

Menendez	Regula	Strickland
Metcalf	Reyes	Stump
Mica	Reynolds	Stupak
Millender-	Riley	Sununu
McDonald	Rivers	Sweeney
Miller (FL)	Rodriguez	Talent
Miller, Gary	Roemer	Tancred
Miller, George	Rogan	Tanner
Minge	Rogers	Tauscher
Mink	Rohrabacher	Tauzin
Moakley	Ros-Lehtinen	Taylor (MS)
Mollohan	Rothman	Taylor (NC)
Moore	Roukema	Terry
Moran (KS)	Roybal-Allard	Thomas
Moran (VA)	Royce	Thompson (CA)
Morella	Rush	Thompson (MS)
Murtha	Ryan (WI)	Thornberry
Myrick	Ryun (KS)	Thune
Nadler	Sabo	Thurman
Napolitano	Salmon	Tiahrt
Neal	Sanchez	Tierney
Nethercutt	Sanders	Toomey
Ney	Sanford	Towns
Northup	Sawyer	Trafficant
Norwood	Saxton	Turner
Nussle	Scarborough	Udall (CO)
Oberstar	Schaffer	Udall (NM)
Obey	Schakowsky	Upton
Olver	Scott	Velazquez
Ortiz	Sensenbrenner	Visclosky
Ose	Serrano	Vitter
Owens	Sessions	Walden
Oxley	Shadegg	Walsh
Packard	Shaw	Wamp
Pallone	Shays	Waters
Pascrell	Sherman	Watkins
Pastor	Sherwood	Watt (NC)
Payne	Shimkus	Watts (OK)
Pease	Shows	Waxman
Pelosi	Shuster	Weiner
Peterson (MN)	Simpson	Weldon (FL)
Peterson (PA)	Sisisky	Weldon (PA)
Petri	Skeen	Weller
Phelps	Skelton	Wexler
Pickering	Slaughter	Weygand
Pickett	Smith (MI)	Whitfield
Pitts	Smith (NJ)	Wicker
Pombo	Smith (TX)	Wilson
Pomeroy	Smith (WA)	Wise
Porter	Snyder	Wolf
Portman	Souder	Woolsey
Price (NC)	Spence	Wu
Pryce (OH)	Spratt	Wynn
Quinn	Stabenow	Young (AK)
Radanovich	Stark	Young (FL)
Rahall	Stearns	
Ramstad	Stenholm	

NOT VOTING—13

Campbell	Jones (OH)	Paul
Ewing	Klink	Rangel
Gutknecht	Lazio	Sandlin
Jackson-Lee	McCollum	Vento
(TX)	McIntosh	

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So (three-fifths having voted in favor thereof) the 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. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present earlier today for rollcall Vote No. 498 due to a previously scheduled radio debate with my challenger in the upcoming election. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye".

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which a vote by electronic device may be taken on the motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO INCREASE CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS, TREATMENT, AND RESEARCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, House Resolution 576.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 576, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 0, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 499]

YEAS—415

Abercrombie	Coble	Gilchrest
Ackerman	Coburn	Gillmor
Aderholt	Collins	Gilman
Allen	Combust	Gonzalez
Andrews	Condit	Goode
Archer	Conyers	Goodlatte
Armey	Cook	Goodling
Baca	Cooksey	Goss
Bachus	Costello	Graham
Baird	Cox	Granger
Baker	Coyne	Green (TX)
Baldacci	Cramer	Green (WI)
Baldwin	Crane	Greenwood
Ballenger	Crowley	Gutierrez
Barcia	Cubin	Gutknecht
Barr	Cummings	Hall (OH)
Barrett (NE)	Cunningham	Hall (TX)
Barrett (WI)	Danner	Hansen
Bartlett	Davis (FL)	Hastings (WA)
Barton	Davis (IL)	Hayes
Bass	Davis (VA)	Hayworth
Beccerra	Deal	Hefley
Bentsen	DeFazio	Herger
Bereuter	DeGette	Hill (IN)
Berkley	Delahunt	Hill (MT)
Berman	DeLauro	Hilleary
Berry	DeLay	Hilliard
Biggart	DeMint	Hinchey
Bilbray	Deutsch	Hinojosa
Bilirakis	Diaz-Balart	Hobson
Bishop	Dickey	Hoeffel
Blagojevich	Dicks	Hoekstra
Bliley	Dingell	Holden
Blumenauer	Dixon	Holt
Blunt	Doggett	Hooey
Boehler	Dooley	Horn
Boehner	Doolittle	Hostettler
Bonilla	Doyle	Houghton
Bonior	Dreier	Hoyer
Bono	Duncan	Hulshof
Borski	Dunn	Hutchinson
Boswell	Edwards	Hyde
Boucher	Ehlers	Inslee
Boyd	Ehrlich	Isakson
Brady (PA)	Emerson	Istook
Brady (TX)	Engel	Jackson (IL)
Brown (FL)	English	Jefferson
Brown (OH)	Eshoo	Jenkins
Bryant	Etheridge	John
Burr	Evans	Johnson (CT)
Burton	Everett	Johnson, E. B.
Buyer	Farr	Johnson, Sam
Callahan	Fattah	Jones (NC)
Calvert	Filner	Kanjorski
Camp	Fletcher	Kaptur
Canady	Foley	Kasich
Cannon	Forbes	Kelly
Capps	Ford	Kennedy
Capuano	Fossella	Kildee
Cardin	Fowler	Kilpatrick
Carson	Frank (MA)	Kind (WI)
Castle	Franks (NJ)	King (NY)
Chabot	Frelinghuysen	Klecza
Chambliss	Frost	Knollenberg
Chenoweth-Hage	Gallagher	Kolbe
Clay	Gejdenson	Kucinich
Clayton	Gekas	Kuykendall
Clement	Gephardt	LaFalce
Clyburn	Gibbons	LaHood

Lampson	Ortiz	Skelton
Lantos	Ose	Slaughter
Largent	Owens	Smith (MI)
Larson	Oxley	Smith (NJ)
Latham	Packard	Smith (TX)
LaTourette	Pallone	Smith (WA)
Leach	Pascrell	Snyder
Lee	Pastor	Souder
Levin	Payne	Spence
Lewis (CA)	Pease	Spratt
Lewis (GA)	Pelosi	Stabenow
Lewis (KY)	Peterson (MN)	Stark
Linder	Peterson (PA)	Stearns
Lipinski	Petri	Stenholm
LoBiondo	Phelps	Strickland
Lofgren	Pickering	Stump
Lowey	Pitts	Stupak
Lucas (KY)	Pombo	Sununu
Lucas (OK)	Pomeroy	Sweeney
Luther	Porter	Talent
Maloney (CT)	Portman	Tancred
Maloney (NY)	Price (NC)	Tanner
Manzullo	Pryce (OH)	Tauscher
Markey	Quinn	Tauzin
Martinez	Radanovich	Taylor (MS)
Mascara	Rahall	Taylor (NC)
Matsui	Ramstad	Terry
McCarthy (MO)	Regula	Thomas
McCarthy (NY)	Reyes	Thompson (CA)
McCrery	Reynolds	Thompson (MS)
McDermott	Riley	Thornberry
McGovern	Rivers	Thune
McHugh	Rodriguez	Thurman
McInnis	Roemer	Tiahrt
McIntyre	Rogan	Tierney
McKeon	Rogers	Toomey
McKinney	Rohrabacher	Towns
McNulty	Ros-Lehtinen	Trafficant
Meehan	Rothman	Turner
Meek (FL)	Roukema	Udall (CO)
Meeks (NY)	Roybal-Allard	Udall (NM)
Menendez	Royce	Upton
Metcalf	Rush	Velazquez
Mica	Ryan (WI)	Visclosky
Millender-	Ryun (KS)	Vitter
McDonald	Sabo	Walden
Miller (FL)	Salmon	Walsh
Miller, Gary	Sanchez	Wamp
Miller, George	Sanders	Waters
Minge	Sanford	Watkins
Mink	Sawyer	Watt (NC)
Moakley	Saxton	Watts (OK)
Mollohan	Scarborough	Waxman
Moore	Schaffer	Weiner
Moran (KS)	Schakowsky	Weldon (FL)
Moran (VA)	Scott	Weldon (PA)
Morella	Sensenbrenner	Weller
Murtha	Serrano	Wexler
Myrick	Sessions	Weygand
Nadler	Shadegg	Whitfield
Napolitano	Shaw	Wicker
Neal	Shays	Wilson
Nethercutt	Sherman	Wise
Ney	Sherwood	Wolf
Northup	Shimkus	Woolsey
Norwood	Shows	Wu
Nussle	Shuster	Wynn
Oberstar	Simpson	Young (AK)
Obey	Sisisky	Young (FL)
Olver	Skeen	

NOT VOTING—18

Campbell	Jackson-Lee	McIntosh
Ewing	(TX)	Paul
Ganske	Jones (OH)	Pickett
Gordon	Kingston	Rangel
Hastings (FL)	Klink	Sandlin
Hunter	Lazio	Vento
	McCollum	

1418

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a

previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PORTER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. METCALF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. THUNE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise once again to focus attention on the topic of prescription drugs. The topic of affordable prescription drugs for seniors is a critical one for families in Michigan and across the nation. Last summer I set up a hot line in Michigan asking those who had stories to tell to call and share them with me, and also for individuals to write me letters and send me copies of their prescription drug bills.

I have received hundreds from across the state, and I have heard heartbreaking stories from seniors about their struggles—about having to choose between putting food on the table and paying the utility bill or being able to get their medications. Because this is such a pervasive problem, it is critical that we pass prescription drug coverage under Medicare, that modernizes the Medicare program to cover the way health care is provided today.

On April 12 of this year, I led an hour of debate on the topic of prescription drug coverage for senior citizens, I read three letters from around the state from seniors who shared their personal stories. At that time, I made a

commitment to continue to read a different letter every week until the House enacts reform. This week I will read a letter from Paul and Lois Van Valkenburgh of Buckley, Michigan:

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN STABENOW: You say three out of four Americans do not have adequate prescription drug coverage. My wife and I have no prescription drug coverage; how is that for not having adequate coverage? We have never found prescription drug insurance we could afford.

Attached to this letter are copies of our prescription drug bills. They cost us over \$2,200 per year, which we really cannot afford. If we had prescription drug coverage like people [who are not retired] (and make much more money than we), then we could afford to pay the premium on insurance coverage for prescription drugs. But the premium has got to be affordable and the deductible reasonable. . . .

Anything you can do to either lower the prices or get retired people a prescription drug insurance that's affordable will be appreciated.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to talk to someone about this awful situation.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL AND LOIS VAN VALKENBURGH.

The Van Valkenburghs have a combined income of \$13,500 a year. Under the Democratic prescription drug plan which I have co-sponsored they would be entitled to significant help with their drug costs. I would like to thank the Van Valkenburghs for sharing their story, and on their behalf and the others that need this assistance, I will continue to work to pass an affordable, voluntary prescription drug benefit for all of our seniors during the 106th Congress.

THE MESSAGE MATTERS: WORDS THAT WORK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, as we enter the final stretch of legislative business for this Congress and as we prepare to engage in the campaigns back home, as a member of Florida and a member of the Committee on Ways and Means of Congress, I wanted to assure residents in Florida that, in fact, Republicans have initiated prescription drug coverage for seniors in our community.

Back in 1994, then Governor Lawton Chiles was running for reelection to the governorship and was being challenged by Jeb Bush. Governor Chiles ran negative ads saying, if Jeb Bush was elected the governor, he would take away Social Security.

Now, everyone knows the governor of a State does not control Social Security. But the scam worked and, in fact, Jeb lost. The governor went on later to apologize after a thorough investigation found that the campaign did, in fact, make those spurious claims that were false and misleading.

Now we are being told that if we do not elect a majority to the other side of the aisle that we will not see prescription drug coverage for senior citizens.

Let us put people before politics; and let us make certain that, at the end of

the day, we come together in a bipartisan fashion to bring about prescription coverage for our seniors.

In town hall meetings in Florida, I meet with seniors all the time of every political stripe, not just Republicans, but Democrats and Independents. Their first thought to me is, we do not want something free, but we certainly do not want to be forced into a government-run HMO-style system that makes everyone in the same system one size fits all. They would like access to prescription drugs. Yes, they would like lower pricing of prescription drugs.

In this House, we are trying to do that. We recognize the cost is becoming a big burden on many seniors in our community. But we want to make certain that we only cover the poorest and the sickest.

When the President's drug plan first came to our Committee on Ways and Means, there was no provision for catastrophic coverage. We are most concerned in our bill of finding a way for the sickest Americans who may have diabetes, who may have hypertension, who may have suffered from cancer, who may have to depend daily on a multiple dose of medications that they, in fact, have some safeguard against financial ruin.

Our bill does that. But our bill also provides a voluntary system in which they can decide whether they want to enroll in a new drug plan.

Senator EDWARD KENNEDY of Massachusetts stated that two-thirds of Americans currently have prescription drug coverage who are 65 and older. So it begs the question, why are we going to upturn, if you will, or turn over the entire prescription drug benefit to those two-thirds when it is really the one-third we should be seeking to remedy.

Those may again be the poorest. And we can help through our plan to provide for prescription drug coverage both through the States and the Medicaid system and through our innovative care.

Again, people before politics.

We want to put families back in charge of the decisions they make relative to their prescription coverage and their health care and what policies they may or may not want to join, not a forced plan by the Federal Government.

But we also have to recognize some of the other things that we have to consider, long-term care insurance, another serious issue facing Americans. We should not just be talking, Mr. Speaker, about prescription drugs. We have to face reality that our community and our country is growing older and that the need for long-term health care insurance or coverage will become even more profound in the years ahead.

Now, fortunately this Congress is on its way to paying down with surplus dollars, 90 percent of that surplus, to pay down the Federal debt. When we first came to Congress, many of us prescribed a bill that would in fact use