

for screening and, interestingly, extremely rapid turnover which, in the testimony, indicated that the turnover ran from 80 percent at a minimum in the lowest turnover at one of the companies up to 250 percent and, I think, as much as 400 percent turnover. These are people who were working for no more than a couple of months and the minute that they could get out of that job, because there was no kind of standard involved and no morale on the jobs, would go on to something else.

In other words, these were the largely dead-end jobs, the very deadliest end of jobs that were being used in protecting the security of American travelers, and yet we have not really done anything formal in that period of, now, almost 2 months to make corrections in it.

So we now are going to deal with that tomorrow with legislation. I think that the Democratic bill is much stronger in what it puts forward, because it does professionalize the security system and put the responsibility directly on the Federal Government to make certain that the security system is one that is reliable; and that may give people the degree of confidence that they need so that they can come back to the business of flying and the business of why they fly, whether it be for tourism or for business itself.

We have had indications that some of the companies have pleaded guilty to criminal violations and yet they are still contracted companies in the system as it operates today. With that happening, with the failure to conduct background checks on employees staffing those security checkpoints, it is highly unlikely that we will get back the confidence of the American people in the air travel systems that we have and get our economy back running.

So I am very pleased that the chairman is happy to support the motion to instruct. I hope that when we get finished with this legislation tomorrow that we will have the strongest possible, the strongest possible law in place that will protect the security of the American traveling public.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON of California. Mr. Speaker, when anthrax was discovered on Capitol Hill two weeks ago, the House Leadership acted quickly and prudently to protect Congressional employees from the threat of terrorism. I support that decision. But the speed with which Congress moved to protect itself stands in stark contrast with our failure to provide for the security of the flying public.

Mr. Speaker, it has been fifty days since September 11th, and yet the House of Representatives has still not acted to pass an airline security bill.

It has been forty days since the House of Representatives voted to authorize a fifteen billion dollar bailout for the airlines, and yet the House still has not passed an airline security bill.

It has been twenty days since the other body voted unanimously to provide for airline

security, and still, the House has not yet passed an airline security bill.

You might think that this delay was because our leaders were searching for a novel approach, or a well-calibrated solution. But, in fact, it was because of a partisan dispute about whether the screeners should be Federal employees. This despite that the fact that an overwhelming majority of Americans have said that they want the Federal Government to run airport security.

In the wake of the September 11th attacks, Americans asked for, and received, an outpouring of bipartisan leadership from their elected officials. How sad that the one key thing that Congress must do to safeguard their security has been held up by a partisan dispute. I urge my colleagues to support this motion, and I urge you, Mr. Speaker, to bring the Senate's bipartisan airline security bill to the floor without delay.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). Without objection, the previous question is ordered.

There was no objection.

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

The motion to instruct was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees:

Messrs. ROGERS, WOLF, DELAY, CALAHAN, TIAHRT, ADERHOLT, Ms. GRANGER, Mrs. EMERSON, Messrs. SWEENEY, YOUNG of Florida, SABO, OLVER, PASTOR, Ms. KILPATRICK, and Messrs. SERRANO, CLYBURN and OBEY.

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2330, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002.

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2330) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

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

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MS. KAPTUR

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct conferees.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. KAPTUR moves that the manager on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill, H.R. 2330, be instructed to insist on

the highest possible levels of funding permitted for international food activities under P.L. 480, Title II.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XX, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BONILLA) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

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

Let me say to my colleagues and to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BONILLA), our esteemed chairman of the subcommittee, that this motion is simple and to the point. It instructs our conferees to agree to the highest possible level of funding for international food programs within the scope of the conference, including the Title II Public Law 480 Food for Peace program.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps never in the history, in the recent history of our great country have we had a greater need to use our food power to build a more peaceful world. Three matters individually and collectively within our purview in this legislation justify the need for the highest possible level of funding. I just wish to mention them and make a few remarks.

The first is the Global Food for Education Initiative.

The second is the ongoing need for an expanding emergency need for food assistance for Afghan refugees and other desperate people in and around that beleaguered country.

Thirdly, to offset the administration's proposal to reduce the section 416 commodity assistance with the resultant increase in dependency on the Public Law 480 Title II program for virtually needed development assistance throughout the world.

It is interesting to think about the conditions which breed revolution and instability, and to observe how often that desperate people living in desperate conditions in the countryside provide the seed bed for political instability. If we think historically, just for a second, back to the middle part of the 20th century, the countryside became the killing fields inside what became the Soviet Union through the forced starvation of millions and millions of people by Joseph Stalin and his consequent success in gaining control over what became the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics. The countryside was dead center in what happened with control of the food supply.

If we think to China and the revolution in 1949 and the role of Mao Tsetung in moving people back to the countryside, the rural countryside became the seed bed for the revolution and the consequences that followed, and the imposition of will over 1 billion people.

Now, today, in the Middle East, in East Africa, we have witnessed the powerful instability that can grow from food insecurity with little to eat and little to hope for; and it is not just

in Afghanistan where people are at prefamine levels with millions that have fled that sad state of affairs. If we also think about the madrassas operating inside Pakistan that use the lure of milk to feed hundreds and thousands of little boys who are then systematically taught to hate anyone whose religion is unlike theirs.

Food is being used as a weapon in the conflict that we face with Enduring Freedom.

□ 1215

It is best that we understand it, and that we use the power that we have with our food commodities to help build a more peaceful world.

The Global Food for Education Initiative, the program so strongly supported and developed by Senators Bob Dole and George McGovern, can be an important piece of the solution.

Why can we not think about using the Global Food for Education Program to offset what the madrassas are doing in Pakistan, and to feed children out of our good will, and to provide educational opportunity to both boys and girls, and hopefully produce new political leaders for the future that will embrace the world in a more fair open manner?

This body has said we would like to see the funding for this program continued, and we would like to see permanent authorization as part of the farm bill, the authorizing legislation itself being H.R. 1700.

So we want this motion to instruct to place some responsibility on these conferees to see that the Global Food for Education Initiative, and the hard work that the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGOVERN) and others have done, to make that a permanent authorization and to receive the support it deserves inside this conference.

Secondly, in terms of the starvation and pre-starvation levels that people in Afghanistan and the refugees are facing, there is no question about the ongoing immediate need for expanding emergency food programs for those refugees, whether they be inside the country, if we can find a way to deliver it, or to the adjoining nations, during our Nation's conduct of Enduring Freedom.

We know that the United Nations World Food Program has predicted that we will need to provide a minimum level of assistance for 7.5 million people, and that such aid could last for well over 1 year. Even though the administration has already suggested more resources will be provided, and has done so out of the emergency funding we adopted earlier this year, there is no doubt that more will be needed; and not only direct food, but once stability reigns again, to help people develop their own abilities to raise food so there can be a more permanent chance for development in that region.

Once we complete emergency assistance, we have to look at meaningful development assistance so we can leave the region in a more self-sustaining

condition than it is in, obviously, today.

If we want to change the concerns about poverty, malnutrition, and how people are treated, including women, then we must also have long-term development goals in mind, and that is where food for peace, food for progress, section 416, are answers that make the most sense.

Finally, before yielding time, let me say that the administration's proposal to reduce section 416 commodity assistance may have made sense before September 11. I do not really think it did. But after September 11, it makes absolutely no sense at all, because it will force the resultant increase in dependency on the Public Law 480 title II program, which we need for the type of developmental assistance in the Middle East, in East Africa, and other places where instability reigns.

If we are to have longer programs that will end world hunger, a goal to which our Nation leads the world and has subscribed to throughout our existence, then we have to be sure that any emergency food assistance is followed up with a program of meaningful development assistance, and that is why these programs were invented.

This program benefits American farmers and our States seeking to develop new markets for our commodities as the largest food-producing Nation in the world, as well as the countries receiving the benefit of the program, targeted to those who are hungry in the urban areas and to development in the rural countryside, to stem the instability that we know has bred the revolutions of modern history.

Public Law 480 has a long history of turning former recipients into long-standing customers and into stable political allies.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the esteemed gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGOVERN), who has been such a leader on these international food programs.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding time to me, and I am very glad to see and strongly support this motion to instruct the conferees to support the highest level of food aid assistance.

I believe that United States food aid programs will play a critical role in averting disaster in Afghanistan and in the Near East. Even before the tragic events of September 11, the United States was the largest contributor of food and humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan through the United Nations World Food Program.

But I also believe that the United States should support these programs worldwide. The United States has long fought to end hunger and poverty, and these programs are a critical part of that development effort. They reflect the compassionate, humanitarian character of the American people.

As my colleagues know, along with the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) and the gentlewoman from Mis-

souri (Mrs. EMERSON) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) and over 100 Members of this House, I support the establishment of the Global Food for Education Initiative that would fund school feeding programs around the world, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, and throughout the Mideast.

This program was inspired by two great leaders of our country, former Senators George McGovern and Bob Dole, and as I said, has enjoyed incredible bipartisan support, not only in the House but in the other body.

School feeding programs accomplish a number of things. First, they get food and nutrition to hungry kids. We all know that hungry children cannot learn.

Second, school feeding programs increase school attendance. In various pilot programs, as in the pilot program of this Global Food for Education Initiative, we have seen school attendance increase dramatically, especially among girls. Education is really a key tool in combatting some of the terrible effects of poverty and ignorance and illiteracy.

We talk about how do we deal with intolerance and hate around the world. Education is the way to do that. So this program would actually get more young people into schools, and I think it is an effective tool in combatting the types of conditions where terrorists tend to seek recruits.

I am pleased that we have been able to get some language in the farm bill in the House, and hopefully the other body will follow suit, but I would call on President Bush to extend this particular program through fiscal year 2002.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) again for her incredible leadership on this and so many other food aid issues. I support this motion to instruct conferees to support the highest levels of funding for U.S. food aid programs.

I think this is an important motion. This is an important statement for the Members of this House to make.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts so very much for speaking out again today, and for providing the type of national leadership that we need in order to make this Global Food for Education Program permanent.

I think, if the gentleman might want to engage in a colloquy at this point, I know he has thought a great deal about how our commodities leverage food from other countries, and the participation of other nations in this Global Food for Education Initiative.

Perhaps the gentleman would wish to place some of that on the RECORD at this time.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, what we are proposing here is not just a program where the United States goes it alone. What we are trying to do here is inspire other countries around the world to follow suit, and to make a

strong effort to eliminate hunger among the world's children.

We have the ability to do that. Our country, working with other countries around the world, we can eliminate hunger among children. We could eliminate hunger among the entire world if we had the political will to do so.

As Senator McGovern has said time and time again, hunger is a political condition. It is something that we can solve if we have the political will to do so.

Our goal here is to have the United States be a leader in this effort, but to go to other countries around the world, as we have been trying to do, to get them to participate in this program. So it is a worldwide effort, a worldwide effort to combat hunger.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for those comments. I am reminded of the day that we had the special press conference up here in the Capitol with Senators McGovern and Dole, these two dogged World War II veterans who could be doing anything else with their lives at this point, yet they were here on the Global Food for Education Program because they as veterans

understand what it takes to build peace.

What a contribution they are still making, though not legislators or Members of Congress at this point in their lives, to have an influence to do what is good in the world as Americans, regardless of party. We owe them so much. They are giving their great genius to the country, and we owe them such thanks for that, and for making a difference working with us, especially now.

I wait for the day when the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BONILLA) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGOVERN) and I can go into Pakistan and help to distribute maybe some of this milk, and to take a look at what is being taught in private schools that are being established there as we try to help part of the world that so greatly needs greater stability, to use our food programs as the real fulcrum of a better future for millions of children.

Mr. McGOVERN. As the gentleman pointed out earlier, too, this really puts our farmers in the forefront of this effort to make this world a better place.

The food we are talking about, much of it would be grown right here in the United States by American farmers who would also benefit from this program, and I have often felt that we could do more around the world to promote stability and human rights by utilizing this incredible surplus we have in our farm commodities right here in the United States.

Again, there is an incredible need out there, and as the gentlewoman pointed out, we have been engaged in these incredible humanitarian efforts in the past. I think we need to redouble our

efforts, especially in the wake of September 11. We need to bring the world community together. We can make this world a better place. We can eliminate hunger among children. We can promote global education. We can make this world a safer, less violent, more tolerant place. Again, I thank the gentlewoman for her motion.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just want to place on the RECORD, as we talk about this, if we look at the hijackers here that did such damage to our country, 15 of 19 of them came from what is now Saudi Arabia. If we look at the areas of Saudi Arabia they came from, they came from the rural, southern parts of the nation.

Other nations have been subjected to terrorist attacks, but if we really see where many of the Shiite and Sunni fundamentalists who are committing most of these acts come from, they come from parts of the country that never received support from their own governments. So therefore, these are breeding grounds for the discontent that is destabilizing that part of the world, and now our part of the world.

I know from every single farmer in my region to every single farmer across this country, they know they can be a part of the answer to retooling for peace using food as the fulcrum for a better future. I know the gentleman sees this in his mind's eye, and we can do so much good if we can get even our own government to recognize the power of people who have been fed, and that those who would seek to do harm in their own regions or in others would have less cause for action.

It is too bad that the world has to move to this point, but I will say, in defense of our country, prior to September 11 there was one Nation providing the majority of food commodities inside Afghanistan, and it was the United States of America, through the World Food Program.

So we have tried to make an effort. In some of these other nations, I think it has been more difficult to get the governments to be willing to allow food commodities and assistance to flow to some of these rural areas that may not be looked upon favorably by the central governments. But I think people may and these nations may be rethinking the damage that has been caused by ignoring major segments of the population that then are underdeveloped and underfed, and are prime targets to be lured by those who would want to create harm and instability, and to create a political movement that grows out of the poverty and deprivation of huge segments of the nations of the Middle East and of East Africa.

So I know that we have other Members who are desirous of speaking on this subject. We have been hoping that they would make it to the floor from their committee meetings. They do not appear to be here at the moment, so I think we are going to have to move on with the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Chairman BONILLA) so very much for his leadership on this, and for his support.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the motion of the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR). I know this has been an issue she has been working on long before the current crisis that exists in Afghanistan, and this program has proven to be very beneficial in this area as we undertake our mission there.

But again, well before this situation arose, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) has been a leader on this issue through her subcommittee work, and well before that, as well. I commend her for her longtime commitment to this issue.

□ 1230

We have no objection and, in fact, we support this motion enthusiastically.

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the very able member of our subcommittee, who has been such a leader on not just domestic food programs but world food programs. We thank her for leaving her committee meeting in order to come to the floor to discuss this very important motion to instruct.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for the motion to instruct and I rise in strong support of this motion.

This motion would add vital funds to international aid programs that help both citizens of poor countries and it helps American farmers. Now, more than ever, since the attack of September 11, we must fund these programs at the highest levels possible.

In the last 50 years almost 400 million people worldwide have died from hunger and from being poor. That is three times the number of people killed in all wars fought in the 20th century. Today almost 800 million people, about one-sixth of the population of the world's developing countries, do not have enough food. Two hundred million are children.

U.S. food aid is essential in fighting world hunger. It has been instrumental in averting a famine in the Horn of Africa. It has helped redevelop Bosnia's agricultural sector and feed more than 50,000 children in Haitian schools and hospitals.

Food aid empowers people, families, communities. It enables them to break out of a cycle of hunger and poverty and return to lives of dignity. On a broader scale, food aid helps countries improve their people's health, their incomes, and their living conditions. It helps them progress forward as a nation. And at the same time, the food aid helps our farmers across agricultural sectors, wheat, soybeans, rice,

peas, milk to name a few; in one of the darkest times of our agricultural history. It has helped them to sell more of their products and keep their farms and their families secure. At a time when family farms are struggling day-to-day for existence, international food aid offers them hope.

After the tragic events of September 11, more than ever the United States needs to reach out to our neighbors. Our core principles of justice, liberty and opportunity are what makes this Nation strong. We must continue to live by them and promote them. We must continue to provide assistance, support developing nations. We must let these countries know that despite the unspeakable act of terror against our Nation, we will continue to stand strong with them in their fight to improve the lives of their citizens.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) for such an eloquent statement and for her leadership on international food programs as well as our domestic programs like WIC and all of the Food and Drug Administration programs on which you have worked so hard in the subcommittee. We are truly fortunate to have you as a Member of this Congress and Connecticut certainly has made a very good choice in sending you here.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to just mention before calling on our dear able colleague from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON), that it is probably important as we talk about this motion to instruct to acknowledge the courage, the dedication and the patriotism of the workers from the U.S. Agency for International Development and the World Food Program who have been working under extremely difficult conditions, certainly in the Middle East and Central Asia, but in Africa, in Indonesia, in so many other places on our globe.

They do not get a great deal of publicity. Over the years so many have lost their lives. They in my judgment are as important as any person serving our Nation and we want to thank them, and we want to let them know that this Congress understands the heroism of their work and the great humanitarian role that they play in treating all people equally and bringing the bounty of this land to places that most Americans will never see. We wish them to know the depth of our thanks and respect that we hold for the work that they do largely unacknowledged.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON), a very high ranking member of our Committee on Agriculture. If the word is agriculture, if the word is leadership, if the word is development, she is at the front of the line.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). The Chair would announce the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) has 7 minutes remaining.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me time. I thank her for her leadership and for the motion to instruct that we will indeed instruct the conferees to go to the higher level for this very important program, Public Law 480.

This is a program that is in place and has been doing good work. It has been doing well for our farmers because indeed our farmers have benefitted from the abundance that we have, an ongoing inventory that we can now use to do very good deeds around the world. So many of our programs have been very effective in relieving hunger. There is the Food for Peace, Food for Development. There are various programs under the Public Law 480. I am very pleased that we are recognizing this as a tool for not only our agricultural expansion but also a tool for our relief.

Earlier this morning I was in a discussion where we were talking about what other things could be done in this whole conflict in terms of terrorism, particularly in Afghanistan and the region. The mere ability to help people to feed themselves was given as a strategy.

Well, guess what? This program can be used and we think that we could expand that. Obviously, they had a program that was going to be modelled a little differently; but there is no reason we cannot use this program to supplement whatever comes out of that initiative in terms of responding to the refugees. I read yesterday about the children of the garbage, they are called, out of Los Angeles, where kids go through scavenging enough products to sell and recycle so they can buy enough food to feed their families.

If we could think of this as one way of stabilizing families who are suffering from hunger, but more than that, it could be used as a tool to bring stability where we are fighting and have a military strategy. This could be a part of our diplomatic approach, is to use our development of agriculture and our U.S. AID.

We pulled AID into our State Department. For what reason? To use it as a tool that we can have as our international policy. So our food programs that we have through the Public Law 480 certainly is a tool I think is underutilized and I want to expand it.

There are many food programs I could mention. The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. Kaptur) mentioned the Global Food Program, which I am very much aware of, and the Global School Lunch Program. We are very pleased that is moving along and my colleague's leadership there has been evident, and we are very pleased Congress is moving in that direction.

I commend this amendment, but more than that, I commend our understanding that we can use food as one of the tools in our arsenal for peace and stability as well as we respond to the hunger and the needs not only in Africa and India but also in the very trou-

bled area that we are involved in, Afghanistan and that whole region.

This is a significant beginning and I hope it leads to it.

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

I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) for that very generous statement and strong support and also for her continuing leadership on so many fronts. I know that some of the initiatives that the gentlewoman has taken on for Africa, for example, using these programs will be the first time that farmer to farmer programs and modernization programs will be used for development in rural Africa in areas that so desperately need attention, and I hope that the people of North Carolina understand the genius that they have sent here in allowing the gentlewoman to serve in our Congress, and I thank the gentlewoman so very much for being here with us today.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to say, as we look at the range of what America can do in order to promote a more peaceful world, what other programs have such scope as these? We are talking here about emergency assistance for Afghan refugees and food inside Afghanistan.

These programs are being used currently in places like Lebanon where for the first time in the history of our country we have taken food commodities such as wheat and soy oil, sold them inside Lebanon, and now we are helping to redevelop villages, very poor, poor villages that did not even have water rights at the Lebanon-Israeli border in order to try to build a more peaceful world.

What other programs do we know that have this kind of range? If we think about the farmer to farmer programs that the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) was talking about in Africa or those that operate in the Caribbean, here we have programs that operate globally, using the bounty of this land being a win-win, helping our farmers and our rural communities bolster their income and yet, in my opinion, being the most important development bank that this country has in place with vast experience in every corner of the world.

So as we vote on this motion to instruct today and ultimately move our agriculture appropriation bill, we certainly would ask for the membership's full support of our international food programs, particularly at this time in our Nation's history being front and center and well understood as providing us a path to a more peaceful future.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, at this time I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

The motion was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees:

Messrs. BONILLA, WALSH, KINGSTON, NETHERCUTT, LATHAM, Mrs. EMERSON, Messrs. GOODE, LAHOOD, YOUNG of Florida, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. DELAUR, and Messrs. HINCHY, FARR of California, BOYD, and OBEY.

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2925. An act to amend the Reclamation Recreation Management Act of 1992 in order to provide for the security of dams, facilities, and resources under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation.

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 12 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

1550

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LATOURTE) at 3 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2647, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 273 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 273

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2647) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the cus-

tomary 30 minutes to my friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 273 is a standard rule waiving all points of order against the conference report, and provides for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2647, the fiscal year 2002 legislative branch appropriations bill.

The conference report provides yet another example of a carefully crafted bill from the Committee on Appropriations that balances fiscal discipline with the true needs of our first branch of government, the legislative branch. This legislation represents a responsible increase in overall spending of 4.6 percent.

I would like to also commend the gentleman from North Carolina (Chairman TAYLOR), the ranking member, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), and other members of the Committee on Appropriations for their hard work on what is truly a noncontroversial conference report, and for maintaining the position established by the House in almost every instance.

Mr. Speaker, the legislative branch appropriations conference report ensures that the diverse funding needs of this institution are met, from legislative work to security to tourism.

Specifically, this bill funds congressional operations for the House of Representatives, including our staffs and employees. It addresses the needs of the United States Capitol Police, and continues to support their efforts to modernize as they perform essential security functions for the protections of not just Members of Congress and our staffs, but for the millions of visitors who come to our seat of government every year.

This bill includes important funding to hire additional new officers, and provides needed funds to bring their salaries in line with other Federal law enforcement agencies.

I would like to take a minute to express my personal gratitude to the men and women of the United States Capitol Police for their tireless efforts during this time of war.

Day after day, regardless of the hour, truly in rain and shine, these men and women faithfully carry out the duties which ensure the safety and security for all of us who live, work and visit our Nation's Capital. Their dedication, professionalism, and seemingly endless hours of service to ensure our security have not gone without notice and are most appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, this conference report also provides for the needs of the Architect of the Capitol, including the various operations and maintenance activities under his jurisdiction for the Capitol, House office buildings and the surrounding grounds, and including an additional \$70 million for needed House and Senate office space at the new Capitol Visitor's Center.

In addition, it funds the needs of the invaluable but often behind-the-scenes

work performed by the Congressional Budget Office, the Government Printing Office, and the General Accounting Office.

The conference agreement also provides funding for the Library of Congress and for the Congressional Research Service, including the employees who collectively help us and our staff make sense of the many complex issues we face every day.

Mr. Speaker, this conference report maintains the House-passed measures aimed to help meet the needs of an ever-changing and dynamic workplace. It helps this institution keep pace as an employer, including a monthly transit benefit, and makes modest infrastructure changes to make cycling to work more appealing; that is, as in riding a bike cycling. These transit benefits will help reduce demand on the already-limited parking, and help reduce traffic congestion.

In addition, the conference report calls for a study of options for a self-sustaining staff fitness center.

Finally, the conference report recognizes our need to become more environmentally friendly and efficient in reusing and recycling our waste by directing a review of the current recycling program, identifying ways to improve the program, establishing criteria for measuring compliance, and setting reasonable milestones for increasing the amount of recycled material.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good conference report and deserves our support. I urge all of my colleagues to support this straightforward rule, as well as the underlying noncontroversial legislation.

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this rule allows for the consideration of the conference report on the legislative branch appropriations bill for fiscal year 2002, and it waives all points of order.

The bill appropriates money for the operations of the House and Senate and the maintenance of the Capitol complex. It also funds legislative branch agencies that support Congress, including the Library of Congress, the Congressional Budget Office, and the General Accounting Office.

In the aftermath of September 11, the American people I think have found increased confidence in the Federal Government and Congress in particular, and I believe that the confidence is well-founded.

The men and women who serve as Members of Congress, and I do not speak of myself, but I speak of my colleagues, are an extraordinary group of dedicated individuals. They are served by a corps of talented and hard-working staff, and I am very proud to serve with them.

Representative democracy is never easy, and it is even more difficult in