

These two revelations may be disturbing but learning about our Nation's past, disturbing as it might be, to teach us how to govern in the future is the essence of democracy. And this is the essence of the resolution we are debating today. We can never heed Santayana's warning that, and I quote, "Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it," if we do not have the proper historical tools.

Madam Speaker, yesterday Jews all over the world celebrated Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. This is a day of somber reflection about the past. In my district and in countless others, thousands of these individuals are survivors of the Holocaust and their families. These people can never escape the searing memories of what befell them half a century ago.

In passing this resolution, we honor the memory of those who died and the suffering of those who survived. In passing this resolution, we are taking a stand against those who insult humanity by denying the very fact that the Holocaust occurred. And in passing this resolution, we must pledge that before another year goes by, we will ensure that our government's full accounting of this terrible era and its aftermath is made public.

I ask my colleagues to support our resolution calling for the release of Nazi war crime files.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I received a letter from the chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. COMBEST]. I want to include that letter for the RECORD:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,

Washington, DC, September 23, 1996.

Hon. STEPHEN HORN,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to you regarding the War Crimes Disclosure Act, H.R. 1281. As reported, H.R. 1281, contained a number of provisions that would amend the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and would effect long standing federal case law and rule of judicial deference to intelligence and law enforcement executive agency expertise in national security matters.

The Committee is committed to declassifying older intelligence documents, in particular those pertaining to Nazi war criminals. I specifically requested that the Central Intelligence Agency review this legislation to reach an agreement satisfying the concerns of the intelligence agencies as well as meeting the public's right to receive information about Nazi criminals that may be contained within U.S. intelligence files.

I am in receipt of the Sense of Congress substitute for H.R. 1281 that reiterates the commitment we all feel concerning the disclosure of information related to Nazi war crimes. Recognizing that you and Representative Maloney desire to bring this legislation to the House floor expeditiously, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence will forego its right to sequential referral in

this instance. Further, I am committed to working with you to craft new legislation that meets the desire of the American people to know about Nazi criminal acts while protecting legitimate national security interests.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

LARRY COMBEST,
Chairman.

Mr. HORN. Madam Speaker, I want to quote two paragraphs there that are relevant to the measure before us. Chairman COMBEST assures me:

The committee is committed to declassifying older intelligence documents, in particular those pertaining to Nazi war criminals. I specifically requested that the Central Intelligence Agency review this legislation to reach an agreement satisfying the concerns of the intelligence agencies as well as meeting the public's right to receive information about Nazi criminals that may be contained within U.S. intelligence files.

He goes on to say:

I am in receipt of the Sense of Congress substitute for H.R. 1281 that reiterates the commitment we all feel concerning the disclosure of information related to Nazi war crimes. Recognizing that you and Representative Maloney desires to bring this legislation to the floor expeditiously, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence will forego its rights to sequential referral in this instance. Further, I am committed to working with you to craft new legislation that meets the desire of the American people to know about Nazi criminal acts while protecting legitimate national security interests.

Madam Speaker, I deeply appreciate the word of the chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. As a citizen and as a Member of this Congress, I cannot imagine any executive branch under any administration wanting, after almost a half century has passed, to keep the files that relate to specific war crimes committed during the Second World War.

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Madam Speaker, this is a fine piece of legislation that the gentleman from New York [Mrs. Maloney] has offered. We are delighted to support it on this side.

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

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GREENE of Utah). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. HORN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1281, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to express the sense of the Congress that United States Government agencies in possession of records about individuals who are alleged to have committed Nazi war crimes should make these records public."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HORN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1281, the important legislation just passed.

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

There was no objection.

GRANTING CONSENT OF CONGRESS TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT

Mr. GEKAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 193) granting the consent of Congress to the Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.J. RES. 193

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL CONSENT.

The Congress consents to the Emergency Management Assistance Compact entered into by Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. The compact reads substantially as follows:

"Emergency Management Assistance Compact"

"ARTICLE I.

"PURPOSE AND AUTHORITIES.

"This compact is made and entered into by and between the participating member states which enact this compact, hereinafter called party states. For the purposes of this compact, the term 'states' is taken to mean the several states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and all U.S. territorial possessions.

"The purpose of this compact is to provide for mutual assistance between the states entering into this compact in managing any emergency disaster that is duly declared by the Governor of the affected state, whether arising from natural disaster, technological hazard, man-made disaster, civil emergency aspects of resources shortages, community disorders, insurgency, or enemy attack.

"This compact shall also provide for mutual cooperation in emergency-related exercises, testing, or other training activities using equipment and personnel simulating performance of any aspect of the giving and receiving of aid by party states or subdivisions of party states during emergencies, such actions occurring outside actual declared emergency periods. Mutual assistance in this compact may include the use of the states' National Guard forces, either in accordance with the National Guard Mutual Assistance Compact or by mutual agreement between states.

"ARTICLE II.

"GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION.

"Each party state entering into this compact recognizes that many emergencies transcend political jurisdictional boundaries and that intergovernmental coordination is essential in managing these and other emergencies under this compact. Each state further recognizes that there will be emergencies which require immediate access and present procedures to apply outside resources to make a prompt and effective response to such an emergency. This is because few, if any, individual states have all the resources they may need in all types of emergencies or the capability of delivering resources to areas where emergencies exist.

"The prompt, full, and effective utilization of resources of the participating states, including any resources on hand or available from the federal government or any other source, that are essential to the safety, care, and welfare of the people in the event of any emergency or disaster declared by a party state, shall be the underlying principle on which all articles of this compact shall be understood.

"On behalf of the Governor of each state participating in the compact, the legally designated state official who is assigned responsibility for emergency management will be responsible for formulation of the appropriate interstate mutual aid plans and procedures necessary to implement this compact.

"ARTICLE III.

"PARTY STATE RESPONSIBILITIES.

"A. It shall be the responsibility of each party state to formulate procedural plans and programs for interstate cooperation in the performance of the responsibilities listed in this article. In formulating such plans, and in carrying them out, the party states, insofar as practical, shall:

"1. Review individual state hazards analyses and, to the extent reasonably possible, determine all those potential emergencies the party states might jointly suffer, whether due to natural disaster, technological hazard, man-made disaster, emergency aspects of resources shortages, civil disorders, insurgency, or enemy attack;

"2. Review party states' individual emergency plans and develop a plan which will determine the mechanism for the interstate management and provision of assistance concerning any potential emergency;

"3. Develop interstate procedures to fill any identified gaps and to resolve any identified inconsistencies or overlaps in existing or developed plans;

"4. Assist in warning communities adjacent to or crossing the state boundaries;

"5. Protect and assure uninterrupted delivery of services, medicines, water, food, energy and fuel, search and rescue, and critical lifeline equipment, services, and resources, both human and material;

"6. Inventory and set procedures for the interstate loan and delivery of human and material resources, together with procedures for reimbursement or forgiveness; and

"7. Provide, to the extent authorized by law, for temporary suspension of any statutes or ordinances that restrict the implementation of the above responsibilities.

"B. The authorized representative of a party state may request assistance to another party state by contacting the authorized representative of that state. The provisions of this compact shall only apply to requests for assistance made by and to authorized representatives. Requests may be verbal or in writing. If verbal, the request shall be confirmed in writing within thirty days of the verbal request. Requests shall provide the following information:

"1. A description of the emergency service function for which assistance is needed, including, but not limited to, fire services, law enforcement, emergency medical, transportation, communications, public works and engineering, building, inspection, planning and information assistance, mass care, resource support, health and medical services, and search and rescue;

"2. The amount and type of personnel, equipment, materials and supplies needed, and a reasonable estimate of the length of time they will be needed; and

"3. The specific place and time for staging of the assisting party's response and a point of contact at that location.

"C. There shall be frequent consultation between state officials who have assigned

emergency management responsibilities and other appropriate representatives of the party states with affected jurisdictions and the United States Government, with free exchange of information, plans, and resource records relating to emergency capabilities.

"ARTICLE IV.

"LIMITATIONS.

"Any party state requested to render mutual aid or conduct exercises and training for mutual aid shall take such action as is necessary to provide and make available the resources covered by this compact in accordance with the terms hereof; provided that it is understood that the state rendering aid may withhold resources to the extent necessary to provide reasonable protection for such state.

"Each party state shall afford to the emergency forces of any party state, while operating within its state limits under the terms and conditions of this compact, the same powers, except that of arrest unless specifically authorized by the receiving state, duties, rights, and privileges as are afforded forces of the state in which they are performing emergency services. Emergency forces will continue under the command and control of their regular leaders, but the organizational units will come under the operational control of the emergency services authorities of the state receiving assistance. These conditions may be activated, as needed, only subsequent to a declaration of a state emergency or disaster by the governor of the party state that is to receive assistance or upon commencement of exercises or training for mutual aid and shall continue so long as the exercises or training for mutual aid are in progress, the state of emergency or disaster remains in effect, or loaned resources remain in the receiving state, whichever is longer.

"ARTICLE V.

"LICENSES AND PERMITS.

"Whenever any person holds a license, certificate, or other permit issued by any state party to the compact evidencing the meeting of qualifications for professional, mechanical, or other skills, and when such assistance is requested by the receiving party state, such person shall be deemed licensed, certified, or permitted by the state requesting assistance to render aid involving such skill to meet a declared emergency or disaster, subject to such limitations and conditions as the Governor of the requesting state may prescribe by executive order or otherwise.

"ARTICLE VI.

"LIABILITY.

"Officers or employees of a party state rendering aid in another state pursuant to this compact shall be considered agents of the requesting state for tort liability and immunity purposes. No party state or its officers or employees rendering aid in another state pursuant to this compact shall be liable on account of any act or omission in good faith on the part of such forces while so engaged or on account of the maintenance or use of any equipment or supplies in connection therewith. Good faith in this article shall not include willful misconduct, gross negligence, or recklessness.

"ARTICLE VII.

"SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENTS.

"Inasmuch as it is probable that the pattern and detail of the machinery for mutual aid among two or more states may differ from that among the states that are party hereto, this compact contains elements of a broad base common to all states, and nothing herein shall preclude any state entering into supplementary agreements with another state or affect any other agreements already

in force between states. Supplementary agreements may comprehend, but shall not be limited to, provisions for evacuation and reception of injured and other persons and the exchange of medical, fire, police, public utility, reconnaissance, welfare, transportation and communications personnel, and equipment and supplies.

"ARTICLE VIII.

"COMPENSATION.

"Each party state shall provide for the payment of compensation and death benefits to injured members of the emergency forces of that state and representatives of deceased members of such forces in case such members sustain injuries or are killed while rendering aid pursuant to this compact, in the same manner and on the same terms as if the injury or death were sustained within their own state.

"ARTICLE IX.

"REIMBURSEMENT.

"Any party state rendering aid in another state pursuant to this compact shall be reimbursed by the party state receiving such aid for any loss or damage to or expense incurred in the operation of any equipment and the provision of any service in answering a request for aid and for the costs incurred in connection with such requests; provided, that any aiding party state may assume in whole or in part such loss, damage, expense, or other cost, or may loan such equipment or donate such services to the receiving party state without charge or cost; and provided further, that any two or more party states may enter into supplementary agreements establishing a different allocation of costs among those states. Article VIII expenses shall not be reimbursable under this article.

"ARTICLE X.

"EVACUATION.

"Plans for the orderly evacuation and interstate reception of portions of the civilian population as the result of any emergency or disaster of sufficient proportions to so warrant, shall be worked out and maintained between the party states and the emergency management/services directors of the various jurisdictions where any type of incident requiring evacuations might occur. Such plans shall be put into effect by request of the state from which evacuees come and shall include the manner of transporting such evacuees, the number of evacuees to be received in different areas, the manner in which food, clothing, housing, and medical care will be provided, the registration of the evacuees, the providing of facilities for the notification of relatives or friends, and the forwarding of such evacuees to other areas or the bringing in of additional materials, supplies, and all other relevant factors. Such plans shall provide that the party state receiving evacuees and the party state from which the evacuees come shall mutually agree as to reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred in receiving and caring for such evacuees, for expenditures for transportation, food, clothing, medicines, and medical care, and like items. Such expenditures shall be reimbursed as agreed by the party state from which the evacuees come. After the termination of the emergency or disaster, the party state from which the evacuees come shall assume the responsibility for the ultimate support of repatriation of such evacuees.

"ARTICLE XI.

"IMPLEMENTATION.

"A. This compact shall become effective immediately upon its enactment into law by any two states. Thereafter, this compact shall become effective as to any other state upon enactment by such state.

"B. Any party state may withdraw from this compact by enacting a statute repealing the same, but no such withdrawal shall take effect until thirty days after the Governor of the withdrawing state has given notice in writing of such withdrawal to the Governors of all other party states. Such action shall not relieve the withdrawing state from obligations assumed hereunder prior to the effective date of withdrawal.

"C. Duly authenticated copies of this compact and of such supplementary agreements as may be entered into shall, at the time of their approval, be deposited with each of the party states and with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other appropriate agencies of the United States Government.

"ARTICLE XII.

"VALIDITY.

"This compact shall be construed to effectuate the purposes stated in Article I. If any provision of this compact is declared unconstitutional, or the applicability thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the constitutionality of the remainder of this compact and the applicability thereof to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected.

"ARTICLE XIII.

"ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.

"Nothing in this compact shall authorize or permit the use of military force by the National Guard of a state at any place outside that state in any emergency for which the President is authorized by law to call into federal service the militia, or for any purpose for which the use of the Army or the Air Force would in the absence of express statutory authorization be prohibited under §1385 of Title 18 of the United States Code."

SEC. 2. RIGHT TO ALTER, AMEND, OR REPEAL.

The right to alter, amend, or repeal this joint resolution is hereby expressly reserved. The consent granted by this joint resolution shall—

(1) not be construed as impairing or in any manner affecting any right or jurisdiction of the United States in and over the subject of the compact;

(2) not be construed as consent to the National Guard Mutual Assistance Compact;

(3) be construed as understanding that the first paragraph of Article II of the compact provides that emergencies will require procedures to provide immediate access to existing resources to make a prompt and effective response;

(4) not be construed as providing authority in Article III A.7. that does not otherwise exist for the suspension of statutes or ordinances;

(5) be construed as understanding that Article III C. does not impose any affirmative obligation to exchange information, plans, and resource records on the United States or any party which has not entered into the compact; and

(6) be construed as understanding that Article XIII does not affect the authority of the President over the National Guard provided by article I of the Constitution and title 10 of the United States Code.

SEC. 3. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY.

It is intended that the provisions of this compact shall be reasonably and liberally construed to effectuate the purposes thereof. If any part or application of this compact, or legislation enabling the compact, is held invalid, the remainder of the compact or its application to other situations or persons shall not be affected.

SEC. 4. INCONSISTENCY OF LANGUAGE.

The validity of this compact shall not be affected by any insubstantial difference in

its form or language as adopted by the States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GEKAS] and the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. SCOTT] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GEKAS].

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

Madam Speaker, this is a unique type of legislation that comes before us here today, one that symbolizes the willingness of Americans to help other Americans in trouble. We have seen hurricane after hurricane pounding the east coast and other areas of the country, and we see the phenomenon of people rushing from other areas not hit by the hurricanes to render assistance to those who are without homes, whose residences are flooded, whose businesses are afloat, whose shorelines have been severely damaged. They come from all over the United States and volunteer or in other ways render assistance to the Americans, our fellow Americans who have been grievously injured or hurt and even sometimes at the cost of lives undergo these natural disasters.

Well, a long time ago the Southern Governors Conference adopted an enterprise in which the southern Governors with their respective States entered into a compact to render assistance, one to another, when such a natural disaster would occur, and this has led us to this day where they want to formalize a compact among the several States who are part of the Southern Governors Conference and others who were not previously members of that organization, to enter into this businesslike enterprise in which aid can be called for by one member State and the other States can respond when a natural calamity occurs.

It is one which raises the hopes of everyone that this would lead to even greater units of States getting together in such a compact, and because the Constitution requires that such a compact between two States or more must be approved by the Congress, we are here on the floor today.

The cosponsors of this legislation, the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. INGLIS] and the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. SCOTT], members of the subcommittee, played an important role in fashioning the compact that is before us.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of the bill.

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact sponsored by the Southern Governors Association is a commonsense approach to strengthening a State's ability to respond and protect its citizens when disaster strikes.

Recently my district suffered severe damage from the winds and floods created by Hurricane Fran. This was not

the first and unfortunately will not be the last hurricane to hit the Commonwealth of Virginia. The out-of-State support we received, both public and private, in the recovery effort was essential. The people and organizations who immediately provided assistance made the personal shot easier to bear and has allowed economic recovery to start quicker.

As Virginians, we, too, recognize the need to support other States that suffer natural disasters. Hurricanes Andrew and Hugo, Bob and Eloise, all brought Virginia humanitarian aid and volunteers to those disaster sites. Good Samaritans from Virginia and many other States, either under an organized charity or individually, give assistance to those who suffer greater loss. State governments also provide assistance in the form of public utility and law enforcement personnel, and give emergency supplies and equipment.

This compact, created by the Southern Governors Association and modeled on the existing arrangement for the Island of Puerto Rico, assures that financial mechanisms are in place to cover State costs. That way the public funds collected and dedicated for the expenses within one State may in an emergency be used to support residents of another State. When that occurs, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact specifies how reimbursement will be accomplished.

This agreement has been 3 years in the making, and it is appropriate at this time to thank some of those responsible for bringing this issue to Congress. I want to recognize: Mr. Addison E. Slayton, Jr., and George Urquhart of the Department of Emergency Services, and the Commonwealth of Virginia particularly because Virginia was the first State to agree to the compact; David McMillion, director of Maryland Emergency Management; Tom Feuerborn, the director of the Oklahoma Emergency Management Agency; Eric Tolbert, the bureau chief for Preparedness and Response and the Florida Division of Emergency Management; and John Carey from FEMA's general counsel who was also very much involved.

I also want to express my thanks to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GEKAS] and to my colleague, the gentleman from Rhode Island [Mr. REED], the ranking member of the subcommittee, who helped us to quickly bring this bill to the floor and to the congressional staffs that manage this issue. I also wish to thank Mr. Douglas Monroe, the senior policy analyst from the Southern Governors Association, for the past 3 years of constant effort to bring the compact and the congressional action to completion.

As a compact between States, the Constitution requires congressional approval of this arrangement, and I am happy to join my friend from South Carolina, Mr. INGLIS, the sponsor of the bill, in urging this body to approve the joint resolution.

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

Mr. GEKAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute just for one purpose, to demonstrate the scope of this compact. I simply want to repeat the States that are part of the compact:

Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. INGLIS], the chief architect of the compact.

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and also I want to thank the gentleman for moving this bill so very quickly through the committee. I certainly appreciate his help in seeing that that is done in a very expeditious way. I also want to thank the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. SCOTT] for his coauthoring this bill. It is something that really we are simply giving effect to the very good work of the Governors Association, Southern Governors Association particularly, and they have worked very hard, folks in South Carolina particularly. Stan McKinney, who is the emergency preparedness director in South Carolina, has worked very hard on this, and I am very happy that we now in the Congress are giving effect to that compact, and to see the cooperation that is happening here today is really refreshing and very rewarding.

So basically, Madam Speaker, this bill accomplishes the approval of the compact entered into among the States that the chairman just read. The compact essentially handles two very important areas that heretofore have been a little bit murky.

First, it deals with the compensation questions about, for example, if South Carolina sends aid to North Carolina after the occurrence of Hurricane Fran, the question is about compensation of the South Carolina National Guard in North Carolina. That is handled by this compact. There is a procedure set up such that South Carolina and North Carolina work that out in advance, and they know how the work is going to be accomplished, how it is going to be paid for.

The second thing that the compact does is it deals with the question of liability for, following that same example, the National Guard troops from South Carolina operating in North Carolina. The question heretofore has been, what kind of liability do those troops have in North Carolina?

This compact, well worked out by the Southern Governors Association, answers that question by saying that when this South Carolina National Guard is in North Carolina at the request of the State of North Carolina, they are agents of the State of North Carolina and, therefore, enjoy sovereign immunity of the State of North Carolina, and it is governed, any ac-

tions there will be governed, by the laws of the State of North Carolina.

All of that accomplishes a great deal because it means that States will now be much more able to send assistance and to know in advance what kind of situation they will find there.

So I think that the Congress is doing a good thing, the House is doing a good thing this day, I hope, in passing this bill in a very expeditious manner, and then hopefully the other body will follow suit very quickly.

The reason that it is important to do this relatively quickly is as, we all know, those of us from coastal States particularly, we are in the midst of hurricane season. We have seen several hurricanes come up the east coast already this year. We hope that no others make their way that way for the rest of the season, but if they do, we will be in a position to help one another and to respond to those emergencies that exist.

Mr. GEKAS. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. GEKAS. Madam Speaker, the gentleman may recall that we delved into, during the course of the hearing that we held on this matter, the question of liability insofar as it touched upon volunteers that go from State to State, and I recounted then, and I do now, several instances where my fellow Pennsylvanians went to the aid of the coastal States on many different occasions and were recipients of similar aid. We know that liability here, as he has described it, as the gentleman from South Carolina has described it, has to do with the league of entities, but what about the volunteers? What does the gentleman see? I would like the RECORD to reflect for future proposals or agreements that might be reached on volunteers.

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that question. As he knows, during our hearing we discussed the possibility that the States might want to entertain further action under good samaritan laws, such that they could entertain that question or answer that question. It would make a whole lot of sense because, for example, after the aftermath of Hurricane Hugo our State received tremendous assistance from a number of other States, I am sure, including the great State of Pennsylvania, and that is a very significant part of our American experience, is helping people in our places.

So I would say to the gentleman that the work that should go forth there, to answer his question there, has to do with the State legislatures dealing with their good samaritan laws to handle the situation where a volunteer comes into the State of Pennsylvania, for example, from South Carolina to offer assistance, be governed by the good samaritan laws of the State of Pennsylvania. This, of course, is dif-

ferent, in that here in the situation we are describing here, the State of North Carolina may be requesting the State of South Carolina to send its organized National Guard troops to North Carolina, and that is what this compact is.

But I agree with the gentleman that it would be very helpful to have very clear good samaritan laws that deal with a volunteer not under direction of the Governor of the State going to another State to offer assistance.

Mr. GEKAS. Madam Speaker, it strikes me that perhaps the gentleman from South Carolina, the gentleman from Virginia, and I, in the next session, if the electorate so chooses to return us to this Chamber, might want to seek out the same southern Governors' experience to determine perhaps where uniform set of laws among the several States on the good samaritan laws.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUNDERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GEKAS] that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, House Joint Resolution 193.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the joint resolution was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GRANTING CONSENT OF CONGRESS TO AMENDMENTS TO WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT REGULATION COMPACT

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the resolution (H.J. Res. 194) granting the consent of the Congress to amendments made by Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.J. RES. 194

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONSENT OF CONGRESS TO AMENDMENTS TO COMPACT.

The Congress consents to the amendments of the State of Maryland (chapter 252, 1995 Acts of the Maryland General Assembly and chapter 489, 1996 Laws of Maryland), the amendments of the Commonwealth of Virginia (chapter 150, 1995 Acts of Assembly of Virginia), and the amendments of the District of Columbia (D.C. Law 11-138) of title III of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact. Such amendments are substantially as follows:

(1) Section 3 is amended to read as follows:

“Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Zone

“3. There is hereby created the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Zone which shall embrace the District of Columbia, the cities of Alexandria, Falls Church and Fairfax and the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudoun and political subdivisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia located within