

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

Under clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 0, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 344]

YEAS—401

Abercrombie	Davis, Tom	Hoyer
Ackerman	Davis	Hulshof
Aderholt	DeFazio	Hunter
Akin	DeGette	Hyde
Allen	Delahunt	Inslee
Andrews	DeLauro	Isakson
Armey	DeLay	Israel
Baca	DeMint	Issa
Bachus	Deutsch	Istook
Baird	Diaz-Balart	Jackson (IL)
Baker	Dicks	Jackson-Lee
Baldacci	Doggett	(TX)
Baldwin	Dooley	Jefferson
Ballenger	Doolittle	Jenkins
Barcia	Doyle	John
Barr	Dreier	Johnson (CT)
Barrett	Duncan	Johnson (IL)
Bartlett	Dunn	Johnson, E. B.
Barton	Edwards	Johnson, Sam
Bass	Ehlers	Jones (NC)
Becerra	Emerson	Jones (OH)
Bentsen	English	Kanjorski
Bereuter	Eshoo	Kaptur
Berkley	Etheridge	Keller
Berry	Evans	Kelly
Biggert	Everett	Kennedy (MN)
Bilirakis	Farr	Kennedy (RI)
Bishop	Fattah	Kerns
Blagojevich	Ferguson	Kildee
Blumenauer	Filner	Kilpatrick
Blunt	Flake	Kind (WI)
Boehler	Fletcher	King (NY)
Boehner	Foley	Kingston
Bonilla	Forbes	Kirk
Bonior	Ford	Kleczka
Bono	Fossella	Knollenberg
Borski	Frank	Kolbe
Boswell	Frelinghuysen	Kucinich
Boucher	Frost	LaFalce
Boyd	Galleghy	LaHood
Brady (PA)	Ganske	Lampson
Brady (TX)	Gekas	Langevin
Brown (FL)	Gephardt	Lantos
Brown (OH)	Gibbons	Largent
Brown (SC)	Gilchrest	Larsen (WA)
Bryant	Gillmor	Larson (CT)
Burr	Gilman	Latham
Burton	Gonzalez	LaTourette
Buyer	Goode	Leach
Callahan	Goodlatte	Lee
Calvert	Gordon	Levin
Camp	Goss	Lewis (CA)
Cannon	Graham	Lewis (GA)
Cantor	Granger	Lewis (KY)
Capito	Graves	Linder
Capps	Green (TX)	Lipinski
Capuano	Green (WI)	LoBiondo
Cardin	Grucci	Lofgren
Carson (OK)	Gutierrez	Lucas (KY)
Castle	Gutknecht	Lucas (OK)
Chabot	Hall (OH)	Luther
Chambliss	Hall (TX)	Maloney (CT)
Clay	Harman	Maloney (NY)
Clayton	Hart	Manzullo
Clement	Hastings (FL)	Mascara
Clyburn	Hastings (WA)	Matheson
Coble	Hayes	Matsui
Collins	Hayworth	McCarthy (MO)
Combest	Hefley	McCarthy (NY)
Condit	Herger	McCollum
Cooksey	Hill	McDermott
Costello	Hilleary	McGovern
Cox	Hilliard	McHugh
Coyne	Hinojosa	McInnis
Cramer	Hobson	McIntyre
Crane	Hoeffel	McKenna
Crenshaw	Hoekstra	McNulty
Crowley	Holt	Meehan
Cunningham	Honda	Meek (FL)
Davis (CA)	Hooley	Menendez
Davis (FL)	Horn	Mica
Davis (IL)	Hostettler	Miller, Gary
Davis, Jo Ann	Houghton	Miller, George

Mink	Reynolds	Stark
Mollohan	Riley	Stearns
Moore	Rivers	Stenholm
Moran (KS)	Rodriguez	Strickland
Moran (VA)	Roemer	Stump
Morella	Rogers (KY)	Stupak
Murtha	Rogers (MI)	Sununu
Myrick	Rohrabacher	Sweeney
Nadler	Ros-Lehtinen	Tancredo
Napolitano	Ross	Tanner
Neal	Rothman	Tauscher
Nethercutt	Roukema	Tauzin
Ney	Roybal-Allard	Taylor (MS)
Northup	Royce	Taylor (NC)
Norwood	Rush	Terry
Nussle	Ryan (WI)	Thomas
Oberstar	Ryun (KS)	Thompson (CA)
Obey	Sabo	Thompson (MS)
Olver	Sanchez	Thornberry
Ortiz	Sanders	Thune
Osborne	Sandlin	Thurman
Ose	Sawyer	Tiahrt
Otter	Saxton	Tiberi
Owens	Schakowsky	Tierney
Oxley	Schiff	Toomey
Pallone	Schrock	Trafficant
Pascarell	Scott	Udall (CO)
Pastor	Sensenbrenner	Upton
Payne	Serrano	Velazquez
Pelosi	Sessions	Visclosky
Pence	Shadegg	Vitter
Peterson (MN)	Shaw	Walden
Peterson (PA)	Shays	Walsh
Petri	Sherman	Wamp
Phelps	Sherwood	Watkins (OK)
Pickering	Shimkus	Watson (CA)
Pitts	Shows	Watt (NC)
Platts	Shuster	Waxman
Pombo	Simmons	Weiner
Pomeroy	Simpson	Weldon (PA)
Portman	Skeen	Weller
Pryce (OH)	Skelton	Wexler
Putnam	Slaughter	Whitfield
Quinn	Smith (MI)	Wicker
Radanovich	Smith (NJ)	Wilson
Rahall	Smith (TX)	Wolf
Ramstad	Smith (WA)	Woolsey
Rangel	Snyder	Wu
Regula	Solis	Wynn
Rehberg	Souder	Young (AK)
Reyes	Spratt	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—29

Berman	Hansen	Miller (FL)
Carson (IN)	Hinchev	Paul
Conyers	Holden	Price (NC)
Cubin	Lowey	Schaffer
Culberson	Markey	Towns
Cummings	McCrery	Turner
Dingell	McKinney	Udall (NM)
Ehrlich	Meeks (NY)	Waters
Engel	Millender	Watts (OK)
Greenwood	McDonald	Weldon (FL)

□ 0957

So 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. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 344 I entered the chamber just as the clerk closed the vote because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the vote on H.R. 2904. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" in favor of the bill.

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 344, Military Construction Appropriations Act, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 344, I was unable to record my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker; as a result of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, I was involved in an Inter-Faith Alliance Ministry meeting this morning at your request. Due to my participation in this meeting, I was

not present for the vote on H.R. 2904, The Military Construction Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2002. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted "aye."

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1109

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1109.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 58 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1744

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) at 5 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2926, AIR TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND SYSTEM STABILIZATION ACT

Mr. REYNOLDS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-214) on the resolution (H. Res. 244) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2926) to preserve the continued viability of the United States air transportation system, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 242 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 242

*Resolved*, That the requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported on the legislative day of Friday, September 21, 2001, providing for consideration or disposition of a bill to preserve the continued viability of the United States air transportation system.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman

from Texas (Mr. FROST), 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 242 waives clause 6(a) of rule XIII requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Committee on Rules. The rule applies to the waiver to a special rule reported on the legislative day of September 21, 2001, providing for consideration or disposition of a bill to preserve the continued viability of the United States air transport system, H.R. 2926, the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act.

The rule allows this body to take up this legislation in a timely fashion, making it possible for prompt consideration of a much needed relief measure for the struggling airline industry.

Mr. Speaker, this House has been united as rarely, if ever, seen before. We came together in an overwhelming and bipartisan fashion to aid those in crisis and support our President as he seeks justice. Today, we need to come together again to consider a critical piece of legislation to further guide our Nation and its citizens through this crisis. Now is not the time for stalling or dilatory tactics. This legislation has been approved by leaders on both sides of the aisle, in both Chambers, and in conjunction with the administration. It is imperative that we move forward with this urgent measure.

I urge my colleagues to support this rule so we may proceed with the legislation itself.

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding the time, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This is the first of two rules that we will consider. This rule provides for the waiver of the 24-hour layover requirement for the next rule. I will have a fairly lengthy statement when we take up the next rule. We do have a number of speakers who want to speak on this rule as well as the next rule.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

Mr. DEFAZIO. I thank the gentleman for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, here we have before us a bill that will cost the taxpayers of America more than \$20 billion. There will be 1 hour of debate. No amendments will be allowed. Even if this bill passes, 100,000 people in jobs directly related to the airline industry will lose their jobs. We have heard that from the CEOs who essentially wrote this bill. They are still going to fire or lay off 100,000 people. There is not one penny in this bill of accommodation for those people, for their insurance, for their mortgage, or anything else. Not one penny.

There are tens of thousands of other people who work in related businesses: travel agents, car rental agencies, ho-

tels. The list is endless. There is not one penny for those people of assistance in this bill. Not an emergency disaster declaration. No help with their payments to the bank. Not one penny.

And then we go to our local airports. Millions of dollars a day are being spent by our local airports to beef up security. There is not one penny in this bill for them either. So 100,000 workers, related workers, all the other governments in America that are incurring costs, not one cent in this bill.

Even more distressing than that is the fact that the inadequate security measures that prevailed before this tragedy continue to prevail and under this bill will not be improved. This bill does not specify that we will federalize airport security, which we have heard from virtually every expert, we have even heard it from the airline CEOs, they just say they are not willing to pay for it, and they say the American public will not pay for it. They say the American public will not tolerate a \$3 tax for airline security. That is incredible. They are so out of touch. But they are so much in touch that they got everything they wanted in this bill, but everybody else is excluded.

This bill does not do the things we need to do today. It might be hard to write a good bill by tonight, but we can stay here this weekend and write a bill. If this is a crisis, why are the Republicans running out of town? Why are they pushing us out of here? Why are they limiting debate? And why are they not allowing a single amendment?

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER).

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, last night we heard from our President about what this Nation needs to do to come together in the face of the challenge and the crises and the dangers that we face. Yet today the first thing we do is bring out legislation that is very narrow in its focus. It only takes care of the solvency of the airlines to the exclusion of everyone else; to the exclusion of the workers who have lost their jobs, who are directly related to this, to their families, the problems they are suffering now as a result of that.

We take care of airline executive compensation. They are guaranteed in this bill they can make somewhere between 5 and 35, and, if they bail out of this industry in the next few months, they can make up to \$70 million. They are taken care of. But the people who have lost their health care coverage, the people who have lost their income, they are not taken care of.

This is about a Nation going forward together. But in this legislation, we left the workers behind. This legislation is based upon the premise that somehow if we give the airlines a bailout, that people will fly again.

But this legislation does not deal with the problems that the American public is concerned about. They are not concerned about whether or not their airline is solvent, they are concerned about whether or not it is safe. We failed to address, as we have for over a decade, the federalization of the law enforcement powers given to the people who are screening the bags and providing security. The fact of the matter is we have heard from so many people in the airline industry that people are only marginally better off, if any better off, since September 11 in the airline industry. That is why they are not flying.

This legislation should direct this administration and this government to federalize those systems. No, we are going to debate it. We are going to debate, and the airlines are going to come back and tell us that airline traffic cannot stand this fee, they cannot stand this fee so we cannot federalize this system. We had better do this, but we do not do it in this legislation. Why? Because we had to rush home last weekend. Why? Because we have to rush home this weekend.

Supposedly we are in a setting here where we have to take these extraordinary measures to deal with the Nation's business, and all the Congress can think about is getting out of town. We ought to take care of the American people. We ought to take care of the American people who lost their jobs.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation has gone through some of the most extraordinary days in our over 200-year history. A week ago Tuesday, we saw the harshest, most strident, barbaric attack on the civilian population of this country that we have ever seen. We have, over the last several days, been working together in a bipartisan way to deal with the challenge that lies ahead. Last night in this Chamber, the President of the United States stood right behind me and delivered an extraordinarily eloquent statement about the challenges that are ahead of us. As he did that, I was very pleased to see enthusiastic support from Democrats and Republicans, and the American people.

Last Friday night, an attempt was made to deal with part of this challenge by addressing the concerns of an industry that is critically important to the economic survival of the United States. I am not one who is a proponent of having the Federal Government subsidize or in any way underwrite a private sector entity. I happen to have very libertarian leanings as a Republican. I want to get the government out as much as we possibly can, especially when it comes to the marketplace. But a week ago Tuesday, following the tragic incident at the World

Trade Center, here at the Pentagon, and in Pennsylvania, all planes that were headed, incidentally, to my State of California, we tried our darndest to look at ways in which we could deal with this challenge. Obviously, a decision was made by the Federal Government that we had to, on Tuesday, close down our Nation's airports.

In closing down those airports, we have seen figures of several hundred million dollars a day lost by the airline industry. That was a decision that the Federal Government made to close down those airports. A private sector entity was impacted by that. It happens to be the industry which allows for the flow of goods and services, and people, around this country and throughout the world.

In the 21st century, it is obvious that air travel is going to be critical for our Nation's survival. We have to rely on that. We cannot go back to simply rail, truck, car or bus travel. We need to have a viable airline industry.

Last Friday night, an attempt was made to put into place a package that would provide an immediate influx of cash so that the airline industry did not go under, and provide some loan guarantees that would help sustain the industry for a longer period of time. I do not support the idea of rewarding any entity for bad practices, unwise business practices of the past. But I will say that when Speaker Hastert and Minority Leader Gephardt and our team, with the other body, proceeded to work on this package late into last night, my friend the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) has been very involved in this, many Members have been involved again on both sides of the aisle, a decision was made that we would try to ensure that we did not see the airline industry in this country go under.

That is exactly what we are trying to do right now, because a decision that was made by the Federal Government jeopardized the ability of this industry to have the flow of revenue that it needed to survive and continue to allow people and goods to move throughout this country. So that is why when the package, after having worked on it for a week, it was a week ago tonight that the first attempt was made to move this package through, and many Members, as I said, have been involved in this, we came together late last night. And I want to, as I often do here, thank both Democrats and Republicans on the Committee on Rules who worked late into the night in preparation for this and then reconvened early this morning to proceed again, and we have just now completed our work in the Committee on Rules, reporting out this bill which I believe is a very positive and important step.

Now, as we held our hearing upstairs this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, I should say that there were a wide range of very important and understandable concerns that have been raised. There is a great deal of pain that these bar-

barians have inflicted on the American people and on the civilized world. We want to do everything that we possibly can to mitigate the level of that pain. But right now we are here dealing with a very important industry that needs to remain viable for the economic stability of the United States and the world. That is why this effort is focused on this industry.

Again, there are loads of very important concerns that have been raised and will be continually raised from both sides of the aisle. But at this point, I recommend, Mr. Speaker, that we pass, first of all, the provision that allows us to proceed with the same-day consideration of this rule, then pass the rule, and move ahead and pass this bill so we can send that very important signal to the American people that we are going to ensure that we can see that very important flow of individuals and of goods and of services throughout this country.

I urge an "aye" vote on this first rule that allows us to bring up consideration of the rule for the legislation.

□ 1800

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY).

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no question that we must help the airline industry, but I have some real problems with the way we are going about it.

This package says we are going to give roughly \$15 billion in assistance to the airline industry, and I have no objection to that so long as it is a fair package, but there is nothing in this package for the people who work for those airlines; nothing by way of extension of unemployment compensation; nothing by way of extending their health benefits under COBRA, even though they would have to pay for those benefits themselves; nothing by way of additional training for them.

People are saying, "Oh, there is a limit of \$300,000 in this bill on executive compensation for airline executives." That is not true. This proposal says that if you made more than \$300,000 last year, you cannot earn more than you made last year and have your company eligible for this loan guarantee. That means that one airline CEO can collect \$13 million in compensation next year. Another, \$11 million. Meanwhile, for workers, there is zip, zero.

If we are going to have everybody get into the lifeboats, we ought to have enough lifeboats. We should not be like the Titanic. There ought to be enough lifeboats so that not just investors and CEOs but also workers get some help out of their government. We ought to be willing to stay here Saturday and Sunday and Monday, however long it takes, to put this package together.

There is much talk of unity. God knows how much we need it. But if you want unity, the best way to get it is to convince all Americans that they are

going to be treated equally. Do not tell the workers of this country that they will be considered as afterthoughts, and that is what has happened.

Yes, we have an urgent need to act, but we also have an urgent need to provide fairness and justice. That is what the American people deserve. This package does not do that. I desperately do not want to vote against it, but it is very difficult to vote for it when it has this kind of rampant unfairness.

This bill ought to go back to committee. Our leaders on both sides of the aisle have enough talent and enough dedication to take a couple of extra days and put this package together so that everyone, everyone is helped by it, not just those who have the best connections with Washington.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY).

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) for bringing this matter to consideration on the floor.

I am chairman of the Travel and Tourism Caucus, and I can underscore the concern in this building today is to get the economy moving. Now, I respect the concerns of the other Members of this body who are worried about employees and safeguards for employees. I struggle with those issues, too; but if we do not deal with this issue rather quickly, there will not be employees at all, regardless of the efforts of those to protect them in this bill.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 1,200 points this week. I left my home a moment ago to watch the news out of BWI airport talking about massive layoffs. Wall Street is looking and the major banks around the globe are watching what we do tonight to decide whether any credit will be available for airlines.

So we have a real choice here today. We have a choice of helping immediately, move some economic stimulus, loan guarantees to the airline industry or we can sit here and twiddle our thumbs and assume that this will fix itself. Wall Street is saying it will not.

I can assure you, based on the economic model that I am seeing in Florida, Hawaii, California, New York, Texas, Arkansas, I do not have time to go over 50 States, but stick around because the economic pain is real, not imagined.

One of the prior speakers said somehow that we rushed out of this building last week and we are trying to rush out of the building this week. I take great exception to that because many of us have worked and labored and toiled to try and find some opportunity to provide comfort for those in New York, those at the Pentagon; and we have focused our efforts on both relief and remedy for those. And we have also given the President of the United States the unified support of the Congress and the people of this country to endeavor to try and rid the world of terrorism.

I would love to obviously have a lot of time to debate some of these issues. God knows we would love to sit around and hammer things out, knock the table, and protect everyone in the room. I mean this in all sincerity, that we need to put this underlying legislation on the floor now today and move expeditiously so that on Monday next when the markets open there is a safety net under the structure of the airline industry.

Believe me, I complained to many of these same operators yesterday that were in my office that own the major carriers, and I was worried about baggage carriers and line workers and fuelers and mechanics and flight attendants and captains and co-captains. I worry about the treatment of individuals.

I worry about the treatment received by individual Americans as they traversed this country just but a few weeks ago and complained about how they were treated and talked about airline passenger rules or bill of rights. And, sure, I would like to sweep up some of these things and spend hours and days and weeks on finding a perfect solution here, because I know with both sides working, we can.

But, regrettably, based on this economic crisis we face, we either provide the guarantee, as we did in the Chrysler Corporation bailout years ago that many objected to vehemently, that Members from Detroit insisted we needed; and, thank God, the Congress responded, because, God knows, Chrysler not only succeeded, but survived and excelled and hired millions of American workers to be on their assembly line.

So the choice is clear today: move consideration or find huge massive layoffs. So the employees you think you are protecting under the debate today will be those that are, in fact, given pink slips on Monday, because credit will be shut off, airline employees will be going home, no one will be flying, and the economy of the United States of America will grind to an absolute halt.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill should not be coming up now. It is not ready. It does not deal with the fundamental problem. Yes, there is an urgent need to strengthen the airline industry. We need to do this in a bipartisan way. We need to do it urgently. There is much in this bill, \$15 billion in direct aid and loan guarantees, and that is good. You will hear about perspective liability and retrospective liability. I will not talk about that.

It does not include, however, anything, about the needs of working families—the baggage handlers, the flight attendants, the pilots, the agents, the clerks—unless you consider executive salary packages of \$13 million as dealing with the needs of working families.

But let us face facts. What is the real problem now? People are not flying. Why are they not flying? They are concerned about airline security.

This bill has two sentences about airline security. One sentence says that last week we said we were going to do something. The other sentence says that in the future we are going to do something.

If we want to revitalize the airline industry, we have to get people back in the planes. How are we going to get them back in the planes? Certainly we cannot do it unless we reassure them about the security of the airlines. The fundamental problem we are facing right now is people are not flying.

Yes, we have an urgent need. We should stay here this weekend, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, if necessary, and get it right. This is an important industry. It is critical to all other aspects of our society. We should do it, and we should take the time to do it right.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON).

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise encouraging all my colleagues to vote for this rule, which allows same day consideration, and then the subsequent rule on the bill, and certainly passage of the final bill.

This is the first bite of the apple. There have been a number of Members who have risen who want to do more. We are going to have plenty of opportunity to do more, but we are clearly in a crisis situation right now.

I know the impact of this issue in the State that I represent, Florida, is gigantic. We have hotels in Florida that are virtually empty, rental car fleets that are virtually at a standstill, theme parks and other tourist attractions that are empty. We are going to be seeing layoffs in a lot of other industries, and all of the myriad other issues, airline safety, fair treatment for employees, we are going to have an opportunity to take those issues up.

I will tell you an issue I am very concerned about. We have indemnification in this underlying bill. We indemnify the airlines, but not the manufacturers. Some people might say how ridiculous; what trial attorney would sue a manufacturer of an airplane in a hijack situation? Mr. Speaker, it has happened. They have tried to sue manufacturers of airplanes in hijacking situations. So we are going to have to go back and revisit indemnification.

We are going to have lots of opportunities to deal with these issues. But this is the right thing to do at this hour. We need to do this for America. It is not for the airline industries, it is for Florida, California, Washington State, it is for the United States of America.

Let us pass this rule, and pass the next rule and the underlying bill.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT).

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to vote against the rule for same day consideration, because I think if this bill were not considered today and were considered tomorrow, we could get a much, much better bill in several respects. I am going to vote against the second rule for consideration of the bill, because I think if we were allowed to offer amendments to the bill, we would end up with a much, much better bill.

But if, at the end of the day, those rules are passed and this bill comes before us, I am going to vote for the bill. Not because I think it is a perfect bill. It can be improved by adding security provisions. It can be improved by adding employee assistance provisions, which I think are gravely needed and we must pass, whether we pass them tonight or in the near future. It can be improved with amendments regarding executive compensation and a number of other things.

But we must get the airlines back on a solid footing, and we must provide an assurance to the families of the victims of this tragic incident that their interests, their financial interests, will be taken care of. Those two things are in this bill.

So my opposition to the bill really is about the things that are not in it, which I hope the majority will see fit to bring a bill on next week. I understand that is being considered. I think it is absolutely imperative that we deal with employee assistance provisions, whether in this bill or in some other bill. And if we were not rushing to judgment tonight, we could do it in the context of this bill. I think we are missing an opportunity.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in favor of this rule, the subsequent rule, and the final bill. As a member of the Subcommittee on Aviation and as a Member that has answered numerous questions over the last 2 days, and in light of some of the things that have been said, I think it is important that we be very honest and very candid in our debate today.

Mr. Speaker, safety was considered first priority to this bill, and any reference to the contrary is incorrect.

□ 1815

In fact, the \$5 billion infusion is in part because the FAA shut down the American airlines, all of them, until such time as new security procedures were put in place, which, in fact, have resulted in the arrest and capture and now the jailing of certain suspects against the United States of America.

Secondly, it should be known that sky marshals are already on United States aircraft and additional marshals are already in training. For someone to send the signal to America that we

have not paid attention to safety is wrong. For someone to say that executive compensation or management compensation, one must be considered over the other, I ask a simple question to those who object. There will be no compensation to anyone if America's airlines fail and are grounded.

For those that worry about the travel agent and the hotel and Disneyland, in my city, my district, tourism is number two. There are no safe airlines flying. There is no safe financial underfooting on those airlines, there is no other ancillary business.

I respect genuine debate, but America needs to know this Congress dealt with safety first. Second, its interest is for all workers, management or otherwise; and third, to ensure the dominos do not fall, we must stabilize the lead domino in a principle industry of American commerce that carries 40 percent of all U.S. exports today.

So I conclude, I am prejudiced. I am for this. I ran a business for 33 years. I watched America save the jobs of Chrysler's workers by this Congress underwriting loan guarantees for a period of time for them to recover. I watched them save the city of New York, the one we all cry for today, for that same reason, and Lockheed Aircraft that builds the planes that are about to go and fly. Now for us to quibble over perceptions or send a mixed signal that safety is not first or that we have not given this deliberation is, I would submit, incorrect and unfair.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER).

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, we do have a national emergency. We do have an industry that we need to be working in America. But those emergencies should not be an excuse to stamper the democratic process, to rush through a bill which has not been considered duly, prohibits amendments, prohibits the process from taking place. I object to a process when we do have the time. The markets will not open until Monday morning. We have time to look at this.

As JOHN SWEENEY says, who is the president of the AFL-CIO, "If Members of Congress fail to include relief to workers in the airline bailout bill, it will be an unconscionable, divisive and economically irresponsible omission."

He writes, "Over the past ten days, our Nation has been reminded again and again by the grim and inspiring images of rescue and relief workers that it is working people who are the first to step up to respond to their neighbors, their community and their country. And it is workers and their families who are taking a direct and immediate hit from the terrorist attacks and the resulting airline crisis. A hit that will have a rippling, destabilizing effect on the economy unless it is addressed."

"Over the past week, the AFL-CIO, airline unions and congressional leaders have invested a huge amount of

work into developing a worker relief package that includes unemployment, job training and health benefit protections to workers laid off as a result of the financial crisis in the airline industry. Extensive work has also gone into developing additional assistance to workers throughout the economy and that package must be acted upon soon.

"But now, Members of Congress appear poised to stiff airline industry workers in the bailout bill, even as they award protections to airline executives for their golden parachutes.

"Any Member of either party who casts a vote to leave workers out of the relief bill will be voting to betray American workers in the bipartisan spirit of our last ten days."

That is a letter that JOHN SWEENEY wrote to the Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I would add that we have time to right this wrong. Let us do it please.

The letter referred to is as follows:

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS  
STATEMENT BY AFL-CIO PRESIDENT JOHN J. SWEENEY REGARDING CONGRESSIONAL DECISION ON WORKER RELIEF PACKAGE—AIRLINE BAILOUT BILL SEPTEMBER 21, 2001

If members of Congress fail to include relief to workers in the airline bailout bill, it will be an unconscionable, divisive and economically irresponsible omission.

Over the past 10 days, our nation has been reminded again and again by the grim and inspiring images of rescue and relief workers that it is working people who are the first to step up to respond to their neighbors, their community and their country. And it is workers and their families who are taking a direct and immediate hit from the terrorist attacks and the resulting airline crisis—a hit that will also have a rippling, destabilizing effect on the economy unless it is addressed.

Over the past week, the AFL-CIO, airline unions and congressional leaders have invested a huge amount of work into developing a worker relief package that includes unemployment, job training and health benefits protections to workers laid off as a result of the financial crisis in the airline industry. Extensive work has also gone into developing additional assistance to workers throughout the economy and that package must be acted upon soon.

But now, members of Congress appear poised to stiff airline industry workers in the bailout bill—even as they award protections to airline executives for their golden parachutes.

Any member of either party who casts a vote to leave workers out of the relief bill will be voting to betray American workers and the bipartisan spirit of the last week.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORBERRY). The Chair would remind all Members of the rule and Speaker's directive regarding the use of cellular telephones on the House floor.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the underlying bill. It is well intentioned and relief to the airline industry is necessary to keep these vital transportation

links operating. But its provisions are so fatally flawed that it will disrupt other parts of the economy and its victim compensation provisions are unfair and set an expensive precedent which Congress will rue in the future.

First, the liability limitation provisions transfer the airlines' contingent liabilities to others with devastating implications on other segments of the economy. It is fine to limit airlines' liability, but this will simply put others on the hook.

In addition to United and American Airlines, who will have limited liability under this bill, plaintiffs' lawyers will also likely sue Boeing, which manufactured the four planes, General Electric or Pratt and Whitney who probably made the engines, the Port Authority which is the owner of the World Trade Center, whatever company made the steel which collapsed, and on and on. These companies' liability is not limited by this bill.

While the airlines will not face bankruptcy as a result of September 11, should this bill pass, its failure to limit others' liability will mean Congress will need to pass corrective legislation again and again to protect American companies and their workers' jobs because this bill did not do it right.

Remember, any company having a substantial contingent liability will not be able to borrow money from the banks to keep itself afloat.

The formula that compensates the airlines is not fair either. The United States Government does have a moral responsibility to make whole the airlines for the losses they suffered as a result of the FAA closing U.S. air space and the delays caused by airplane closures and heightened security. But that is not all this bill does. It makes payments based upon how many seat-miles each carrier has. That amounts to a subsidy and gives a premium to those carriers based not on their losses caused by the tragedies of September 11 but how big they are and how many seats they have.

Finally, this bill creates a new entitlement program to pay families of victims of this tragedy through taxpayers' dollars.

No entitlement was enacted by Congress to compensate victims of the Oklahoma City bombing, earthquakes in California, hurricanes in Florida, and floods along the Mississippi River. If this entitlement is approved, does Congress really want to say no to the victims of future tragedies, whether as a result of natural or man-made disasters? If a disaster strikes in any of our hometowns, how can we explain voting for an entitlement in this bill, but not for our own constituents? Stop and think of the precedent this bill sets when a future disaster strikes.

There is plenty money available to compensate the families of the victims of September 11. Mr. Speaker, \$20 billion has already been appropriated for relief. The President has signed legislation to speed up payments to the families of police and firefighters killed in

the line of duty, and the Crime Victims Compensation Fund has over \$1 billion already available for disbursement. Millions come from FEMA and the Department of Health and Human Services and elsewhere, and there will be tens of billions of dollars from insurance and those liable.

But stop, let us do this right. Let us vote this bill down and come back and address these very legitimate problems.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN).

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, as our country faces some very difficult times, we are going to hear a lot about shared sacrifice. Shared sacrifice is firefighters charging into the World Trade Center to rescue people they had never met and dying in the effort. Shared sacrifice, we are told, is the unfortunate news that over 100,000 workers are going to lose their jobs for the good of their companies. Shared sacrifice, it is clear, means that our sons and daughters, mothers and fathers in the military are going to be sent into battle. But today, in the first economic bill to deal with the September 11 tragedy, we see that there are limits to shared sacrifice.

Under this airline bailout bill, senior executives will be able to continue to earn millions of dollars in salary and other compensation. In one case, this bill will permit a senior executive to earn over \$34 million and, if he leaves the company, to receive up to \$70 million in severance benefits. This is inexcusable, it is obscene, it exploits a painful tragedy, and it makes a mockery of the idea of shared sacrifice.

We cannot change this bill; but we can be morally outraged by this inequity, and we can ask the airline CEOs to do what this bill does not. They are asking taxpayers for billions of dollars in help, and then they will be firing thousands of their workers. At this time, they should publicly adopt policies that limit executive compensation to reasonable levels. That will honor shared sacrifice and the sacrifices so many others have made and will make.

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS).

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, during the last 10 days, the American people and Members of the Congress have been in emotional shock from the terrible loss of life and tragedy that struck. We are all together struggling and trying to determine the most effective way to end terrorism and to punish those people who committed this atrocious act.

But on the issue of how we can deal with the airlines and how as a Nation we deal with the perhaps coming recession, I do not think that there should be a lot of debate. The American people

want to believe that we are all in this together; and when they see that 100,000 airline workers are laid off in an industry that is crumbling, they not only want to restore that industry, but they want to make sure that the workers who have been running those industries are treated fairly. They do not want to read in the papers that they are providing taxpayer dollars so that CEOs can end up with tens and tens of millions of dollars in executive compensation but, at the same time, there is apparently no money available to provide health insurance for workers who were laid off. They want to know that the package that we are passing is fair in terms of providing security for the people who will get on the planes. Where is the definition of what we will be doing in terms of security?

Mr. Speaker, we are moving into an economic recession; and in a certain sense, this legislation is the first bill that we will be looking at as to how we are going to respond; and the American people are demanding that, if we are in this together, we have got to protect the working people, we have got to protect the most vulnerable people; and this legislation does not do that.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON).

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, we have a crisis in public confidence in our airline industry. Before September 11, fuel prices were rising, business travel was declining, and some of our airlines in my State had serious financial problems.

□ 1830

After September 11, the government ordered the grounding of flights for several days, which caused considerable financial loss to all airlines. Now the flights have resumed. Consumers have been slow to return to the air. Therefore, the financial problems of our airlines have become more severe, and they need help from the Federal Government.

Indeed, the Federal Government should help the airlines, but this bill does not adequately address the economic and security issues resulting from and exacerbated by the terrorist hijacking and the crashes on September 11. A Federal bailout of our airlines alone will not restore public confidence and increase ridership in our airlines which is, indeed, the basis for the airlines' long-term security.

Simply stated, people are afraid to fly. In order to restore public confidence, we should move responsibility for aviation security from airlines and their subcontractors to the Federal Government, employing trained security experts. We should do this immediately. In this bill, at least make an indication we are committed to it, not sometime in the future but in this bill.

The tragic events of last Tuesday should be a wake-up call to this Nation. No longer can we afford to rely

upon low-wage unskilled workers, with an astonishingly high turnover annually, to manage our first line of defense against a repeat of events of September 11. We should act now to federalize airport security. This probably will substantially increase public confidence and ridership, and increase financial stability and the cash flow to our airlines.

In addition to the hardships suffered by our airlines during the crisis, thousands of airline workers have lost their jobs or may lose their jobs in the future. Thousands of airport vendors, hotels, tourism, business, and small business, mostly, also are suffering economically and need help from the Federal Government.

We should be careful how we respond here, because we must respond to others as well; not that we should not respond, but this response is insufficient. The workers and small business operators in communities all across our Nation constitute the backbone of their local economies. These workers, tens of thousands of them, may be expendable from any airline, but they are essential to their families and to their communities.

Mr. Speaker, we should vote against this rule, and we should also vote against this bill.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON), who represents the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, one of the busiest in the world.

(Mr. BARTON of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York, the distinguished member of the Committee on Rules, for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, D-FW airport, except for one runway, is totally within the Sixth District of Texas, which happens to be the district that I am privileged to represent. There were over 40,000 American Airlines and Delta Airlines and various other airline employees that work at that hub airport.

We know the tragic events that happened on September 11 in which four American flag carriers, two Delta and two American Airlines, went into the Trade Center, the Pentagon, or into the countryside in Pennsylvania. At D-FW as we speak, it is an airport that is operating at less than 50 percent capacity. The flights that go in that airport are operating about at about 30 percent capacity.

American, United, and other airlines have laid off tens of thousands of people this week. This is not the time to argue about the perfect airline relief bill. We have a very reasonable bill before us. It has been hammered out in negotiation between the minority, the majority, the airline industry, the airport associations, and the White House. We need to get the bill on the floor. The first thing we have to do is pass this rule. Then we have to pass the second rule. Then we have to pass the bill.

I have an airport security task force at D-FW that has been operating for over a year and a half to come up with a series of recommendations about how to increase airport security. Most of those recommendations, until last week, dealt with increasing security to prevent illegal drugs from going through our hub airports, but many of them are applicable to terrorism.

I am very willing to continue the dialogue with the Department of Transportation, the FAA, and all the other interested parties, but I am not willing to get into a contest where we refuse to bring up absolutely necessary legislation.

I would urge my colleagues, let us pass this rule, let us pass the second rule, and then let us pass the bill. If we need to come back in a month, 2 months, or whatever, let us do it, but let us not take an industry that is on its knees and force it to be flat on its back. Let us help the airlines and the economy. Pass these rules and pass this bill.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS).

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, this is not a perfect bill, but it is an important first step toward protecting the viability of our Nation's air transportation system. For that important reason, I am going to support these rules and support this legislation today.

But, Mr. Speaker, I also want to send a very clear message to the airlines that will receive these taxpayers' funds today. That is that those of us who represent hundreds of thousands of people from mid-sized cities and rural areas will be watching to see whether they take our Federal tax dollars in one hand and with the other hand cut off service to middle America.

That should not happen, it cannot happen; and if it were to happen, I think when the second round of this airline support legislation inevitably comes back before this House, it would be very difficult to encourage and convince the taxpayers of middle America and rural America to continue supporting airline viability if there is no viability in rural areas because they have already cut off service.

With that caveat, we will support this legislation, and hope Members on both sides of the aisle will do so, as well.

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BENTSEN).

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

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule and in support of the bill. I appreciate some of the concerns that our colleagues have brought up. It is a shame that we did not address employee issues and security issues. Quite frankly, I think we had the time to do it, but we did not.

I want to focus on some areas that I had particular concern about. I, for one, and I do not think this is a partisan issue, have had concerns where we have the Federal Government intervening in the private markets. The intention of giving loan guarantees in any private market function is something the Congress should have great concerns about.

I and many Members of this body have supported that from time to time when we have felt there are extraordinary situations, and I do think this is an extraordinary situation. But I also think it is incumbent upon the Members of the House and the other body to ensure that the Federal Government, and thus the taxpayers, have an ability that we may well be paid back if there is a problem with the extension of this credit.

As the bill was originally drafted, quite frankly, it did not meet that standard. So I appreciate the fact, in how I read the bill now, that we have done a couple of things that are important. One, we brought the fiduciary officers of the Federal Government, in effect, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board and the Secretary of the Treasury, as voting members into this commission, because they should be involved in the extension of credit. That has always been the case in any other extension of credit that I am aware of that we have done as a government.

Number two is that we have said that they have to consider and in fact have to have certain collateralization of the guarantee or the credit that is extended. Many of these airlines are highly leveraged, and there is not much that they can extend in terms of collateral, but the use of warrants, the use of equity, the use of options is something that is not unprecedented and is something that in fact we should consider. I am glad it is finally in this bill.

Finally, I am glad that the bill does not include a set, specific term, but rather gives broad discretion to the board and to the administration in setting the terms and condition. The burden will be on them to strike the best deal for the taxpayers, and ensuring that this is done, but it is better than a 10-year term.

With that, I rise in strong support of the bill and ask that my colleagues pass it.

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY).

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule and in support of the underlying bill.

Last week's attacks did unspeakable damage, unspeakable harm with great loss of life, but last week's attack underscored just how indispensable air travel is to our economy. Since the attacks, hotel occupancy in New York City has plummeted, restaurants are

empty, Broadway shows have closed. People fly to New York from all over the world, but right now they are scared to fly.

With the \$3 billion allocated from the antiterrorism package, new safeguards will make air travel safer, but we do not know when passengers will return. In the meantime, if the airlines go out of business, what will be the next business to go out of business? We will all be out of business, and we cannot let that happen.

Supporting our airlines is also an act of patriotism. The terrorists wanted to ground America, so we need to fly. We also need to compensate victims, many of whom were my constituents and friends. We need to compensate workers that are not covered in this package.

I have been assured by our leader, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), that he will introduce a bill tomorrow which will do that, with the support of many in the leadership on the other side of the aisle. We need to answer this act of hostility by restoring the friendly skies domestically, and by sending airplanes of a different sort to get the cowards of the September 11 attack.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by commending President Bush for his efforts to bring our Nation together. This is a time for bipartisan commitment to make common cause on behalf of our country.

Yet the handling of this bill, I believe, violates that very spirit. We now debate what is really a "jam rule," jamming through this Chamber a piece of legislation involving a tremendous expenditure of taxpayer money without an opportunity for the Members to read and understand the provisions; and it will be immediately followed by a "gag rule" that denies the Members the slightest opportunity to improve this bill by offering amendments and strictly limits their remarks during debate. Such parliamentary tricks, really, I think divide us at a time when we should be coming together.

There was a plainspoken Texan who once sat in that chair, a legendary figure who presided over this House, by the name of Sam Rayburn. He said that, in conducting the people's business, three of the most important words are simply "wait a minute." That simple maxim I think has never rung more true than with this piece of legislation.

At midnight last Friday, when many Members of this House were asleep, like many members of the American public, when we had been told that all of our regular work was completed, an attempt was made to force through this House, in a matter of minutes, a bill that spent \$15 billion, that is billion with a B, of taxpayer money, a bill composed of a mere three pages.

All that I personally did about those three pages at that time was to apply

Mr. Rayburn's three words: Wait a minute. Wait a minute, because the bill that we had then and that we have now contains nothing meaningful, not one word, well, a few words at the end of the bill that are meaningless, making passing reference to previous legislation, but it does nothing to assure the security of Americans on planes flying across this country. That is deferred until later, instead of making it our first priority now. We have 31 pages tonight instead of last Friday's three pages, but those pages provide no more security for the travelling public.

I said "wait a minute" because that bill did not contain protection for the taxpayer; those three pages were only a blank check.

In that regard, I want to commend again President Bush's administration, because had it not been for them seizing the opportunity of these last few days and demanding an Air Transportation Stabilization Board, it would not be in the bill. This very provision of which the supporters tonight boast in this bill would not be there if they had overcome my objection at midnight last week.

I said, wait a minute then, because it contained no provision to protect those who do the hard work within our airline industry.

□ 1845

It contained no shared sacrifice. At that time all the money could have gone to executive compensation, to those at the top.

Tonight, now that it has been studied carefully, they put a limitation in the bill. And do you know what that limitation is? That limitation is that those at the top of the airline industry cannot make any more than they did last year. Do you know how much that is? For one fellow that is \$35 million. And the poorer CEO's can only make \$6 million. And so the American taxpayer is going to contribute to their \$35 million; and, oh, by the way, if they bail out this next year, they can get up to \$70 million in a golden parachute.

What about the people that cook the meals, that clean the cabins, that stand out there and risk their lives for the safety of all of us? What security do they get in this bill? They do not get one dime or one plug nickel in this bill.

That is why I say it is a shame what is happening here tonight. They got nothing last Friday, and we have come around to another Friday and those hardworking Americans do not get the protection they need in this bill. It is wrong for this Congress to help those at the top and forget those who are doing the hard work out there. And we have been told in the interim that 100,000 Americans working for the airlines will probably be laid off even if the airlines get every dime for which they are asking.

It is not my intent to demonize this industry or question the motives of those who have come forward. This is a

vital industry to our country. I am ready to help it. I am ready to respond. I am ready to respond this very minute. But crafting this bill has not been an open inclusive process. Rather it has been one closed-door session after another where the taxpayer rights, the safety of the American public, and the rights of American workers have been ignored.

I'm voting no because it's not right to put those at the top in first class seats and leave everybody else—the taxpayers, the flying public, and the workers out on the tarmac without even a bag of peanuts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). The time of the gentleman has expired. All time of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST) has expired. The gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) has 7 minutes remaining.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to note that the previous speaker indicated that some Members were sleeping last Friday.

I want to remind Members of the history of last week. We were actually in regular order of business. There was a unanimous consent request brought, as the gentleman knows, because he was here as part of the debate that was under consideration.

And the second thing the gentleman referred to was the language regarding executive salaries. I would like the record to so record that the executive salaries language that capped the executive salaries was included at the request of a minority ranking member, and that is why that language appears as it does in the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to my friend, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), who has spent countless hours on this legislation in the spirit of compromise with both Republican and Democratic Members and leadership.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

What has happened, Mr. Speaker, in the last week, is that 100,000 layoff announcements have been issued. I do not know how many fewer of those would have been announced if we had acted last week, but I think fewer than that. And if we do not act this week, there will be more layoffs next week.

We have had a whole week to discuss this bill. People have suggested that was not a bipartisan process. I can seldom think of a time in the House, in the few years I have been here, of a more bipartisan process, where the minority leader in the House, the Speaker of the House, the two leaders of the other body both agreed totally on what was going to go in this bill.

That does not mean they think that is the only thing that needs to be done, nor should anybody suggest for a minute that anybody on this floor thinks this will be the last thing that is done. Just because our leaders on

both sides of the aisle were for this does not mean that is all they are for. It does not mean we will not hear even later in this debate an understanding that there will be more legislation. But what it does mean is that if this rule is not approved and the second rule is not approved and the bill is not approved, after a week, a full week to come together, for our leaders to come together with the very best thing they could all agree on, is that some time this week airlines would no longer have insurance.

The unknown liability of two airlines who were victims of terrorists last week would make it impossible, in all likelihood, for them to get access to the financial markets they need to get access to. And by this time next week, planes all over America would be sitting on runways. Nobody will be flying if we do not address these critical issues. Airlines cannot fly without liability coverage.

We address those issues here. Two airlines would not be able to have access to capital with some unknown question about their liability. We address those issues here. Victims could not begin to get access to compensation through a special procedure that is addressed in this bill.

This is a critical time. There will be more legislation that relates to this industry. Many of the points that have been made here tonight can be addressed. Those points were not made during the week in these discussions. Now, that does not mean they cannot be made; that does not mean they cannot be made or will not be made in the next few days. It does mean that we need to stop the layoffs now, we need to keep these planes in the air, and we need to keep this irreplaceable industry a viable part of our economy.

We do this with the action we take here tonight. I urge my colleagues to vote for the rules and for the bill.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of personal privilege on the previous statement of the gentleman. If I could state that, or I could ask to have his words taken down, if you would give me a moment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would inform the gentleman that there is no point of personal privilege based on the debate which is in order at this time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Well, then, if the gentleman made a statement that was untrue about the position of the Democratic leaders and basically directly casting aspersion on them by saying that they did not raise the issues raised by many Members here on the floor in those discussions, and we know that they did, is there a process under which I could have his words taken down or reviewed?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is certainly the right of any Member during debate to ask that a Member's words be taken down. At that point the words must be transcribed and read to the



House and the Chair will rule upon them.

Mr. DEFAZIO. But what my question is, since he made an assertion about the Democratic leaders, which I know and others know to be untrue, and about the points we are making on the floor, that these issues were not raised in the negotiations, is there some objection that I could lodge against such an untrue statement on the floor of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is unable to rule or respond in anticipation of the actual words being read back to the House.

Mr. DEFAZIO. At this point, hopefully, we will get a chance to rebut those untrue words in future debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) has 4 minutes remaining.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT).

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say that if I inadvertently suggested that anybody had not addressed these issues in good faith all week, or suggested that all of our leaders had not worked hard to make this happen, or that the issues, and I believe in fact I said I was confident that later in this debate our leaders would come to the floor, I meant to say and indicate they had discussed this; they had an understanding of how this would be handled in the future.

I certainly meant no suggestion of any kind that our leaders had not worked hard; that they, and that all sides are not concerned about these issues. If I misspoke in any way, I certainly did not intend to. Because I think there has been hard and dedicated work put in on this by all sides this week.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the other body intends to deem this as passed with no debate, because I think they recognize the seriousness and the cooperation, the unity that has been the hallmark here since September 11 between both bodies of the Congress and the administration. And there should be ample debate. We are trying to next move into a rule that will provide debate on the bill; and, if it is passed, we will move forward to the debate on the issue at hand.

Today, we need to come together again to consider a critical piece of legislation to further guide our Nation and its citizens through this crisis. Now is not the time for stalling or dilatory tactics. This legislation has had constant participation by legislative leaders on both sides of the aisle, both Houses, and with the administration. It is imperative that we move forward with this urgent message and this measure before us tonight.

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. The question is on the resolution.

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. 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 303, nays 107, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 345]

YEAS—303

Abercrombie	Emerson	Kolbe
Ackerman	English	LaHood
Aderholt	Etheridge	Lampson
Akin	Everett	Largent
Andrews	Fattah	Larson (CT)
Armedy	Ferguson	Latham
Bachus	Flake	LaTourette
Baker	Fletcher	Leach
Baldacci	Foley	Levin
Ballenger	Forbes	Lewis (CA)
Barr	Ford	Lewis (GA)
Barrett	Frelinguysen	Lewis (KY)
Bartlett	Frost	LoBiondo
Barton	Galleghy	Lofgren
Bass	Ganske	Lowey
Bentsen	Gekas	Lucas (KY)
Berkley	Gephardt	Lucas (OK)
Berry	Gibbons	Maloney (CT)
Biggert	Gilchrest	Maloney (NY)
Bilirakis	Gillmor	Manzullo
Bishop	Gilman	Mascara
Blunt	Goode	Matheson
Boehert	Goodlatte	Matsui
Boehner	Gordon	McCarthy (NY)
Bonilla	Goss	McCrery
Bono	Graham	McGovern
Borski	Granger	McHugh
Boswell	Graves	McInnis
Boucher	Green (TX)	McIntyre
Brady (PA)	Green (WI)	McKeon
Brady (TX)	Greenwood	McNulty
Brown (SC)	Grucci	Meehan
Bryant	Gutknecht	Meeks (NY)
Burr	Hall (OH)	Menendez
Burton	Hall (TX)	Mica
Buyer	Hansen	Miller, Gary
Callahan	Hart	Moore
Calvert	Hastings (WA)	Moran (KS)
Camp	Hayes	Morella
Cannon	Hayworth	Murtha
Cantor	Herger	Myrick
Capito	Hill	Nethercutt
Capps	Hilleary	Ney
Cardin	Hobson	Northup
Carson (OK)	Hoeffel	Norwood
Chabot	Hoekstra	Nussle
Chambliss	Honda	Oberstar
Coble	Horn	Ortiz
Collins	Hostettler	Osborne
Combest	Houghton	Ose
Cooksey	Hoyer	Otter
Cramer	Hulshof	Oxley
Crane	Hunter	Pallone
Crenshaw	Hyde	Pascrell
Crowley	Isakson	Pastor
Cubin	Israel	Paul
Culberson	Istook	Pence
Cummings	Jenkins	Peterson (PA)
Cunningham	John	Petri
Davis, Jo Ann	Johnson (CT)	Phelps
Davis, Tom	Johnson (IL)	Pickering
Deal	Johnson, E. B.	Pitts
DeLay	Johnson, Sam	Platts
DeMint	Jones (NC)	Pombo
Diaz-Balart	Kanjorski	Pomeroy
Dicks	Keller	Portman
Dolittle	Kelly	Price (NC)
Doyle	Kennedy (MN)	Pryce (OH)
Dreier	Kerns	Putnam
Duncan	Kind (WI)	Quinn
Dunn	King (NY)	Radanovich
Edwards	Kingston	Ramstad
Ehlers	Kirk	Rangel
Ehrlich	Knollenberg	Regula

Rehberg	Shimkus	Thornberry
Reyes	Shows	Thune
Reynolds	Shuster	Tiahrt
Riley	Simmons	Tiberi
Roemer	Simpson	Toomey
Rogers (KY)	Skeen	Trafficant
Rogers (MI)	Skelton	Turner
Rohrabacher	Smith (MI)	Upton
Ros-Lehtinen	Smith (NJ)	Vitter
Ross	Smith (TX)	Walden
Rothman	Smith (WA)	Walsh
Roukema	Snyder	Wamp
Royce	Souder	Watkins (OK)
Ryan (WI)	Stearns	Watson (CA)
Ryun (KS)	Stenholm	Watts (OK)
Sabo	Stump	Weiner
Sawyer	Sununu	Weldon (FL)
Saxton	Sweeney	Weldon (PA)
Schiff	Tancredo	Weller
Schrock	Tanner	Wexler
Sensenbrenner	Tauscher	Whitfield
Serrano	Tauzin	Wicker
Sessions	Taylor (MS)	Wilson
Shadegg	Taylor (NC)	Wolf
Shaw	Terry	Wynn
Shays	Thomas	Young (AK)
Sherwood	Thompson (CA)	Young (FL)

NAYS—107

Allen	Hilliard	Neal
Baca	Hinchev	Obey
Baird	Hinojosa	Olver
Baldwin	Holt	Owens
Barcia	Hoolley	Payne
Becerra	Inslee	Pelosi
Blagojevich	Jackson (IL)	Peterson (MN)
Blumenauer	Jackson-Lee	Rahall
Bonior	(TX)	Rivers
Boyd	Jefferson	Rodriguez
Brown (FL)	Jones (OH)	Roybal-Allard
Brown (OH)	Kaptur	Rush
Capuano	Kennedy (RI)	Sanchez
Clay	Kildee	Sanders
Clayton	Kilpatrick	Sandlin
Clement	Kleczka	Schakowsky
Clyburn	Kucinich	Scott
Condit	LaFalce	Sherman
Costello	Langevin	Slaughter
Coyne	Lantos	Solis
Davis (CA)	Larsen (WA)	Spratt
Davis (FL)	Lee	Stark
Davis (IL)	Lipinski	Strickland
DeFazio	Luther	Stupak
DeGette	Markey	Thompson (MS)
Delahunt	McCarthy (MO)	Thurman
DeLauro	McCollum	Tierney
Doggett	McDermott	Udall (CO)
Engel	McKinney	Udall (NM)
Eshoo	Meek (FL)	Velazquez
Evans	Millender-	Visclosky
Farr	McDonald	Watt (NC)
Filner	Miller, George	Waxman
Frank	Mink	Woolsey
Gonzalez	Mollohan	Wu
Gutierrez	Nadler	
Hastings (FL)	Napolitano	

NOT VOTING—20

Bereuter	Dingell	Linder
Berman	Dooley	Miller (FL)
Carson (IN)	Fossella	Moran (VA)
Castle	Harman	Schaffer
Conyers	Hefley	Towns
Cox	Holden	Waters
Deutsch	Issa	

□ 1915

Mr. KUCINICH and Mr. BAIRD changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut 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.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2926, AIR TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND SYSTEM STABILIZATION ACT

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 244 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 244

*Resolved*, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 2926) to preserve the continued viability of the United States air transportation system. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate on the bill equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), 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 244 is a closed rule that provides for the consideration of H.R. 2926, the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act. This rule and its underlying legislation address the impending needs of the airline industry after last week's tragic attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The rule provides for 1 hour of debate to be equally divided between the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, since the morning of September 11, 2001, when, as President Bush said last night, enemies of freedom committed an act of war against our country, our Nation has been through extraordinary and trying times. Over the past week and a half, we have heard countless stories of personal tragedy and selfless heroism. We have seen a Nation come together in a steely resolve to see justice served. And we have felt here in this Congress an unprecedented unity, rooted not just in bipartisanship but nonpartisanship, in citizenship. And we have much work to do.

As President Bush said, "We face new and sudden national challenges," because this war has many fronts. It was heartening for me to see my State's great Governor, George Pataki, and New York's outstanding Mayor, Rudy Giuliani, here in these Chambers last night. I have long valued their friendship. But as a New Yorker, today I

value even more their leadership. Each as shown a steady hand and quiet courage through which so many have drawn strength. Equally important, their attendance served as a reminder that we still have work to do to recover, rebuild and strengthen a city and a Nation.

Mr. Speaker, the ripple effect of last week's events has been felt all over the world. In the blink of an eye, the way of life that we have taken for granted for so long has been changed forever. Despite a national state of shock, thousands of our fellow citizens immediately went to work to ensure the safety and security of American citizens.

Within a matter of hours on the day of the attacks, the Federal Aviation Administration carefully orchestrated the safe grounding of every single airplane flying within the United States. This quick response and cooperation from the entire airline industry ensured the safety and well-being of countless individuals. But in the wake of the cowardly attacks on our Nation, scheduling cutbacks and subsequent reductions in the number of flights have hit the industry hard. Already there have been over 80,000 airline-related layoffs, with even more expected in the days and weeks to come.

We must remember that this is not just an industry giant that is suffering. This is a critical component to our way of life and a vital segment of our national economy. Our airlines move people and products across America and throughout the world. They serve not just business and tourism but can, quite literally, determine whether we are able to compete in a global economy.

In my own community, which had already been lagging the national economy, competitive air travel is continually cited as a primary component to economic growth. By coming to the aid of the airline industry, we will make America stronger. And in making America stronger, we will repair and reinforce the fabric of our Nation which was torn by cowards in last week's criminal act of war.

That is why we have a responsibility to help rebuild an industry that has helped keep America strong.

Specifically, the legislation before us authorizes the President to provide \$10 billion in loan guarantees and an additional \$5 billion in immediate direct aid. This money will help stabilize an industry that is desperately in need of urgent relief.

Additionally, the legislation contains language limiting the liability for any damages arising out of the hijacking and subsequent crashes of American Airlines Flights 11 or 77 and United Airline Flights 93 or 175.

As President Bush stated in his address to the Nation last night, "We will come together to promote stability and keep our airlines flying with direct assistance during this emergency."

America faces a daunting struggle in the times ahead. We must stand united

as a Nation. We must restore and strengthen our infrastructure so that Americans feel safe and confident again in utilizing the best transportation system in the world.

Mr. Speaker, as I conclude, I would like to commend the chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the ranking member the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) for their tireless devotion and hard work on this important measure. I would also like to commend the Speaker and the majority leader and the minority leader for their leadership in crafting this legislation along with the other body and with the administration.

I urge my colleagues to support this rule and the underlying legislation.

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Last night, Mr. Speaker, we were all impressed by the President's resolve. Today, this Congress continues the work of helping America recover and rebuild from last week's cowardly, barbaric attack.

On September 11, terrorists murdered thousands of innocent people. They also struck directly at the fabric of America's economy, seeking to cripple our air transportation system. Make no mistake, there is strong bipartisan support for stabilizing America's air transportation system and for ensuring the victims of September 11 get the assistance they need as they rebuild their lives. How to do those things is a difficult and complex question, but a crucially important one. At stake is nothing less than the strength of the economy, hundreds of thousands of American jobs, and our values and way of life.

So Democrats and Republicans have been working overtime to craft a bipartisan emergency package. All of those who have spent the last week hashing out this bill, especially Leader GEPHARDT, Speaker HASTERT, and Ranking Member OBERSTAR, deserve enormous credit.

Mr. Speaker, since the Federal Government grounded air traffic last week, the airline industry has been losing billions of dollars. As a result, hundreds of thousands of Americans, employees of the airlines, as well as the service and manufacturing industries around them, have seen their livelihoods threatened. In the aftermath of last week's attack, fewer people are flying, further hurting the industry. Make no mistake, it is critical that we ensure the security of air travel so people are not afraid to fly. And until the government ensures just compensation for the victims of September 11, the airlines will not be able to buy the insurance or borrow the capital they need to keep operating.

Mr. Speaker, the airlines have already announced some 80,000 layoffs.