

Wicker	Wolf	Wynn
Wilson (NM)	Woolsey	Young (AK)
Wilson (SC)	Wu	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—22

Ackerman	Hastings (FL)	Roukema
Barrett	Holt	Schaffer
Blagojevich	Hulshof	Souder
Bonior	Lantos	Spratt
Boucher	Meeks (NY)	Traficant
Cummings	Olver	Walsh
Delahunt	Pelosi	
Dreier	Riley	

□ 1623

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4635, ARMING PILOTS AGAINST TERRORISM ACT

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-557) on the resolution (H. Res. 472) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4635) to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish a program for Federal flight deck officers, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2486, INLAND FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING SYSTEM ACT OF 2002

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-558) on the resolution (H. Res. 473) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2486) to authorize the National Weather Service to conduct research and development, training, and outreach activities relating to tropical cyclone inland forecasting improvement, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2733, ENTERPRISE INTEGRATION ACT OF 2002

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-559) on the resolution (H. Res. 474) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2733) to authorize the National Institute of Standards and Technology to work with major manufacturing industries on an initiative of standards development and implementation for electronic enterprise integration, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4687, NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION SAFETY TEAM ACT

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-560) on the resolution (H. Res. 475) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4687) to provide for the establishment of investigative teams to assess building performance and emergency response and evacuation procedures in the wake of any building failure that has resulted in substantial loss of life or that pose significant potential of substantial loss of life, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was traveling on official House business and missed rollcall votes 283 and 284. Had I been present, I would have voted aye on rollcall 283 and aye on rollcall 284.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISION NOT TO RUN FOR REELECTION

(Mrs. MEEK of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Members of my beloved House, it is no secret that I love this institution and I love my job in Congress. Working with all of you over the years has been one of the great joys of my life.

I told this to my constituents in Miami on Sunday, because they mean a lot to me. And I love all of you, too, both the Republicans and the Democrats, even the independents, so I wanted you to hear it from me directly that I have decided not to run for reelection this fall. So you will have me until December. I have enjoyed this stay. It has been a good run, Mr. Speaker. It has been a good run.

I was elected to Congress in 1992. CORRINE BROWN, ALCEE HASTINGS and I were the first African Americans elected from the State of Florida since right after Reconstruction. I said then that we waited 100 years to get to this body, so we were very anxious to get to work, and so we did. I came here after 13 years as a State representative and a State senator in the Florida legislature.

I have been impressed with the House from the very first. Every time I look at the Capitol dome and look at Lady Liberty I am more and more in awe. It will never get old to me. I am a good American. I love America.

I was elected to Congress during a crisis time in my community. Hurricane Andrew, the costliest hurricane of all time, had just devastated the entire south end of my district. We worked very hard together, both Republicans and Democrats.

I came here with two Republicans, we were together in the Florida legisla-

ture, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN and LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART, and CORRINE BROWN, "Queen CORRINE," from the Florida legislature. We came here together and we have stood hand in hand ever since. And ALCEE HASTINGS came with us. He reached the highest pinnacle of the judiciary in our State as a Federal judge. So we came here in honor, and we love this Congress and we love this country.

So while our constituents were cleaning up all of the devastation by the hurricane, I came to the Congress, and the Congress responded and helped us build back that community. It has been a lot of work, Mr. Speaker, and a lot of it, the people you see here, helped make it happen through the years. They helped us restore our community, helped us restore the dignity and the quality of life of many of the people we represented.

A lot of problems arise in my district many times. I bring them here to your lap and to your feet and to your hands, and many of you, particularly my comrades and colleagues on the Committee on Appropriations, they always do whatever they can to help. Always. That is why I love this body so very much. I was just gifted and blessed to be placed on the Committee on Appropriations so I could bring the direct wishes and concerns of my constituency to this body, and I appreciate it.

□ 1630

I was confirmed just last fall on the evening of September 11 when I joined so many of you on the steps of the Capitol the evening after the terrorist attacks on New York and the Pentagon and we sang God Bless America together, Democrats and Republicans, Northerners and Southerners and Westerners, one Nation under God, indivisible, united and strong.

Do I sound maudlin? Do I sound soft? Do I sound sad? I never asked for forgiveness for standing up for this country. I never asked for forgiveness for standing up for military preparedness. I was around during World War II. I will always want this country to be strong and to be prepared.

Throughout my career I have always tried to think of the little people and to use the power of government to help improve their lives. I know what it is like not to have much and not to have many prospects. I rose from the lowest part of the neighborhood I grew up in Tallahassee. They called it The Bottom. It was "the black bottom." I was thinking of this the other day because just a few weeks ago the adventurer CURT took me to Moscow and Beijing on a CODEL. I met with the Presidents of Russia and China. I have discussed national issues with Presidents Carter, Clinton, and Bush. I have been there, Mr. Speaker. I have talked to all of them, walked with kings as the poet would say, but not lost the common touch.

This one black woman from The Bottom, it was one day in the State capitol in Florida that I was not even able

during those days to go into the capitol and I lived two blocks from the capitol in Tallahassee, and I always looked up at the capitol and wondered if some day I would become a part of it. Who would imagine that I would become a part of the Florida senate, of the Florida house? Who would imagine that I would come here to Washington to be in the Halls of Congress? This is a revered body. It is a body that is well respected.

I grew up during the period of intolerance and strict segregation. It was so unfair, and it left a lasting impression on me, and I knew I had to continue to work. I saw good people held down and prevented from rising to their potential simply because of their color. I knew of good men who were killed for the same reason. I saw that power could be used to build or destroy, and I saw how powerlessness could lead to frustration and anger.

I can only state to this Congress, to every last one of you, how much I respect my blackness and my racial identity. I feel very strongly that there is still a debt we owe to the people who came before us.

When I was a child, I heard Roland Hayes sing. I got a chance to hear George Washington Carver speak. I heard W.E.B. DuBois speak. I heard Marian Anderson sing. I read the poems of Countee Cullen. So that great diversity and love that God has given came from my experience as a black person.

I stand before you today as the granddaughter of a slave. How wonderful. When you look at me, you can see that our Nation's legacy of slavery and racism is not so far removed from our lives today. But we have to keep fighting. One of the reasons that I was elected to this office was to remind you of that, and I have tried to do so to the best of my ability.

In my 10 years in the Congress and over three decades of service to my community, I have tried to live by a commitment every day of my life, and that is service is a price you pay for the space that God has let you occupy.

Because of the love of a strong Christian family, loving parents, protective older brothers and sisters, outsiders who took an interest in me, both white and black, and a strong desire to succeed, I was able to move forward.

Education is the springboard, Mr. Speaker. I have stood for it since I have been here. Improving the quality of life in housing and good health care, these are springboards. So I know it is a vehicle, and that is why I think we should continue in the Halls of Congress to do so.

I wanted to say a few things here today because of what I have lived through. We do not have time for me to go through all of it. One of these days I will write a book so each of you can read it. And other than that I will be coming back from time to time. I have six grandchildren and I have three children, and they all know of my legacy.

And when I go back home, I am not going to sit still.

My colleagues need to know some of the reasons why I am not retiring. I am not retiring because I am so feeble I cannot come up here every day. I am not retiring because I do not feel I can do the job, and I am not retiring because I feel that if I were to run I would be defeated. Mr. Speaker, I am almost undefeatable. I am almost that way in my mind, so that is no reason why I am leaving. But I want to go now, because I have other things to do and other careers to pursue.

I love this country very much, and serving it has been the greatest honor of my life. We need more respect. We need respect of diversity, we need to embrace it, and we have to listen. I fully appreciate now how progress rarely comes in giant steps, but in small, incremental lurches forward. So I will retire from Congress, fully confident that our great Nation will continue to prosper.

Dr. Benjamin Mays, the former President of Morehouse College said, "It isn't a calamity to die with dreams unfulfilled, but it is a calamity not to dream."

Mr. Speaker, I hope all of my colleagues will remember me as someone who tried as hard as she could to do both.

NEVER CAN SAY GOOD-BYE

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I just want to echo the sentiments on this side of the aisle about our sadness regarding the departure from this wonderful institution of our dear colleague, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK).

In my 20 years of elective office, I have served every one of those days with my colleague, CARRIE MEEK. The Congresswoman from Florida has been a distinguished member of every institution I have had the pleasure to serve. In the Florida house we served together. We moved together to the Florida senate, and then we served here in the U.S. Congress.

In those many years, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) has distinguished herself as a dedicated public servant, carrying the water on so many items of interest to south Florida and, indeed, our Nation; because I think her legacy extends far beyond her Liberty City district, far beyond our Sunshine State, far beyond our borders. She leaves a legacy of leadership, of dignity, of dedication, and a real sense of community service.

CARRIE, we are going to have you to kick around for a lot of years. You are not retiring; you are going to be in our hearts and you are going to be in our community for many decades to come. I cannot imagine serving here without you. So every day when we are voting,

you will be a part of this institution, you will be a part of our body, you will be a part of our legacy. Asi que te va vamos a estranoi, mi amiga. You are my friend. We have traveled many a hard road together, and we will continue that struggle together for many more years. You are not leaving, so we are not going to say good-bye. Adios, mi amiga.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 8, 2002, I was unavoidably detained in my district on official business, and I missed rollcall votes, numbers 283 and 284. If I was present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 283 and "aye" on rollcall vote 284.

MANY THANKS TO CARRIE MEEK, A GREAT AMERICAN

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I have had the honor of serving with the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) on the Committee on Appropriations for many years now. We saw the parade of Members from both sides of the aisle, all sorts of ideologies, come and give the gentlewoman a hug. They gave her a hug not for her, although she appreciated it; they gave her a hug for themselves. She is an historic leader of this House, an historic leader of her State, and a great American. She loves this country, and the great news is her country loves her.

The gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) is a person of great depth, of great intellect, of great ability, who is as humble an individual as I know, as effective an individual as I know.

And, CARRIE, all of us will miss you in the day-to-day operations of this body. But as the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) indicated, we know that you are not going. We think you are probably going to be coming here regularly to visit family. Who knows?

But we certainly want to say to the gentlewoman that we thank her. We thank her for being her, for being our friend, for being such a great Member of this House. She has brought honor to this House, she has brought humanity to this House, and she has brought great service to her district.

EXTENDING DEEP LOVE AND APPRECIATION

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I wish to add my words to that of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) and the Florida delegation in extending our deepest love and appreciation to our treasured colleague from the State of