CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

Towns

Upton

Vitter

Walsh

Wamp

Waters

Watkins

Waxman

Weiner

Weller

Wexler

Wicker

Wilson

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Young (AK) Young (FL)

Sensenbrenner

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Wynn

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Weygand

Whitfield

Watt (NC)

Watts (OK)

Weldon (FL) Weldon (PA)

Walden

Traficant

Udall (CO) Udall (NM)

Velazquez

Visclosky

Slaughter Smith (MI)

Smith (NJ)

Smith (TX) Smith (WA)

Snyder

Souder

Spence

Spratt

Stabenow

Stenholm

Strickland

Stearns

Stump

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Sweeney

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H10365

Baca Bachus Baird Baker Baldacci Baldwin Barcia Barr Barrett (NE) Barrett (WI) Bartlett Barton Bass Becerra Bentsen Bereuter Berkley Berman Berry Biggert Bilbray Bilirakis Bishop Blagojevich Bliley Blumenauer Blunt Boehlert Boehner Bonilla Bonior Bono Borski Boswell Boucher Boyd Brady (PA) Brady (TX) Brown (FL) Brown (OH) Bryant Burr Burton Buyer Callahan Calvert Camp Canady Cannon Capps Capuano Cardin Carson Castle Chabot Chambliss Clayton Clement Clyburn Coble Collins Combest Condit Convers Cook Cooksey Costello Cox Coyne Cramer Crane Crowley Cubin Cummings Cunningham Danner Davis (FL) Davis (IL) Davis (VA) Deal DeFazio DeGette Delahunt DeLauro DeLay DeMint Deutsch Diaz-Balart Dickey Dicks Dixon Dooley Doolittle Doyle Dreier Duncan Dunn Edwards Ehlers

October 19, 2000

Farr

Ford

Goss

Holt

Horn

Hvde

John

Kelly

Ehrlich Largent Emerson Larson Engel Latham English LaTourette Eshoo Leach Etheridge Lee Evans Levin Everett Lewis (CA) Lewis (GA) Ewing Lewis (KY) Fattah Linder LoBiondo Filner Fletcher Lofgren Foley Forbes Lowey Lucas (KY) Lucas (OK) Fossella Luther Maloney (CT) Fowler Maloney (NY) Manzullo Frank (MA) Frelinghuysen Markey Frost Gallegly Martinez Ganske Gejdenson Mascara Matsui McCarthy (MO) Gekas Gibbons McCarthy (NY) Gilchrest McCrery McDermott Gillmor Gilman McGovern Gonzalez McHugh Goode McInnis McIntyre Goodlatte Goodling Gordon McKeon McKinney McNulty Graham Meehan Meek (FL) Granger Green (TX) Meeks (NY) Green (WI) Menendez Metcalf Greenwood Gutierrez Mica Gutknecht Millender-Hall (OH) Hall (TX) McDonald Miller, Gary Hastings (FL) Miller, George Hastings (WA) Minge Mink Haves Hayworth Moakley Hefley Mollohan Herger Moore Hill (IN) Moran (KS) Hilleary Moran (VA) Hinchey Murtha Hinojosa Myrick Hobson Nadler Hoeffel Napolitano Hoekstra Holden Nethercutt Nev Northup Hooley Norwood Hostettler Nussle Hoyer Hulshof Oberstar Obey Hunter Olver Hutchinson Ortiz Ose Inslee Owens Isakson Packard Pallone Istook Jackson (IL) Pascrell Jackson-Lee Pastor (TX) Pavne Jefferson Pease Jenkins Pelosi Peterson (MN) Johnson (CT) Peterson (PA) Johnson, E. B. Jones (NC) Petri Phelps Kanjorski Pickering Kaptur Kasich Pickett Pitts Pombo Kennedy Pomeroy Kildee Porter Kilpatrick Portman Kind (WI) Price (NC) Pryce (OH) King (NY) Kingston Quinn Radanovich Kleczka Klink Rahall Knollenberg Rangel Kolbe Regula Kucinich Reyes Reynolds Riley Kuykendall LaFalce LaHood Rivers Lampson Roemer Lantos Rogan

Rogers Rohrabacher Ros-Lehtinen Rothman Roukema Roybal-Allard Rush Ryan (WI) Ryun (KS) Sabo Salmon Sanchez Sanders Sandlin Sawyer Saxton Scarborough Schakowsky Scott Serrano Sessions Shadegg Shaw Sherman Sherwood Shimkus Shows Shuster Sisisky Skeen Skelton Andrews Coburn Doggett Hill (MT) Johnson, Sam Ba

Taylor (MS) Taylor (NC) Terry Thomas Thompson (CA) Thompson (MS) Thornberry Thune Thurman Tiahrt Tiernev Toomey NAYS-14 Paul Ramstad Royce Sanford Schaffer NOT VOTING-24 11:11: -

□ 1206

Mr. SCHAFFER changed his vote 'yea'' to ''nay. from

Mr. PETRI and Mr. CHABOT changed their vote from "nay" to "yea.

So the Senate bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 534, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

SUPPLE-PERMISSION TO FILE MENTAL REPORT ON H.R. 4541, COMMODITY FUTURES MOD-ERNIZATION ACT OF 2000

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking and Financial Services be authorized to file a supplemental report on the bill, H.R. 4541.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa? There was no objection.

MOTION TO GO TO CONFERENCE ON S. 2796, WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2000

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 639, I offer a motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Shuster moves to insist on the House amendment to S. 2796, and request a conference with the Senate thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER).

The motion was agreed to.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR.

OBERSTAR

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct conferees.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. OBERSTAR moves to instruct the conferees to insist on section 586 of the House amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHU-STER) will each be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR).

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker. I vield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. OBERSTAR asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the motion to instruct, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to simply accept the motion, and I vield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR).

The motion was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees: Messrs. SHUSTER, YOUNG of Alaska, BOEHLERT, SHAW, OBERSTAR, BORSKI, and MENENDEZ.

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on S. 2796.

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

There was no objection

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4635, DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUS-ING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 638 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 638

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 4635) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only I yield the customary 30 minutes to my friend and colleague 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, House Resolution 638 is a rule waiving all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration to accompany H.R. 4635, the fiscal year 2001 appropriations bill for the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies.

Mr. Speaker, this conference report provides another example of a carefully crafted bill that strikes a balance between the fiscal discipline and social responsibility Americans expect of this Congress. I would like to once again commend the chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from New York (Mr. WALSH) and the ranking member, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOLLOHAN), and all the members of the Committee on Appropriations for making the tough decisions required to produce a very thoughtful bill that meets our most important priorities.

I would also like to express a personal note of gratitude for the assistance to help increase affordable housing opportunities in my district of Columbus, Ohio. This conference report provides a small amount of needed funding which will, in turn, become the foundation to give more people in Columbus the opportunity to fulfill the dream of home ownership.

The VA-HUD appropriation bill funds a variety of important programs to take care of our veterans, address the Nation's critical housing needs, preserve and protect our environment, in-

vest in scientific research, and continue our exploration into space.

The conference report maintains our commitment to our Nation's veterans, who selflessly place themselves in harm's way so that we may enjoy the very freedoms which we so much cherish. This year, it provides an additional \$1.36 billion over last year's historic increase for veterans' medical health care. It increases veterans' medical and prosthetic research by \$30 million, and provides an extra \$73 million over last year's funding level for the Veterans Benefits Administration to expedite claims that need processed for our veterans.

□ 1215

Finally, this conference report provides \$100 million for Veterans State Extended Facilities, an increase of \$40 million above the President's request.

Mr. Speaker, along with providing for the needs of our veterans, this conference report makes available important resources to help the most vulnerable in our society and place roofs over their heads.

Low-income families will benefit through this bill's investment in the Housing Certificate Program, which provides funding for section 8 renewals and tenant protection.

A \$2.5 billion increase over last year's funding level will allow for the renewal of all expiring section 8 contracts and provide needed relocation assistance at the level requested by the President. A total of \$14 billion is provided for this important program in fiscal year 2001.

Other needed housing programs that help our elderly, people with AIDS, and Native Americans will also receive increases above last year's funding levels in this conference report.

H.R. 4365 also looks toward the future by preserving and protecting our environment for the next generation to enjoy.

It is my understanding that the conference report before us today resolves a number of outstanding environmental concerns which were previously expressed and are no longer considered controversial. The bill targets funding and places an emphasis on State grants to protect the water that we drink and the air that we breathe.

The State Revolving Fund for Safe Drinking Water is increased by more than \$5 million from last year's level, and the Clean Water State Resolving Fund is increased by \$550 million over the President's request. And finally, State Air grants are increased \$6 million.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, this conference report provides important funding which maintains our commitment to the exploration of space and the improvement of science.

Total funding of \$4.4 billion for NSF is the largest budget in its history and will help this important agency continue its mission of developing a national policy on science and promoting basic research as well as increasing scientific education. NASA also receives an increase that will bring total funding to more than \$14.3 billion.

Mr. Speaker, it is also important to note that this conference report includes two other important provisions.

First, like other appropriation conference reports considered and passed this year, the VA-HUD Conference Report maintains our commitment to debt reduction by providing yet another \$5 billion to pay down the public debt.

Second, it contains a new version of the previously passed fiscal year 2001 Energy and Water appropriations bill, which now has the support of the administration.

Mr. Speaker, it is a good conference report and deserves our support. It takes a responsible path toward responding to our Nation's most pressing needs and priorities.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the straightforward, noncontroversial rule as well as this must-do piece of legislation.

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

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I thank my colleague and dear friend, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE), for yielding me the customary half hour.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this rule providing for the consideration of VA-HUD and Energy and Water appropriations bills.

I would like to congratulate my colleagues, the gentleman from New York (Chairman WALSH) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOLLOHAN), the ranking member, for their excellent work on this very, very difficult subject matter and the excellent work on this conference report.

When this bill came to the floor the first time in June, it really needed a lot of help. But lucky for the American veterans and the American families, it did get that help.

This conference report, Mr. Speaker, is a welcomed and radical departure from the first VA-HUD appropriations bill. This bill provides more money for veterans medical research and State veterans homes. It also does a better job of funding housing programs, which people in my home State of Massachusetts will be very, very happy to hear.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that veterans and housing programs are very, very important. They give people hope. They save lives. And they should be adequately funded, especially given today's strong economy. And lucky for us and thanks to the gentleman from New York (Chairman WALSH) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOL-LOHAN) this conference report does just that.

It also includes the Energy and Water Appropriations Conference Report, which now has been attached to the VA-HUD Appropriations Conference Report. Thanks to the hard work of the gentleman from California