

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

As my colleague the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST) has suggested, I would like to thank the participants from the Committee on Agriculture, including the gentleman from Texas (Mr. COMBEST) and also the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) not only for their leadership but for their care and consideration of the men and women who are involved in agribusiness.

Mr. Speaker, I support this rule. I am asking for each one of our Members to support this bipartisan rule and piece of legislation.

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. NUSSLE). The question is on the resolution.

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

Mr. FROST. 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.

This 15-minute vote will be followed by a 5-minute vote on the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 422, nays 1, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 458]

YEAS—422

Abercrombie	Brown (FL)	DeFazio
Ackerman	Brown (OH)	DeGette
Aderholt	Bryant	Delahunt
Allen	Burr	DeLauro
Andrews	Burton	DeLay
Archer	Buyer	DeMint
Armey	Callahan	Deutsch
Bachus	Calvert	Diaz-Balart
Baird	Camp	Dickey
Baker	Campbell	Dicks
Baldacci	Canady	Dingell
Baldwin	Cannon	Doggett
Ballenger	Capps	Dooley
Barcia	Capuano	Doolittle
Barr	Cardin	Doyle
Barrett (NE)	Carson	Dreier
Barrett (WI)	Castle	Duncan
Bartlett	Chabot	Dunn
Barton	Chambliss	Edwards
Bass	Chenoweth	Ehlers
Bateman	Clay	Ehrlich
Becerra	Clayton	Emerson
Bentsen	Clement	Engel
Bereuter	Clyburn	English
Berkley	Coble	Eshoo
Berman	Coburn	Etheridge
Berry	Collins	Evans
Biggert	Combest	Everett
Bilbray	Condit	Ewing
Bilirakis	Conyers	Farr
Bishop	Cook	Fattah
Blagojevich	Cooksey	Filner
Bliley	Costello	Fletcher
Blumenauer	Cox	Foley
Blunt	Coyne	Forbes
Boehlert	Cramer	Ford
Boehner	Crane	Fossella
Bonilla	Crowley	Fowler
Bonior	Cubin	Frank (MA)
Bono	Cummings	Franks (NJ)
Borski	Cunningham	Frelinghuysen
Boswell	Danner	Frost
Boucher	Davis (FL)	Gallegly
Boyd	Davis (IL)	Ganske
Brady (PA)	Davis (VA)	Gejdenson
Brady (TX)	Deal	Gekas

Gephardt	Luther	Royce
Gibbons	Maloney (CT)	Rush
Gilchrest	Maloney (NY)	Ryan (WI)
Gillmor	Manzullo	Ryun (KS)
Gilman	Markley	Sabo
Gonzalez	Martinez	Salmon
Goode	Mascara	Sanchez
Goodlatte	Matsui	Sanders
Goodling	McCarthy (MO)	Sandlin
Gordon	McCarthy (NY)	Sanford
Goss	McCollum	Sawyer
Graham	McCrery	Saxton
Granger	McDermott	Schaffer
Green (TX)	McGovern	Schakowsky
Green (WI)	McHugh	Scott
Greenwood	McInnis	Sensenbrenner
Gutierrez	McIntosh	Serrano
Gutknecht	McIntyre	Sessions
Hall (OH)	McKeon	Shadegg
Hall (TX)	McKinney	Shaw
Hansen	McNulty	Shays
Hastings (FL)	Meehan	Sherman
Hastings (WA)	Meek (FL)	Sherwood
Hayes	Meeks (NY)	Shimkus
Hayworth	Menendez	Shows
Hefley	Metcalfe	Shuster
Herger	Mica	Simpson
Hill (MT)	Millender-McDonald	Sisisky
Hilleary	Miller (FL)	Skeen
Hilliard	Miller, Gary	Skelton
Hinchee	Miller, George	Slaughter
Hinojosa	Minge	Smith (MI)
Hobson	Mink	Smith (NJ)
Hoefel	Moakley	Smith (TX)
Hoekstra	Mollohan	Smith (WA)
Holden	Moore	Snyder
Holt	Moran (KS)	Souder
Hooley	Moran (VA)	Spence
Horn	Morella	Stabenow
Hostettler	Murtha	Stark
Houghton	Myrick	Stearns
Hoyer	Napolitano	Stenholm
Hulshof	Hunter	Strickland
Hunter	Nethercutt	Stump
Hutchinson	Ney	Neal
Hyde	Northup	Stupak
Inslee	Norwood	Sununu
Isakson	Nussle	Sweeney
Jackson (IL)	Oberstar	Talent
Jackson-Lee (TX)	Obey	Tancredo
Jenkins	Olver	Tanner
John	Ortiz	Tauscher
Johnson (CT)	Ose	Tauzin
Johnson, E. B.	Owens	Taylor (MS)
Johnson, Sam	Oxley	Taylor (NC)
Jones (NC)	Packard	Terry
Jones (OH)	Pallone	Thompson (CA)
Kanjorski	Pascrell	Thompson (MS)
Kaptur	Pastor	Thornberry
Kasich	Paul	Thune
Kelly	Payne	Thurman
Kennedy	Pease	Tiahrt
Kildee	Pelosi	Tierney
Kilpatrick	Peterson (MN)	Toomey
Kind (WI)	Peterson (PA)	Townes
King (NY)	Petri	Trafficant
Kingston	Phelps	Turner
Klecicka	Pickering	Udall (CO)
Klink	Pickett	Udall (NM)
Knollenberg	Pitts	Upton
Kolbe	Pombo	Velazquez
Kucinich	Pomeroy	Visclosky
Kuykendall	Porter	Vitter
LaFalce	Portman	Walsh
LaHood	Price (NC)	Walden
Lampson	Pryce (OH)	Walsh
Lantos	Quinn	Wamp
Largent	Radanovich	Waters
Larson	Rahall	Watkins
Latham	Ramstad	Watt (NC)
LaTourette	Rangel	Waxman
Lazio	Regula	Weiner
Leach	Reyes	Weldon (FL)
Lee	Reynolds	Weldon (PA)
Levin	Riley	Weller
Lewis (CA)	Rivers	Wexler
Lewis (GA)	Rodriguez	Weygand
Lewis (KY)	Roemer	Whitfield
Linder	Rogan	Wicker
Lipinski	Rogers	Wilson
LoBiondo	Rohrabacher	Wise
Lofgren	Ros-Lehtinen	Wolf
Lowe	Rothman	Woolsey
Lucas (KY)	Roukema	Wynn
Lucas (OK)	Roybal-Allard	Young (AK)
		Young (FL)

NAYS—1

Vento

NOT VOTING—10

Dixon	Nadler	Watts (OK)
Hill (IN)	Scarborough	Wu
Istook	Spratt	
Jefferson	Thomas	

□ 1124

Mr. HILLIARD and Mr. RAMSTAD changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

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.

Stated for:

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 458, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NUSSLE). Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 375, nays 43, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 459]

YEAS—375

Abercrombie	Callahan	Doolittle
Ackerman	Calvert	Doyle
Allen	Camp	Dreier
Andrews	Campbell	Duncan
Archer	Canady	Dunn
Armey	Cannon	Edwards
Bachus	Capps	Ehlers
Baldacci	Cardin	Ehrlich
Baldwin	Carson	Emerson
Ballenger	Castle	Engel
Barcia	Chabot	Eshoo
Barr	Chambliss	Etheridge
Barrett (NE)	Chenoweth	Evans
Barrett (WI)	Clayton	Everett
Bartlett	Clement	Ewing
Barton	Clyburn	Farr
Bass	Coble	Fattah
Bateman	Coburn	Fletcher
Becerra	Collins	Foley
Bentsen	Combest	Forbes
Bereuter	Condit	Ford
Berkley	Conyers	Fossella
Berman	Cook	Fowler
Berry	Cooksey	Frank (MA)
Biggert	Cox	Franks (NJ)
Bilbray	Coyne	Frelinghuysen
Bilirakis	Cramer	Frost
Bishop	Crowley	Gallegly
Blagojevich	Cummings	Ganske
Bliley	Cunningham	Gejdenson
Blumenauer	Danner	Gekas
Blunt	Davis (FL)	Gephardt
Boehlert	Davis (IL)	Gilchrest
Boehner	Davis (VA)	Gillmor
Bonilla	Deal	Gilman
Bonior	DeGette	Gonzalez
Bono	Delahunt	Goode
Boucher	DeLauro	Goodlatte
Boyd	Deutsch	Goodling
Brady (TX)	Diaz-Balart	Goss
Brady (FL)	Dickey	Graham
Bryant	Dicks	Granger
Buyer	Dingell	Green (TX)
	Doggett	Greenwood
	Dooley	Hall (OH)
		Hall (TX)

Hansen  
Hastings (FL)  
Hastings (WA)  
Hayes  
Hayworth  
Hefley  
Herger  
Hill (IN)  
Hill (MT)  
Hinojosa  
Hobson  
Hoeffel  
Hoekstra  
Holden  
Holt  
Horn  
Hostettler  
Houghton  
Hoyer  
Hunter  
Hutchinson  
Hyde  
Inlee  
Isakson  
Jackson (IL)  
Jackson-Lee  
(TX)  
Jenkins  
John  
Johnson (CT)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones (NC)  
Jones (OH)  
Kanjorski  
Kaptur  
Kasich  
Kelly  
Kennedy  
Kildee  
Kilpatrick  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Klecza  
Klink  
Knollenberg  
Kolbe  
Kuykendall  
LaFalce  
LaHood  
Lampson  
Lantos  
Largent  
Larson  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Lazio  
Leach  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Linder  
Lipinski  
Lofgren  
Lowey  
Lucas (KY)  
Lucas (OK)  
Luther  
Maloney (CT)  
Maloney (NY)  
Manzullo  
Martinez  
Mascara  
Matsui  
McCarthy (MO)  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCollum  
McCrery

McGovern  
McHugh  
McInnis  
McIntosh  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McKinney  
Meehan  
Meek (FL)  
Meeks (NY)  
Menendez  
Metcalf  
Mica  
Millender-  
McDonald  
Miller (FL)  
Miller, Gary  
Minge  
Mink  
Moakley  
Mollohan  
Moore  
Moran (VA)  
Morella  
Murtha  
Myrick  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Nethercutt  
Ney  
Northup  
Norwood  
Obey  
Oliver  
Ortiz  
Ose  
Owens  
Oxley  
Packard  
Pallone  
Pascrell  
Paul  
Payne  
Pease  
Pelosi  
Peterson (PA)  
Petri  
Pickering  
Pitts  
Pombo  
Pomeroy  
Porter  
Portman  
Price (NC)  
Pryce (OH)  
Quinn  
Radanovich  
Rahall  
Rangel  
Regula  
Reyes  
Reynolds  
Rivers  
Rodriguez  
Roemer  
Rogan  
Rogers  
Rohrabacher  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Rothman  
Roukema  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce  
Rush  
Ryan (WI)  
Ryun (KS)  
Salmon  
Sanchez  
Sanders

Sandlin  
Sanford  
Sawyer  
Saxton  
Schakowsky  
Scott  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Shadegg  
Shaw  
Shays  
Sherman  
Sherwood  
Shimkus  
Shows  
Shuster  
Simpson  
Sisisky  
Skeen  
Skeltan  
Smith (MI)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Snyder  
Souder  
Spence  
Spratt  
Stabenow  
Stark  
Stearns  
Stump  
Stupak  
Sununu  
Sweeney  
Talent  
Tancredo  
Tanner  
Tauscher  
Tauzin  
Taylor (NC)  
Terry  
Thornberry  
Thune  
Thurman  
Tiahrt  
Tierney  
Toomey  
Towns  
Traffant  
Turner  
Udall (CO)  
Udall (NM)  
Upton  
Velazquez  
Vento  
Vitter  
Walden  
Walsh  
Wamp  
Watkins  
Watt (NC)  
Watts (OK)  
Waxman  
Weiner  
Weldon (FL)  
Weldon (PA)  
Wexler  
Weygand  
Whitfield  
Wicker  
Wilson  
Wise  
Wolf  
Woolsey  
Wynn  
Young (AK)  
Young (FL)

## NOT VOTING—15

Boswell  
Cubin  
DeLay  
Dixon  
Gordon  
Green (WI)  
Istook  
Jefferson  
Kind (WI)  
Nadler  
Peterson (MN)  
Phelps  
Scarborough  
Thomas  
Wu

□ 1133

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 459, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

### AGRICULTURAL RISK PROTECTION ACT OF 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NUSSLE). Pursuant to House Resolution 308 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2559.

□ 1135

#### 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 consideration of the bill (H.R. 2559) to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act, to strengthen the safety net for agricultural producers by providing greater access to more affordable risk management tools and improve protection from production and income loss, to improve the efficiency and integrity of the Federal crop insurance program, and for other purposes, with Mr. LATOURETTE in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. COMBEST) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. COMBEST).

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, today we consider H.R. 2559, the Agriculture Risk Protection Act of 1999. This important legislation was approved by a voice vote in the subcommittee and the full committee and enjoys broad bipartisan support from colleagues representing farmers and ranchers from all regions of the country. Equally important, I am pleased to report that this bill fully complies within the budget resolution approved by the Congress earlier this year.

As my colleagues know, this country's farmers and ranchers are not experiencing the prosperity that other Americans enjoy today. Confronted by adverse weather and low prices, they are facing a second year of extreme economic crisis.

Mr. Chairman, there are two ways a farmer or rancher can lose money. That is where a strong farm safety net is needed. The culprits are low prices

and lost production, and, sadly, both of these culprits are at work again this year.

On the price side of the equation, just as examples, cotton is expected to receive the lowest price in 13 years; wheat the lowest in 22 years; and soybeans the lowest in a quarter century. Fortunately, in an effort to avert a financial disaster in farm country, the House and Senate are working together to provide an emergency farm relief package.

Mr. Chairman, I believe the short-term assistance provided in the fiscal year 2000 agricultural appropriations bill is urgently needed and will bring our Nation's farmers and ranchers at least some peace of mind. But make no mistake, ad hoc relief of any kind will not bring about a long-term solution to chronic problems. That is why I have announced the committee's intention to convene a series of hearings early next year to evaluate current and future American farm policy. By providing our farmers and ranchers an opportunity to fully participate in this process, we will steer clear of the kind of fixes in farm policy that are made in haste and ultimately do more harm than good.

On the other side of the equation, there is something Congress can do now about severe crop losses that each year rob farmers and ranchers of their livelihood. After more than 8 months of input from farmers and ranchers on the problems with crop insurance, Congress is in a position to act.

The Federal crop insurance program was created in 1938, but it was not a case where the government intruded on the private sector thinking it could do better. Instead, the program came about because countless private sector attempts at crop insurance had failed miserably. Without a Federal commitment, the widespread losses associated with natural disasters would make something as fundamental as insurance protection simply unavailable to our farmers.

Unfortunately, during its 61 years of existence, this critical program has been both underfunded and seriously undermined by ad hoc disaster. This dual policy has fueled a vicious cycle that has not saved taxpayers money but cost them countless billions. By underfunding the crop insurance program, farmer-paid premiums have been unaffordable, leading to a Nation of underinsured farmers at best and uninsured farmers at worst.

For years, the practical effect of this policy has been that farmers who do not buy crop insurance or buy too little leave Congress little choice but to enact ad hoc disaster bills; and in the following year, farmers who had insured their crops the year before decide not to, trusting that Congress will once again come through.

This vicious cycle has seriously undermined the crop insurance program. It has eroded program participation and fueled the need for Congress to

#### NAYS—43

Aderholt  
Baird  
Borski  
Brady (PA)  
Brown (OH)  
Capuano  
Clay  
Costello  
Crane  
DeFazio  
English  
Filner  
Gibbons  
Gutierrez  
Gutknecht  
Hilleary  
Hilliard  
Hinchey  
Hooley  
Hulshof  
Kucinich  
LoBiondo  
Markey  
McDermott  
McNulty  
Miller, George  
Moran (KS)  
Oberstar  
Pastor  
Pickett

Ramstad  
Riley  
Sabo  
Schaffer  
Slaughter  
Stenholm  
Strickland  
Taylor (MS)  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Visclosky  
Waters  
Weller