CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

Pombo

Portman

Putnam

Riley

Royce

Shaw

Shays

Hill

Holt

Hoyer

Inslee

Israel

John

Lee

Levin

Moore

Pryce (OH)

To permit a question of privileges of the House either urging or requiring congressional action or inaction on education funding would permit any Member to advance virtually any legislative proposal as a question of privileges of the House.

As the Chair ruled on December 22, 1995, the mere invocation of the general legislative power of the purse provided in the Constitution, coupled with a fiscal policy end, does not meet the requirements of rule IX and is really a matter properly initiated through introduction in the hopper under clause 7 of rule XII.

Accordingly, the resolution offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY) does not constitute a question of privileges of the House under rule IX and may not be considered at this time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I appeal the ruling of the Chair.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is: Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. JEFF MILLER OF FLORIDA

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to lay the appeal on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

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

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were-yeas 210, nays 200, not voting 21, as follows:

	[Roll No. 433] YEAS—210	
Aderholt	Crenshaw	Grucci
Akin	Cubin	Gutknecht
Armey	Culberson	Hansen
Bachus	Cunningham	Hart
Baker	Davis, Jo Ann	Hastings (WA)
Ballenger	DeLay	Hayes
Bartlett	DeMint	Hayworth
Barton	Diaz-Balart	Hefley
Bass	Doolittle	Herger
Bereuter	Dreier	Hobson
Biggert	Duncan	Hoekstra
Bilirakis	Dunn	Horn
Blunt	Ehlers	Hostettler
Boehlert	Emerson	Houghton
Boehner	English	Hulshof
Bonilla	Everett	Hunter
Bono	Ferguson	Hyde
Boozman	Flake	Isakson
Brady (TX)	Fletcher	Issa
Brown (SC)	Foley	Istook
Bryant	Forbes	Jenkins
Burr	Fossella	Johnson (CT)
Burton	Frelinghuysen	Johnson (IL)
Buyer	Gallegly	Johnson, Sam
Calvert	Gekas	Jones (NC)
Camp	Gibbons	Keller
Cannon	Gilchrest	Kelly
Cantor	Gillmor	Kennedy (MN)
Capito	Gilman	Kerns
Castle	Goode	King (NY)
Chabot	Goodlatte	Kingston
Chambliss	Goss	Kirk
Coble	Graham	Knollenberg
Collins	Granger	Kolbe
Combest	Graves	LaHood
Cox	Green (WI)	Latham
Crane	Greenwood	LaTourette

Leach Lewis (CA) Lewis (KY) Linder LoBiondo Lucas (OK) Manzullo McCrery McHugh McInnis McKeon Mica Miller, Dan Miller, Gary Miller, Jeff Moran (KS) Morella Myrick Nethercutt Ney Northun Norwood Nussle Oshorne Ose Otter Oxlev Paul Pence Peterson (PA) Petri Pickering Platts

Ackerman Allen Andrews Baca Baird Baldacci Baldwin Barcia Barrett Becerra Bentsen Berkley Berman Berry Bishop Blagojevich Blumenauer Bonior Borski Boswell Boucher Boyd Brady (PA) Brown (FL) Brown (OH) Capps Capuano Cardin Carson (IN) Carson (OK) Clay Clayton Clement Clyburn Condit Convers Costello Coyne Cramer Crowley Cummings Davis (CA) Davis (FL) Davis (IL) DeFazio DeGette Delahunt DeLauro Deutsch Dicks Dingell Doggett Dooley Doyle Edwards Engel Eshoo Etheridge Evans Farr Fattah Filner Ford Frank Frost Gephardt

Quinn Radanovich Ramstad Regula Rehberg Tauzin Revnolds Terry Rogers (KY) Rogers (MI) Rohrabacher Thune Ros-Lehtinen Tiahrt Tiberi Ryan (WI) Rvun (KS) Upton Vitter Saxton Schaffer Walden Schrock Walsh Sensenbrenner Wamp Sessions Shadegg Weller Sherwood Shimkus Shuster Simmons Simpson Wolf Skeen Smith (MI) NAYS-200 Gonzalez Gordon Murtha Green (TX) Nadler Hall (TX) Harman Neal Hilliard Obev Hinchey Olver Hinojosa Ortiz Hoeffel Holden Owens Honda Pastor Hooley Payne Pelosi Phelps Jackson (IL) Jackson-Lee (TX) Rahall Jefferson Rangel Johnson, E. B Reves Rivers Jones (OH) Kaniorski Kaptur Kennedy (RI) Ross Kildee Kilpatrick Kind (WI) Rush Kleczka Sabo Kucinich Langevin Lantos Larsen (WA) Larson (CT) Schiff Scott Lewis (GA) Lipinski Shows Lofgren Lowev Lucas (KY) Luther Snyder Lvnch Solis Maloney (CT) Spratt Maloney (NY) Stark Markev Matheson Matsui Stupak McCarthy (MO) McCarthy (NY) McCollum McDermott McGovern McIntvre McNulty Towns Meehan Turner Meek (FL) Meeks (NY) Udall (NM) Menendez Velazquez Millender-Visclosky McDonald Miller, George Waters Watson (CA) Mollohan Watt (NC)

Smith (NJ) Smith (TX) Souder Stearns Sullivan Sununu Sweenev Tancredo Taylor (NC) Thomas Thornberry Toomey Watts (OK) Weldon (FL) Weldon (PA) Whitfield Wicker Wilson (NM) Wilson (SC) Young (AK) Young (FL) Moran (VA) Napolitano Oberstar Pallone Pascrell Peterson (MN) Pomeroy Price (NC) Rodriguez Roemer Rothman Roybal-Allard Sanders Sandlin Sawyer Schakowsky Serrano Sherman Skelton Slaughter Smith (WA) Stenholm Strickland Tauscher Taylor (MS) Thompson (CA) Thompson (MS) Thurman Tiernev Udall (CO)

Waxman Weiner Abercrombie Barr Callahan Cooksey Davis, Tom Deal Ehrlich ʻʻnay. to "yea." TION

Wexler Woolsey NOT VOTING-21 Ganske Gutierrez

Pitts Roukema Sanchez Stump Tanner Watkins (OK)

McKinney

Wu

Wynn

□ 1524 Mr. EDWARDS and Mr. HINOJOSA changed their vote from "yea" to

Hastings (FL)

Hilleary

LaFalce

Lampson

Mascara

Mr. HEFLEY and Mr. WELDON of Florida changed their vote from "nay"

So the motion to table was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE-IN-TEGRITY OF PROCEEDINGS AS PRESCRIBED BY THE CONSTITU-

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House, and I offer a privileged resolution, that I noticed yesterday pursuant to rule IX, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Whereas Article I, Section VIII, of the Constitution states Congress shall have Power to promote the progress of Science and the useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

Whereas such protections on Writings and Discoveries have been promulgated by pat-ent, copyright, and other laws, including Public Law 98-417, affording Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries for a limited period of time; Whereas Public Law 98-417 breaches this

constitutional requirement by failing to impose such limitation on the protection of

certain medical inventions; Whereas provisions of Public Law 98-417 imbue the Food and Drug Administration with the authority to secure for limited time for Inventors the exclusive Right to their re-

spective Medical Inventions; Whereas public Laws 98–417 fails to provide the Food and Drug Administariton the authority to refrain form securing this exclusive right for inventors if the conditions for such exclusivity are not met;

Whereas due to the failure of Congress to provide the Food and Drug Administration with the proper authority to fulfill obligations under the Act, certain medical inven-tions have received the exclusive Right to their respective Inventions without limitation

Whereas the unlimited exercise of exclusivity by prescription drug manufacturers subjects healthcare consumers and third party payers to no-competitive prices and rein significantly higher prescription sults drug costs for purchasers; Whereas health care costs increased by 5%

in 2001, 3.7 times faster than overall inflation rate:

Whereas prescription drug cost spending is the fastest growing component of heath care costs, and rose 17% in 2001; Whereas health insurance premiums rose

by 11% in 2001, driven largely by the in-

creased cost of prescription drugs; Whereas state Medicaid spending increased by 11% in Fiscal year 2002, driven primarily by increased prescription drug spending and enrollment growth:

Whereas the number of individuals with health insurance declined by 1.4 million in 2001, a function of the faltering economy, rapid health inflation, and a growing number of states in which public insurance programs are outpacing budgets;

Whereas prescription drugs are prescribed by licensed healthcare professionals to consumers as a non-discretionary purchase essential to their welfare;

Whereas it is in the public interest to grant a limited period of exclusivity to inventors of prescription drugs, but extending that exclusivity places an inappropriate fiscal burden on consumers, insurers, and public sector payers;

Whereas generic drugs are sold as alternatives to medical inventions for which exclusivity is no longer available;

Whereas generic drugs have the same dosage, safety, strength, quality, and performance as the medical inventions for which they serve as substitutes, according to the Food and Drug Administration;

Whereas limitations on exclusivity have allowed prescription drug prices to drop 40-80 percent when generic drugs enter the market;

Whereas limitations allowing generic drugs to enter the market saved consumers \$8-\$10 billion in 1994 alone, according to the Congressional Budget Office;

Whereas the failure to apply limitations to the Exclusive rights granted under Public Law 98-622 has afforded widely used medicines, including Prilosec and Paxil, an indefinite period of exclusivity;

Whereas Prilosec and Pxil were among the 50 medicines seniors used most in 2001;

Whereas the Senate has passed S. 812, which amends Public Law 98-417 to restore constitutionally mandated limitation on medical inventions;

Whereas the House has not considered Legislation to amend Public Law 98-417 to restore constitutionally mandated limitations in medical inventions;

Whereas it is the obligation of the House to consider such legislation in keeping with its constitutionally mandated obligations to secure for Limited Times to Authors and inventors the right to their writings and Inventions;

Whereas the failure of the House to restore limitations on the exclusivity afforded to the inventors of prescription drugs, if not remedied, will cost consumers and other purchasers \$60 billion over the next ten years, according to the Congressional Budget Office;

Whereas the failure of the House to restore limitations on the exclusivity afforded to the inventors of prescription drugs, if not remedied, will leave more seniors and other Americans without access to needed medicines;

Resolved, that it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the house should consider pending legislation to amend Public Law 98-417 to restore constitutionally mandated limitations on medical inventions on behalf of American consumers, including seniors, American businesses, and tax-funded federal and state health insurance programs.

\Box 1530

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. BURR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The gentleman has not presented to the House a question of privilege under rule IX of the rules of the House. As the House Practice Manual clearly states, and I quote, "Rule IX is concerned not with the privileges of the Congress as a legislative branch but

only with the privileges of the House itself." The mere enumeration of the legislative powers in article 1, section 8 of the U.S. Constitution, which the gentleman cites in his resolution, do not give rise to a question of privilege of the House itself. The precedents of the House are clear on this point.

Mr. Speaker, I therefore insist on the point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). The Chair will hear from the gentleman from Ohio on the point of order as to whether his resolution constitutes a question of privileges of the House under rule IX.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this resolution goes to the question of the integrity of the House and its proceedings, and failure to act impugns the integrity of the House.

Under article 1, section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has two obligations in regard to intellectual property protection: to provide authors and inventors a period of exclusivity, and to place a defined limit on that exclusivity. Both obligations are crucial because they accommodate a delicate balance between promoting new innovation and promoting broad scale access to that new innovation.

In the case of prescription drugs, the balance is especially crucial. It is in the public interest to promote the development of new medicines. Every day, however, that competition in the drug market is delayed means fewer Americans with access to that medicine. The only thing more tragic than a life-threatening or debilitating illness is knowing that one cannot afford the medicine that would cure that illness.

In accordance with its obligations under the Constitution, Congress has enacted a number of laws intended to provide inventors and authors limited intellectual property protection: the Patent Act, the Copyright Act, the Bayh-Dole Act, the Hatch-Waxman Act, and licensing laws for atomic energy and anti-pollution devices. Unfortunately, Hatch-Waxman confers intellectual property protection without limit. This was clearly not the intention of the authors, and Congress has impugned its integrity by failing to address this constitutional breach.

Under Hatch-Waxman, drug makers can trigger an automatic 30-month period of exclusivity for their products above and beyond the 14 to 17 years of patent protection they already receive by taking two simple steps: first, the drugmaker notifies FDA that it possesses an additional patent that claims the drug, meaning that it covers an essential aspect of the drug as approved by FDA. This typically occurs at just about the time when the drugmaker's original patents on the drug are about to expire. Then, if any generic drug companies have filed on application with FDA to market a generic version of that drug, the brand-name company then sues the generic for patent infringement.

Under those circumstances, FDA is obligated to place a 2½-year stay on the approval of the generic drug application regardless of the merit of the patent, regardless of whether the drugmaker's new patent actually claims the drug. In fact, FDA has no authority under Hatch-Waxman to assess whether a patent is actually in any way relevant to the underlying drug patent. The agency must take the drug industry's word for it and award the drugmaker an additional 30 months of exclusivity.

While the Judicial Branch tries to step into the breach, the courts have repeatedly curtailed the 30-month exclusivity by ruling that a drug company's patent does not claim a drug, the courts cannot prevent drug companies from repeating this process over and over again, filing new patents with FDA, triggering 30 months of exclusivity, then enjoying that exclusivity until the courts rule against them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair requests the gentleman confine his remarks to the question of whether the resolution constitutes a question of privileges of the House.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this goes to the question of the integrity of the House and its proceedings; and by building this case, it will be clear to all Members how this in fact has happened.

The Patent and Trademark Office cannot prevent drugmakers from securing indefinite periods of exclusivity under Hatch-Waxman. It only determines whether a drugmaker should receive a patent, not whether this patent claims an existing prescription drug product. Under Hatch-Waxman, neither FDA nor any agency or branch of government can prevent intellectual property protection from being conferred over and over again, in other words, indefinitely for the same product, a violation of the Constitution.

This problem is not theoretical; it is real. Neurontin, a \$1.1 billion-a-year drug, is a prescription drug for seizures. Its two main patents, one on the drug's ingredients, one on the use of the drug, expired in 1994 and 6 years later, respectively. Right before the second patent expired, the company listed two new patents, one of which was an unapproved use to treat Parkinson's. The drugmaker did not ask FDA to approve the drug for Parkinson's patients. The drugmakers did not do any research to assert whether the drug actually is effective for Parkinson's patients, but the generic drugmaker still had to go to court to argue that its product is not intended for Parkinson's patients.

When the generic and brand-name company go to court, FDA is automatically required to withhold approval of the generic for 30 months, or 2½ years. That is why this goes to the integrity of the House and its proceedings. After those 30 months, the industry filed a new patent, forcing the generic industry to go back to court, starting the 30month clock again. The two delays, equal to 5 years, delayed generic entry and additional patent protection illegally and unconstitutionally, costing consumers a million and a half days in potential savings.

It is our responsibility, Mr. Speaker, to restore the original intent of Hatch-Waxman and meet our constitutional obligation to limit intellectual propprotection afforded ertv to drugmakers. Our failure to act on pending legislation impugns the integrity of this House and impugns the integrity of Congress. In failing to act, we play a complicit role in a looming health care crisis. We know what that is: rising prescription drug costs fuel double-digit increases in health insurance premiums, they put State budgets in the red, and they force seniors to choose between medicine and food.

My question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, regards the integrity of our proceedings as a House as prescribed by the Constitution. The Constitution conveys upon this body the power to secure for limited, underscore limited, times to authors and inventors the exclusive rights to their writings and discoveries. Hatch-Waxman confers intellectual property protection without limit, and therefore it is our obligation to remedy this constitutional breach.

The other body has passed legislation already that fulfills this obligation bipartisanly and overwhelmingly. This House has three pieces of legislation before it, H.R. 1862, 5272, and 5311, with several sponsors from both parties, that would enable the House to meet its constitutional obligation. This resolution urges the House to take up one of these measures in keeping with our constitutional obligations and to restore the integrity of our proceedings.

I ask the Speaker to recognize any Member wishing to speak on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is prepared to rule.

As the Chair ruled earlier today, a resolution expressing the sentiment that Congress should act on a specified measure does not constitute a question of privileges of the House under rule IX.

The mere invocation of legislative powers provided in the Constitution coupled with a desired policy end does not meet the requirements of rule IX and is really a matter properly initiated through introduction in the hopper under clause 7 of rule XII.

Accordingly, the resolution offered by the gentleman from Ohio does not constitute a question of the privileges of the House under rule IX, and the point of order raised by the gentleman from North Carolina is sustained.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I appeal the ruling of the Chair and ask to be heard on the ruling.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is, Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. BURR OF NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. BURR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to lay the appeal on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) to lay on the table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair.

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 212, nays 204, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 434]

Aderholt

Akin

Armev

Bachus

Ballenger

Bartlett

Bereuter

Bilirakis

Boehlert

Boehner

Bonilla

Boozman

Bryant

Burton

Buyer

Callahan

Calvert

Cannon

Cantor

Capito

Castle

Coble

Collins

Combest

Cooksey

Crenshaw

Cox

Crane

Cubin

DeLav

DeMint

Doolittle

Dreier

Dunn Ehlers

Duncan

Emerson

English

Everett

Flake

Foley

Forbes

Fossella

Gallegly

Ferguson

Fletcher

Chabot

Camp

Burr

Bono

Biggert

Blunt

Barton

Bass

Baker

YEAS-212 Gekas Gibbo Gilchr Gillm Gilma Goode Goodl Goss Graha Grang Grave Green Green Gruce Gutkr Hanse Hart Hastir Brady (TX) Hayes Brown (SC) Hayw Hefley Herger Hobson Hoekstra Horn Hostettler Houghton Hulshof Hunter Hyde Isakson Issa Chambliss Istook Jenkins Johnson (CT) Johnson (IL) Johnson, Sam Jones (NC) Keller Kellv Kennedy (MN) Culberson Kerns King (NY) Cunningham Davis. Jo Ann Kingston Davis, Tom Kirk Knollenberg Kolbe Diaz-Balart LaHood Latham LaTourette Leach Lewis (CA) Lewis (KY) Linder LoBiondo Lucas (OK) Manzullo McCrery McHugh McInnis McKeon Mica Frelinghuysen Miller, Dan Miller, Gary

Baldwin Barcia Barrett Becerra Bentsen Berkley Berman Berry Bishop Bonior Borski Boswell Boucher Boyd Capps Capuano Cardin Clay Clayton Clement Clyburn Condit Conyers Costello Covne Cramer Crowley Cummings Davis (IL) DeFazio DeGette Delahunt DeLauro Deutsch Dicks Dingell Doggett Dooley Doyle Edwards Engel Eshoo Etheridge Evans Farr Fattah Filner Ford Frank Frost Gephardt Gonzalez Gordon Barr Deal Ehrlich Ganske Hastings (FL)

Tiahrt Tiberi Toomev Upton Vitter Walden Walsh

Green (TX) Abercrombie Ackerman Gutierrez Allen Hall (TX) Andrews Harman Baca Hill Hilliard Baird Hinchey Baldacci Hinojosa Hoeffel Holden Holt Honda Hoolev Hoyer Inslee Israel Blagojevich Jackson (IL) Blumenauer Jackson-Lee (TX) Jefferson John Johnson, E. B. Jones (OH) Brady (PA) Kaniorski Brown (FL) Kaptur Kennedy (RI) Brown (OH) Kildee Kilpatrick Kind (WI) Carson (IN) Kleczka Carson (OK) Kucinich LaFalce Langevin Lantos Larsen (WA) Larson (CT) Lee Levin Lewis (GA) Lipinski Lofgren Lowev Lucas (KY) Davis (CA) Davis (FL) Luther Lynch Malonev (CT) Maloney (NY) Markey Matheson Matsui McCarthy (MO) McCarthy (NY) McCollum McDermott McGovern McIntvre McNulty Meehan Meek (FL) Meeks (NY) Menendez Millender-McDonald Miller George Mollohan Moore Moran (VA) Morella Murtha

Wicker Wilson (NM) Wilson (SC) Wolf Young (AK)

NAYS-204

Wamp

Weller

Whitfield

Watkins (OK)

Watts (OK)

Weldon (FL)

Weldon (PA)

Nadler Napolitano Neal Northup Oberstar Obev Olver Ortiz Owens Pallone Pascrell Pastor Payne Pelosi Peterson (MN) Phelps Pomeroy Price (NC) Rahall Rangel Reyes Rivers Rodriguez Roemer Ross Rothman Roybal-Allard Rush Sabo Sanders Sandlin Sawver Schakowsky Schiff Scott Serrano Sherman Shows Slaughter Smith (WA) Snvder Solis Spratt Stark Stenholm Strickland Stupak Tauscher Taylor (MS) Thompson (CA) Thompson (MS) Thurman Tiernev Towns Turner Udall (CO) Udall (NM) Velazquez Visclosky Waters Watson (CA) Watt (NC) Waxman Weiner Wexler Woolsev Wu Wynn

NOT VOTING-15

Roukema

Sanchez

Skelton

Stump

Tanner

Hilleary Lampson Mascara McKinney Pitts

□ 1604

Mrs. NORTHUP changed her vote from "vea" to "nav."

So the motion to table was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

H6957

Miller,
Moran (
Myrick
Netherc
Ney
Norwood
Nussle
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Oxley
Paul
Pence
Peterso
Petri
Pickerii
Platts
Pombo
Portma
Pryce (0
Putnam
Quinn

Miller, Jeff Ioran (KS) Vethercutt Vorwood Osborne Peterson (PA) Pickering Portman Pryce (OH) Putnam Radanovich Ramstad Rehberg Reynolds Rogers (KY) Rogers (MI) Rohrabacher Ros-Lehtinen Ryan (WI) Rvun (KS) Saxton Schaffer Schrock Sensenbrenner Sessions Shadegg Sherwood Shimkus Shuster Simmons Simpson Smith (MI) Smith (NJ) Smith (TX)

Regula

Riley

Royce

Shaw

Shavs

Skeen

Souder

Stearns

Sullivan

Sununu

Sweeney

Tancredo

Taylor (NC) Terry

Thornberry Thune

Tauzin

Thomas