

unacceptable as well. After the U.S. Federal Trade Commission [FTC] conducted a thorough review of the proposed merger, the FTC concluded that McDonnell Douglas is no longer able to sell enough aircraft to raise significant concerns about the loss of its competitive ability. Last year, McDonnell Douglas was responsible for only 4 percent of the international commercial aircraft business. The divestiture by Boeing of the McDonnell Douglas commercial aircraft business would have severe ramifications worldwide. First, it threatens American jobs that are tied into the continued support of McDonnell Douglas aircraft by the Boeing Co. Further, McDonnell Douglas' commercial aviation division cannot maintain itself as an independent company and previous efforts to sell the commercial aviation division have been unsuccessful. Therefore, any divestiture would threaten the safety of McDonnell Douglas commercial aircraft already in service if the commercial division were to close.

Finally, it is vital to the health of the United States to downsize, through mergers, the military industrial base as we celebrate the end of the cold war period and adjust military budgets accordingly. Due to the large defense business that will be conducted by the Boeing Co., any action by the European Community is an infringement on the sovereign rights of the United States to provide for U.S. national security.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a trend we as Americans should allow to continue. We declared our independence from European rule in 1776 and should not revert to those days in conducting the business of today.

I urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 191 and call upon the President to take all necessary steps to protect American sovereignty and the jobs of hard working Americans.

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 191 because the prospect of the European Union ruling against this merger and effectively cutting an American corporation out of an entire market greatly disturbs me. I am absolutely appalled that leaders of other nations feel bold enough to tell America how to run.

The EU will vote on the \$14 billion merger Wednesday morning and comments by leaders from across the Atlantic strongly suggest that a vote of disapproval is imminent. I believe that disapproval would be an unmistakable shot across the bow of American business interests. We know our products can compete and succeed in a fair market. But if the EU would rather play hardball, I won't hesitate to say that we can too. We are heading toward a situation that is bad for American workers, and potentially devastating for States like California that depend on a strong American interest in this industry.

Mr. Speaker, critics of the EU stance on the merger have pointed to the sagging performance of Europe's Airbus, a key competitor to American aerospace interests, as the true cause for EU opposition. European officials insist that the merger would simply create an unfair playing field for all interested parties. This is nothing more than a red herring to mask the fact that these nations have pumped over \$26 billion in government subsidies into Airbus and they still don't have a competitive product. They are literally holding this merger hostage for a sweeter deal which allows more government subsidies to keep Airbus afloat. They are not fooling anyone.

The bottom line is, the Federal Trade Commission reviewed over 5 million documents in their approval of this merger and they found no cause for concern. This has nothing to do with fair global markets. It is all about gaining an unfair competitive advantage for a government-owned aircraft manufacturer. We simply cannot afford to let that happen. I encourage all of my colleagues to support House Resolution 191.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 191.

The question was taken.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

STAMP OUT BREAST CANCER ACT

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1585) to allow postal patrons to contribute to funding for breast-cancer research through the voluntary purchase of certain specially issued U.S. postage stamps, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1585

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act".

SEC. 2. SPECIAL POSTAGE STAMPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 414. Special postage stamps

"(a) In order to afford the public a convenient way to contribute to funding for breast cancer research, the Postal Service shall establish a special rate of postage for first-class mail under this section.

"(b) The rate of postage established under this section—

"(1) shall be equal to the regular first-class rate of postage, plus a differential of not to exceed 25 percent;

"(2) shall be set by the Governors in accordance with such procedures as the Governors shall by regulations prescribe (in lieu of the procedures under chapter 36); and

"(3) shall be offered as an alternative to the regular first-class rate of postage.

The use of the special rate of postage established under this section shall be voluntary on the part of postal patrons.

"(c)(1) Of the amounts becoming available for breast cancer research pursuant to this section, the Postal Service shall pay—

"(A) 70 percent to the National Institutes of Health, and

"(B) the remainder to the Department of Defense.

Payments under this paragraph to an agency shall be made under such arrangements as the Postal Service shall by mutual agreement with such agency establish in order to

carry out the purposes of this section, except that, under those arrangements, payments to such agency shall be made at least twice a year.

"(2) For purposes of this section, the term 'amounts becoming available for breast cancer research pursuant to this section' means—

"(A) the total amounts received by the Postal Service that it would not have received but for the enactment of this section, reduced by

"(B) an amount sufficient to cover reasonable costs incurred by the Postal Service in carrying out this section, including those attributable to the printing, sale, and distribution of stamps under this section, as determined by the Postal Service under regulations that it shall prescribe.

"(d) It is the sense of the Congress that nothing in this section should—

"(1) directly or indirectly cause a net decrease in total funds received by the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, or any other agency of the Government (or any component or program thereof) below the level that would otherwise have been received but for the enactment of this section; or

"(2) affect regular first-class rates of postage or any other regular rates of postage.

"(e) Special postage stamps under this section shall be made available to the public beginning on such date as the Postal Service shall by regulation prescribe, but in no event later than 12 months after the date of the enactment of this section.

"(f) The Postmaster General shall include in each report rendered under section 2402 with respect to any period during any portion of which this section is in effect information concerning the operation of this section, except that, at a minimum, each shall include—

"(1) the total amount described in subsection (c)(2)(A) which was received by the Postal Service during the period covered by such report; and

"(2) of the amount under paragraph (1), how much (in the aggregate and by category) was required for the purposes described in subsection (c)(2)(B).

"(g) This section shall cease to be effective at the end of the 2-year period beginning on the date on which special postage stamps under this section are first made available to the public."

(b) REPORT BY THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES.—No later than 3 months (but no earlier than 6 months) before the end of the 2-year period referred to in section 414(g) of title 39, United States Code (as amended by subsection (a)), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Congress a report on the operation of such section. Such report shall include—

(1) an evaluation of the effectiveness and the appropriateness of the authority provided by such section as a means of fund-raising; and

(2) a description of the monetary and other resources required of the Postal Service in carrying out such section.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"414. Special postage stamps."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] and the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH].

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1585 was introduced by the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI], our distinguished colleague, on May 13. She was joined at that time by the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO] and the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. NORWOOD] in cosponsoring the bill at introduction.

I would like, Mr. Speaker, to recognize the work done by these Members in promoting the need for the additional funds hopefully provided under this bill for breast cancer research and for bringing the measure to the floor. I think they have all done a very, very admirable piece of legislating.

Mr. Speaker, I would, however, also like to particularly sing loud the efforts of the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI], whose efforts here in this session of Congress I really think generated the support amongst the leadership that was necessary to bring this measure to the floor at this time, and also the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO] for his early work in helping develop a former bill.

Also, Mr. Speaker, a tip of the hat to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON], chairman of the full committee, for his leadership in assisting us through the subcommittee and to the floor, and of course to the entire House leadership for their understanding.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1585, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act, as introduced, allows postal patrons, for the first time in this country, to contribute to funding for breast cancer research through the voluntary purchase of certain specially issued U.S. postal stamps.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this bill represents an innovative way to generate money for breast cancer research and is similar to a measure that was passed in the other body as an amendment to this year's Treasury appropriations bill.

Mr. Speaker, we are aware that some concerns regarding the bill as originally written have been expressed. Therefore, the manager's amendment at the desk, I believe, will improve the legislation even further and, hopefully, will address many of those concerns.

The idea of this kind of postage stamp, semipostal, as it is known in the industry, is indeed innovative in the United States. As I mentioned, Mr. Speaker, I believe this is the first time this approach has been taken here in America, but the concept is not new. Semipostals have been discussed and the proposals for such have been floated over the years for various causes, but they have not had in the past the support that this proposal has garnered.

It may interest the body to know, Mr. Speaker, that Canada, the largest geographic nation in our hemisphere, but with less population and less mail than the mail stream in the United States, has been issuing these kinds of postal stamps since 1990. Canada Post Corporation adopted a literacy aware-

ness as its cause of choice in 1989 and has been issuing these kinds of stamps without governmental and parliamentary intervention ever since.

Mr. Speaker, these special postage stamps will be made available to the public no later than 1 year after the date of enactment. The amount designated for breast cancer research due to this bill will be the total amount of revenue received by the Postal Service because of the enactment minus the reasonable cost incurred by the Postal Service attributed to the printing, sale, and distribution of these stamps.

Under this legislation, Mr. Speaker, the Postmaster General would be required to include this program in the annual report of the Postal Service and transmit its findings to the Congress. At a minimum, the report would include the amount of funds received as a result of this legislation and the reasonable cost claimed to be incurred in establishing the volunteer program.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the Comptroller of the United States, through the offices of the GAO, will be required to complete an evaluation to judge the effectiveness and the appropriateness of the authority to raise funds in this manner in a description of the cost to the Postal Service incurred for the administration of the program.

Mr. Speaker, I firmly believe that a good deal of thought has gone into this base bill, a great deal of additional work on the part of all the cosponsors has gone into the compromise that is entailed in the amended version in the manager's amendment. But most importantly, Mr. Speaker, I know this proposal represents a necessary, thoughtful, and ultimately productive way to assist this Nation's scientific community in the vitally important quest for a cure of this deadly killer.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, most people in the United States have in some way been impacted by this terrible disease. Today, through the adoption of this bill, the House has its opportunity to make a stand against this disease, and in the process, give every woman and including those who know, love, and care for them, new hope.

Again, I thank the sponsors of this legislation for their hard work and concerns, and as a final note again, to particularly the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI] for once again being the conscience of this House.

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

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1585, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act, which will allow postal patrons to continue funding for breast cancer research through the voluntary purchase of newly created specially issued U.S. postage stamps.

As a cosponsor of a similar bill, H.R. 407, introduced in the Congress by the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO], my friend, I am pleased to join the gentleman from New York [Mr. McHUGH], the chairman, in bringing this piece of legislation to the floor of the House.

The idea of creating a breast cancer research stamp originally surfaced in the 104th Congress, when the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO], at the suggestion of his constituent, Dr. Ernie Bodai, introduced this legislation.

H.R. 3401 will provide additional funding for breast cancer research through the sale of a semipostal stamp. The term "semipostal" means stamps with a surtax on the regular postal rate with the extra revenue earmarked for a designated charity.

An identical measure was introduced by Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN in the other body. At the opening of this session of Congress, Senator FEINSTEIN joined the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO], following his leadership, and reintroduced her breast cancer research stamp bill, S. 726, in the Senate. In May, the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI] adopted the idea by introducing her version of the special breast cancer postage stamp.

The incidence of breast cancer continues to far outstrip available resources and funds, and the statistics are as sobering as they are rising. Breast cancer kills almost 50,000 women every year. Every 12 minutes an American woman succumbs to breast cancer. It is the leading cause of death for women between the ages of 35 and 62, and it is the second leading cause of death for all women.

More than 1.8 million women in America have been diagnosed with breast cancer, and an additional million more are unaware that they have breast cancer. It affects our wives, our sisters, our mothers, our daughters, all American women.

The financial resources to fight breast cancer are just not enough. That is why the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act is before us today. It provides a vehicle for those of us who are concerned about breast cancer research and the funding to buy a semipostal stamp.

The language of this legislation has now been changed. The price of the semipostal breast cancer stamp can be anywhere from 1 to 8 cents more than the regular postage stamp. And we have an opportunity of funneling significant funds to the National Institutes of Health for breast cancer research. The program is entirely voluntary. It does not affect the regular rate of the postal stamp. It will allow the U.S. Postal Service to cover its administrative costs prior to directing the funds to cancer research. And, of course, this experiment will run only 2 years, after which it will be evaluated.

Last week, Mr. Speaker, the other body overwhelmingly adopted by a vote of 83 to 17 this same legislation. I strongly urge all of my colleagues, on a bipartisan basis, to join us in approving this legislation. I want to commend the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI], my friend, for her leadership on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO], the original author of this legislation.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1585, sponsored by the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI] and myself.

We come to the floor today with the idea of an experiment whereby the American people would contribute to public health causes through the voluntary purchase of a U.S. postage stamp, or a semipostal, as it is known around the world.

As the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] said, in May 1996, Dr. Ernie Bodai, one of my constituents and chief of surgery at the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Sacramento, CA, came to my office with what I thought was an innovative proposal. Dr. Bodai's idea involved a bill to establish a special first class postage stamp priced at 1 cent above normal first class postage, with the additional penny going toward breast cancer research.

As a result of Dr. Bodai's unflagging personal effort, I was pleased to introduce the Breast Cancer Research Stamp Act in the 104th Congress. That piece of legislation gained the support of 86 Members of the House of Representatives and thousands and thousands of people across the country who strongly advocated its cosponsorship.

This year, I reintroduced this bill in the 105th Congress, and H.R. 407 has now the support of 125 of my colleagues.

□ 1645

Thanks to some energetic and tireless efforts by several compassionate groups within the breast cancer advocacy community and a special thank you to the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI], we are considering today H.R. 1585, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act of 1997.

H.R. 1585 remains true to the idea of the American public participating in the search for a cure for breast cancer. It also ensures that money raised by the breast cancer research stamp will not replace current Federal funding levels at NIH or the Department of Defense. It will only add to it. It provides a workable and realistic framework for a cooperative effort between the Postal Service and the American public to take place.

I know questions have been raised, how much money could be raised by the sale of a stamp priced above the normal first class postage rate and how much would such an endeavor cost the Postal Service to administer. This bill, H.R. 1585, sets up a demonstration project to answer those and other questions. After 2 years, the General Accounting Office will provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of this project and after 2 years perhaps there will be additional money from the stamp going toward breast cancer research at both NIH and at the very innovative programs at DOD.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH], chairman of the Subcommittee on Postal Service for working out the details of this bill so that we may finally put this project into place, and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON], chairman of the full committee, for helping to assure this bill could come to the floor. I particularly want to thank again the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI] for her effort and commitment to seeing that this bill and this cause moves forward in the House of Representatives. I am so pleased it could be accomplished at least in this House while she remains a Member.

We have made tremendous progress in raising money, in raising awareness, and in raising the spirits of so many in the battle against a disease that has devastated the lives of millions of loved ones, but we all know we still have a long way to go. I know that we will get there through the support of legislators in Congress and the grassroots support throughout our communities.

By passing H.R. 1585, we will be enabling the people of the United States to demonstrate a spirit of volunteerism to advance our successes in finding a cure for breast cancer. I think now the ball is passed to those people who have made it so important that this Congress consider this legislation. They will be able to prove the degree to which their voluntary spirit and community commitment can produce the results we all seek.

I urge my colleagues to vote to suspend the rules and to pass this important piece of legislation and then find a way to take the legislation that is somewhat different, that has passed the Senate by an overwhelming margin, meld them together and produce a piece of legislation that will cause this experiment to take life.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California again for his work and for his kind comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI], whose important efforts on this bill have already been amply described.

Ms. MOLINARI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my unequivocal support for the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank from the bottom of my heart the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] for their support, their guidance, their attention and all their important contributions in developing this stronger bill. Finally, I would like to thank and salute the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO] for his assistance in leading the fight to craft a bipartisan bill on an issue so close to all of us.

For the first time in our Nation's history, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act will give Americans, every American, the opportunity to become more per-

sonally involved in funding breast cancer research. This legislation will allow all of us to contribute to the effort to put an end to what is now an incurable disease by giving us all the option of purchasing a specifically issued first class stamp.

That is one of the beauties of this bill. It is a completely voluntary method of raising money for a worthwhile cause. I envision if we do this right an opportunity for people when it comes time for Christmas shopping, when it comes time for birthday presents, alongside with the little gift, you buy them a roll of stamps so that that individual knows that you might have spent an extra \$5 or \$10 to give your friend a present that also went toward reducing the risk of dying from breast cancer in this country. I envision companies having the impact of their employees coming to them purchasing stamps that have the stamp out breast cancer insignia on it, companies having contests amongst each other. I believe the American people will rise to the challenge of saying if we make it easy for you, if we make it an opportunity in your daily life of completing chores to donate to breast cancer, they will all absolutely rise to that challenge and help us conquer this disease.

I also believe that it will take us all a little less pain when we pay our bills if we know that while we are paying those bills, sending off those credit card company payments that we may also be contributing to finding a cure for cancer. Husbands, daughters, brothers and sisters will all have an opportunity to buy a stamp toward saving a life.

As has been said, the voluntary purchase of this stamp will direct funds to the noble research efforts led by the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense.

Over 9 years ago I lost my best friend to breast cancer. My grandmother, Susan, battled breast cancer and was not the only life forever shattered by this terrible disease. In fact, my husband's mother too has fought a breast cancer fight for years. It is now my hope that my daughter, Susan Paxon, named after my grandmother, will never have to know the fear that I go through every year, the sweaty palms the night before a mammography, the inability to concentrate until you hear from the doctor that says it is all clear again for the next year. I want to make sure that her generation of young women will not know the fright that our generation has known because we have lost an entire generation of women to breast cancer way too early. I, like so many other women and men, would appreciate knowing that I helped make a difference in the fight against breast cancer just by spending a few extra pennies for a stamp I needed anyway.

Mr. Speaker, let me just close by saying that if the Postal Service can issue a stamp in honor of Bugs Bunny or Elvis Presley, surely we can ensure

that the lives and legacies of women who have suffered the ravaging effects of breast cancer will not go unnoticed. In closing, let me thank Dr. Ernest Bodai for developing this mechanism, my staff assistant Jennifer Prazmark for believing so clearly, and my colleagues the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO], the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] for giving me an opportunity to leave this Congress with my head held extremely high, believing that we may have passed a very, if not one of the most important pieces of legislation in a bipartisan fashion that may save some women's lives sooner than we thought, hoped and prayed.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON], who has been a champion of all issues relating to women.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his kind words and for yielding me this time. I thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] and the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] for their leadership on the floor on this bill, and I particularly thank the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI] and the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO] for their overall leadership in this important bill. I know I speak for the Women's Caucus, which I cochair, when I embrace this bill in their behalf.

The Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act has two purposes as far as I am concerned. The very fact of the stamp will help to raise the consciousness of women to go for a mammogram, and the voluntary funding mechanism is most important. We have already gotten some considerable distance on breast cancer simply by raising the consciousness of women to go and get a mammogram. We now see rates falling, including rates for African-American women which were rising steadily before.

But, Mr. Speaker, we have got to move on to the next important plateaus, and those are prevention and research. We have a whole set of notions about how we may go at prevention, but none of them has been proven. We are told about lifestyle and environmental factors. We are told to do aerobics. We are told that diet has an effect, that alcohol consumption, that obesity, that chemical hazards and radiation have an effect, but nobody knows because the research is yet to be done. With this research at the National Institutes of Health and in the Department of Defense, we would look to such areas as the contribution to breast cancer made by the environment, by hormones, by genes. We would look at areas still to be uncovered, such as the role of accessibility and delivery of medical care to underserved populations. We would look at gene therapy and vaccines and chemotherapeutics. We would look at the susceptibility of various groups of

women and why. Until we do that, we will not be able to conquer this disease. We have gone very far with cervical cancer because of research. We need to go the rest of the distance, and this stamp will make that possible.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON], the chairman of the full committee and, as we have heard here today, one of the instrumental players in this victory here today.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] for yielding me this time. I want to congratulate the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO], the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH], the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] and the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI], especially for their leadership in getting this bill to the floor and passed.

I have had a personal experience in my family with breast cancer, and I do not think people realize the impact that it has until they see somebody that they care about lose their hair. They come home one day and there are tears and they say my hair is falling out because they are under chemotherapy. Then they have to cut the hair off and buy a wig. Then they go through the problems of sickness because of chemotherapy and the radiation. It is something that people cannot imagine unless they have had it happen in their own family or to somebody that they care about.

That is why it is so important for us in this body and across this country to do everything we can to wipe out the last vestiges of cancer, all kinds of cancer, but especially breast cancer. One in eight women are going to get breast cancer in their lifetime. That is a statistic that we just simply cannot live with. The mammograms that we talk about women getting annually when they get above 40 years old many times misses the cancer, and so sometimes women carry that cancer in their body for 4 or 5 years before it manifests itself and many times it is too late for them to be saved. So anything that we can do, anything we can do to help bring about an end to breast cancer is something that this body ought to be working very hard to accomplish.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to add my support for this bill. It may not raise a lot of money but if it does not raise a lot of money, at least it will raise a lot of awareness and people will realize that we have to make this a No. 1 priority in this country. I hope that one day everybody in this body who is sponsoring this bill and everybody who is supporting it will live to see cancer eradicated once and for all and women not having to wake up every day of their lives fearing a lump in their breast may be the end of their lives.

I rise in support of H.R. 1585, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act.

I would like to commend the gentlewoman from New York, Representative MOLINARI, and the chairman of the Subcommittee on Postal

Service, Representative MCHUGH, for the good work they have done on this important piece of legislation.

Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer in women. In 1996, an estimated 184,000 women were diagnosed with breast cancer and 46,000 died of the disease. Women continue to face a one in eight chance of developing breast cancer during their lifetime. Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death for all women aged 35–44.

Congress has made much progress in the past few years in providing funding for breast cancer research. During the 104th Congress we increased breast cancer research by increasing funding to the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense's Peer-Reviewed Breast Cancer Research Program by 25 percent.

For fiscal year 1998, the House Appropriations Committee has approved a 9-percent funding increase to the NIH—\$704 million over last year's appropriation.

However, in spite of the significant research advances that have been made in regard to breast cancer, there is still much more to be done. We still do not know what causes breast cancer, how to prevent it, or how to cure it.

We must continue to remain committed to investment in breast cancer research until we find out these answers. The more we invest in breast cancer research, the more we will be able to offer hope to women and their families.

For these reasons, I would like to voice my strong support for the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act. This bill would provide another funding stream for breast cancer research.

I would like to point out that this is an experimental program that seeks to determine whether or not this is an effective way to raise money for breast cancer research. Under this bill, the program will sunset after 2 years and GAO is required to do a study to evaluate the effectiveness and appropriateness of this type of fundraising.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill. Hopefully, through passage of this bill, the funding raised from this stamp will help bring us closer to eradicating breast cancer once and for all.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE], who in the very short time that she has been with us has made a remarkable impact on the work of this body.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I thank the gentleman from California both for his words and also for the commitment that he has made to so many causes improving the quality of life for humankind.

Mr. Speaker, let me say that this is the best of the U.S. Congress. This act today, this exhibition of unity is really what this Congress is all about. Might I add my applause and congratulations to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH], certainly the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO], and the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI], and certainly the words of the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS]. This is a coming together in a recognition that we need to fight a problem and pay tribute at the same time.

I would like to offer a tribute to all of the women who have lived with and maybe later died because of breast cancer, to all of the survivors and fighters day after day after day. I would like to further say to them that we are going to join this race with them, we are going to do it by passing this legislation, H.R. 1585, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act, which would direct the U.S. Postal Service to establish a special postage rate for first class mail.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in American women; 2.6 million women in the United States are living with breast cancer, 1.6 million who have been diagnosed and an estimated 1 million who do not yet know they have the disease. That is the most frightening part of this disease, as was noted earlier. It is a disease that can be in the body of women over a period of time without their knowing it: young women, women with children, women with promise, women with a future in front of them, women who are dynamic and yes, day-to-day women who are nurturers and workers every day keeping this country going.

In 1997, approximately 184,300 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed and 44,300 women will die from this disease. Thirty-eight percent of African-American women with breast cancer will not live more than 5 years. Of course this disease affects our families, mothers, daughters, neighbors, sisters. It is a disease that all of us want to put on our boxing gloves and fight fair, but we want to win this victory.

□ 1700

It is important to know that it impacts women who have not had a child before the age of 30. Most breast cancer, over 70 percent, however, occurs in women who have no identifiable risk factors, maybe other than knowing that women and their families have likewise had breast cancer.

And so we see this is a hidden disease, this is a frightening disease, this is a disease that is sometimes whispered around family members when they hear that Aunt Mary or Cousin Susan or their mom has breast cancer. We want to stamp out breast cancer, and we want to pay tribute to those who work so hard.

As someone who has participated year after year in the Susan Coleman Race for the Cure, so many people around the country have shown themselves proud by every fall coming together in sisterhood, along with our brothers, to fight against breast cancer. Let me say that this stamp to help us stamp out breast cancer, Mr. Speaker, is the right way for this Congress to go. Thanks to all of those who had the fortitude to do this, and I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting and passing this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to express my support for H.R. 1585, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act. This bill would direct the U.S. Postal Service to establish a special postage designation for first-class mail that will contrib-

ute a set amount to breast cancer research and education. This plan allows patrons to voluntarily choose to contribute to this funding effort. The effort cannot be minimized in any way, the crisis of breast cancer for women in the United States is claiming hundreds of thousands of lives. Experts estimate that over 2.6 million women in the U.S. are living with breast cancer, 1.6 million women who have been diagnosed, and another 1 million women who do not yet know that they have the disease. The best hope that these women have who have not yet been diagnosed is the continuing education of the public about the importance of regular examinations for the early detection of a malignancy and tireless cancer research in search for a cure. The frightening numbers go on and on, 1 out of 8 women in the United States will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. This year, a new case of breast cancer will be diagnosed every 3 minutes, and we lose a woman to breast cancer in this country, every 12 minutes.

The scientific community apparently has no new answers; we know no more about breast cancer and how to cure it in 1997 as we did in 1937. The same basic treatment methods from three score ago, are unfortunately still being used today, surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation. We must find the answers, we must resolve among ourselves today, to make the difference. For too long, the diagnosis of breast cancer for America's women has been a likely death sentence, particularly for African-American women. In all, 38 percent of African-American women with breast cancer live no more than 5 years after diagnosis and 25 percent of White American women. Both of these figures are entirely too high, too many of our grandmothers, mothers, aunts, sisters, daughters, and friends have fallen to this cruel disease.

Every woman is at risk to develop breast cancer, a likelihood that increases as a woman ages. Unbelievably, over 70 percent of breast cancer cases occur in women who have had no identifiable risk factors. But only 40 percent of women follow the recommended guidelines for screening mammography. It is so easy for us to think that it will never be us, it will always be someone else, but who among us is really willing to take that chance? We would say none of us, but millions of American women do so everyday. I hope that the Stamp Our Breast Cancer Act can start its efforts by educating American women that they are the most effective weapon that we have to combat the encroaching effects of breast cancer. The importance of this effort cannot be minimized because most irregularities that are found to be malignant are actually found by aware and educated women as to the obvious dangers of breast cancer.

In closing, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 1585, because if this option to give to the effort to end this unfortunate crisis saves one life, it has done more than enough. For our families, for our daughters and granddaughters, we must act now, so that their world is a much safer and better place than our own.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] a woman who has always been at the forefront of health issues, and particularly women's health issues, and an original cosponsor of the first Fazio bill on this initiative.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to thank the gentleman, the chairman of the subcommittee that had this legislation, not only for yielding the time, but for the work and leadership that he has provided.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in very strong support of H.R. 1585, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act. It enhances the quality of life, it enhances and keeps families together.

This bill, which was sponsored by the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI] and the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO] is built on legislation offered in this Congress and in the laws by the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO]. I am a cosponsor of both bills, and I am really pleased that my two colleagues have worked with the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] to develop a bill that we hope will open up a new avenue for biomedical research funding. I also want to thank the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] for their cooperation in bringing this bill to the floor.

H.R. 1585 authorizes a 2-year demonstration program establishing a special postal rate for first class mail for those who wish to contribute to breast cancer research. After administrative expenses have been covered, 70 percent of the funds raised will go to the National Institutes for Health for breast cancer research, 30 percent will go to the Department of Defense for its peer-reviewed breast cancer research program. At the end of the 2-year demonstration, the General Accounting Office will be required to report to Congress on the effectiveness of this fundraising strategy. The bill includes provisions to ensure adequate oversight and payment for administrative costs incurred by the postal service; in other words, a very well-crafted bill.

Mr. Speaker, this bill provides a potential source of additional funding for breast cancer and other public health priorities. Despite the progress that has been made, we still know very little about breast cancer treatment and prevention. Last year approximately 182,000 women were diagnosed with breast cancer, and 46,000 died from the disease. Women have a 1 in 8 chance of breast cancer during their lifetimes. Establishing a new source of research dollars is particularly important at a time when Federal resources are being squeezed as a result of our efforts to balance the budget. We must be more creative in our efforts to increase our investment in biomedical research, and this bill does it.

Again I commend the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI] the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO] the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] for their work on this innovative approach. I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I too have no further requests for time. Let me just briefly, in closing, again thank all of those who have been involved in this initiative.

I want to pay, too, a tribute to the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS], my colleague, for his leadership here today. I think it very clearly emphasizes the bipartisan nature of this bill and certainly recognizes the bipartisan tragedy that this disease can bring, and I urge all my colleagues to support this initiative.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1585, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act.

Over the past 3 years, I have had the honor of leading many Members of this House in the fight to promote breast cancer awareness. Last year my efforts culminated in the creation of the breast cancer stamp. The stamp is a tribute to those who have survived breast cancer and those who have not. More likely than not, each one of us, if we haven't already, will come face to face with the tragedy of breast cancer—through a mother, daughter, wife, grandmother, niece, aunt, or neighbor. Every time a book of stamps is purchased at the post office, people will be reminded of the urgency for early detection of breast cancer in order to save millions of women's lives.

Unfortunately, increasing public awareness and educating women about the importance of early detection and diagnosis is not enough. We must do more.

According to the National Cancer Institute, Nassau and Suffolk Counties rank first and fourth respectively, in breast cancer mortality rates among the 116 largest counties in the United States. Research is a valuable and indispensable instrument in trying to understand this devastating disease. Right now on Long Island, the National Cancer Institute is conducting a \$15 million study examining the environmental effects that may be factors in breast cancer in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Yet, we must do more.

H.R. 1585 builds upon the success of the Breast Cancer Awareness Stamp, by authorizing a 2-year demonstration project to offer the public a new way to fund research for breast cancer by raising money through specially designed U.S. postage stamps. The stamps will be offered for purchase as an alternative to regular first-class postage. Seventy percent of the funds raised by this bill will be directed to the National Institute of Health and the remainder to the Department of Defense solely for the purpose of breast cancer research. Mr. Speaker, too many of our mothers, daughters, and sisters have been afflicted with this destructive disease. We must do more, and I urge my colleagues to vote today to stamp out breast cancer forever.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join in supporting H.R. 1585, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act. Breast cancer is an especially horrific disease that attacks one out of eight women in the United States. With these numbers, almost no family in the United States is immune from this disease that kills thousands each year. Too many of our mothers, sisters, and daughters each year suffer

from the ravages of this disease. Nearly 45,000 women will die this year from breast cancer alone, with more than 180,000 new cases diagnosed. In Texas, 2,800 women will die, and we will add 11,500 new breast cancer cases to the rolls.

We have made progress in recent years, in early detection, diagnosis, and treatment. But we are too far from adequate treatment and too far from a cure. We need to make cancer research, and breast cancer research in particular, a priority.

This bill would provide an innovative, new source of badly needed funding for breast cancer research for a 2-year demonstration period. The Postal Service would create a new postage rate for first-class mail as an alternative to the regular rate, and customers would have the choice of buying either. The Postal Service would distribute 70 percent of the revenues raised to the National Institutes of Health and 30 percent to the Department of Defense breast cancer research program. These moneys will not displace any other funding.

I support this effort and urge passage of the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act. My hometown of San Antonio is a growing cancer research center, where doctors and researchers work with brave, valiant women to improve treatment and further our understanding of breast cancer. I am confident that with perseverance and proper funding, we will find ways to conquer breast cancer. This legislation is a step in the right direction.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Snowbarger). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. McHugh) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1585, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. LANTOS. 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. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1585, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

POSTPONING VOTES DURING CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1853, CARL D. PERKINS VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1997

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during further consideration of H.R. 1853, pursuant to House Resolution 187, the Chairman of

the Committee of the Whole may, first, postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment, and, second, reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes.

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

Mr. CLAY. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, there is no agreement to rolling the vote on this side after five. Who did the gentleman from Pennsylvania negotiate that with?

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

CARL D. PERKINS VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 187 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 1853.

□ 1707

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1853) to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act, with Mr. Ewing in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, July 17, 1997, pending was the amendment by the gentlewoman from Hawaii [Mrs. MINK] and the bill was open for amendment at any point.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone a request for a recorded vote on any amendment and may reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the time for voting on any postponed question that immediately follows another vote, provided that the time for voting on the first question shall be a minimum of 15 minutes.

Is there further debate on the amendment?

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I do that so that I can call to the attention of the Members and anyone who may be watching the proceeding exactly what legislation we are dealing with today. My colleagues will hear more emotional comments made, but in many instances not too relevant to what we are doing.