with opposing views as hatemongers, the bomber wins. If we can't declare with resounding unanimity that this is still the greatest place in the world to live, the bomber will have won. We cannot allow the bomber to win.

Mr. Speaker, I've never been more proud to be an Oklahoman and an American and I ask God with a prayerful heart, to give this Congress and the President the wisdom and understanding to act responsibly and decisively in the coming weeks to do our best to try and ensure that this will never happen again. I urge support for this resolution.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. COBURN].

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Speaker, I have sat and listened to my colleagues say the things that need to be said, and to recognize both the tragedy as well as the compassion that came about through this land as a result of the bombing in Oklahoma City.

I would reinforce what has been said in terms of our reaction, that it should be measured and based on facts and not on emotion.

But I think most of all what we should recognize is what has happened to us with this bombing. One of the things we have done is we have devalued life in this country and we have brought it to a point where we no longer will value the lives of the very people that worked to make this country great.

Those that brought about this tragedy will be found and punished. But we should all reflect and have some introspection on what has happened to us as a society as we have devalued life both at the beginning and at the end.

Oklahoma will recover. Hearts will be scared and lives will be lived out in the memory of these individuals. But let it not be for naught. Let this be a turning point where we recognize that these people are no longer with us because of the loss of respect for human life.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WELDON].

(Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, first I want to thank our colleague from Oklahoma, Mr. LUCAS, for offering this resolution. I rise in strong support.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 9 years in this Congress I have worked the issues of fire and life safety and emergency response and have been on every major disaster the country has had, from the

Loma Prieta earthquake, the wildland fires, Hurricanes Hugo and Andrew, the World Trade Center bombing, but perhaps none has been more outrageous than the recent disaster in Oklahoma City. It is the worst of the standpoint of the outrage, Mr. Speaker, because of the way it was done, because of the victims upon whom this disaster was perpetrated.

But the thing in each of these incidents and every major incident that the country faces every day is the same, and that is the dedication and tenacity of the emergency response officials in this country. One and one-half million men and women across America from Chief Morris from the Oklahoma fire department and Assistant Chief John Hansen were there to answer the question.

Last Wednesday evening, as we have done for the last 7 years, we honored the national fire emergency responders, with 2,000 leaders from across the country at the Hilton here in Washington. We did a live video linkage with the mayor and the chief emergency response officials from Oklahoma City as we gave them our highest award, paying recognition for the work that they have done. They are typical of the emergency response community in this country and we need to recognize them.

But, Mr. Speaker, there are lessons that we need to learn from these incidents. Following the World Trade Center bombing, Mr. Speaker, I wrote to President Clinton and asked him to convene a special task force on disasters in America, especially those that are caused by terrorism.

The House responded. We convened a bipartisan task force that met for 5 months last year and came up with specific recommendations.

The day after the Oklahoma City disaster I again wrote to President Clinton. Mr. Speaker, I include that letter in the RECORD at this point.

The letter referred to follows:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 20, 1995.

President WILLIAM CLINTON,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: In light of the tragic bombing in Oklahoma City, I write to urge that you convene a White House Conference on Disaster Preparedness and Response and appoint a Presidential Task Force to follow up with recommendations for legislative and administrative action.

As founder of the Congressional Fire and Emergency Services Caucus, I have long advocated the improvement of federal disaster mitigation and response. I believe we must look at the situations which we have faced in past disaster scenarios—from the World Trade Center and Oklahoma City to the California earthquake and the Midwest floods—and apply the "lessons learned" to future planning and response efforts.

Following the bombing of the World Trade Center, I called for the creation of Disaster Task Force and laid out several recommendations of my own. You may recall

that Governor Mario Cuomo endorsed those proposals. I also urged federal action on disaster response after the California Earthquakes, Florida hurricanes and Midwest floods. Congress responded by establishing a bipartisan Disaster Task Force on which I served. The Task Force produced numerous recommendations for improving national disaster mitigation and response.

As a result of these past efforts, FEMA is today far better organized and prepared to deal with crises than it has been in the past. I appreciate the Administration's support for reform, and applaud you for the accomplishments to date. However, as recent events indicate, much remains to be done. We must build on the progress we have made and undertake a broader, more comprehensive review to address a full range of disasters.

We now need to bring together top disaster planning experts from across the nation with policy makers from all levels of government so that we can craft recommendations for increasing coordination of federal, state and local efforts in mitigating and responding to natural and manmade disasters, including those provoked by terrorists. I look forward to your leadership and support in this regard.

Sincerely,

CURT WELDON,
Member of Congress.

In that letter I asked the President to convene a White House Conference on Disasters, with a special focus on terrorism, to be followed by a White House executive committee that would work to implement legislative and administrative changes to allow us to better respond to disasters like this around the country.

Mr. Speaker, FEMA has improved, and the Federal Government has improved, in the way that we assist local officials, but much more has to be done, much more can be learned, and I would hope that the best tribute that we could pay to all of those who fell victim to this terrorist act in Oklahoma City would be to put into place a process through which we can improve the ability for emergency responders to deal with similar situations in the future.

Because, Mr. Speaker, we know there is going to be another time, we know there is going to be another disaster, we know there is going to be another bombing, and we have to be prepared to mitigate, to deal with, respond to, and pay for those disasters, and the best way to do that is to conduct an ongoing review and make comprehensive recommendations about that response process.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for yielding me the time.

Mr. BREWSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. HOYER].

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Oklahoma for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I join in the sadness and sorrow of the gentleman from Oklahoma, and I rise to express my strong support for this resolution that condemns the bombing attack on the men, women, and the children of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

This resolution sends a message that the Congress joins with the administration, no resolution can send it as strongly as every Member feels it or as every American feels it, but support for using all necessary means to find and bring to justice all those responsible for this unspeakable act.

As a member of the Committee on Appropriations I want to express my commitment to providing whatever resources are necessary to bring all those responsible to justice. And let no one be uncertain that punishment for anyone else who might try such as act in the future will also be swift and as severe as the law allows.

My prayers and the prayers of everybody in this Chamber and throughout this country are with the victims in Oklahoma, with their families, and with their friends and with their colleagues.

As a longtime supporter of our Nation's civil service, I am especially saddened, Mr. Speaker, by the horrific impact that this tragedy has had on the more than 500 Federal employees who worked at that building, and almost 2 million more who work around this country on behalf of their fellow citizens.

In my view, Mr. Speaker, Federal workers are one of our Nation's greatest assets. This ironically is Public Service Recognition Week, that special week each year when we recognize the enormous contribution that public employees at all levels of government make to the national well-being.

Like the Federal buildings scattered throughout the Nation, the Murrah Building was a microcosm of government. The jobs there reflect the broad spectrum of services that Americans expect from the Federal Government:

One hundred twenty-five workers at a Housing and Urban Development office to help citizens realize the greatest of Americans dreams—home ownership and affordable housing.

Sixty-one Social Security Administration employees getting benefits out and resolving questions and problems for the citizens of Oklahoma. At least 11 of those employees are dead, along with many of the estimated 35 members of the general public who were in the Social Security Administration office at the time of the blast.

Twenty-five Federal Highway Administration employees keeping transportation projects so critical to our economy and to our citizens on track.

Twenty-two Department of Agriculture employees giving aid and information out to farmers so that all Americans can have affordable, healthy food.

Seventeen Marine Corps employees who I am confident never thought that their little Oklahoma recruiting office would be blown up as if it were in a war zone. I understand that a group of New York firemen who had joined in the rescue effort, who are also Marine reservists, saluted as they carried one of

their own from beneath the crushed concrete.

And perhaps, Mr. Speaker, most disturbing, the law enforcement officials who were stationed in the Murrah Building from the Secret Service, the Customs Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and, yes, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. ATF employees stationed in the building not only assisted in the rescue efforts but have worked with ATF's two national response teams that were deployed to Oklahoma City immediately after the bombing.

These are not nameless, faceless bureaucrats as some would project to the American public or folks that are just the enemy who we want to get who are what we want to undermine, get ride of them. America relies on these heads of families, these mothers of children, these children of others.

Their desire, Mr. Speaker, is to serve and is exemplified by an incredible news clip shared with me by the Department of the Army. Written by Tonya Riley-Rodriguez, it reads:

He stood beneath a tree which survived the blast and took a long drink of bottled water.

I'm going to be here until they all—come home," said Staff Sgt. Don M. Majors, a U.S. Army nurse recruiter.

I have worked in this building for 5½ years, and I knew everybody."

He slipped a surgical mask back up to his sweat-and-dirt-covered face, ineffectually wiped at a streak of plaster on his forehead, and turned to go under the collapsed building again. He wasn't sure how long he had been searching that day. "Maybe 13 or 14 hours," he offered.

Mr. Speaker, this is the type of dedication we have seen from so many people in Oklahoma City since April 19. It is the spirit that so many Federal workers bring to their job day after day.

As we pass this resolution condemning this horrible act in Oklahoma City, I hope that all Members of this body will join with me in recognizing the tremendous commitment of Federal employees in Oklahoma City and across this Nation. And, yes, remember the brave citizens of Oklahoma and Oklahoma City. They are our brothers and they are our sisters, and if they are attacked, we are attacked. They are fellow Americans.

Let them know in Oklahoma that we are with them, let them know in Oklahoma, my friends who represent that great State, that we will march with you side by side to ensure their safety and to ensure that whatever is within our ability to make them whole, and only God can do that, of course, we will do.

I thank the gentleman for his time.

□ 1330

Mr. BREWSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT], the distinguished minority floor leader.

(Mr. GEPHARDT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support this resolution, to express the profound sadness and anger of this House at the bombing which shook Oklahoma City on April 19.

Mr. Speaker, none of us in this Chamber can fully comprehend the pain and sorrow of those who lost friends, loved ones, and even precious young babies at the hands of the terrorists. To them, our words mean little, if anything. But hopefully our deeds will not, and we must pledge every measure of support and justice of which we are capable.

But the fact is for all that was taken from us in Oklahoma City 13 days ago, there were many things that can never be taken away, the courage of those who risked their lives to come to the aid of the victims, the fierce determination of the Government workers and rescuers who showed us by their service that there is something more meaningful in all of this than the poison of the violence and the destruction.

Mr. Speaker, the attack on Oklahoma City may have been un-American, but the outpouring of support and help and prayer was uniquely American. It showed a strength of spirit that cannot be dulled by any injustice or any evil intent.

But make no mistake, what happened in Oklahoma was an unforgivable act of cold-blooded cowardice. There is no posture or principle which justifies the ruthless killing of innocent people and innocent children. There is no cause or commitment which excuses random death and destruction.

This is why we have to do more than just convict those responsible for this act of violence and bringing them to swift and certain severe punishment. We must serve warning to all who would use extremist means to advance their extremist thoughts and ideas: We will use the full force of our laws to find them, to punish them and rid our society of their hateful acts, and when those laws are not enough, we will write tough new laws to rein in their wanton bloodshed and terrorism.

So I urge all of our Members to stand together to voice our outrage at this hateful action, and then with the U.S. Congress truly united in spirit, with our hands joined and our commitment clear, we can get down to the real business at hand, providing the relief that the victims of Oklahoma City deserve, and then passing the laws that will help make such atrocities a closed chapter in our Nation's history.

As the father of three children, I cannot imagine, I cannot imagine the sorrow of the parents and the relatives of those children. This has to be the worst act of violence in the history of our country.

It must not stand. We must find the good in this evil act, and I will work tirelessly with all of our Members on

both sides of the aisle to make good of this great evil.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. LARGENT].

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Speaker, I have always been proud to call myself an Oklahoman, and Okie born and bred, but I do not think I have ever been prouder than since the time of the bombing, to see the outpouring of love and compassion not only for the families who lost loved ones in the Murrah Federal Building, but also for the compassion, love, and concern that has been shown by Oklahomans for rescuers that have come in to risk their lives in a rescue effort to find those that still might be found under the crumbling concrete and twisted steel, willing to risk life and limb to go in there, and the compassion that has been shown not only by Oklahomans but for Americans all across the country has reinstilled my faith in the things that have made this country great.

In fact, I think that it has proven once again that it is oftentimes in tragedy like this that the American spirit is galvanized once again.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say that my prayer for Oklahoma, in fact, for this entire country is that in reaction to the bombing that took place on April 19 that we would not recoil in fear, a desperate reaction to a desperate act, that we would not recoil in fear but, in fact, we would step out in faith as a reaction to this tragic occurrence, that we would reaffirm our faith in a free and open society, that we would recognize that the price of our freedom is also responsibility, that there is no greater country, no freer country, no more prosperous country in the history of this world than the United States.

In closing I would say that our prayers are with those families who lost loved ones April 19, that they, too, would be surrounded by the peace that passes all understanding.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am a proud fifth generation Oklahoman. My family has tilled and toiled in the soil of western Oklahoma for over 90 years.

When you come to Oklahoma, you will encounter big-hearted folks who will meet you with a smile and a warm greeting on a downtown sidewalk. We Oklahomans are known for our perseverance, fortitude, and our compassion.

We have weathered great droughts, the Great Depression, feast and famine, business boom and bust. Our mettle has been tested, our endurance challenged in good times as well as the bad. Never have these attributes been more evident on a local or international stage than in the past 13 days.

On Wednesday morning, April 19, at 2 minutes after 9 o'clock, America's heartland lost its innocence. The bombing in downtown Oklahoma City

was a cowardly act of tragic proportions with no justification.

Mr. Speaker, I come here today to ask all of my colleagues to join me in expressing outrage at and condemnation of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City.

I pray for the hundreds of injured and their families, friends, and loved ones. I pray for the rescue teams, the doctors, the nurses, firefighters, police officers, and other volunteers from all across the Nation who came at their own expense and who continue to work tirelessly to this very hour. These are truly God's chosen people for Oklahoma at this time.

And, yes, I pray for our Nation that we might be able to heal.

So now, Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in sending a message of heartfelt condolences to the families of the 140 that have been confirmed lost and the dozens still missing among the rubble.

I, like you and the Nation as a whole, will never forget that scene of devastation, the death, the suffering, and, most of all, the innocent children. I cannot begin to express the heartbreak and sense of helplessness one feels when faced with such a gruesome scene.

Many mothers, fathers, grandparents, spouses, and some children are still missing, making it difficult, if not impossible, for our families and communities as a whole to bring this disaster to a close.

So many wonderful, productive lives were destroyed. Although we know the children who thought they were safe in the haven of that day care center on the site are in God's arms now, I pray for their families. These were vibrant lives, some of considerable accomplishment, others with so much potential yet to be realized, senselessly and needlessly snuffed out for no just or conceivable reason.

Let us express our hopes for a rapid and complete healing of the wounded.

Let us join in commending the rapid response taken by the President to provide assistance to the victims and aid to our battered city. We commend his resolve and prompt action in the investigation, to seek, find, and apprehend the perpetrators of this act.

Let us join together and send a strong and unambiguous message to any individual or group who may contemplate another such massacre in your city or town, such evil acts will not be tolerated, and to those involved in this horrendous act, your actions will result in your swift and certain punishment. We must allow no mercy to those who allowed no mercy to others.

Mr. Speaker, I will close by citing a spontaneous tribute to the victims of this massacre which is formed along the perimeter around the largest crime scene in American history. A mound of wreathes and flowers and teddy bears and tear-stained poems have been laid

with origins literally from around the world paying tribute to the hundreds of perished and wounded.

One particular offering which speaks, I believe, so simply, yet so eloquently, for all Oklahomans consists of a teddy bear with a paper heart attached bearing in crayon an inscription that reads as follows: "Oklahoma, broken-hearted, yes; broken spirit, never."

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my most profound sympathy for the victims of the tragic bombing in Oklahoma City during the congressional work period.

I can think of no more hateful, cowardly act than to ruthlessly bomb a Federal building while hundreds of hard-working Americans are doing their jobs.

I cannot imagine the grief, or express in words, how difficult a period this must be for those who knew and loved the victims of this terrible attack. Losing a loved one is hard no matter what the circumstances. The evil which led to the loss of life in Oklahoma would only make the grieving process more difficult.

I am hopeful that the Federal Government will continue its swift, aggressive action to locate the suspects in this horrifying case. I join with the millions of Americans who are encouraged by the Justice Department's urgent efforts to see justice served. We can only hope that the case is solved and those who are responsible for this heinous crime are severely punished.

The most important issue facing America today is the need to stop the violence which is tearing society apart. Violence begets violence. The thought that an American citizen would kill other American citizens defies reason and sanity. But the thought that the State, in response, would kill the perpetrator of this crime troubles me deeply as well.

My thoughts are with all of those whose lives have been touched by this terrible tragedy.

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Joint Resolution 135, which condemns the bombing in Oklahoma City.

This resolution condemns the terrorist-fashioned bombing of a downtown Federal office building in Oklahoma City, denouncing it as an "abhorrent act of cowardice." Also, the resolution expresses congressional support for the President's and Attorney General's efforts to pursue all possible means of apprehending and punishing the responsible parties.

Today, I met with Congressman BILL MCCOLLUM, chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, to discuss antiterrorism legislation. Specifically, we conferred about my pending legislation, the Restricted Explosives Control Act, which I introduced in an effort to diminish the incidence of domestic terrorism.

I join all of my fellow colleagues in the House of Representatives and extend my deepest sympathies to all of the families in Oklahoma City. Our prayers and thoughts will be with you all in the days and weeks to come.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, this resolution is an expression of this body's outrage at the manifestation of unmitigated evil that was visited upon Oklahoma City, its people, and our Nation on April 19.

It also provides us with an opportunity to recognize the real spirit of America and the

underlying greatness of this Nation. Exhibited in the aftermath of that horrific event was the friendship and fraternity of our citizens, which, sad to say, is only typically publicized in situations of national crisis. We need to remind ourselves that such acts of personal and national virtue and heroism occur daily in this country as Americans fulfill their obligations of citizenship, through voluntarism, sacrifice, and charity. When catastrophe strikes, however, we are refreshed by the benevolence of those acts, undertaken with spontaneous enthusiasm and profound grace.

The Oklahoma City bombing has reached the heart and soul of America, evinced by the generous outpouring of love and prayers for the people of Oklahoma City and the families burdened by the scars of injury and death. Almost immediately hundreds of rescue workers from across America voluntarily flocked to that city to provide many unselfish hands in rescue efforts. Hundreds of Americans gather quietly near the Murrah building trying to do their part, however they might: through prayers, deeds, or both. Americans throughout this land are expressing their sorrow and solidarity with the people of Oklahoma City in ways that are at once poetic and meaningful.

Many have sought to find an explanation for the causes for that awful act of cowardice, but there is really only one explanation for it: diabolical individuals intent on damaging society by hurting hundreds of innocent lives. The depraved events of Oklahoma City are a humbling reminder of our own vulnerability. We should abide by what Lincoln called the "better angels of our nature" and defeat the attempts to define ourselves by the ravings and actions of evildoers and fanatics.

We bring this resolution to the floor to pay our respect to the victims of this disaster and their grieving families. The magnitude of their personal losses, and the violence felt by so many, dwarfs our effort to put emotions and empathy into words.

Later this month, the Judiciary Committee will consider comprehensive legislation directed at combating terrorism from whatever source. Lest our people be concerned, strengthening our law enforcement capabilities in this regard does not require a restriction of our civil liberties and constitutional protections. Congress is quite capable of striking the delicate and necessary balance between our constitutional guarantees and the Government's need to secure the safety of its citizenry. The legislation will not work a forfeiture of our citizens' cherished liberties. It will honor the victims of Oklahoma City and will attempt to diminish the possibility of repeated terrorist attacks in the future.

Mr. TEJEDA. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today in supporting House Resolution 135, a resolution expressing this House's condemnation of the recent atrocity in Oklahoma City. We cannot begin to measure the damage from this senseless act of cowardice, but we can see the pain on the faces of survivors and the families of those who perished on the morning of April 19, 1995.

We in the U.S. Congress express our outrage, our horror, that anyone could even conceive of this plan, let alone carry it out. This was not an attack on a building, on a faceless Government, but on its people, on all of us. The bombers deliberately and cruelly decided to detonate the bomb at a time calculated to

maximize the loss of life. And that loss has been real and tragic.

Our hearts go out to the people of Oklahoma who have endured the brunt of this tragedy. But one of the all too many who lost their lives that morning was a native of San Diego, TX, a small, closely-knit town in south Texas. Antonio C. Reyes, who was 55 years old, was identified this past Saturday as a victim of the bombing. Mr. Reyes served the U.S. Navy for more than 20 years before joining the Small Business Administration and then the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Mr. Reyes was at work on the eighth floor of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building at the time of the explosion. He gave of himself, not only to his country, but also to his community by supporting tutoring programs, local children's and music festivals, scholarships for Hispanic students, and community development. He was a leader, expressing concern for the Hispanic community through positive action.

Shortly before learning that Mr. Reyes was confirmed among the dead, his family gathered this past Saturday night at St. Francis De Paula Catholic Church for a Rosario de Ragación, praying for mercy and strength. His sister, Elma Garcia, still lives in San Diego, and his other siblings live in Corpus Christi and Alice in Texas, Phoenix, AZ, and Pensacola, FL. He leaves behind his wife of 35 years, Dora Reyes, a son and daughter, and two grandchildren. I am sure that I speak for all men and women of good will in this country in wishing the family our condolences at this terrible time.

We cannot know the depth of pain or loss experienced by the Reyes family and the scores of other families who now mourn for lost parents, siblings, and children. But we can send a message today, to those who perpetrated this cruelty, and to those who might contemplate future similar acts of violence: We reject this terror, we will not let it stand, and we will take appropriate action to find you and convict you. This tragedy has exposed within the fabric of our body politic a dangerous element, a cancer, that must be countered not just with effective law enforcement, but also the best of the American spirit—our shared vision of a democratic republic, a pluralistic society where rights are balanced with responsibilities. From this dark hour, let us join hands and commit ourselves to renewing our communal spirit.

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in favor of this resolution.

We all mourn for the mothers, the fathers, the sons, the daughters, the children, who were lost, or who lost loved ones in this tragedy.

When we condemn the Oklahoma bombing, we also must condemn the way speech has become so mean and provocative in America. I agree with President Clinton when he says that words matter. When talk radio show hosts tell their listeners where to aim when shooting a Federal agent. When political consultants advise their clients to call their opponents traitors. When Members rise on this floor and call our President—and he is "our" President—a turncoat who gives aid and comfort to the enemy. These mean words have consequences.

Without violating the Constitution, we must give law enforcement the weapons they need

to stop domestic terrorism—but we must disarm and condemn another weapon—angry, venomous, incendiary, rhetoric.

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my outrage, my sorrow, and my sincere condolences to the victims of the Oklahoma City bombing and their families. The bombing 2 weeks ago was a heinous act of cowardice which will hopefully never be repeated.

We are all shocked, as we should be, any time innocent lives are taken. Yet the magnitude of the devastation in Oklahoma City, as well as the massive number of innocent lives that were lost, has left many of us shaken to the core.

The fact that the target of the bombing appears to be Federal employees makes this act even more reprehensive and repulsive to me. As many of my colleagues know, I represent roughly 35,000 Federal employees, many of whom are not just my constituents, but also my neighbors and my friends.

It is my experience that Federal employees deserve our gratitude, they deserve our admiration, and they deserve our respect. They do not deserve to be terrorized.

As most Americans know, Federal employees play an integral, albeit often invisible, role in our daily lives. Federal employees make sure that our senior citizens get their monthly Social Security checks and that our veterans get the care and treatment they need. Federal employees are responsible for printing out money and insuring it when we make deposits at a bank. Federal employees protect our borders and make sure the food we eat is safe. In short, Federal employees spend their days and often their nights making sure that our Government performs its duties.

Furthermore, the American civil servant is perhaps the best Federal employee in the world. All one needs to do is travel abroad to see that American Federal employees are second to none in terms of their devotion to the job, their initiative, and their belief that they are serving their communities as well as their Nation.

I am glad that we are taking the time today to discuss this tragedy and to let the American people know that the abhorrent behavior of a few irrational people in Oklahoma City is repulsive to us as well as our constituents. I am also glad that the American public, if they are following this debate, is aware that every Member of Congress, regardless of their ideology or party affiliation, condemns this act of terrorism.

The irony of the attack on Oklahoma City is that according to the reports we have been receiving, the primary suspects refer to themselves as "American patriots." This is offensive, not only to the American public, but especially to the people who, since the bombing, have proven themselves to be the true American patriots.

I submit to you that the true American patriots are the men, women, and children who gave their lives in Oklahoma City, as well as their families whose loss we can only imagine; they are those who ministered to the lucky few who survived; and they are the people who are still trying to dig through the rubble to find any remaining victims. It is a true American patriot who, in the last 2 weeks, has made it clear that this act of terrorism is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore [Mr. COMBEST]. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the resolution.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. LUCAS].

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

Mr. LUCAS. 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 409, nays 0, answered "present" 3, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 305]
YEAS—409

Abercrombie	Chrysler	Fawell
Ackerman	Clayton	Fazio
Allard	Clement	Fields (LA)
Andrews	Clinger	Fields (TX)
Archer	Clyburn	Filner
Armey	Coble	Flake
Bachus	Coburn	Flanagan
Baker (CA)	Coleman	Foglietta
Baker (LA)	Collins (GA)	Foley
Ballenger	Collins (IL)	Forbes
Barcia	Collins (MI)	Ford
Barr	Combest	Fowler
Barrett (NE)	Condit	Fox
Barrett (WI)	Costello	Frank (MA)
Bartlett	Cox	Franks (CT)
Barton	Coyne	Franks (NJ)
Bass	Cramer	Frelinghuysen
Bateman	Crane	Frisa
Beilenson	Crapo	Frost
Bentsen	Cremeans	Funderburk
Bereuter	Cubin	Furse
Berman	Cunningham	Ganske
Bevill	Danner	Gejdenson
Bilbray	DeWitt	Gekas
Bishop	de la Garza	Gephardt
Bliley	Deal	Geren
Blute	DeFazio	Gibbons
Boehkert	DeLauro	Gilchrest
Boehner	DeLay	Gillmor
Bonilla	Dellums	Gilman
Bonior	Deutsch	Gonzalez
Bono	Diaz-Balart	Goodlatte
Borski	Dickey	Goodling
Boucher	Dicks	Gordon
Brewster	Dingell	Goss
Browder	Dixon	Graham
Brown (CA)	Doggett	Green
Brown (FL)	Dooley	Greenwood
Brown (OH)	Doolittle	Gunderson
Brownback	Dornan	Gutierrez
Bryant (TN)	Doyle	Gutknecht
Bryant (TX)	Dreier	Hall (OH)
Bunn	Duncan	Hall (TX)
Bunning	Dunn	Hamilton
Burr	Durbin	Hancock
Burton	Edwards	Hansen
Buyer	Ehlers	Harman
Callahan	Ehrlich	Hastert
Calvert	Emerson	Hastings (FL)
Camp	Engel	Hastings (WA)
Canady	English	Hayes
Cardin	Ensign	Hayworth
Castle	Eshoo	Hefley
Chabot	Evans	Hefner
Chambliss	Everett	Heineman
Chapman	Ewing	Heger
Chenoweth	Farr	Hilleary
Christensen	Fattah	Hinche

Hobson	McKeon	Schiff
Hoekstra	McKinney	Schroeder
Hoke	McNulty	Schumer
Holden	Meehan	Seastrand
Horn	Meek	Sensenbrenner
Hostettler	Metcalf	Serrano
Houghton	Meyers	Shadegg
Hoyer	Mfume	Shaw
Hunter	Mica	Shays
Hutchinson	Miller (CA)	Shuster
Hyde	Miller (FL)	Sisisky
Inglis	Mineta	Skaggs
Istook	Minge	Skeen
Jackson-Lee	Mink	Skelton
Jacobs	Molinari	Slaughter
Jefferson	Mollohan	Smith (MI)
Johnson (CT)	Montgomery	Smith (NJ)
Johnson (SD)	Moorhead	Smith (TX)
Johnson, E. B.	Moran	Smith (WA)
Johnston	Morella	Solomon
Jones	Murtha	Souder
Kanjorski	Myers	Spence
Kaptur	Myrick	Spratt
Kasich	Nadler	Stark
Kelly	Neal	Stearns
Kennedy (MA)	Nethercutt	Stenholm
Kennedy (RI)	Neumann	Stockman
Kennelly	Ney	Stokes
Kildee	Norwood	Studds
Kim	Nussle	Stump
King	Oberstar	Stupak
Kingston	Obey	Talent
Kleczka	Olver	Tanner
Klink	Ortiz	Tate
Klug	Orton	Tauzin
Knollenberg	Owens	Taylor (MS)
Kolbe	Oxley	Taylor (NC)
LaFalce	Packard	Tejeda
LaHood	Pallone	Thomas
Lantos	Pastor	Thornberry
Largent	Paxon	Thornton
Latham	Payne (NJ)	Thurman
LaTourette	Payne (VA)	Tiahrt
Laughlin	Pelosi	Torkildsen
Lazio	Peterson (FL)	Torres
Leach	Petri	Torricelli
Levin	Pickett	Towns
Lewis (CA)	Pombo	Trafficant
Lewis (GA)	Pomeroy	Tucker
Lewis (KY)	Porter	Upton
Lightfoot	Portman	Velazquez
Lincoln	Poshard	Vento
Linder	Pryce	Visclosky
Lipinski	Quillen	Volkmer
Livingston	Radanovich	Vucanovich
LoBiondo	Rahall	Waldholtz
Lofgren	Ramstad	Walker
Longley	Rangel	Walsh
Lowey	Reed	Wamp
Lucas	Regula	Ward
Luther	Reynolds	Watts (OK)
Maloney	Richardson	Weldon (FL)
Manton	Riggs	Weldon (PA)
Manzullo	Rivers	Weller
Markey	Roberts	White
Martinez	Roemer	Whitfield
Martini	Rohrabacher	Wicker
Mascara	Rose	Williams
Matsui	Roth	Wolf
McCarthy	Roukema	Woolsey
McCollum	Roybal-Allard	Wyden
McCrery	Royce	Wynn
McDade	Rush	Yates
McDermott	Sabo	Young (AK)
McHale	Salmon	Young (FL)
McHugh	Sanders	Zeliff
McInnis	Sanford	Zimmer
McIntosh	Sawyer	
	Schaefer	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—3

Scott Waters Watt (NC)

NOT VOTING—22

Baesler	Hilliard	Saxton
Baldacci	Menendez	Scarborough
Becerra	Moakley	Thompson
Bilirakis	Parker	Waxman
Clay	Peterson (MN)	Wilson
Conyers	Quinn	Wise
Cooley	Rogers	
Gallegly	Ros-Lehtinen	

□ 1400

Mr. OXLEY and Mrs. SEASTRAND changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

Mr. WATT of North Carolina changed his vote from "yea" to "present."

So 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

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, earlier today I was unavoidably detained in returning to the Capitol, and I missed three votes. I missed rollcall No. 303, H.R. 1158. I would have voted "yes." On rollcall No. 304, House Concurrent Resolution 53, I would have voted "yes." On rollcall No. 305, House Resolution 135, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was inadvertently detained and missed rollcall vote 305 on the resolution concerning the Oklahoma City bombing.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I would like the RECORD to reflect my vote.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 123

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove the name of the gentleman from Washington, [Mr. NETHERCUTT] as a cosponsor of House Resolution 123. His name was added by error.

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

There was no objection.

HYDROGEN FUTURE ACT OF 1995

Mr. QUILLEN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call

up House Resolution 136 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 136

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 655) to authorize the hydrogen research, development, and demonstration programs of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill. Each section of the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommend with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. QUILLEN] will be recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. QUILLEN. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. BEILENSON], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. QUILLEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. QUILLEN. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 136 is an open rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 655, the Hydrogen Future Act. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate divided equally between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science.

The rule also makes in order as an original bill for the purpose of amendment the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill. Each section of the amendment shall be considered as read. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommend, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Chairman BOB WALKER and ranking minority member GEORGE BROWN for continuing their longstanding tradition of requesting an open rule for bills reported out of their committee. They set an example that I hope all committees will strive to follow whenever possible. As always, they did a great job.

Consumption of energy has grown at almost twice the rate of the growth of the population, and it is critical that we pursue the potential of alternative sources of energy such as hydrogen to address our long-term energy needs.

The Hydrogen Future Act authorizes appropriations for basic hydrogen research, development, and demonstration programs of the Department of Energy for fiscal years 1996, 1997, and 1998. The bill promotes Federal efforts to research hydrogen as an alternative fuel and ensures that hydrogen research is given priority by the Department of Energy.

Mr. Speaker, similar legislation passed the House by voice vote last Congress, and this open rule will allow Members the opportunity to address any concerns they may have.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

THE AMENDMENT PROCESS UNDER SPECIAL RULES REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE,¹ 103D CONGRESS V. 104TH CONGRESS

[As of May 1, 1995]

Rule type	103d Congress		104th Congress	
	Number of rules	Percent of total	Number of rules	Percent of total
Open/Modified-open ²	46	44	22	73
Modified Closed ³	49	47	8	27
Closed ⁴	9	9	0	0
Totals:	104	100	30	100

¹ This table applies only to rules which provide for the original consideration of bills, joint resolutions or budget resolutions and which provide for an amendment process. It does not apply to special rules which only waive points of order against appropriations bills which are already privileged and are considered under an open amendment process under House rules.

² An open rule is one under which any Member may offer a germane amendment under the five-minute rule. A modified open rule is one under which any Member may offer a germane amendment under the five-minute rule subject only to an overall time limit on the amendment process and/or a requirement that the amendment be preprinted in the Congressional Record.

³ A modified closed rule is one under which the Rules Committee limits the amendments that may be offered only to those amendments designated in the special rule or the Rules Committee report to accompany it, or which preclude amendments to a particular portion of a bill, even though the rest of the bill may be completely open to amendment.

⁴ A closed rule is one under which no amendments may be offered (other than amendments recommended by the committee in reporting the bill).

SPECIAL RULES REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE, 104TH CONGRESS

[As of May 1, 1995]

H. Res. No. (Date rept.)	Rule type	Bill No.	Subject	Disposition of rule
H. Res. 38 (1/18/95)	O	H.R. 5	Unfunded Mandate Reform	A: 350-71 (1/19/95).
H. Res. 44 (1/24/95)	MC	H. Con. Res. 17	Social Security	A: 255-172 (1/25/95).
		H.J. Res. 1	Balanced Budget Amdt	
H. Res. 51 (1/31/95)	O	H.R. 101	Land Transfer, Taos Pueblo Indians	A: voice vote (2/1/95).
H. Res. 52 (1/31/95)	O	H.R. 400	Land Exchange, Arctic Nat'l. Park and Preserve	A: voice vote (2/1/95).
H. Res. 53 (1/31/95)	O	H.R. 440	Land Conveyance, Butte County, Calif	A: voice vote (2/1/95).
H. Res. 55 (2/1/95)	O	H.R. 2	Line Item Veto	A: voice vote (2/2/95).
H. Res. 60 (2/6/95)	O	H.R. 665	Victim Restitution	A: voice vote (2/7/95).
H. Res. 61 (2/6/95)	O	H.R. 666	Exclusionary Rule Reform	A: voice vote (2/7/95).
H. Res. 63 (2/8/95)	MO	H.R. 667	Violent Criminal Incarceration	A: voice vote (2/9/95).