

Lantos	Miller, George	Toomey
Lee	Napolitano	Trafigant
Linder	Oberstar	Waters
Lofgren	Pickering	Watson (CA)
Menendez	Roybal-Allard	Wexler
Millender-	Sanchez	Woolsey
McDonald	Solis	Young (AK)

□ 1051

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

Messrs. JENKINS, EHLERS, and ROSS changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 48 on approving the Journal I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 48, I was conducting official business in my San Diego, California district. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3694

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 3694.

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

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. CON. RES. 275, SENSE OF CONGRESS ON HUNTING SEA- SONS FOR MIGRATORY MOURN- ING DOVES

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 353 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 353

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 275) expressing the sense of the Congress that hunting seasons for migratory mourning doves should be modified so that individuals have a fair and equitable opportunity to hunt such birds. The first reading of the concurrent resolution shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the concurrent resolution are waived. General debate shall be confined to the concurrent resolution and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Resources. After general debate the concurrent resolution shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The concurrent resolution shall be considered as read. During consideration of the concurrent resolution for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional

Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. At the conclusion of consideration of the concurrent resolution for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the concurrent resolution to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution and amendments thereto to final adoption without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), 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. HASTINGS of Washington asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 353 is an open rule waiving all points of order against the consideration of H. Con. Res. 275, a sense of the Congress regarding hunting seasons for migratory mourning doves. The rule provides one hour of general debate to be equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Resources. The rule waives all points of order against the consideration of the concurrent resolution.

The rule also authorizes the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to accord priority recognition to Members who have preprinted their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 275 is a sense of the Congress introduced by the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Resources, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), and it expresses the sense of Congress that, one, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 should be modified to allow for mourning dove hunting during the last week in August in areas north of 37 degrees north latitude; two, that the United States should begin discussions with the appropriate parties to ensure that all Americans have an opportunity to harvest migratory mourning doves in an equitable manner; and, three, that hunters and wildlife management agencies in the States north of 37 degrees latitude should support an earlier opening date for the mourning dove season.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 275 was reported by unanimous consent of the Committee on Resources on February 27, 2002. Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support both the rule, H. Res. 353, and the underlying bill.

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) for yielding me the time, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This is an open rule. It will allow for consideration of H. Con. Res. 375 and, as we have heard, this is a resolution regarding hunting seasons for migratory mourning doves.

As the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) has described, this rule provides for 1 hour of general debate that will be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Resources. The rule permits amendments under the 5-minute rule. This is the normal amending process in the House. All Members on both sides of the aisle will have an opportunity to offer germane amendments.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution expresses the sense of Congress that the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1916 be renegotiated to provide a longer hunting season for mourning doves above the 37 degrees latitude. If the hunting season were extended, that would affect 22 States where mourning dove hunting is permitted. It also includes my State of Ohio.

Though this measure is important to many hunters and it is an important issue in many parts of this country, there is a far more important matter of legislation to extend unemployment insurance to out-of-work Americans that we are very concerned about. Many men and women have lost their jobs after the September 11 terrorist attack which was almost 6 months ago, and those benefits will soon run out unless we pass a bill to increase their unemployment insurance. We need to deal with this issue immediately.

Therefore, I will oppose the previous question and, if the previous question is defeated, I will offer an amendment to the rule which will permit the House to take up the Senate amendment to H.R. 3090, which would extend unemployment insurance by 13 weeks.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Resources.

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, this is kind of a cherished thing in America, the hunting of doves. Many of us who hunt have noticed in our younger years that dove hunting was not a big thing. Deer season was always such a big thing in the State of Utah that they closed the schools, the churches, and everything else at the opening of deer season. Fishing was always a mass exodus out of town to get to various mass areas. Dove season was never considered as much.

I do not think people understand the importance of this little elusive bird

that people call the mourning dove. Actually, there are millions of them. The problem we have on this particular bill is that when the days start getting shorter and when we have a cold snap, what happens is they go south because they are a migratory bird.

□ 1100

When they go south, the people who want to hunt in the northern areas do not get the opportunity to hunt, so they maybe can pick up a straggler here and there. But the folks from Florida, Texas, the southern States, Arizona, New Mexico, Southern California, they have a heyday. The folks in Mexico really have a heyday because they do not have a limit on it, and they go down there and shoot them by the thousands. That I think is another issue, not one before us today, but possibly one that should be considered.

So the people in the north who enjoy hunting, and hunting is one of the traditions of America which we all seem to enjoy, or many folks seem to enjoy, do not get the opportunity or privilege that people below the parallel that was mentioned before have.

So with this bill we are not telling them what to do; we do not have that right. We cannot set the limit. What we are merely saying is the President of the United States will then urge the people in Canada and Mexico to renegotiate and start the limit above that parallel by 1 week earlier. That week seems to be critical, because for those of us who have hunted doves, they can see literally thousands of those birds in the area the last week of August. Where do they go the last week of September? As if they knew exactly, away they go, and the hunting is rather poor.

So all this bill does is urge these countries to renegotiate. No one in this body or the other body has the privilege or the right to change the law. We can just urge that it be done, and this bill would urge the President of the United States to begin that type of a process.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge a "yes" vote on this rule and a "yes" vote on the bill.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my friend, the great gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH).

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

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 275 expresses the sense of Congress that hunting seasons for migratory mourning doves should be modified so that individuals have a fair and equitable opportunity to hunt such birds.

I think that the American people would have every right to ask the question: Why is Congress considering a resolution on mourning doves when 11,127,000 Americans have exhausted their unemployment benefits?

The people of this country expect a sense of proportion about what we do here, a sense of priorities. When we are coming forward to this Congress with a

bill that seeks to address the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 to try to modify that act to allow for mourning dove hunting during the last week of August, while over 1 million Americans are being deprived of an opportunity to receive income into their family because they are running out of unemployment benefits, and the Federal Government has not acted to extend those benefits, people have every right to ask, What are we doing here in this Congress? Why is Congress considering a resolution on mourning doves when the recession has lasted 52 weeks so far? Why is Congress considering a resolution on mourning doves when this week and next, persons who became unemployed after September 11 will exhaust their unemployment benefits?

Now, if Members agree with many of us that this is an example of skewed priorities, it is an example of not being in tune with the real needs of the American people, then I want to ask them to join with us in opposing the motion on the previous question.

The reason is this: if we are successful in defeating the motion on the previous question, we will then have a straight debate on unemployment insurance extension without any poison pills. I urge that we keep our priorities straight.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER).

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Washington for yielding me the necessary time to at least express interest not only in the passage of the rule, which I think is an important rule to accompany this resolution, but the folks in my State and in the adjoining States, all those above the 37th parallel, do not enjoy the opportunity, as was stated by several of the speakers before myself, including the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Resources, to be able to hunt the mourning dove during our season because, as the treaty, which was established in 1916, states, we cannot open our season before September 1. All we need in Idaho and those States that are north of the 37th parallel is just a little bit of a cooling trend and all the doves immediately go south.

It is a responsible thing to do, and it is a responsible thing to do because of some of the subject matter that has been brought up by the gentleman across the aisle, that there are a lot of folks that cannot afford to go to the southern States, cannot afford to go to Mexico, cannot afford to transport the weapons or the transportation, and these people then are denied the opportunity to hunt, as well.

So I think this is an economic stimulus package, and it is also a package to help those folks who do not have the necessary resources to be able to enjoy hunting in their home State and be able to take the mourning doves, within a certain limit.

So, Mr. Speaker, I join with the good gentleman from Washington and all

those others who have spoken in hopes that we will vote for the rule, pass the rule, and then vote and pass the resolution.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. TIERNEY).

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

Mr. Speaker, today we are here to vote on the fate of mourning doves. That may be a serious matter, and people may in fact cherish the opportunity to go and shoot these birds, and that would be appropriate at some other time, I might suspect.

However, there are people mourning in America today because they are working families who have suffered record layoffs since the tragic terrorist attacks of September 11 and prior to that time.

From September 11, the date after which people exhausted their benefits, the date they would get additional benefits under the bipartisan legislation passed in the Senate 100 to nothing through January of this year, more than 1.3 million people will have exhausted their regular employment benefits, and we are here talking about doves.

In nine States, including my home State of Massachusetts, the number of unemployed workers exhausting their unemployment benefits from November to January more than doubled from the comparable period a year ago. On April 15, just a month from now, unemployed workers across this country will be paying their taxes, filing their returns to pay taxes for the money they made before September 11. Those tax dollars go to pay our salaries here in Congress. They expect us to work, and they expect us to set priorities.

Long before the priority of shooting doves, we should be doing something about the unemployment insurance for people who are out of work. We were able to work to bail out the airlines. We promised to help the laid-off workers then, and we still have not done it. Instead, we have a tax package to help corporations. The majority in this House tried first to give a 15-year break of \$25 billion back to Enron and other megacorporations, but did not do anything about unemployment insurance.

They still are now trying to undermine that by taking that 100 to zero proposal from the Senate that would extend unemployment insurance and add another poison pill, this time shifting from the employer to the employee the cost of their basic health insurance, trying to undermine our employer-based health insurance system as the price for having unemployment insurance.

Well, we have suspension of the rules for mourning doves, Mr. Speaker, and we should have suspension of the rules to deal with the unemployment insurance. Oppose the motion on the previous question, bring forward that Senate bill. No more poison pills. Let us

get our business done for America's working families.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. REHBERG).

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from the State of Washington for yielding time to me.

While I am a freshman, I hope I never get to the point on this House floor in my time as a United States Congressman to belittle the opportunity or attempt of any other Member in the United States Congress to do something for their constituency.

Within the State of Montana, this is an important issue. Fish and game can be debated for many hours and many days in Montana because of not only the hunting experience, but the economic benefit that it provides to my residents. On my own ranch we have dove hunting. Unfortunately, because of the dates that are included here, sometimes it can only last 3 days because, as the light hours change in the day and the temperature changes, these migratory birds move south.

This is an opportunity to create some economic development for my State, a State that has been gripped for 3, 4, 5, and sometimes 6 years by drought, now. We have a new term in Montana. It is called "continuing drought."

So I will not belittle their opportunity or attempt to do something for their constituency, and I hope they will not continue to do that in this particular case, because this is an important piece of legislation for my constituency.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

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

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, by a vote of 100 to nothing, the other body voted for a 13-week extension of unemployment benefits. The purpose of our act today is we want to bring that same proposal to the floor so we can vote on it as well, and extend unemployment benefits.

We are going to hear that there will be an effort to do that later in the day put forth by the majority, and they have some things added on to it. What is wrong with that? Let me tell the Members what is wrong with the majority's health care scam that is added to the unemployment benefit extension.

A person who has been out of work for 6 months and is about to lose his or her benefits, who has \$1,000 in his or her checking account, here is how they get health care under the Republican plan. They are supposed to go out and pay \$7,000 or more in premiums to buy a health insurance policy, and then wait until next year, when they file their income tax return and get \$4,200 back as a credit.

The Republican health insurance scam requires people to use dollars

they do not have to pay a premium they cannot afford to get a tax credit they will not use until more than a year from now. That is a hoax, not a plan. The majority should join with us and defeat this previous question.

Let us have a clean up-and-down vote on whether or not to do as 100 Senators did and extend unemployment benefits for America's unemployed for 13 weeks. Vote "no" on the previous question.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to our great leader, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge our colleagues to vote against the previous question. Here we are on the floor of Congress at a time when our country is in a very difficult place economically. This month, a record number of people have exhausted their unemployment benefits, a record number of people. Here we are on the floor of the House; and instead of addressing that very pressing need for all of those families, we are taking up suspensions, a second day of suspensions.

I have no quarrel with our dealing with certain issues, like extending the hunting season for mourning doves, if that is necessary and that is our jurisdiction. That is something that should be a small part of what we do.

But the American people see us on TV. They see the irrelevance of what is going on on the floor of the House of Representatives. Can we not give to the workers of America the same due that we give to mourning doves, to extend, to extend the time frame? Why does that not have at least as high a priority to the Republican majority? Why do not unemployed workers receive the same priority as hunting season for mourning doves?

There was a proposal that was supposed to come to the floor today which would have extended the benefits but would have a poison pill, a very unwise provision in terms of health benefits. The Democratic proposal would have been very smart: extend the benefits at least 13 weeks, hopefully 26 weeks, again, recognizing that record numbers of Americans are exhausting their unemployment benefits, and couple that with a plan to make the COBRA benefits available to these unemployed workers.

When we had the tragedy of September 11, we immediately moved to bail out the airline industry, and we had to do that. But that happened with the promise that we would shortly be addressing the needs of those Americans who lost their jobs because of September 11.

Six months later, we are still waiting for the Republican majority to bring a bill to the floor that adequately addresses those concerns. Instead, we are here this morning talking about extending the hunting season for mourning doves.

I urge my colleagues to vote against the previous question.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KLECZKA).

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

We do have with us today, Mr. Speaker, a group of students. I think they are probably sitting up there wondering, what is the Congress talking about today? The issue before the House is to extend the hunting season for mourning doves, little mourning doves that go whoo, whoo, whoo. In the winter they are at the bottom of the feeder. For the most part, they are ground feeders. They are pretty little birds, very, very peaceful. What we are doing today is extending the season so we can kill them.

Well, the students probably know or have talked to their folks who have indicated this is a bad economy. Maybe one of the parents is laid off, or a neighbor or an uncle or aunt; and it is Congress's authority and it is in our power to give them unemployment compensation benefits.

□ 1115

What is happening is they are running out of their original natural allotment. The U.S. Senate, your Senators, passed a bill providing a 13-week extension for unemployment compensation benefits to help people who are laid off. It is in the House, but the Republicans in this House do not want to take it up and instead bring before the House today, we have nothing else to do today, they bring before the House today a bill to extend the season on killing these little, whoo, whoo, whoo, mourning doves.

Let me tell you about the mourning dove. I come from the State of Wisconsin. When I was in the State legislature a couple years ago, back in 1971, the State legislature passed a bill naming the mourning dove a bird of peace, a bird of peace. How noble. It was befitting this little bird. Well, then the legislature and the Natural Board of Resources last year voted to open the season. It is bugging some people that this little bird which mates for life is at the bottom of some people's bird feeders cleaning up the seeds that have been knocked out of the feeder and so the response for Wisconsin is kill them. So Wisconsin says let us kill them. They are bugging someone. But then those who want to kill them are saying, Oh, but are they good eating.

Listen, after we take the feathers off that little guy, it is about this big and 4 ounces. Is that a meal? To hear the Republicans come up and say we need to kill these birds because of economic stimulus or because we need it to provide some economic development, how hungry can you be?

We know full well the bad news is the bird of peace in the State of Wisconsin is now being killed because it provides such great meals. I guess it is something like a turkey.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSSELLA). Members are reminded not

to introduce or bring to the attention of the House an occupant in the galleries.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I frankly believe that this legislation of the mourning doves will not help those Texans in my State. But I do know what will help them and that is a concern about unemployment benefits that need to be extended.

If you want to know what unemployment is about, just come to my home town of Houston. Although we are the can-do city, we fought against the stress of Tropical Storm Alison, the number of layoffs of our corporate friends like Continental and the disaster of Enron with some 4,500 employees being laid off, we know we can pull ourselves up by our boot straps when people are hurting. It is time for this Congress to address the question of the devastation of extended unemployment just like we went to the aid of many of those corporate friends who were devastated after September 11. Thirteen weeks, I will support that; but I also believe 52 weeks of extension because in April my State will see an exhaustion of unemployment benefits of some 175,000 individuals.

I have heard the stories of individuals who cannot pay for health coverage, cannot provide the dollars that allow them to have the COBRA. We need to respond to the crisis of Americans right now and need to talk about unemployment to the extent that we provide the bridge and support for those who are in need.

I have my constituents talking to me about saving Social Security and the prescription drug benefit, but there are working families now who have contributed to this economy and through no fault of their own they are no longer working. I think we are wasting America's time by not coming to this floor, extending unemployment benefits like the Senate did for 13 weeks; and if we can do more we should do more. My advocacy is for the extended 52 weeks because I know in April and May there will be people in my home town who will be hurting.

We have to face reality, Mr. Speaker. Legislation that does not help all of us maybe should be reconsidered. I will be voting against this rule because I want to vote for extended unemployment benefits for Americans. I want them back on their feet. I want them to pay for tuition for the young people going to college. I want them to have health care. I want to make sure they pay their mortgages. I want them to be proud to be an American. I want to thank those men and women who are fighting in Afghanistan to help free us and free Afghanistan. Let us do something for the people here in the United States and extend the unemployment benefits.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), a very much-distinguished member of the Committee on Rules and of this body.

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

Mr. Speaker, this morning the morning news from Rochester tells me that this year my district has lost 12,400 jobs. That is almost unheard of in Rochester, New York.

In 1929 when the crash came, we hardly noticed it up there. Our unemployment rate has been always steady and very good, but we are bleeding jobs. I suspect for many of you, your mail must reflect mine. Can you do something about unemployment? I have lost my unemployment. My unemployment is running out. Now to add to the rest of our woes, we also have a lot of people employed by Global Crossing.

I am embarrassed that the people in my district are seeing this morning that what we are most concerned about is the shooting of mourning doves, as the previous speaker said, the peace bird of the State of Wisconsin. I do not know if enough people in my district will be able to shoot enough birds to feed their family, but it does not look like we will be able to do much here on extending their unemployment benefits.

I am sure they understand that we do not control the agenda of this House, or it would have been done a long time ago; and we should have been taking up the Senate bill. I urge Members to vote against the previous question and the rule to try to get some unemployment insurance up here.

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

Mr. Speaker, before I yield back the time, I would just like to say that it has been nearly 6 months since the tragic events of September 11. Millions of American jobs have been lost since then. The unemployment benefits for 1.3 million Americans have already expired. Millions more will be losing benefits in the coming weeks. We must act.

Last month the other body passed a very clean extension of these critically needed benefits. Every day we fail to act means economic hardship for more and more Americans. In a bipartisan fashion we should not be wasting time and be together on this and vote to extend unemployment benefits.

As far as the rule is concerned, the rule is okay and it is open. We have no problem with it.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to remind Members because there is a lot of concern on both sides of the aisle regard-

ing the unemployment benefits for those who were adversely harmed by what happened on September 11 and because of the economy, we intend to take that up and we will take that up; and I just wanted to remind my colleagues of that.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, this rule would clear the way for the House to debate a nonbinding resolution about changing the hunting seasons for migratory mourning doves.

That is an interesting resolution, and it could make for an interesting debate. But the fact that it is proposed for debate today on the House floor is little short of a disgrace because of what it says about the priorities of the House's Republican leadership.

In short, they have made it a priority to debate this nonbinding resolution, instead of trying to help people who have lost their jobs and are in an economic bind.

I know we are all encouraged by the signs the economy is recovering from recession. But the recovery is far from complete, and unemployment insurance is running out for thousands of people who have lost their jobs.

Extending those benefits is something they need and something that will help the economy because it will enable them to continue paying their bills. And it is what we should be doing today instead of debating whether Congress should go on record with some opinions about changing a hunting season.

There should not be any partisan disagreement about this. That is why the Senate has already twice unanimously approved bills that would extend unemployment compensation benefits for 13 weeks.

And that is what we should be doing today, instead of debating hunting seasons. We should be passing that bill—the bill supported by every Senator, regardless of party—and sending it to the President so he can sign it into law.

It's too bad the Republican leadership does not think that should have priority over this resolution. I don't share that view, and so I cannot support this rule.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 354 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 354

Resolved, That it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of Wednesday, March 6, 2002, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules relating to the following measures:

(1) The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 32) congratulating the United States Military Academy at West Point on its bicentennial anniversary, and commending its outstanding contributions to the Nation.