

At a time when our country is struggling with energy shortages, electric bikes are not only energy-efficient, they reduce the consumption of gasoline.

Currently, electric bikes are subjected to the same standards as motor vehicles and must comply with all of the same safety standards as motor vehicles.

This level of regulatory burden is unnecessary and has a dampening effect on the availability of these bicycles.

Regulation under the Consumer Products Safety Commission ensures that bicycles continue to meet rigorous safety standards while increasing their availability to consumers.

I am proud to be a co-sponsor of this bill and encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 727. This legislation, which the House unanimously passed last October (H.R. 2592) but which the Senate neglected to consider, will transfer regulatory responsibility for low-speed electric bicycles from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), where they would be treated as consumer products. During the 106th Congress, a representative from the NHTSA testified to Congress that if the agency strictly applied its motor vehicle safety regulations to electric bicycles, such bikes would have to include a number of costly safety features—including headlights, brake lights, turn signals, rearview mirrors and license plates—even if the bikes are used in the same manner as human-powered bicycles.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this common-sense measure that will enhance the role of the CPSC. The Commission needs to be granted the authority, when appropriate, to protect consumers and ensure public safety. Along these lines, I have introduced the Children's Gasoline Burn Prevention Act (H.R. 688), which will enable the CPSC to require child-proof caps for gasoline containers.

Under current law, the CPSC lacks the authority to promulgate such regulations, due to the definition of "package" in the Poison Prevention Packaging Act. Under that statute, in order for the CPSC to require a child-proof cap, the package must contain a hazardous substance at the time of initial sale; therefore, the CPSC does not have authority to require safety caps for new, empty gas containers. This problem came to my attention due to an incident in Leavenworth, Kansas, in which a four year old boy lost his life and his three year old brother was permanently scarred after they opened and spilled a gas can and the gasoline vapors ignited a nearby hot water heater.

This legislation has been endorsed by the American Society of Testing and Materials' Task Group of Standards for Flammable Liquid Containers, which has been considering establishment of a voluntary standard in this area, working in concert with the CPSC.

Enactment of this simple, common-sense measure will save the lives of countless young children, and help to put their parents' minds at ease with regard to gasoline cans stored in garages, basements and back porches.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 727 and the Children's Gasoline Burn Prevention Act. The Consumer Product Safety Commission must be allowed to ade-

quately protect consumers and ensure public safety.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 727, legislation that gives the Consumer Product Safety Commission authority to regulate low-speed electric bicycles. This common-sense bill had its genesis in a meeting I had several years ago with Dr. Malcolm Currie, president of a company in my district called Currie Technologies. Dr. Currie made a convincing case that National Highway Traffic Safety Administration regulations—which place electric bikes in the same category as mopeds—were restraining the growth of the electric bike industry. He argued that NHTSA should apply a unique set of safety requirements to electric bikes, given the modest speed at which they operate. NHTSA agreed in principle, but had little flexibility to make such a distinction in the context of their regulations. After a number of discussions with NHTSA, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Representative LOIS CAPPS, Dr. Currie and other representatives of the electric bicycle industry, it became apparent that the best way to deal with this problem was to transfer regulatory jurisdiction from NHTSA to the CPSC, which already regulates regular human-powered bicycles. H.R. 727 would provide for that transfer of regulatory authority. I commend Mr. STEARNS for introducing this bill and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 727.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1430

2001 TRADE POLICY AGENDA AND 2000 ANNUAL REPORT ON TRADE AGREEMENTS PROGRAM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-48)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 163 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2213), I transmit herewith the 2001 Trade Policy Agenda and 2000 An-

nual Report on the Trade Agreements Program.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 6, 2001.

PERIODIC REPORT ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS PAYMENTS MADE TO CUBA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 1705(e)(6) of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, as amended by section 102(g) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, Public Law 104-114, 110 Stat. 785, 22 U.S.C. 6004(e)(6), I transmit herewith a semi-annual report detailing payments made to Cuba by United States persons as a result of the provision of telecommunications services pursuant to Department of the Treasury specific licenses.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 6, 2001.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

□ 1800

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS) at 6 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

- H.R. 724, by the yeas and nays;
- H.R. 727, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS TO CARRY OUT PART B OF TITLE I OF ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT RELATING TO STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 724.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. Bass) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 724, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 400, nays 2, not voting 30, as follows:

[Roll No. 26]

YEAS—400

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

Millender-McDonald	Ramstad
Miller (FL)	Rangel
Miller, Gary	Regula
Miller, George	Rehberg
Mink	Reyes
Mollohan	Reynolds
Moore	Riley
Moran (KS)	Rivers
Moran (VA)	Rodriguez
Morella	Roemer
Murtha	Rogers (KY)
Myrick	Rogers (MI)
Nadler	Rohrabacher
Napolitano	Ros-Lehtinen
Neal	Ross
Nethercutt	Rothman
Ney	Roybal-Allard
Northup	Rush
Norwood	Ryan (WI)
Nussle	Ryun (KS)
Oberstar	Sabo
Obey	Sanchez
Olver	Sandlin
Ortiz	Sawyer
Osborne	Saxton
Ose	Scarborough
Otter	Schaffer
Owens	Schakowsky
Oxley	Schiff
Pallone	Schrock
Pascrell	Sensenbrenner
Pastor	Serrano
Payne	Sessions
Pelosi	Shadegg
Pence	Shaw
Peterson (MN)	Sherman
Peterson (PA)	Sherwood
Petri	Shimkus
Phelps	Simmons
Pickering	Simpson
Pitts	Sisisky
Platts	Skeen
Pombo	Skelton
Pomeroy	Smith (MI)
Portman	Smith (NJ)
Price (NC)	Smith (TX)
Pryce (OH)	Smith (WA)
Putnam	Snyder
Quinn	Solis
Rahall	Souder
	Spence

NAYS—2

Paul

Royce
NOT VOTING—30

Ackerman	Jones (NC)	Scott
Baldacci	Kennedy (RI)	Shays
Becerra	Kingston	Shows
Brady (TX)	Lewis (CA)	Slaughter
Diaz-Balart	Lipinski	Stupak
Green (WI)	Maloney (CT)	Sununu
Hilleary	Moakley	Sweeney
Hoeffel	Radanovich	Taylor (NC)
Houghton	Roukema	Walsh
Hyde	Sanders	Wamp

□ 1828

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

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). 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 additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

AMENDING CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY ACT TO PROVIDE THAT LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC BICYCLES ARE CONSUMER PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO SUCH ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 727.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 727, 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 401, nays 1, not voting 30, as follows:

[Roll No. 27]

YEAS—401

Abercrombie	Costello	Green (TX)
Aderholt	Cox	Green (WI)
Akin	Coyne	Greenwood
Allen	Cramer	Grucci
Andrews	Crane	Gutierrez
Armey	Crenshaw	Gutknecht
Baca	Crowley	Hall (OH)
Bachus	Cubin	Hall (TX)
Baird	Culberson	Hansen
Baker	Cummings	Harman
Baldwin	Cunningham	Hart
Ballenger	Davis (CA)	Hastings (FL)
Barcia	Davis (FL)	Hastings (WA)
Barr	Davis (IL)	Hayes
Barrett	Davis, Jo Ann	Hayworth
Bartlett	Davis, Tom	Hefley
Barton	Deal	Herger
Bass	DeFazio	Hill
Bentsen	DeGette	Hilliard
Bereuter	Delahunt	Hinchee
Berkley	DeLauro	Hinojosa
Berman	DeLay	Hobson
Berry	DeMint	Hoekstra
Biggart	Deutsch	Holden
Bilirakis	Dicks	Holt
Bishop	Dingell	Honda
Blagojevich	Doggett	Hooley
Blumenauer	Dooley	Horn
Blunt	Doolittle	Hostettler
Boehlert	Doyle	Hoyer
Boehner	Dreier	Hulshof
Bonilla	Duncan	Hunter
Bono	Dunn	Hutchinson
Borski	Edwards	Inslee
Boswell	Ehlers	Isakson
Boucher	Ehrlich	Israel
Boyd	Emerson	Issa
Brady (PA)	Engel	Istook
Brady (TX)	Eshoo	Jackson (IL)
Brown (FL)	Etheridge	Jackson-Lee
Brown (OH)	Evans	(TX)
Brown (SC)	Everett	Jefferson
Bryant	Farr	Jenkins
Burr	Fattah	John
Burton	Ferguson	Johnson (CT)
Buyer	Filner	Johnson (IL)
Callahan	Flake	Johnson, E. B.
Calvert	Fletcher	Johnson, Sam
Camp	Foley	Jones (OH)
Cannon	Ford	Kanjorski
Cantor	Fossella	Kaptur
Capito	Frank	Keller
Capps	Frelinghuysen	Kelly
Capuano	Frost	Kennedy (MN)
Cardin	Gallely	Kerns
Carson (IN)	Ganske	Kildee
Carson (OK)	Gekas	Kilpatrick
Castle	Gephardt	Kind (WI)
Chabot	Gibbons	King (NY)
Chambliss	Gilchrest	Kirk
Clay	Gillmor	Kleczka
Clayton	Gilman	Knollenberg
Clement	Gonzalez	Kolbe
Clyburn	Goode	Kucinich
Coble	Goodlatte	LaFalce
Collins	Gordon	LaHood
Combust	Goss	Lampson
Condit	Graham	Langevin
Conyers	Granger	Lantos
Cooksey	Graves	Largent