

can pursue economic policies that will allow the poor to help themselves.

Washington can pursue economic policies that will make it easier for people to find jobs, will make it easier for people to find better jobs, will make it easier for people to buy a home, will make it easier for people to receive an education, will make it easier for people to get ahead. Policies that would do that include lower taxes, more commonsense regulation, less Government bureaucracy and, above all, a balanced budget. That is a program that will help the poor, not the failed promises of more Government and social spending.

THANKS EXTENDED FOR MAINTAINING WIC FUNDING

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, yesterday this House worked its will and rightfully defeated a flawed rule imposed by some members of the Republican leadership to restrict debate on the important women, infants and children's feeding program. Today those Members who refused to eliminate over 180,000 pregnant mothers, their low birth weight babies and children from their lifeline to nutrition will achieve a great victory. We will keep our promise to assure America's future by taking proper care of the children of today.

I personally want to thank those Republicans who heard our pleas and want to do what is right for America. I also want to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY] who worked so very hard in the Committee on Rules, the gentlewoman from New Jersey [Mrs. ROUKEMA] for her leadership, the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO], the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. ROEMER], the gentleman from New York [Mr. WALSH] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. FORBES], and I want to thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], the chairman of the Committee on Rules, for bringing a revised rule to the floor today.

THE FIFTH OR FLEE? WHY IS THE WHITE HOUSE STONEWALLING

(Mr. HORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, these are the six individuals about which the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight is seeking to obtain documents from the White House.

Three of them, former associate attorney general Webb Hubbell, Commerce Department official John Huang, and White House aide Mark Middleton, have all invoked their fifth amendment rights and have refused to cooperate with the committee.

The others, banking tycoon James Riady, Arkansas fundraiser Charlie

Trie, and Thai businesswoman Pauline Kanchanalak, left the country.

Mr. Speaker, the White House is continuing to stonewall us and has refused to hand over the key documents on these six people.

The House of Representatives has a right to know. The American people have a right to know.

GEKAS AMENDMENT THREATENS WIC FUNDING

(Mr. HINCHEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, last week I and others took the floor of this House to deplore the majority party's suggestion that 180,000 American women and children should be cut from the women, infants and children program. This program, WIC as it is known, is an extraordinarily effective program. It prevents low birth weight babies, it prevents anemic babies, it provides proper nutrition for women who are lactating to ensure that their babies grow to be strong and healthy. We were able to defeat that proposal last week, but now we have another proposal before us. An amendment to the supplemental budget that is up today would cut 500,000 women and infants from the women, infants, and children program. We need to marshal our forces once again. The Gekas amendment needs to be defeated. It should be defeated because it is shortsighted and mean-spirited. It would have the opposite effect of those who want to invest in the future of our country by investing in American families. Let us defeat that amendment and make sure that the women, infants, and children program continues to be an effective way to strengthen women, strengthen their children, and strengthen American families.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1469, 1997 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR RECOVERY FROM NATURAL DISASTERS, AND FOR OVERSEAS PEACE- KEEPING EFFORTS, INCLUDING THOSE IN BOSNIA

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 149 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 149

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. 1469) making emergency supplemental appropriations for recovery from natural disasters, and for overseas peacekeeping efforts, including those in Bosnia, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. 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 Appropriations. An amendment striking lines 8 through 17 on page 24 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 or 6 of rule XXI are waived except as follows: page 3, line 1, through line 9; page 10, line 3, through line 15; page 26, line 8, through line 15; and page 33, line 14, through page 34, line 19. Before consideration of any other amendment it shall be in order to consider the amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each amendment printed in the report may be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments printed in the report are waived. During consideration of the bill for further amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be fifteen minutes. During consideration of the bill, points of order against amendments for failure to comply with clause 2(e) of rule XXI are waived. 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. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and any amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS). The gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA].

□ 1100

(Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to speak out of order.)

ELIMINATING LANDMINES

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, in the 9 months between the declaration of the cease-fire last March and the signing of the final peace agreement last December, not a single shot was fired between the forces of the Guatemalan Government and the URNG guerillas. Nonetheless, the last death of the war took place just before the signing when a 17-year-old boy in San Pablo, San Marcos stepped on an antipersonnel landmine while walking home.

In fact, every 22 minutes, someone is either killed, maimed or permanently disfigured by a landmine. Twenty percent of the victims are children. In Cambodia, where there are twice as many mines as there are children, there are 40,000 amputees resulting from landmines, and the figures continue to rise.

The fact is that AP landmines continue killing long after the warring parties which laid them have settled their differences. Sometime early in the next century, the last victim of the Angolan civil war will probably be a child not even born when the war was fought.

It is time for this Nation to take leadership and to write to the President and urge him to take the lead in implementing it.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 149 provides for the consideration of H.R. 1469. It is called the emergency supplemental appropriation bill for fiscal year 1997 under an open rule. In fact, this rule may be described as an open-plus rule.

The rule provides for 1 hour of general debate. It is equally divided and controlled between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations, and it waives all points of order against consideration of the bill.

The rule further provides that the amendment printed in the rule shall be considered as adopted. All points of order against the provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2, which prohibits the unauthorized or legislative provisions in a general appropriation bill, or clause 6, prohibiting reappropriations in a general appropriation bill, of rule XXI are waived, except as specified in the rule, and I think all my colleagues are familiar with that.

These exceptions relate to those legislative and unauthorized provisions contained in the bill reported by the Committee on Appropriations which were objected to by the authorizing committees of jurisdiction.

In an effort to be as fair as possible to all Members and to respect the committee system, the Committee on Rules followed its standard protocol of leaving any provision to which an authorizing committee objection was raised subject to a point of order, al-

though there is a question whether a matter dealing with the U.S. Mint currency paper has the approval of all committees of jurisdiction. I personally have great concern with this matter being in this bill.

As I read the bill right now, under existing law, companies that are allowed to bid to produce this paper that our American dollar is printed on have to be 90 percent owned by American citizens. This bill before us is going to lower that to 50 percent, and I do not know about the rest of you, but that raises tremendous concern to me because I do not want some foreign company, it might even be Lippo or some other Indonesian major conglomerate that might be coming in here and getting a bid on this. And it means that this print, even though the U.S. citizens might be more than 50 percent owning of this company, this printing may be done in Indonesia or someplace else. But what happens to security? What happens to counterfeiting? Have we really held hearings? Do we know what this is all about?

Let me tell my colleagues something. There has been a lot of bad information put out on this, but my colleagues better know what they are doing or they are going to see counterfeiting running rampant throughout this country, and their dollar is not going to be worth a dime. My colleagues can tell I get a little exercised on this particular subject, but during the debate I might have a little bit more to say about that to some of our Republican colleagues on this side of the aisle.

Now having said that, let us get back to the bill again. Specifically this rule leaves the following unprotected provisions relating to enrollment in the conservation reserve program, provisions establishing exemptions to the Endangered Species Act for disaster areas and unauthorized parking garage and rescissions of contract authority from the transportation trust funds. And let me tell my colleagues they better pay attention to that because what that might mean is that this bill is no longer paid for; and fiscal conservatives like me that came here 20 years ago and have been trying to bring some fiscal sanity to this country are expected to vote for this thing and it is not paid? My colleagues have got another guess coming.

The rule also waives all points of order against each amendment printed in part 2 of the Committee on Rules' report. It provides that these amendments may only be offered in the order specified. It shall be debatable for the time specified in this report, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall be considered as read, shall be offered only by the Members designated in the report and shall not be subject to further amendment or a demand for a division of the question.

Once these eight amendments have been considered by the House, the rule also provides, and this is very impor-

tant, for consideration of the bill for further amendment under the 5-minute rule. What that means is the rule grants priority and recognition to those Members who have preprinted their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD prior to their consideration, if otherwise consistent with House rules.

The rule also allows the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill and to reduce the vote to 5 minutes on a postponed question if the vote follows a 15-minute rule. What that means is we could have clustering of votes to make it easier on Members to get some work done back in their committees or on the floor without having to run over here every 10 minutes and vote on a matter.

The rule waives points of order against all amendments for failure to comply with clause 2(e) of rule XXI which prohibits non-emergency designating amendments to be offered to an appropriation bill containing an emergency designation. I think all of my colleagues better pay attention to that too, because if they go down through this bill they will find that there is a lot of things in here that are not of an emergency nature, and my colleagues, get a hold of the Senate bill and see what kind of a Christmas tree they have over there and what we are going to be expected to vote on when coming back here on a conference report perhaps earlier this week.

Finally the rule provides for one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

So, Mr. Speaker, House Joint Resolution 149 is similar to the rule considered yesterday, with three major differences. Are they listening over there? First, the rule makes in order as the first of the protected amendments a Kaptur-Riggs-Roukema-Roemer-Quinn amendment relating to the WIC Program. Secondly the rule drops from the list of protected amendments two amendments, the Gilman-Spence-Solomon amendment relating to Bosnia, and also it drops the other Solomon amendment dealing with the funding for the Nunn-Lugar Program. Again, we might get into this debate later on, but what we have got is \$400 million in a pipeline under Nunn-Lugar funding to help countries like Ukraine and Kazakhstan that have already been denuclearized. They do not even have any missiles pointed toward the United States with this \$400 million in here to just hand out to them for whatever purposes.

As I said yesterday, the bill is important, but there is a question of whether the bill is paid for. If that question remains at the end of this debate, I for one will not be voting for this piece of legislation, and I would advise other Members not to do so either.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend, the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], for yielding me the customary half hour.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question on this rule. As the gentleman from New York said, some parts of the rules have been improved greatly, and I commend my dear friend, the chairman, for getting this new knowledge overnight and to improve the rule so that it is much more palatable to many of us. But some parts of the rule have been improved, but still, Mr. Speaker, others still need work, and if we defeat the previous question, we can get to work on those other parts.

Mr. Speaker, I am very happy with some of the changes my Republican colleagues have made to this rule. I am pleased to see the amendment to restore WIC nutrition funding for 180,000 women and children is now a freestanding amendment, and it gives credit, Mr. Speaker, it gives credit where credit is due. It is back to being called the Kaptur amendment, and justly so, because this Congressperson has worked so hard for so many years on the WIC Program, and it is justly named the Kaptur amendment, and that is the way it should be. Mr. Speaker, I thank my chairman of the Committee on Rules for acknowledging this and amending the rule to include it.

But I am not pleased that the currency provision has been protected from a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I think a lot of my colleagues agree with me and it is very important that American money should be made by Americans and made in America. Under this provision our money can be made overseas, and I am afraid that some countries might make just a little bit more than we order. So I hope that the previous question will be defeated and we can make those changes.

But most importantly, Mr. Speaker, despite the changes and despite the greater number of votes this rule will get more than its predecessor, it is still headed nowhere, and that is the real shame of this whole matter, because Grand Forks, ND has been all but destroyed and its residents deserve every bit of help that we can give them not next week, not next month, but right now.

But my Republican colleagues have added a poison pill to the midwestern flood relief which all but ensures its doom. The poison pill, Mr. Speaker, is an automatic continuing resolution which is my Republican colleagues' way of saying please stop us before we shut down the Government again. My Republican colleagues do not trust themselves to get the Federal spending bills finished in time, and they are trying to get out of their constitutional responsibility to do so.

Mr. Speaker, this automatic continuing resolution will cause all sorts of serious problems. For instance, each month, each and every month, it will keep an average of 500,000 women, in-

fants and small children from getting food under the WIC Program. It will cut college aid by \$1.7 billion which means that 375,000 students will be eliminated from the Pell Grant Program. It will also cut educational services for over 483,000 children and will cut up to 56,000 children out of the Head Start Program. It will keep 60,000 veterans from VA medical care. Mr. Speaker, the list just goes on and on and on.

President Clinton has said in no uncertain terms; in fact a letter that he sent to the Committee on Rules yesterday stated that he will veto this bill if it contains an automatic continuing resolution, and I think that these students, these veterans, and these pregnant women will all agree with them. But this did not stop my Republican colleagues from inserting the automatic continuing resolution in this bill. Mr. Speaker, badly needed flood relief is no place for political gains, particularly when it endangers so many, so many important programs.

I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question, and if the previous question is defeated, I will move to strike this poison pill, the automatic continuing resolution and the provision that threatens our children, threatens our students, and threatens our veterans, and I will expose the currency provision to a point of order in order to ensure that American money is made in America.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, once again I am just kind of taken aback by the statement of my good friend, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY]. He seems to be saying that we Democrats are opposed to this continuing resolution.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, during the hearing we held we had a number of Democrats come before the committee and ask us for this continuing resolution because they remember when 2 years ago the Government was shut down on two separate occasions for an extended period of time, and a lot of workers were put out, were put out of Federal workers were put out of work without pay, and this is an attempt to see that that does not happen again. We are actually trying to help the President, and that is why this continuing resolution which funds all matters that have not been dealt with after September 30 of this year, it keeps the Government functioning at this year, this current fiscal year's level of spending.

Mr. Speaker, what more could one ask for?

I doubt very much if the President is going to stand up and reverse himself, although he has been known to do that before, and veto this bill because there is a continuing resolution. If he does, I guess we would have no other choice but to bring it right back, repass it

without it, but then, Mr. Speaker, whose fault is it going to be if the Government shuts down?

□ 1115

It is going to be the President of the United States of America, and I do not think that Mr. Clinton wants that to happen on his watch. I certainly would not think so.

Having said that, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GEKAS], the sponsor of this continuing resolution.

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I am astounded at the gentleman from Massachusetts. He deplores the fact that if we, in this continuing resolution, make sure that last year's programs would be funded at 100 percent, that the veterans, Head Start, and other programs will suffer. I ask him whether he, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY], would agree that a shutdown causes a 100-percent cut in all of those programs. That is, if the Government shuts down, women, infants, and children get nothing in their programs. The veterans get nothing in their programs. The students get nothing out of the Pell grants. That is a 100-percent cut in their programs because of the possibility and actuality of a shutdown.

My legislation is a good Government effort to prevent shutdowns forever. When our Founding Fathers in 1789 established this country, this Nation, this Government of ours, they proceeded to be for all time. We cannot tolerate a shutdown of 5 minutes, let alone 1 day or 20 days.

When the Desert Storm fracas began with Desert Shield, right in the midst of Desert Shield while our young people were over there with musket in hand ready to do battle, our Government shut down at the hands of a Democrat Congress and a Republican President who could not agree. Recently, a Republican Congress and a Democrat President could not agree, and the Government shut down again, a 100-percent cut, I say to the gentleman from Massachusetts, in all of the programs so near and dear to his heart and which he related now as being endangered by the continuing resolution.

We preserve 100 percent funding from last year's appropriations, preserve Head Start, preserve women and children, preserve the veterans, preserve the students. And the gentleman from Massachusetts does not see, as I see, that a shutdown destroys those programs, puts people out of work, cuts the stream of funding to our Head Start children, cuts the stream of funding to our veterans, destroys the capability to deal with Head Start because the President and the Congress could not agree.

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

Government never has to be shut down if people negotiate in good faith.

The last time there was a political decision made to embarrass the President, it backfired. We are not going to put this on automatic pilot, because what we do is we freeze the budget at last year's status, which means that they do not grow as a result of more people getting on those programs and inflation, and I think it is a bad idea. We can negotiate and we can come to a conclusion so Government does not have to be shut down.

The gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], my friend and the chairman of the Committee on Rules, says that he is trying to do the President a favor. Well, if he read the same letter I read, the President said, one does not have to read between the lines, the President said that he would veto this matter if the automatic continuing resolution was included. It cannot be any simpler than that.

Now, I do not know if my friend across the aisle has a crystal ball or tea leaves, but that is what the letter said.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MOAKLEY. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I am a little confused, because I have all of the press clippings of 2 years ago when the President complained vehemently. I would say to my colleague from Massachusetts, why do we not go to the White House, and the gentleman from Massachusetts can get the appointment, and why do we not go and discuss it with the President and let us clear this matter up.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, will the gentleman admit that he received a letter from the President stating that he would veto this bill if this were included?

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would further yield, yes; but I will say to my good friend, he knows that that was an 8-page letter, which is highly unusual. So one has to read between the lines, I would say to my good friend.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I do not know what lines the gentleman has read between, but I would just say, do not read between the lines, just read the lines.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 7 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY].

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the time.

Let me say that I think this rule is considerably improved from yesterday for the following reasons: First of all, it no longer contains the extraneous and, in my view, extremely misguided provisions which would have dragged this emergency proposal into a protracted argument on Bosnia and also would have effectively eliminated a very large amount of funding for the Nunn-Lugar program, which has eliminated 4,500 nuclear weapons in the former Soviet Union. I think it is not in the national interests of the United States for us to have bogged this bill down in either debate.

The primary purpose of this legislature ought to simply be to get the emergency aid contained in this bill to the people who need it the most, and we should not drag in extraneous issues. I am pleased that as a result of the rule going down yesterday, adjustments have been made to eliminate those two provisions.

I am also pleased that we have been told that in conference that the McKeon amendment, which is expected to be added, will be fixed so that we have a more equitably balanced commission to review the question of long-term rises in college tuition costs.

I am also pleased to recognize that the amendment restoring full funding for WIC will be debated and that it will be offered by the person who has carried the ball on that issue for so long, the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR].

I think there are still some problems with this rule, however. I do not personally intend to ask for a rollcall on the rule, I hope no one else does on our side of the aisle either. But we do intend to demonstrate our unhappiness with the rule by asking, as the gentleman from Massachusetts said, that my colleagues vote against the previous question so that we might offer an amendment that eliminates the protection in the bill for the otherwise nonlegitimate language with respect to U.S. currency printing and also, and most importantly, will eliminate the waiver of the rule, clause 2, rule XXI, without which this most troublesome amendment on a permanent CR could not in fact even be offered, because it is clearly not germane to this bill.

Now, the question is asked, why are we against adding this proposal to this bill? For two very simply reasons: First, because it will again engage us in a protracted debate and it will prevent the emergency assistance from arriving in North Dakota, South Dakota and other areas where it is needed; and I think that that should not happen.

Second, if that provision were to be adopted, as I say, it is not even germane under our normal rules. If it were to be adopted, what it would do is to reward Congress for inaction, it would enshrine the status quo as permanent policy in the U.S. budget policy.

What it would do, for instance, is to see to it that initiatives which are recognized on both sides of the aisle that need to be taken in the area of education or in the area of strengthened medical research at NIH would be wiped out. And yet the old, outmoded programs which the Congress has determined that we ought to cut below last year's level, those programs will still be protected. That is not a way to produce an intelligent budget. It is Government without thinking, it is Government without action.

As the Washington Post said this morning in its editorial, the effect of this amendment would be to lock in place a new norm in which an agency's appropriation would be frozen from

year to year unless Congress acted to raise or lower it. Because of inflation, the freeze is equivalent to a cut each year in real terms. The President wants the issue to be debated anew each year in the same way it has always been. The no-shutdown provision is an attempt to load the dice without quite saying so, a forcing device that has no place in a bill whose main ostensible purpose is to provide food relief in the Upper Midwest.

I would simply say, lest there be any doubt about it, the President's message contains the following sentence: The President has indicated that he would veto the bill if such a provision were included in it. That is the direct letter which we received, statement of administration policy from the Executive Office of the President.

So I would simply say, what we are going to be asking people to do is not to object to the rule itself, we will be asking people to vote "no" on the previous question on the rule so we can eliminate what we consider to be two illegitimate waivers of the rules. If we eliminate that, we eliminate much of the controversy in this bill.

Second, if the CR amendment is adopted, we will then be asking Members to vote "no," because we feel that all that is, in addition to having all of the faults I just described, its major short-term problem is that it will simply delay for a significant period of time our ability to deliver the emergency aid to the parts of the country who need it.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that we not follow what has unfortunately become an all-too-regular process in this place of loading up these emergency supplemental with items that do nothing except slow the package down. This bill will not become law if that provision is attached to it. We ought to recognize it. If we are interested in bipartisan cooperation, that cooperation ought to start before legislation is brought to the floor, not only after we go through a protracted process, which incurs several vetoes and prevents needed aid from going to the States who need it so badly right now.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DIAZ-BALART], one of the outstanding Members of this body from Miami, and he has an extremely important amendment that will be offered a little bit later on this bill.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the Committee on Rules for the time.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is known how strongly I feel about the right of legal, taxpaying immigrants in this country to be treated in a nondiscriminatory way with regard to the receipt of programs, the eligibility for programs as essential as Supplemental Security Income.

I am very pleased that the Committee on Rules has made in order an amendment, with the support obviously of the gentleman from New York

[Mr. SOLOMON] but also the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY], the ranking Member, and the support of the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON], chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY], the ranking member, an amendment to restore for the duration of the fiscal year the eligibility of legal immigrants in the United States to receive Supplemental Security Income.

We owe a very special debt, Mr. Speaker, of gratitude to the gentlewoman from Florida [Mrs. MEEK] for fighting so eloquently, so selflessly and yet so tenaciously on behalf of this very vulnerable population that this amendment addresses.

There are also a number of Members who have distinguished themselves for a long period of time fighting for this issue on behalf of this issue, on behalf of this very vulnerable population. This amendment would not have been possible were it not for the leadership and concern of the gentlewoman from Florida [Mrs. MEEK], as I have mentioned, the gentlewoman from Florida [Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN], and the gentleman from Rhode Island [Mr. KENNEDY] and others.

I want to make a special recognition as well of the cosponsorship of this amendment and of the leadership and the critical support of the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SHAW]. He has been instrumental in making this amendment in order, in facilitating the process moving forward, and I wanted to publicly thank him as well for his cosponsorship and, as I say, his leadership.

So I am very encouraged that this amendment did not receive any verbal opposition at all in the Senate. It was passed overwhelmingly with 89 votes in the Senate.

□ 1130

I look forward to a similar degree of support on a bipartisan basis in this House. I would hope that as contentious issues such as the CR question and others are debated, that issues such as those do not create a situation where a vulnerable population such as the legal immigrants of this country who are facing not a natural disaster, not a disaster by act of God, but rather by act of man, can be reassured today that they will be taken care of as the budget process takes place and a final solution is worked, a final resolution of this issue is developed for their tranquility and their benefit.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. MOAKLEY. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore [Mr. COLLINS]. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Was the President's message a veto on this bill if we do not knock out the continuing resolution?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That is not a parliamentary inquiry the Chair can answer at this time. The message will be read in due course.

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

I would just like to read the statement of administration policy dated May 13, 1997, delivered to the Committee on Rules. On page 2 under the title "Automatic Continuing Resolution," and I quote, "The President has indicated that he would veto the bill if such a provision were included in it." It does not need to be interpreted. That is a plain statement. That is what the President said.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. MALONEY].

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise against this rule. Mr. Speaker, last night the Republican leadership ruled the bipartisan amendment I offered with the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS], the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MEEHAN], and the gentlewoman from New Jersey [Mrs. ROUKEMA] to restore the Federal Election Commission funding and to unfence this money so it could be used for investigations out of order because the chairman said it was not an emergency.

But what is more an emergency than restoring the faith of the American people in the election process? How can we restore credibility in our elections process when this same body, under Republican leadership, votes \$12 to \$15 million, including a slush fund, to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight for a partisan investigation, and then, on the other hand, turns around and denies the funding to the only nonpartisan, independent agency that is actually empowered to investigate election abuses, find election abuses.

The Federal Elections Commission has come forward and said that they need this money to get the job done for the abuses before them. This money has been denied, yet this body has voted to give \$12 to \$15 million to a partisan investigation.

Mr. Speaker, I just would like to appeal to both sides of the aisle to vote against this rule until we do the right thing, which is fund the independent agency that is empowered to investigate. They are only asking \$1.7 million. They are saying they cannot get the job done unless they get the \$1.7 million.

Yet the leadership is denying them the money to get the job done and, on the other hand, voting for a slush fund and \$12 to \$15 million for the Burton partisan investigation. It is wrong. I would caution anyone not to vote for this rule until the funding for the Federal Election Commission is in the bill, and that the money is unfenced so that proper investigations can take place.

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

Mr. Speaker, I have been around here a long time, and how many times have I sat here and listened to "This only

costs another \$1.7 million," or another \$2 million.

I would ask the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] how many times he has heard that?

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SOLOMON. I yield to the gentleman from Indiana, [Mr. DAN BURTON], one of the most fiscally conservative Members of this body and a great chairman of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would say to the gentleman, hundreds and hundreds.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, when we look at this bill, is that an emergency funding matter? Look at the rest of what is in this bill, look at the Senate Christmas tree. How many times have we heard, this only costs an additional \$1 million, \$2 million, \$3 million?

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I would just like to say, Mr. Speaker, that the comments of my colleague, the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], chairman of the Committee on Rules, are not lost on the American people. They know that when you add \$1.7 million, \$10 million, \$20 million, \$50 million, pretty soon it starts adding up into some money. They get a little concerned about that.

One of the reasons why the automatic continuing resolution provision at last year's spending level is so important is so we do not shut down Government, No. 1, putting a lot of people's jobs in jeopardy in the Federal work force, but in addition to that, to make sure that the big spenders in this place do not continue to escalate the cost of Government every single year, as they have in the past.

If we cannot reach agreement on a spending bill, rather than shut down government, let us just fund it at last year's level for a while, 100 percent of last year's level. That is not bad. We are not hurting anybody. They are still getting their paychecks. Government goes on. We are not cutting anything, we are just not increasing it. So the American people ought to know very clearly which side of the aisle wants to continue to increase spending, increase spending, more, more, more, all the time.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY], ranking member on the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, the comments just made by the gentleman in the well were absolutely, totally incorrect. I would point out that one of the objections we have to this permanent CR provision is that it would also allow for the continuation of programs at 100 percent of their previous level, even if this Congress has a bipartisan agreement that these programs have outlived their usefulness, that they are wasteful, that they are low priority, that they ought to be reduced so you have more room for other programs that we have reached consensus on that ought to be raised.

So this amendment has nothing whatsoever to do with saving money. The only thing this amendment does is require the Congress to stop making tough choices. It requires the Congress to stop thinking. It puts Government on automatic pilot. It becomes the Bureaucracy Supremacy Act of 1987. It does not have diddly to do with saving one dime.

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

Let me just tell the gentleman, Mr. Speaker, he is absolutely incorrect in his statement. He is trying to stand up here and say that if his Committee on Appropriations passes the Health and Human Services appropriation bill and it is signed into law, he is trying to say that that will be funded at something less than what is agreed to by the President.

That is absolutely not true. Any appropriation bill of the 13 that are signed into law are not affected by this continuing resolution at all. It is only those appropriation bills that have not been signed by the President that would be affected by this continuing resolution, and would keep the Government functioning at 100 percent of this year, not last year or the year before, of this year's level of funding. That is a fact.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SOLOMON. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman is going to quote me, I wish he would use my words rather than his. That is not what I said. I never indicated that this would apply at all to legislation which had already passed.

My point is that with the bills that have not yet become signed into law, you require 100 percent funding, whether we want to continue 100 percent funding or cut out those programs. Some of those old, outmoded programs that the Congress might like to eliminate or cut, this proposition requires that those programs be funded at 100 percent. That does not save any money, that costs money.

Mr. SOLOMON. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, which programs are those? I would like to hear them.

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

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. OLVER].

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, we are considering the rule on H.R. 1469, which is our emergency bill to assist victims of the floods in the upper Midwest. I rise to urge all Members to vote no on the previous question, as the ranking member of the Committee on Rules has urged us to do.

I urge that no vote on the previous question because section 601 of this bill makes a major change in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing procurement law, a change which has not been con-

sidered by either of the authorizing committees that deal with such changes, neither the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, under the leadership of the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON], nor the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, under the leadership of the chairman, the gentleman from Iowa [Mr. LEACH].

Clearly those changes in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing law are legislating on an appropriations bill and should not be part of this emergency flood victim relief bill.

Section 601 does two things. First, it requires the Treasury Department to give capitalization subsidies to companies that are interested in becoming new suppliers of the American currency. Capitalization subsidies are cash payments for new equipment or a new facility to manufacture paper. They could reach as much as \$100 million.

Second, 601 changes the legacy of my predecessor, the late Congressman Silvio Conte. The Conte law, adopted in 1989, requires American currency to be manufactured by companies that are no more than 10 percent non-American owned, and 601 would allow the manufacturer to be up to 50 percent foreign-owned.

That is not being done because American companies cannot compete. All of these solicitations are open solicitations. In fact, in the solicitation that just went out within this last month, I have a list here that 56 American companies, 56 of them, American companies who have been asked to compete and can compete on producing the American currency paper. The provision is really designed, and carefully designed, to allow the British currency maker, Thomas DeLaRue, to make the American currency.

Thomas DeLaRue is a large company. It is more than a \$1 billion company. It does not need capitalization subsidies to come from American taxpayer dollars. Furthermore, Thomas DeLaRue, that large British company, the maker of the British currency, has a monopoly on the supply of currency paper to the British Government. The policy of the British Government is that no American company, and not even any other British company, is allowed to bid on the British currency paper contracts.

I think that the ultimate irony here of this combination of the provisions in section 601 of this legislation, the ultimate irony is that all of us are going to vote yes on an amendment that is being offered by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT], which is a buy-American amendment.

Then we are asked, almost in the next breath, to allow capitalization subsidies that could reach as much as \$100 million to go to the British currency maker so that they can make the American currency, albeit within the United States, that being a subsidy that goes to a very large company that is totally closed in its own processes within Britain.

□ 1145

Frankly, Mr. Speaker, I think that this is an extremely strange way to balance the budget. I think it is an extremely strange way to protect the integrity of the American dollar and the rest of our currency.

I urge a no vote on the previous question so that the matter can be considered and hearings can be held by the committees of jurisdiction at the authorizing level, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight and the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "no" vote on the previous question.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Tucson, AZ [Mr. KOLBE], a member of the Committee on Appropriations, chairman of the Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government, who would probably like to rebut this. I would be interested in what he has to say.

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule on H.R. 1469.

I want to speak on the same contentious issue that the gentleman from Massachusetts spoke, about section 601, which at least in part caused the rule to fail yesterday.

This provision would open up the bidding process in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for the supply of paper, not the supply of currency, the supply of paper which is used in making the currency.

Currently, and for the last 117 years, there has been only one supplier of that paper for the currency in the United States. We will have a full debate on this later when we get into the bill, and there will be a motion to strike this particular provision. And that is appropriate, because then we can have a debate on this issue.

I just want to set the record straight on a couple of things. The chairman said earlier that there has been a lot of misinformation out there. He's right. I think there has been a lot of misinformation.

The underlying bill that the gentleman from Massachusetts referred was authored by his predecessor, our late beloved colleague, Mr. Conte. It is Public Law 100-202, section 622. Section 622 of that law says that currency paper must be made by an American-owned company and it must be made in the United States.

Neither of those provisions are being changed in section 601 of this bill. So this has nothing to do with "Buy American" provisions, which require that a product be made in the United States. That requirement applies here, and it must be an American-owned company as well.

What this amendment would do is clarify something that we adopted last year, I might add, in recent language in our appropriation bill. What it would do is clarify that when Congress said American-owned, what it meant is that it had to be 50 percent or more

U.S. ownership. That ought to be an acceptable definition of American-owned.

We think that there ought to be more than one company that is permitted to bid on supplying paper. The gentleman spoke about 57 companies to which the bid had been sent to. He did not say 57 were going to respond. Only one ever gets to submit a bid, and that's because of the way it is structured right now. We have had no competition in this process for the last 117 years, none whatever.

And the fact of the matter is that I think, as the debate will bring out later here today, there is some real question about the current supplier of paper as to the amount of money they have been making, the amount of their profit and whether or not this is a reasonable profit given the fact that there is the possibility of having real competition here. We will be talking about that more.

Let me make it clear, this does not change the underlying procurement law at all, does not change the provision that it has to be made in America, does not change the provision that it has to be an American-owned company.

One other thing I want to point out. It was said earlier that there had been no hearings. Here are some of the hearings that have been held in 1995, 1996, and 1997 on this subject. So there has been a lot of hearings held on this particular subject.

We will get a change to refer to those hearings later. We will talk about the capitalization subsidy. All of that can be thoroughly discussed in this debate.

I do not want anybody to be misled about this. We are not talking about foreign companies supplying our paper. We are talking about American companies doing it and making it here in America.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY].

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the efforts by my colleagues, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY] and the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. OLVER], to deal with what I think is one of the more insidious provisions that I have seen contained within an appropriations bill in some time here on the floor of this House. To suggest that in an attempt to deal with the floods that have so devastated much of America that we are going to insert in some small area of this language an ability of the U.S. Government to come and provide a huge hidden subsidy to one particular company that is then going to have the ability to have ownership of this new company come from foreign lands, that is then going to go about printing our dollar bills, seems to me to be one of the most incredible attempts at trying to reach into the pork barrel of the taxpayer dollars that I have ever witnessed.

The truth of the matter is that right now the dollar bill is made by a U.S.-owned company. The Treasury Depart-

ment in many a meeting that I have had, I used to chair the Currency Subcommittee in the Congress, is very pleased with the work of Crane Paper. And for us to come in and create this huge new hidden subsidy program and try to stick it into an appropriations bill, I think, is unconscionable.

If the basic provision is that, whenever there is a single-source contract that the U.S. Government has the capability of going out and providing a brand-new plant and equipment to anyone else that wants to come along and bid on that contract, I say, hey, maybe we ought to support that. But maybe we ought to support that for the guys that are bidding on the B-2 bomber. Maybe we ought to support that for people that are bidding on the M-1 tank. Maybe we ought to support that for the Bradley fighting machine. Maybe we ought to support that for all sorts of single-source contracts that go on in the Congress of the United States, not just one.

I would go back to the fact that I have had several meetings with some of the highest levels of the membership of the Treasury Department who have indicated time and time again their support of the current and existing contract with Crane Paper. There has been no difficulty with Crane Paper. They feel that they are doing a good job. This is just an attempt by some group or another to come in and say, here is a contract that we, a foreign-owned company, can grab. We are going to ask the taxpayers of the United States to build for us, to pay us to build the new engraving machine. Then we are going to use those taxpayer subsidies to undercut a family-owned business that is doing a good job making the currency today. This is an outrageous pickpocket of the United States taxpayers' hard-earned money. I strongly oppose the provision.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE]. We are supposed to be dealing with an emergency supplemental here. One of the Members most affected by it in this Chamber or, I should say, his constituents is the gentleman from South Dakota.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules for yielding me the time.

I thought as we had been going through this process, I have learned that we never take anything for granted. I hoped yesterday that we would be having a debate on this bill and then was very surprised to discover that the rule in fact had failed. I would hope that today we can pass the rule and get on with the business at hand, and that is to get badly needed disaster relief to those around this country including those in my own State who are desperately in need of it.

We have worked very hard, and of course the Speaker of the House, the majority leader, and others of this body have toured to see firsthand, to

have an appreciation for what we are talking about here. It is very important in my view that we get on with the business, and we have worked constructively in my judgment in a very bipartisan way to craft something that will bring badly needed assistance to the people in my part of the country as well as others.

I would like to address a couple of questions that have been raised about our amendment because I think it is important that we clarify a couple of things. The first is there has been some question as to whether or not this is exclusive to the Midwest, and the answer is, it is not. If we will read the amendment, we will see that any area of the country which in this particular time period is afflicted by this type of a disaster or circumstance would be eligible for assistance under the amendment.

The second thing I would like to address is there are some waivers in the bill. We have worked with the Governors, respective States, and local officials to come up with something that would provide them flexibility. There are some waivers that apply specifically to this particular disaster incident and also as well to this amount of money. We are not in any way changing the Community Development Block Grant Program in any way on a permanent basis.

We have also done some things which I think tighten up concerns Members on my side of the aisle have had about this being misused. So the parameters are fairly narrowly drawn.

Having answered those questions, I would be happy to answer other questions Members might have. But I would really hope that we can get on with this business and work in a very expeditious way. The clock is counting. We have mayors here from the affected areas who are waiting for this assistance, and I would hope that we can get to the passage of the bill today.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY], the ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I had not intended to do this at this time, but since the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE] is here, I would like to get his attention to express a point of concern on his amendment.

I do not intend to oppose the amendment of the gentleman when it is offered later on in the debate because on our side of the aisle we supported the President's original request for a supplemental appropriation for community development block grant funding, as well as funding for FEMA; and we were asked by the majority side of the aisle to withhold on that for the time being, and we did.

I am happy that my colleagues have now seen fit to support the idea. But I am concerned about a couple specifics in the amendment. As I understand the

amendment, if reduces \$1.2 billion for FEMA to \$700 million, leaving FEMA with many valid claims on its disaster relief fund that it may not be able to pay.

I would say, in general debate, I think there are a number of questions I need to ask the gentleman about his amendment, because if they are not fixed up in conference, they will cause a substantial problem for FEMA to FEMA's ability to deliver needed assistance around the country. So I would appreciate if the gentleman would be prepared to answer those questions.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to do that.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my very distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Huntington Beach, CA [Mr. ROHRBACHER], where they have the high surfs.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, there seem to be a lot of waves being created here today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule, but I will have to admit that there have been some arguments presented by the other side that deserve consideration today.

One of my central reasons for supporting the rule is that it contains the Gekas amendment, and I know that some of my friends on the opposite side of the aisle oppose the rule for exactly that reason. The Gekas amendment is political insurance for the people of the United States. People have flood insurance and they have fire insurance and they have termite insurance. This is political insurance that the Federal Government will not close down because of the political impasse between the political parties.

It makes all the sense in the world to ensure that the Government will continue even if there is a political disagreement of those of us on the floor, as happened in 1995, when we passed our appropriations bills; but because of the President's intransigence, he shut down the Government; and because of his ability to communicate, blamed it on the Republicans.

This would prevent that scenario and that finger-pointing from taking place. However, let me add that I am very concerned that we will be providing \$8 billion in this bill, \$5 billion to flood insurance emergency funds, yes. That is understandable. Some more citizens are in trouble.

But another \$2 billion for Bosnia, \$2 billion for Bosnia at a time when our Secretary of Defense is talking about closing down more military bases in our country? Our troops were supposed to be out of Bosnia a long time ago. Many of us did not want those troops in Bosnia in the first place. So that is very questionable.

Of course, we have also questions raised on the floor today about the printing of the currency and whose company will be doing it, and I think those questions should be answered. But I will say that, overall, I will be

voting for the rule. I think it is a good rule. But there are some questions that will need to be answered before I will support the bill on the floor.

□ 1200

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS].

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I oppose this rule and I oppose this bill because this emergency supplemental includes much more than emergencies. But, more importantly, Mr. Speaker, if there are going to be nonemergency items, then what was appropriated for the FEC, the Federal Election Commission, of \$1.7 million should stay in this budget. This rule takes the money out.

I strongly oppose taking out the money for the FEC if we are to in fact have nonemergency items in this bill. This rule would do that.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Delaware, Mr. MICHAEL CASTLE, the former Governor of Delaware.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me this time, and I will not take long here because this issue will carry on with this whole business of this section 601 and this applying for the paper of the currency of the United States.

I have been involved with this argument as the chairman of a subcommittee that deals with this particular issue, and this issue is much more gray than it is black and white. Essentially what is attempting to be done in the legislation now, and the reason I support the rule, is it is an effort to make sure that we will have fair competition for this particular contract. It is as sole source a contract right now as we can have in the United States.

There is a special sweetheart provision demanding 91 percent American ownership. This is far beyond the Trafficant amendment. It would fit under the Trafficant amendment the way it is trying to be fixed. It would still be an American-owned company that would have to do this, and it would be a company which would have its paper made here in the United States of America.

What they are asking for, what they have had for several years now, is a super buy-America provision, and we are trying to eliminate that and provide a fair opportunity for everybody, including, I might add, the present contract with the Crane Paper Co.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Miami, FL, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, one of our great Congresswomen.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, several members of the south Florida congressional delegation have been working on an amendment that the Committee on Rules, under the leadership of the gentleman from New York, Mr. JERRY SOLOMON, has made in order, that would postpone the August 22 cut-off date of SSI payments to U.S. legal residents and extend the payment of these benefits until September 30.

My colleagues from Florida, Mrs. CARRIE MEEK, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART, and Mr. CLAY SHAW, and many other Members of Congress have worked in a bipartisan manner to help legal residents who reside in this country legally, who pay their taxes, who came here seeking Democratic freedoms from tyranny or economic opportunity and prosperity for their children.

It is these same individuals who are now members of our elderly population who live in terror that their sustenance, their SSI benefits, will be cut off. SSI benefits, as all of us know, apply only to those who are over 64 years of age, blind or disabled. They are not a free ride. They are a means of survival for our elderly and disabled who have no other way to sustain themselves.

How can we, Mr. Speaker, as legislators and representatives of these same people, their children and their grandchildren explain to them that even though they have worked and paid their taxes and served their country they will have to fend for themselves?

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time, and I just want to say that I am very apprehensive anytime the gentleman from New York follows me, but I will try to make it.

Mr. Speaker, if the previous question is defeated, I intend to offer two amendments to the rule. The first amendment would remove the protection in the rule which would allow foreign companies to bid for the production of our paper for our currency.

As I stated before, I believe that American money should be printed on paper made by American producers, and I feel that we in Congress have a duty to do all we can to make sure that our currency is printed on paper made in America.

My second amendment, Mr. Speaker, would strike the waiver from amendment No. 7, which provides a continuing resolution. This emergency spending flood relief bill is not the place for these types of provisions.

I urge Members to defeat the previous question so that we may fix this rule and move on to the vital emergency spending bill.

Mr. Speaker, I am providing for the RECORD information regarding the text of the previous question amendment to H.R. 1469.

TEXT OF PREVIOUS QUESTION AMENDMENT TO
H.R. 1469

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Text:

On page 3 line 4 of H. Res. 149, after "waived" add the following: "; except that points of order are not waived against the amendment numbered 7 offered by Representative Gekas and Representative Solomon".

On page 2 line 15 after "15;" insert the following "page 25, lines 1 through 21;"

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT
IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not

merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the opposition, at least for the moment, to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives, (VI, 308-311) describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that "the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

Because the vote today may look bad for the Republican majority they will say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual:

"Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment."

Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues:

"Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

The vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda to offer an alternative plan.

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

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time and, in doing so, let me just say that I have some concerns about this entire issue and how it is on the floor here today.

But I just want all the Members to know, on both sides of the aisle, that

this is a fair rule. It is a rule that allows any Member of this body to come on this floor and to offer amendments under free debate without any restrictions whatsoever under the rules of the House. So there is no question but what Members should come over and vote for the rule.

As a matter of fact, on the continuing resolution, which seems to be some question, this is not in any way locked in. This is a freestanding amendment that will be offered, and every Member will have the opportunity to come over and cast their vote on this continuing resolution, which simply says that the Government will continue to operate should the Congress not deal with all of the 13 appropriation bills that fund the Government in the coming year. That, to me, Mr. Speaker, is certainly more than fair.

I have two concerns about the bill itself, and that is that there are a lot of issues in here that did not deal in emergency funding at all; and, second, I am really concerned over this issue of the U.S. Mint currency.

I want all my colleagues, when they come over, or if they are in their offices now, to read page 25 of the bill. In page 25 of the bill it says that we are lowering the requirement that companies that are successful in being able to print or make the paper that our U.S. dollars are printed on must be 90-percent American-owned, by U.S. citizens. Ninety percent. This lowers that to 50 percent.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know how closely my colleagues have followed this, but I advise all Members to go upstairs here on the top floor and get some CIA briefings on what is happening throughout this whole country with this whole global economy situation. We have these megacompanies, some run by the Russian Mafia, others that are questionable that come out of Indonesia, others directly controlled by other foreign governments like China. I want my colleagues to understand what is happening here.

We should all realize that if this is adopted and it becomes law, that any one of these sort of companies that I have talked about, Mafia-owned, that may be still U.S. citizens, that they can have access to this paper. What happens to counterfeiting? What happens to the value of the American dollar that people have worked so hard on?

We need to start thinking about this. This is a matter that does not belong in this bill. It should be dealt with in an authorizing bill that comes before this House. That is only fair.

Having said that, I want my colleagues to come over here and vote for this rule. It is a fair rule.

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

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS). The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

Mr. MOAKLEY. 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.

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule XV, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which a vote by electronic device, if ordered, will be taken on the question of agreeing to the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 228, nays 196, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 129]

YEAS—228

Aderholt	Forbes	Metcalf
Archer	Fowler	Miller (FL)
Armey	Fox	Minge
Bachus	Franks (NJ)	Molinari
Baker	Frelinghuysen	Moran (KS)
Ballenger	Gallegly	Moran (VA)
Barr	Ganske	Morella
Barrett (NE)	Gekas	Myrick
Bartlett	Gibbons	Nethercutt
Barton	Gilchrest	Neumann
Bass	Gillmor	Ney
Bateman	Gilman	Northup
Bereuter	Goodlatte	Norwood
Bilbray	Goodling	Nussle
Bilirakis	Goss	Oxley
Bliley	Graham	Packard
Blunt	Granger	Pappas
Boehlert	Greenwood	Parker
Boehner	Gutknecht	Paul
Bonilla	Hansen	Paxon
Bono	Hastert	Pease
Brady	Hastings (WA)	Peterson (MN)
Bryant	Hayworth	Peterson (PA)
Bunning	Hefley	Petri
Burr	Herger	Pickering
Burton	Hill	Pitts
Buyer	Hilleary	Pombo
Callahan	Hobson	Pomeroy
Calvert	Hoekstra	Porter
Camp	Horn	Portman
Campbell	Hostettler	Pryce (OH)
Canady	Houghton	Quinn
Cannon	Hulshof	Radanovich
Castle	Hunter	Ramstad
Chabot	Hyde	Regula
Chambliss	Inglis	Riggs
Chenoweth	Istook	Riley
Christensen	Jenkins	Rogan
Coble	Johnson (CT)	Rogers
Coburn	Johnson, Sam	Rohrabacher
Collins	Jones	Ros-Lehtinen
Combest	Kasich	Roukema
Cook	Kelly	Royce
Cooksey	Kim	Ryun
Cox	King (NY)	Salmon
Crane	Klecza	Sanford
Crapo	Klug	Saxton
Cubin	Knollenberg	Scarborough
Cunningham	Kolbe	Schaefer, Dan
Davis (VA)	LaHood	Schaffer, Bob
Deal	Largent	Sensenbrenner
DeLay	Latham	Sessions
Diaz-Balart	LaTourette	Shadegg
Dickey	Lazio	Shaw
Dingell	Leach	Shays
Doolittle	Lewis (CA)	Shimkus
Dreier	Lewis (KY)	Shuster
Duncan	Linder	Skeen
Dunn	Livingston	Smith (MI)
Ehlers	LoBiondo	Smith (NJ)
Ehrlich	Lucas	Smith (OR)
Emerson	Manzullo	Smith (TX)
English	McCollum	Smith, Linda
Ensign	McCrery	Snowbarger
Everett	McDade	Solomon
Ewing	McInnis	Souder
Fawell	McIntosh	Spence
Foley	McKeon	Stearns

Stump	Tiahrt	Weller
Sununu	Traficant	White
Talent	Upton	Whitfield
Tauzin	Walsh	Wicker
Taylor (NC)	Wamp	Wolf
Thomas	Watts (OK)	Wynn
Thornberry	Weldon (FL)	Young (AK)
Thune	Weldon (PA)	Young (FL)

NAYS—196

Abercrombie	Gordon	Murtha
Ackerman	Green	Nadler
Allen	Gutierrez	Neal
Baesler	Hall (OH)	Oberstar
Baldacci	Hall (TX)	Obey
Barcia	Hamilton	Olver
Barrett (WI)	Harman	Ortiz
Becerra	Hastings (FL)	Owens
Bentsen	Hilliard	Pallone
Berry	Hinche	Pascrell
Bishop	Hinojosa	Pastor
Blagojevich	Holden	Payne
Blumenauer	Hooley	Pelosi
Bonior	Hoyer	Pickett
Borski	Jackson (IL)	Poshard
Boswell	Jackson-Lee	Price (NC)
Boucher	(TX)	Rahall
Boyd	Jefferson	Rangel
Brown (FL)	John	Reyes
Brown (OH)	Johnson (WI)	Rivers
Capps	Johnson, E. B.	Rodriguez
Cardin	Kanjorski	Roemer
Carson	Kaptur	Rothman
Clay	Kennedy (MA)	Roybal-Allard
Clayton	Kennedy (RI)	Rush
Clement	Kennelly	Sabo
Clyburn	Kildee	Sanchez
Condit	Kilpatrick	Sanders
Conyers	Kind (WI)	Sandlin
Costello	Kingston	Sawyer
Coyne	Klink	Schumer
Cramer	Kucinich	Scott
Cummings	LaFalce	Serrano
Danner	Lampson	Sherman
Davis (FL)	Lantos	Sisisky
Davis (IL)	Levin	Skaggs
DeFazio	Lewis (GA)	Slaughter
DeGette	Lipinski	Smith, Adam
Delahunt	Lofgren	Snyder
DeLauro	Lowey	Spratt
Dellums	Luther	Stabenow
Deutsch	Maloney (CT)	Stark
Dicks	Maloney (NY)	Stenholm
Dixon	Manton	Stokes
Doggett	Markey	Strickland
Dooley	Martinez	Stupak
Doyle	Mascara	Tanner
Edwards	Matsui	Tauscher
Engel	McCarthy (MO)	Taylor (MS)
Eshoo	McCarthy (NY)	Thompson
Etheridge	McDermott	Thurman
Evans	McGovern	Tierney
Farr	McHale	Torres
Fattah	McHugh	Towns
Fazio	McIntyre	Turner
Filner	McKinney	Velazquez
Flake	McNulty	Vento
Foglietta	Meehan	Visclosky
Ford	Meek	Waters
Frank (MA)	Menendez	Watt (NC)
Frost	Millender	Waxman
Furse	McDonald	Wexler
Gejdenson	Miller (CA)	Weygand
Gephardt	Mink	Wise
Gonzalez	Moakley	Woolsey
Goode	Mollohan	Yates

NOT VOTING—9

Andrews	Hefner	Schiff
Berman	Hutchinson	Skelton
Brown (CA)	Mica	Watkins

□ 1229

Messrs. OWENS, FLAKE, DAVIS of Illinois, MCINTYRE, BOSWELL, and STARK, and Ms. PELOSI changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. WYNN, MORAN of Virginia, FORBES, and SMITH of Michigan changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS). The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 269, noes 152, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 130]

AYES—269

Aderholt	Everett	Luther
Archer	Ewing	Manzullo
Armey	Fawell	Mascara
Bachus	Foley	Matsui
Baker	Forbes	McCarthy (MO)
Ballenger	Fowler	McCollum
Barcia	Fox	McCrery
Barr	Franks (NJ)	McDade
Barrett (NE)	Frelinghuysen	McInnis
Bartlett	Gallegly	McIntosh
Barton	Ganske	McIntyre
Bass	Gekas	McKeon
Bateman	Gibbons	Meek
Bereuter	Gilchrest	Metcalf
Berry	Gillmor	Miller (FL)
Bilbray	Gilman	Minge
Bilirakis	Goode	Molinar
Bishop	Goodlatte	Moran (KS)
Bliley	Goodling	Moran (VA)
Blunt	Gordon	Morella
Boehrlert	Goss	Murtha
Boehner	Graham	Myrick
Bonilla	Granger	Nethercutt
Bono	Greenwood	Neumann
Borski	Gutierrez	Ney
Boswell	Gutknecht	Northup
Boyd	Hall (OH)	Nussle
Brady	Hamilton	Oxley
Bryant	Hansen	Packard
Bunning	Harman	Pappas
Burr	Hastert	Parker
Burton	Hastings (WA)	Paul
Buyer	Hayworth	Paxon
Callahan	Hefley	Pease
Calvert	Herger	Peterson (PA)
Camp	Hill	Petri
Campbell	Hilleary	Pickering
Canady	Hobson	Pitts
Cannon	Hoekstra	Pombo
Castle	Holden	Pomeroy
Chabot	Horn	Porter
Chambliss	Hostettler	Portman
Chenoweth	Houghton	Price (NC)
Christensen	Hulshof	Pryce (OH)
Clay	Hunter	Quinn
Clayton	Hutchinson	Radanovich
Coble	Hyde	Rahall
Coburn	Inglis	Ramstad
Combust	Istook	Regula
Condit	Jenkins	Riggs
Cook	Johnson (CT)	Riley
Cooksey	Johnson, Sam	Roemer
Cox	Jones	Rogan
Cramer	Kanjorski	Rogers
Crane	Kasich	Rohrabacher
Crapo	Kelly	Ros-Lehtinen
Cubin	Kennedy (RI)	Roukema
Cunningham	Kim	Royce
Danner	King (NY)	Ryun
Davis (VA)	Kleczka	Sabo
DeLay	Klug	Salmon
Diaz-Balart	Knollenberg	Sanchez
Dickey	Kolbe	Sanford
Dicks	LaFalce	Saxton
Dingell	LaHood	Scarborough
Dixon	Lantos	Schaefer, Dan
Doolittle	Largent	Schaffer, Bob
Doyle	LaTourette	Scott
Dreier	Lazio	Sensenbrenner
Duncan	Leach	Sessions
Dunn	Lewis (CA)	Shadegg
Ehlers	Lewis (KY)	Shaw
Ehrlich	Linder	Shimkus
Emerson	Livingston	Shuster
English	LoBiondo	Sisisky
Ensign	Lucas	Skeen

Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (OR)
Smith (TX)
Smith, Linda
Snowbarger
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Sununu

Talent
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thornberry
Thune
Tiahrt
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Upton
Walsh
Wamp

Waters
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Wise
Wolf
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOES—152

Abercrombie	Green	Oberstar
Ackerman	Hall (TX)	Obey
Allen	Hastings (FL)	Olver
Baesler	Hilliard	Ortiz
Baldacci	Hinche	Owens
Barrett (WI)	Hinojosa	Pallone
Becerra	Hooley	Pascrell
Bentsen	Hoyer	Pastor
Blagojevich	Jackson (IL)	Payne
Bonior	Jackson-Lee	Pelosi
Boucher	(TX)	Pickett
Brown (FL)	Jefferson	Poshard
Brown (OH)	John	Rangel
Capps	Johnson (WI)	Reyes
Cardin	Johnson, E.B.	Rivers
Carson	Kennedy (MA)	Rodriguez
Clement	Kennelly	Rothman
Clyburn	Kildee	Roybal-Allard
Collins	Kilpatrick	Rush
Conyers	Kind (WI)	Sanders
Costello	Kingston	Sandlin
Coyne	Klink	Sawyer
Cummings	Lampson	Schumer
Davis (FL)	Latham	Serrano
Davis (IL)	Levin	Shays
Deal	Lewis (GA)	Sherman
DeFazio	Lipinski	Skaggs
DeGette	Lofgren	Slaughter
Delahunt	Lowey	Smith, Adam
DeLauro	Maloney (CT)	Snyder
Dellums	Maloney (NY)	Stabenow
Deutsch	Manton	Stark
Doggett	Markey	Stearns
Dooley	Martinez	Stokes
Edwards	McCarthy (NY)	Stupak
Engel	McDermott	Tanner
Eshoo	McGovern	Tauscher
Etheridge	McHale	Thompson
Evans	McHugh	Thurman
Farr	McKinney	Tierney
Fattah	McNulty	Torres
Fazio	Meehan	Velazquez
Filner	Menendez	Vento
Flake	Millender	Visclosky
Foglietta	McDonald	Watt (NC)
Ford	Miller (CA)	Waxman
Frank (MA)	Mink	Wexler
Frost	Moakley	Weygand
Furse	Mollohan	Woolsey
Gejdenson	Nadler	Yates
Gephardt	Neal	
Gonzalez	Norwood	

NOT VOTING—12

Andrews	Hefner	Peterson (MN)
Berman	Kaptur	Schiff
Blumenauer	Kucinich	Skelton
Brown (CA)	Mica	Watkins

□ 1240

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. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, due to a malfunction with the House paging system, which rendered inoperative the paging system used to notify Members of votes, I was unaware of the vote at approximately 12:30 p.m. today on the rule on the Supplemental Appropriations Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."