

Do we really want to devalue the votes cast by legally registered American citizens? I think not. Our opponents on the other side of the aisle should welcome this investigation if they truly believe that their candidate won fair and square. The truth must be allowed to come out.

GETTING BUREAUCRACY OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, recently a teacher in Camden County, GA told me about going to a conference near the State capitol designed to tell teachers not to hug kids anymore and not to be in the room alone with them anymore, never to touch them. She says, "You know, it's too bad because in the school district that I'm in, a lot of these children are from broken homes and they need hugging more than they need A's."

Another teacher told me she cannot get parents to participate in the PTA programs anymore because when parents come up with good ideas, they just cannot get through the red tape. Then another teacher in Darien, Georgia told me that she has to spend 2 to 3 hours each week on paperwork just to keep up with the bureaucracy.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we need to have more local control of school systems. We are going to vote today on a charter school bill which will give local control and get the bureaucracy out of the classroom so that the teacher can develop the relationship that is needed to teach Johnny how to read without a bunch of busybody bureaucrats from the State capitol or Washington, DC, telling them what they have to do and what they do not have to do.

HOUSE TO VOTE ON EDUCATION INITIATIVES

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, today and most of this week we are going to be voting on education initiatives. I want to call my colleagues' attention to what has been happening back in my home State of Minnesota. Our Governor, Arne Carlson, decided several years ago that ultimately what we need to do was empower parents and decentralize what is happening in education. The net result is in this year's legislature back in Minnesota, they passed some of the most wide-ranging tax reforms I think in any State in the Union. I am proud of that. Most parents in the State of Minnesota are proud of it as well.

What they included was tax credits and tax deductibility, making it easier for parents to send their kids to the school that they choose, not that is

chosen for them. They made it easier for them to buy equipment for their students, including computers, and so forth.

This is a giant step forward. It reinforces, I think, what we are trying to do here in Washington, what parents want and what ultimately most people know is best for children, and that is to decentralize the school system, empower parents and create school systems that serve students rather than serving bureaucracies.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE IN NEED OF REFORM

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

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, Republicans in the House are committed to reforming the IRS. For weeks the White House was signaling that they were going to battle us on that issue, and they issued repeated pronouncements defending the IRS. When the White House decided this was an unsustainable political position, last week the White House decided to reverse course: The administration indicated it would join Republicans and work with us to reform the IRS. Today we see their rhetoric does not match reality. This weekend Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said the administration disagrees with Republican calls to scrap 17,000 pages of IRS rules and regulations.

In proclaiming support for this 17,000 page monstrosity, the administration claimed it gives taxpayers "predictability." Ironically, they are right. The IRS Code is predictably too complex; it predictably favors its political friends; it predictably punishes its political enemies.

We will never have real tax reform in this country until we do away with those 17,000 pages of rules and regulations and give the taxpayers a fairer, flatter Tax Code. That is the "predictability" Americans are seeking, and it is the predictability they deserve.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, October 24, I had the pleasure of attending the wedding of my son Kevin and daughter-in-law Leslie. Consequently, I was unable to vote on rollcall votes 526 through 531.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 526; "yes" on rollcall vote 527; "yes" on rollcall No. 528; "no" on rollcall 529; "no" on rollcall No. 530; "yes" on rollcall vote 531.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2527

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as cosponsor of H.R. 2527.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1270, NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT OF 1997

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 283 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 283

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. 1270) to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed eighty minutes, with sixty minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Commerce and twenty minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Resources. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Commerce now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. Points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute for failure to comply with clause 5(a) of rule XXI or section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived. Notwithstanding clause 5(c) of rule XXIII, no amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each amendment may be offered 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. Points of order against the last amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules for failure to comply with clause 5(a) of rule XXI or section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived. 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. After a motion that the Committee rise has been rejected on a day, the Chairman may entertain another such motion on that day

only if offered by the majority leader or his designee. After a motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill (as described in clause 7 of rule XXIII) has been rejected, the Chairman may not entertain another such motion during further consideration of the bill. 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. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommend with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. After passage of H.R. 1270, it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill, S. 104, and to consider the Senate bill in the House. Points of order against consideration of the Senate bill for failure to comply with section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived. It shall be in order to move to strike all after the enacting clause of the Senate bill and to insert in lieu thereof the provisions of H.R. 1270 as passed by the House. If the motion is adopted and the Senate bill, as amended, is passed, then it shall be in order to move that the House insist on its amendment to S. 104 and request a conference with the Senate thereon.

□ 1200

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion to adjourn offered by the gentleman from Nevada [Mr. ENSIGN].

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

Mr. ENSIGN. 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.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 29, nays 374, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 535]

YEAS—29

Ackerman	Foglietta	Lewis (GA)
Andrews	Ford	Markey
DeFazio	Gephardt	McDermott
DeGette	Gibbons	McNulty
Delahunt	Gordon	Mink
Dellums	Hilleary	Obey
Ensign	Jackson (IL)	Olver
Eshoo	Jefferson	Stark
Fattah	LaFalce	Torres
Filner	Lewis (CA)	

NAYS—374

Abercrombie	Barrett (WI)	Blagojevich
Aderholt	Bartlett	Bliley
Allen	Barton	Blumenauer
Archer	Bass	Blunt
Armey	Bateman	Boehlert
Bachus	Becerra	Boehner
Baesler	Bentsen	Bonilla
Baker	Bereuter	Bonior
Baldacci	Berman	Borski
Ballenger	Berry	Boswell
Barcia	Bilbray	Boucher
Barr	Bilirakis	Boyd
Barrett (NE)	Bishop	Brady

Brown (FL)	Hastings (FL)	Morella
Brown (OH)	Hastings (WA)	Murtha
Bryant	Hayworth	Nadler
Bunning	Hefley	Neal
Burr	Hefner	Nethercutt
Burton	Herger	Neumann
Buyer	Hill	Ney
Callahan	Hilliard	Northup
Calvert	Hinchee	Norwood
Camp	Hinojosa	Nussle
Campbell	Hobson	Oberstar
Canady	Hoekstra	Ortiz
Cannon	Holden	Owens
Cardin	Hooley	Oxley
Carson	Horn	Packard
Castle	Hostettler	Pallone
Chabot	Hoyer	Pappas
Chambliss	Hulshof	Parker
Chenoweth	Hunter	Pastor
Christensen	Hutchinson	Paul
Clay	Hyde	Paxon
Clayton	Inglis	Pease
Clement	Istook	Peterson (MN)
Clyburn	Jackson-Lee	Peterson (PA)
Coble	(TX)	Petri
Coburn	Jenkins	Pickering
Collins	John	Pickett
Combest	Johnson (CT)	Pitts
Condit	Johnson (WI)	Pombo
Cook	Johnson, E.B.	Pomeroy
Cooksey	Jones	Porter
Costello	Kanjorski	Portman
Cox	Kaptur	Poshard
Coyne	Kasich	Price (NC)
Cramer	Kennedy (MA)	Pryce (OH)
Crane	Kennedy (RI)	Quinn
Crapo	Kennelly	Radanovich
Cummings	Kildee	Rahall
Cunningham	Kilpatrick	Ramstad
Danner	Kim	Rangel
Davis (FL)	Kind (WI)	Redmond
Davis (IL)	King (NY)	Regula
Davis (VA)	Kingston	Reyes
Deal	Kleczka	Riggs
DeLauro	Klink	Riley
DeLay	Klug	Rivers
Deutsch	Knollenberg	Roemer
Diaz-Balart	Kolbe	Rogers
Dicks	Kucinich	Rohrabacher
Dingell	LaHood	Ros-Lehtinen
Dixon	Lampson	Rothman
Doggett	Lantos	Roukema
Dooley	Largent	Roybal-Allard
Doolittle	Latham	Royce
Doyle	LaTourette	Rush
Dreier	Lazio	Ryun
Duncan	Leach	Sabo
Dunn	Levin	Salmon
Edwards	Lewis (KY)	Sanchez
Ehlers	Linder	Sanders
Ehrlich	Lipinski	Sandlin
Emerson	Livingston	Sanford
Engel	LoBiondo	Sawyer
Etheridge	Lofgren	Saxton
Evans	Lowey	Schaefer, Dan
Everett	Lucas	Schaffer, Bob
Ewing	Luther	Schumer
Farr	Maloney (CT)	Scott
Fawell	Maloney (NY)	Sensenbrenner
Fazio	Manton	Serrano
Foley	Manzullo	Sessions
Forbes	Mascara	Shadegg
Fowler	Matsui	Shaw
Fox	McCarthy (MO)	Shays
Frank (MA)	McCarthy (NY)	Sherman
Franks (NJ)	McCollum	Shimkus
Frelinghuysen	McCrery	Shuster
Frost	McDade	Sisisky
Furse	McGovern	Skaggs
Gallegly	McHale	Skeen
Ganske	McHugh	Skelton
Gejdenson	McInnis	Slaughter
Gilchrist	McIntyre	Smith (MI)
Gillmor	McKeon	Smith (NJ)
Gilman	McKinney	Smith (OR)
Goode	Meehan	Smith (TX)
Goodlatte	Meek	Smith, Adam
Goodling	Menendez	Smith, Linda
Goss	Metcalf	Snowbarger
Graham	Mica	Snyder
Green	Millender-	Solomon
Greenwood	McDonald	Souder
Gutierrez	Miller (CA)	Spence
Gutknecht	Miller (FL)	Spratt
Hall (OH)	Minge	Stabenow
Hall (TX)	Moakley	Stearns
Hamilton	Mollohan	Stenholm
Harman	Moran (KS)	Strickland
Hastert	Moran (VA)	Stump

Stupak	Towns	Weldon (PA)
Sununu	Trafigant	Weller
Tanner	Turner	Wexler
Tauscher	Upton	Weygand
Tauzin	Velazquez	White
Taylor (MS)	Vento	Whitfield
Taylor (NC)	Visclosky	Wicker
Thomas	Walsh	Wise
Thompson	Wamp	Wolf
Thornberry	Waters	Woolsey
Thune	Watkins	Wynn
Thurman	Watt (NC)	Young (FL)
Tiahrt	Watts (OK)	
Tierney	Waxman	

NOT VOTING—29

Bono	Hansen	Rodriguez
Brown (CA)	Houghton	Rogan
Conyers	Johnson, Sam	Scarborough
Cubin	Kelly	Schiff
Dickey	Martinez	Stokes
English	McIntosh	Talent
Flake	Myrick	Weldon (FL)
Gekas	Pascarell	Yates
Gonzalez	Payne	Young (AK)
Granger	Pelosi	

□ 1221

Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mrs. NORTHUP, and Messrs. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, SAWYER, PACKARD, and HERGER changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

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

So the motion to adjourn was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1270, NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT OF 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The gentleman from Washington [Mr. HASTINGS] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HALL], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of the resolution, all time yielded is for purposes of debate only.

(Mr. HASTINGS of Washington asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 283 is a structured rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 1270, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997. The rule provides for 1 hour of general debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Commerce, as well as 20 minutes of debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Resources.

The rule makes in order a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute as the base text, and waives Congressional Budget Act requirements that the Committee on the Budget report provisions within its jurisdiction. The rule also waives House rules prohibiting appropriations in an authorization measure.

Mr. Speaker, this rule makes in order 10 amendments, debatable in the order listed and for the amount of time specified in the Committee on Rules report.