Sawyer

Saxton

Schaefer

Schumer

Serrano

Shadegg

Shaw

Shavs

Shuster

Sisisky

Skaggs

Skelton

Slaughter

Smith (MI)

Smith (N.I)

Smith (TX)

Smith (WA)

Solomon

Souder

Spence

Spratt

Stearns

Stokes

Studds

Stump

Stupak

Talent

Tanner

Tauzin

Tejeda

Thomas

Thompson

Thornberry

Thornton

Thurman

Torkildsen

Torres Torricelli

Traficant

Velazquez

Vento Visclosky

Vucanovich

Waldholtz

Walker

Walsh

Wamp

Ward

Waters

Weller

White

Whitfield

Wicker

Wilson

Woolsey

Young (AK)

Young (FL)

Wyden

Wynn

Zeliff

Stark

Zimmer

Wolf

Watt (NC)

Watts (OK)

Waxman Weldon (FL)

Weldon (PA)

Tiahrt

Towns

Unton

Taylor (MS)

Taylor (NC)

Tate

Stenholm

Stockman

Seastrand

Sensenbrenner

Schiff

Scott

McDade

McHale

McHugh

McInnis

McIntosh

McKeon

McNulty

Meehan

Metcalf

Mevers

Mfume

Mica

Minge

Moakley

Molinari

Mollohan

Moorhead

Moran

Morella

Murtha

Myers

Neal

Ney

Myrick

Nethercutt

Neumann

Norwood

Oberstar

Nussle

Obey

Olver

Ortiz

Orton

Owens

Oxley Packard

Pallone

Parker

Pastor

Paxon

Pelosi

Petri

Pickett

Pombo

Pomeroy

Payne (NJ)

Pavne (VA)

Peterson (FL)

Montgomery

Mink

Meek

McKinney

Menendez

Miller (CA)

Miller (FL)

McDermott

agreeing to abide by uniform technical requirements:

Agree to provide service in, or build out, all or any parts of a franchise territory:

Show financial capabilities not relevant to the service to be provided and not required of other providers:

Limit its offering of service until another provider obtains regulatory relief, that is, withhold offering a service until the incumbent provider receives pricing flexibility.

I hope this list proves useful to State and local governments in their efforts to implement this new law and to the FCC in its oversight of this provision.

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the conference report.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the conference report.

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

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 414, noes 16, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 25] AYES-414

Castle Ackerman Allard Chabot Andrews Chambliss Archer Chenoweth Armey Christensen Bachus Chrysler Baesler Clay Clayton Baker (CA) Baker (LA) Clement Baldacci Clinger Ballenger Clyburn Barcia Coble Coburn Barrett (NE) Coleman Collins (GA) Barrett (WI) Bartlett Collins (IL) Barton Collins (MI) Combest Bass Bateman Condit Becerra Cooley Costello Beilenson Bentsen Cox Bereuter Covne Berman Cramer Bevill Crane Bilbray Crapo Bilirakis Cremeans Bishop Cubin Blilev Cunningham Blute Danner Boehlert. Davis de la Garza Boehner Bonilla Deal Bonior DeLauro DeLav Bono Borski Dellums Boucher Deutsch Diaz-Balart Brewster Browder Brown (CA) Dickey

Brown (FL)

Brown (OH)

Brownback

Bunn

Burr

Bunning

Burton

Callahan

Campbell

Calvert

Canady

Cardin

Camp

Buyer

Bryant (TN)

Dicks

Dingell

Doggett

Dooley

Dornan

Doyle

Dreier

Dunn

Durbin

Ehlers

Ehrlich

Emerson

Edwards

Duncan

Doolittle

Dixon

Engel English Ensign Eshoo Everett Ewing Farr Fattah Fawell Fazio Fields (LA) Fields (TX) Flake Flanagan Foglietta Forbes Ford Fowler Fox Franks (CT) Franks (NJ) Frelinghuysen Frisa Frost Funderburk Furse Gallegly Ganske Gejdenson Gekas Gephardt Geren Gibbons Gilchrest Gillmor Gilman Gingrich Gonzalez Goodlatte Goodling Gordon Goss Graham Green Greenwood Gunderson Gutierrez Gutknecht Hall (OH) Hall (TX)

Hamilton

Hancock

Hansen

Harman

Hastert Hastings (FL) Hastings (WA) Hayes Hayworth Hefley Hefner Heineman Herger Hilleary Hobson Hoekstra Hoke Holden Horn Hostettler Houghton Hoyer Hunter Hutchinson Hvde Inglis Istook Jackson (IL) Jackson-Lee (TX) Jacobs Jefferson Johnson (CT) Johnson, E. B. Johnson, Sam Johnston Jones Kanjorski Kaptur Kasich Kelly Kennedy (MA) Kennedy (RI) Kennelly Kildee Kim King Kingston Kleczka Klink Klug Knollenberg Kolbe LaFalce LaHood Lantos Largent Latham LaTourette Laughlin Lazio Leach Levin Lewis (CA) Lewis (GA) Lewis (KY) Lightfoot Lincoln Linder Lipinski Livingston LoBiondo Lofgren Longley Lowey Lucas Luther Maloney

Porter Portman Poshard Pryce Quillen Quinn Radanovich Rahall Ramstad Rangel Reed Regula Richardson Riggs Rivers Roberts Roemer Rogers Manton Rohrabacher Manzullo Ros-Lehtinen Markey Roth Martinez Roukema Martini Roybal-Allard Mascara Rovce Matsui Rush McCarthy Sabo McCollum Salmon McCrery Sanford

Abercrombie

Frank (MA)

Bryant (TX)

Chapman

Conyers DeFazio

Evans

Hilliard

NOES-16

Hinchey Johnson (SD) Nadler Peterson (MN) Sanders Schroeder

Volkmer Williams Yates

NOT VOTING-4

Filner Rose

□ 1623 Scarborough

Mr. MOAKLEY and Mr. YOUNG of Florida changed their vote from "no" to "aye."

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid of the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVID-ING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2924, THE SOCIAL SECURITY **GUARANTEE ACT**

Mr. GOSS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-460) on the resolution (H. Res. 355) providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2924) to guarantee the timely payment of Social Security benefits in March 1996, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered printed.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1963

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1963.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HAYWORTH). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1963

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1963.

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

There was no objection.

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE-PRO-TECTING THE CREDITWORTHI-NESS OF THE UNITED STATES **GOVERNMENT** AND AVOIDING **DEFAULT**

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to rule IX, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer a resolution (H. Res. 356) to protect the creditworthiness of the United States and avoid default of the U.S. Government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read the resolution, as fol-

H. RES. 356

Whereas, the inability of the House to pass an adjustment in the public debt limit unburdened by the unrelated political agenda of either party, an adjustment to maintain the creditworthiness of the United States and to avoid disruption of interest rates and the financial markets brings discredit upon the House;

Whereas, the failure of the House of Representatives to adjust the federal debt limit and keep the nation from default impairs the dignity of the House, the integrity of its proceedings and the esteem the public holds for the House; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution the enrolling clerk of the House of Representatives shall prepare an engrossment of the bill, H.R. 2409. The vote by which this resolution is adopted by the House shall be deemed to have been a vote in favor of such bill upon final passage in the House of Representatives. Upon engrossment of the bill, it shall be deemed to have passed the House of Representatives and been duly certified and examined; the engrossed copy shall be signed by the Clerk and transmitted to the Senate for further legislative action; and (upon final passage by both Houses) the bill shall be signed by the presiding officers of both Houses and presented to the President for his signature (and otherwise treated for all purposes) in the manner provided for bills generally.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT] is recognized on the question of privilege.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, let me explain why this is a question of privilege and why this Congress must act to extend the debt limit, with no threats or conditions, to preserve the integrity of this entire Government.

□ 1630

Rule IX of this House states very clearly that matters of privilege are those affecting the House collectively, those affecting its dignity and integrity, and those affecting the reputation of Members in their representative capacity.

I ask every Member of this Congress today, how can the dignity and integrity of this Congress be maintained if we tear down the dignity and integrity of this country? How can any single Member of the 104th Congress maintain our reputation and honor if we go down in the history books as the Congress that broke America's word, the very first Congress that dared to tarnish America's trust in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I know there are enough Democrats and Republicans to extend the debt limit and avoid this crisis right now, if we could only have that vote on the floor. It is unfair to all of us to have our rights, our reputations, our good names dashed for what I believe is a partisan purpose.

Some of our Republican colleagues are threatening to default on America's financial obligations, to turn our backs on seniors who need their Social Security checks, taxpayers who deserve their refunds, people throughout the world have invested in America.

There is no question that economic chaos would follow even a day of default. Interest rates on credit cards, car loans, and mortgages would skyrocket. The dollar would plummet. World financial markets could go into a tailspin. The damage would most likely be permanent, because such reckless delinquency would be without historical precedent in our country.

We had a bloody Civil War in the last century, when America was torn in half, probably our greatest crisis. But all through it and after it, we kept our credit whole. During two world wars when our economy was stretched to the limit, we found room to honor our word to the people who had invested in our debt. Through recessions and a great depression, we have guarded America's financial faith and integrity because it is as sacred as the Constitution itself.

This is not partisan hyperbole. Even the threat of default is damaging our credibility day by day, more and more with each passing day.

We cannot afford to play politics with that credibility. We cannot afford to delay to stand for our national word and honor

What crisis is bigger than two world wars and the Great Depression? A disagreement over a budget. We Democrats think it is wrong to cut Medicare for huge tax breaks, especially since we think it is unnecessary to balance the budget. Republicans legitimately disagree. This is a valid debate. It is one we should resolve. But defaulting on our obligations, hurting millions of average Americans, damaging our most precious possession, our word and our credibility, is no way to resolve it.

After all, shutting down the Government twice did not resolve it. Why would an international economic crisis resolve it?

Mr. Speaker, parliamentary privilege exists for exactly this kind of crisis. This is more than an economic issue. It is a profoundly moral issue.

If we bargain away America's integrity for the latest political squabble, if we can bring millions of families to the brink of economic crisis because we cannot agree on this year's budget, then in my opinion we cease to serve the United States of America, and we no longer have honor to maintain.

This crisis, Mr. Speaker, is the very essence of privilege in this parliamentary body, and I urge the Chair, on behalf of our country and the promise and word of our country, to rule in its favor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Do any other Members wish to be heard on the question of privilege?

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I wish to be heard.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY].

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, there can be no greater cause for a parliamentary privilege than the constitutional crisis that is being perpetrated by the elements of this House that have chosen a path to default on America's debt in order to get their particular view rammed through the House of Representatives and the Senate of the United States. Mr. Speaker, we have got to deal with this crisis.

The truth of the matter is that originally we were told that the reason why the Republicans so much wanted to have the debt default issue brought forward was to insist upon a balanced

budget. President Clinton has agreed to a balanced budget.

We were then told, though, it was not a balanced budget, it was a balanced budget within 7 years. President Clinton agreed to a balanced budget within 7 years.

We were then told it was not a balanced budget within 7 years but it was with the CBO numbers. President Clinton greed to a balanced budget in 7 years using CBO numbers.

Then we were told it was not a balanced budget, 7 years, CBO numbers, but it had to have a tax cut. President Clinton agreed to a tax cut.

It is not as big a tax cut as the one the Republicans want, so the Republicans are insistent upon challenging the debt of this country, breaking the back of 200 years of history, breaking the parliamentary process that has been set up that says if we have disagreements between bills passed by the House of Representatives and the United States Senate, that we have in fact a President that can sign that bill or he can veto that bill. If he vetoes the bill, we have the right to override that veto. If we do not have the votes to override, we then compromise.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I demand regular order

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. The truth of the matter is there is no willingness to compromise.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I demand regular order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman suspend. The Chair would remind the gentleman to confine his remarks to the question of privilege, please.

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am talking about a question of privilege. I am talking about my dignity and my integrity, the integrity of this body, the integrity of every Member on the Democratic and Republican side.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I demand the regular order.

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. You are willing to break the back, break the debt of America in order to ram through your narrow political guerrilla tactics. It is time for a little dignity on the floor of this House, Mr. Speaker, and I want to be heard.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members must confine their remarks to the question of privilege.

Mr. WALKER. I demand the regular order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I believe very strongly that this is an issue of parliamentary privilege. I could not agree more strongly with the words of the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT], that this is an issue, the most important issue we have faced this year, the most important issue that we have faced in many years.

If we allow the debt of this country to be defaulted upon, we will hurt the future of our country's borrowing, we will hurt the future of our country's children, and we will hurt our senior citizens.

Please pass a full debt extension. Allow us to pay our bills as every generation prior to ours has done throughout the history of this country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

New York [Mr. Solomon].

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, in the interest of time, I will make the argument brief as to why this resolution does not constitute a question of privilege under House rule IX, but just as I do that, let me preface those remarks by calling attention to the bill that will be on the floor directly after we finish with these two issues here. It states in the line 6, "Congress intends to pass an increase in the public debt limit before March 1, 1996," and let me say that they will do this over my objections because I am just appalled that we are once again going to extend this debt limit.

But having said that, let us talk about this issue. The precedents are absolutely clear that a resolution raising a question of privilege may not be used to change those rules. This resolution would change House rules by automatically passing a specified bill. Nowhere in House rules is it contemplated or specified that legislation may be called up, let alone passed, by means of a question of privileged resolution. The Chair has already so ruled on numerous occasions during the last several weeks. I therefore would urge that this resolution be ruled out of order, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from Pennsylvania desire to

be heard on this question?

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise

on the question of privilege.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania may proceed.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I know that this is an issue that other parliamentarians have ruled on in the history of this great House, but as we reflect, my friends on both sides, and to remove this from a partisan issue, the issue of the Constitution and the issue of the House of Representatives predates the existence of either parties that exercise influence in this House today.

We are in the 208th year of the American Constitution, the 104th Congress of the United States. We are here by virtue of the fact that our constituents elected us to come here and present ourselves under article I of the Constitution of the United States and take an oath of office that Constitution. Article I provides for the powers of the House of Representatives, one of which is to provide for the debt of the United States. Those of us in this House today, more than a majority, I daresay, because I have a letter addressed to the Speaker signed by more than 191 members of the minority side of the House, and I am aware of the fact that several dozen of my good friends on the majority side join me in this cause.

So clearly if a resolution for the raising of the debt limit presented to the House clean, it could and would receive a majority vote of the House of Representatives honoring the commitment we made in our oath of office under article I of the Constitution of the United States.

For the leadership of the House, for the Rules Committee or for the rules of the House to frustrate article I and the individual oath and the collective oath of this entire House and to argue that this does not fall within the purview of the privilege of the House going to the integrity and the dignity of individual Members or collectively of this House is the most fallacious and ridiculous argument I have ever heard in my years in public life.

I argue that we put aside today as we are about to leave on a 3-week vacation and send a message to America that the House of Representatives is going to pursue and follow its oath of office, the article I of the American Constitution, and allow for an open vote a resolution allowing for the provision to pay the debts of the U.S. Government under the existing Constitution of the

United States.

□ 1645

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Does the gentleman from New York wish to be recognized?

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to be recognized on the question of

privilege.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York on the question of privilege.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am going to try desperately hard to be nonpartisan in my remarks, because I think we have reached that point as a Congress that the general public is just fed up with all of us and are not taking the time to determine whether it is the so-called Republican leadership or whether it is the House of Representatives, the Senators or even whether it is the Government of the United States.

All of us have had the opportunity to explain what our job is here in the House, and we are honored to serve in this House, and whether we are dealing with adults or whether we deal with children, compromise has never been a dirty word in explaining the work of the subcommittees, the full committees, what we do in conference and what we send to the President of the United States. If we are going to change the rules here, you are changing the rules not just for individuals and parties, you are changing the rules for every one of the Members of this House whether they are participating in this or whether they are not, and you are not giving them choices. You are not playing by the rules. You are not playing by the rules we were sworn in to endorse. Those rules are simple rules.

You do not like what the President has done. You do not like the veto; you

override the veto, that is what you do, and if you cannot override the veto, you try to come back and work out something.

Oh, I know, you are in a hurry. You cannot talk about it. You cannot talk about compromise. All of a sudden this beautiful word has now become a stigma, because a handful of people have snatched what they think is principle, and they are threatening the United States of America's integrity throughout this world.

You can do what you want with your party or with your members. But it is unfair, and it takes away from our prerogative as sworn Members of this House to threaten the economic life of the United States of America and the free world by holding a debt extension hostage in order to reach your political and

Politics are played at the polls, and they should not be the reputation of the United States that is being played on parliamentary maneuvers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is prepared to rule on the resolution offered by the distinguished minority leader.

The resolution offered by the gentleman from Missouri alleges that the failure of the House to take a specified legislative action brings it discredit and lowers it in public esteem. On that premise it resolves that the House be considered to have passed a legislative

Under rule IX, questions of the privileges of the House are those "affecting the rights of the House collectively, its safety, its dignity, [or] the integrity of its proceedings." But a question of the privileges of the House may not be invoked to effect a change in the rules of the House or to prescribe a special order of business for the House. This principle has been upheld on several occasions cited in section 664 of the House Rules and Manual, including June 27, 1974 where a resolution directing the Committee on Rules to consider reporting a special order was held not to present a question of privilege.

In this Congress, resolutions have been offered that attempt to advance legislative propositions as questions of privileges of the House on February 7 and December 22, 1995, on January 3, 1996, and, in particular, on January 24, 1996. The latter resolution similarly deemed a legislative measure passed to redress previous inaction. When ruling out that resolution as not constituting a question of privilege, the Chair posited that permitting a question of the privileges of the House under rule IX based on allegations of perceived discredit by legislative action or inaction would permit any Member to advance virtually any legislative proposal as a question of privileges of the House.

Applying the precedents just cited, the Chair holds that the resolution offered by the Gentleman from Missouri does not affect "the rights of the House collectively, its safety, dignity, [or] the integrity of its proceedings" within

the meaning of clause 1 of rule IX. Rather, it proposes to effect a special order of business for the House—deeming it to have passed a legislative measure—as an antidote for the alleged discredit of previous inaction.

The resolution does not constitute a question of privilege under rule IX.

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, I appeal the ruling of the Chair.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is, Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. SOLOMON

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I move to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] to lay on the table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair.

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

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 229, noes 187, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 26]

Allard Deal Archer Armey Bachus Baker (CA) Baker (LA) Ballenger Barrett (NE) Dunn Bartlett Bass Bateman Bereuter Bilbray Bilirakis Bliley Blute Boehlert Boehner Bonilla Bono Brownback Fox Bryant (TN) Bunn Bunning Frisa Burr Burton Buyer Callahan Calvert Camp Campbell Canady Castle Chabot Chambliss Goss Chenoweth Christensen Chrysler Clinger Coble Coburn Collins (GA) Combest Cooley Cox Crane Crapo

Cremeans

Cunningham

Hoke

Cubin

Davis

AYES-229 Horn Hostettler DeLay Diaz-Balart Houghton Dickey Hunter Doolittle Hutchinson Dornan Hyde Inglis Dreier Duncan Istook Jacobs Johnson (CT) Ehlers Ehrlich Johnson, Sam Emerson Jones English Kasich Kelly Everett Kim Ewing King Fawell Kingston Fields (TX) Klug Knollenberg Flanagan Kolbe LaHood Foley Forbes Fowler Largent Latham Franks (CT) LaTourette Franks (NJ) Laughlin Frelinghuysen Lazio Leach Funderburk Lewis (KY) Gallegly Ganske Lightfoot Linder Livingston Gekas Gilchrest LoBiondo Gillmor Longley Lucas Manzullo Goodlatte Goodling Martini McCollum Graham McCrery Greenwood McDade Gunderson McHugh Gutknecht McInnis Hancock McIntosh McKeon Hansen Hastert Metcalf Hastings (WA) Mica Miller (FL) Hayworth Hefley Molinari Heineman Moorhead Herger Hilleary Morella Myers Hobson Myrick Hoekstra Nethercutt

Neumann

Ney Norwood Nussle Oxley Parker Paxon Petri Pombo Porter Portman Prvce Quillen Quinn Ramstad Regula Riggs Roberts Rogers Rohrabacher Ros-Lehtinen Roth Roukema Royce Salmon

Sanford Thomas Thornberry Saxton Scarborough Tiahrt Torkildsen Schaefer Schiff Upton Vucanovich Sensenbrenner Waldholtz Shadegg Walker Shaw Walsh Shays Wamp Shuster Watts (OK) Skeen Weldon (FL) Smith (MI) Weldon (PA) Smith (NJ) Smith (TX) White Solomon Whitfield Souder Wicker Spence Wolf Stearns Young (AK) Stump Young (FL) Talent Zeliff Zimmer Tate Tauzin Taylor (MS)

NOES-187

Taylor (NC)

Gibbons Abercrombie Olver Ortiz Gonzalez Ackerman Andrews Orton Gordon Baesler Gutierrez Hall (OH) Owens Pallone Baldacci Hall (TX) Pastor Barrett (WI) Payne (NJ) Hamilton Payne (VA) Beilenson Harman Hastings (FL) Pelosi Bentsen Peterson (FL) Hefner Hilliard Berman Peterson (MN) Bevill Bishop Hinchey Pickett Bonio Holden Pomerov Borski Hoyer Jackson (IL) Rahall Boucher Rangel Brewster Jackson-Lee Browder (TX) Richardson Brown (CA) Jefferson Brown (FL) Brown (OH) Rivers Johnson, E. B. Roemer Johnston Roybal-Allard Cardin Kanjorski Rush Clay Clayton Kaptur Kennedy (MA) Sabo Sawver Clement Kennedy (RI) Schroeder Clyburn Kennelly Schumer Kildee Coleman Collins (IL) Scott Kleczka Collins (MI) Klink Serrano LaFalce Sisisky Condit Skaggs Conyers Lantos Skelton Costello Levin Lewis (GA) Slaughter Covne Spratt Cramer Lincoln Stark Danner Lipinski de la Garza Stenholm Lofgren DeFazio Lowey Stokes Studds DeLauro Luther Stupak Dellums Maloney Tanner Deutsch Markey Tejeda Martinez Dicks Dingell Thompson Mascara Thornton Matsui Dixon Thurman Doggett Dooley McCarthy Torres McDermott Torricelli Doyle McHaleTowns Durbin McKinney Traficant Edwards McNulty Velazquez Meehan Engel Vento Visclosky Meek Eshoo Menendez Evans Volkmer Farr Mfume Miller (CA) Ward Fattah Waters Fazio Minge Watt (NC) Fields (LA) Mink Moakley Waxman Williams Flake Foglietta Mollohan Wilson Ford Montgomery Frank (MA) Moran Wise Woolsey Frost Murtha Wyden Furse Nadler Wynn Gejdenson Neal Yates Gephardt Oberstar

NOT VOTING—17

Obey

Geren

Becerra

Chapman

Filner

Green

Hayes

Bryant (TX)

Johnson (SD) Rose Lewis (CA) Sanders Manton Seastrand Meyers Smith (WA) Packard Stockman Radanovich \square 1710

So the motion to lay on the table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE— KEEPING THE HOUSE IN SESSION TO CONSIDER BILL REGARDING DEBT CEILING TO AVOID DE-FAULT OF FULL FAITH AND CREDIT OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 354) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 354

Whereas the inability of the House to pass a bill to raise the public debt limit will cause the Federal Government to default on its obligations and affect the dignity and integrity of House proceedings; and

Whereas the inability of the House to pass a bill to raise the public debt limit will cause severe hardship on Federal employees, Federal contractors, and the American people and cause millions of American citizens to hold the House in disrepute: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution, the Speaker of the House shall take such action to keep the House in session until the House considers a clean bill regarding the debt ceiling to avoid default of the full faith and credit of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). This question is similar to questions previously raised, and, as indicated on page 321 of the manual, debate on questions of order is for the information of the Chair, and is thus within his discretion.

□ 1715

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to be heard on the privileged resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). The Chair will hear from the gentlewoman from Texas, and one other Member who would care to speak on the matter, and from two Members from the other side, if that should be the case, or whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman will state it.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would ask your indulgence. This question is a weighty question. Several Members have asked permission to speak on the privileged resolution because it is quite distinct from the previous one in that it asks that we not recess in order to work on this matter. I would ask the Speaker's indulgence on adding at least another Member to speak on each side. I would