

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 285, nays 132, answered not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 397]

YEAS—285

Abercrombie	Fowler	McKeon
Allard	Fox	McNulty
Archer	Franks (CT)	Meek
Army	Frelinghuysen	Metcalf
Bachus	Frisa	Meyers
Baker (CA)	Frost	Mica
Baker (LA)	Funderburk	Millender-
Baldacci	Gallegly	McDonald
Ballenger	Gejdenson	Miller (FL)
Barcia	Gekas	Mink
Barr	Gephardt	Molinari
Barrett (NE)	Geren	Mollohan
Bartlett	Gilchrest	Montgomery
Barton	Gillmor	Moorhead
Bass	Gilman	Moran
Bateman	Gonzalez	Murtha
Bentsen	Goodlatte	Myers
Bereuter	Goodling	Myrick
Bevill	Gordon	Nethercutt
Bilbray	Goss	Ney
Billirakis	Graham	Norwood
Bishop	Green (TX)	Nussle
Bliley	Greene (UT)	Ortiz
Boehlert	Greenwood	Orton
Boehner	Gunderson	Oxley
Bonilla	Hall (OH)	Packard
Bono	Hamilton	Parker
Boucher	Hancock	Pastor
Brewster	Hansen	Paxon
Browder	Harman	Payne (VA)
Brown (CA)	Hastert	Peterson (FL)
Brown (FL)	Hastings (FL)	Petri
Bryant (TN)	Hastings (WA)	Pickett
Bunning	Hayes	Pombo
Burr	Hayworth	Pomeroy
Buyer	Hefley	Porter
Callahan	Hefner	Portman
Calvert	Heineman	Poshard
Canady	Herger	Pryce
Castle	Hilleary	Quillen
Chambliss	Hobson	Quinn
Chapman	Hoke	Radanovich
Chenoweth	Holden	Reed
Christensen	Horn	Regula
Chrysler	Hostettler	Richardson
Clay	Houghton	Roberts
Clayton	Hoyer	Rogers
Clement	Hunter	Rohrabacher
Clinger	Hyde	Ros-Lehtinen
Clyburn	Inglis	Royce
Coble	Istook	Salmon
Coburn	Jackson-Lee	Sanford
Coleman	(TX)	Saxton
Collins (GA)	Jefferson	Scarborough
Combest	Johnson (SD)	Schaefer
Condit	Johnson, E. B.	Schiff
Cooley	Jones	Scott
Costello	Kanjorski	Seastrand
Cox	Kasich	Shadegg
Cramer	Kelly	Shaw
Crane	Kennedy (RI)	Shuster
Crapo	Kennelly	Sisisky
Cremeans	Kildee	Skeen
Cubin	Kim	Skelton
Cunningham	King	Slaughter
Davis	Kingston	Smith (NJ)
de la Garza	Klink	Smith (TX)
Deal	Knollenberg	Smith (WA)
DeLauro	Kolbe	Solomon
DeLay	LaHood	Souder
Diaz-Balart	Largent	Spence
Dicks	Latham	Spratt
Dixon	LaTourette	Stearns
Dooley	Laughlin	Stenholm
Doolittle	Lazio	Stump
Dreier	Levin	Tanner
Duncan	Lewis (CA)	Tate
Dunn	Lewis (KY)	Tauzin
Edwards	Lightfoot	Taylor (MS)
Ehrlich	Linder	Taylor (NC)
Ensign	Lipinski	Tejeda
Everett	Livingston	Thomas
Ewing	Longley	Thompson
Fawell	Lucas	Thornberry
Fazio	Manzullo	Thornton
Fields (LA)	McCollum	Thurman
Fields (TX)	McCrery	Torkildsen
Flake	McHale	Torres
Flanagan	McHugh	Torricelli
Forbes	McInnis	Traficant

Visclosky
Vucanovich
Walker
Walsh
Wamp
Ward

Waters
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
White

Whitfield
Wicker
Wolf
Young (AK)
Zeliff

NAYS—132

Ackerman	Franks (NJ)	Neumann
Andrews	Furse	Oberstar
Baesler	Ganske	Obey
Barrett (WI)	Gutierrez	Olver
Becerra	Gutknecht	Owens
Beilenson	Hall (TX)	Pallone
Berman	Hilliard	Payne (NJ)
Blumenauer	Hinchee	Pelosi
Blute	Hoekstra	Peterson (MN)
Bonior	Hutchinson	Rahall
Borski	Jackson (IL)	Ramstad
Brown (OH)	Jacobs	Rangel
Bryant (TX)	Johnson, Sam	Riggs
Bunn	Johnston	Rivers
Burton	Kaptur	Roemer
Camp	Kennedy (MA)	Roth
Campbell	Klecza	Roukema
Cardin	Klug	Roybal-Allard
Chabot	LaFalce	Rush
Collins (IL)	Lantos	Sabo
Collins (MI)	Leach	Sanders
Conyers	Lewis (GA)	Sawyer
Coyne	LoBiondo	Schumer
Cummings	Loftgren	Sensenbrenner
Danner	Lowey	Serrano
DeFazio	Luther	Shays
Dellums	Maloney	Skaggs
Deutsch	Markey	Smith (MI)
Dingell	Martinez	Stockman
Doggett	Martini	Stokes
Dornan	Masara	Stupak
Doyle	Matsui	Talent
Durbin	McCarthy	Tiahrt
Ehlers	McDermott	Towns
Engel	McIntosh	Upton
English	McKinney	Velazquez
Eshoo	Meehan	Vento
Evans	Menendez	Volkmer
Farr	Miller (CA)	Watt (NC)
Fattah	Minge	Waxman
Filner	Moakley	Wise
Foglietta	Morella	Woolsey
Foley	Nadler	Wynn
Frank (MA)	Neal	Zimmer

NOT VOTING—16

Brownback	Manton	Williams
Dickey	McDade	Wilson
Ford	Rose	Yates
Gibbons	Schroeder	Young (FL)
Johnson (CT)	Stark	
Lincoln	Studds	

□ 2237

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD changed her vote from "yea" to "nay."

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

So the conference report was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 397, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the conference report just adopted.

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

There was no objection.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1316, SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1996

Mr. MCINNIS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-743) on the resolution (H. Res. 507) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (S. 1316) to reauthorize and amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the "Safe Drinking Water Act"), and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PAGE BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to the provisions of section 127 of Public Law 97-377, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to fill a vacancy on the House of Representatives Page Board: Mrs. FOWLER of Florida.

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HON. JOHN TANNER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable JOHN TANNER, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 31, 1996.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule L (50) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that Doug Thompson, Legislative Director in my Washington, D.C. office, has been served with a subpoena issued by the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in the matter of Johnson, et al. v. Public Housing Authorities Directors Association, et al.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

JOHN TANNER,
Member of Congress.

REQUEST TO CONCUR IN SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2739, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2739) to provide for a representational allowance for Members of the House of Representatives, to make technical and conforming changes to sundry provisions of law in consequence of administrative reforms in the House of Representatives, and for other purposes,

with a Senate amendment thereto and concur in the Senate amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FORBES). The Chair does not recognize the gentleman from California at this time for that purpose.

□ 2145

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FORBES). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mrs. COLLINS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. SAXTON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. KLINK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. KLINK addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. MCINTOSH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MCINTOSH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas addressed the House. Her remarks will

appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. FOLEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. FOLEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. TORKILDSEN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. DREIER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. DREIER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. NORWOOD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. NORWOOD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF: REDUCE THE BEER TAX

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. ENGLISH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I represent part of Western Pennsylvania, a region which gave rise to the Whiskey Rebellion, one of America's first tax revolts. Today, working families in our area face a higher tax burden than ever before—So I am pleased to introduce today information that provides strong support for H.R. 3817, a bill to provide meaningful tax relief to average Americans.

If enacted, this bill will eliminate the \$1.7 billion federal tax increase imposed on more than 80 million American beer drinkers since 1990. And with good reason.

Most working Americans have little conception of the level at which they are taxed. Certainly, average men and women know that they pay a personal income tax and the FICA tax and they probably notice the state sales tax that is levied on many of the products they buy. But these taxes are only the tip of the iceberg. It's important that average Americans understand how much of the total tax burden they bear is invisible to them. I am talking about hidden taxes that are buried in the purchase price of products ranging from beer to bread to gasoline. Because they are concealed, these taxes engender little opposition from the taxpayers. But

they contribute tangibly to the cost of living for hardworking Americans.

It is particularly appropriate to look at beer because the weight of an unfair tax system is heaviest on average Americans when they lift a cold one. The hidden taxes on beer are exceptionally high, and they fall overwhelmingly on average Americans who are already doing more than their fair share to support the government.

To fully understand how heavily beer drinkers are taxed, I submit to this body a powerful study completed by the economic research firm DRI/McGraw Hill. According to this analysis, taxes represent fully 43 percent of the retail price of beer. This astonishing conclusion is arrived at by tabulating federal and state excise taxes, state and local sales taxes, taxes on corporate and personal earnings, in fact, of all the taxes that go into a bottle or can of beer. Not just the taxes people see but all the taxes.

The beer tax is an excellent example of how unseen taxes—taxes that don't require government to be as accountable to the public—can lead to a misallocation of the tax burden across our society. To appreciate this, I ask you to remember the circumstances under which the federal excise tax on beer was raised in 1990.

That year, Congress imposed a tax increase not only on beer but also on luxury items. Persons purchasing luxury automobiles would have to pay more—as would those buying yachts, private airplanes, furs and jewelry.

While I do not like hidden taxes or tax increases, I understand the symmetry of a tax policy that says, "If we're going to impose a discriminatory tax on beer drinkers * * * let's do the same for yachtsmen." After all, nearly two-thirds of the beer consumed in the U.S. is purchased by households earning \$45,000 a year or less.

But, look what has happened since the 1990 tax package was passed. The tax on yacht owners has been repealed. So has the tax on private airplanes. And so has the tax on people buying jewelry and furs. In fact, only the tax on luxury autos remain—and, a few weeks ago, we voted to phase out that provision.

In each case, the rationale offered for removing these luxury taxes on unemployment. But that same logic applies to beer. In fact, the beer tax increase eliminated tens of thousands of jobs—an impact that dwarfs that of all the luxury taxes, combined.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the hidden nature of the beer tax increase contributed directly to this unfortunate outcome. If hardworking, average Americans knew how much they pay in taxes on beer—and if they understood how those taxes cost jobs—the 1990 beer tax increase would have been repealed long before now.

But it is by no means too late to act. By repealing the 1990 tax, we can largely undo the damage that was done six years ago. DRI/McGraw Hill estimates