Pombo

Portman

Putnam

Quinn

Pryce (OH)

Radanovich

Ramstad

Regula

Rehberg

Riley

Royce

Revnolds

 $\stackrel{\cdot}{\text{Rogers}} (KY)$ 

Rogers (MI)

Rohrabacher

Ros-Lehtinen

Ryan (WI)

Rvun (KS)

Saxton

Schaffer

Schrock

Sessions

Shadegg

Sherwood

Shimkus

Simmons

Simpson

Gonzalez

Hall(TX)

Harman

Hilliard

Hinchey

Hinojosa

Hoeffel Holden

 $\operatorname{Holt}$ 

Honda.

Hooley

Hoyer

Inslee

Israel

(TX)

Jefferson

John

Kaptur

Kildee

Kind (WI)

Kleczka

Kucinich

Langevin

Lantos

Lee

Levin

Lipinski

Lofgren

Lowey

Luther

Lynch

Markey

Matsui

Matheson

McIntyre

McNulty

Meehan

Mollohan

Hill

Gordon

Skeen Smith (MI)

Shuster

Shaw

Shays

Sensenbrenner

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. question is on the motion to table.

the The question was taken; and 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 Gutknecht Cubin Armey Culberson Hansen Bachus Cunningham Hart Hastings (WA) Baker Davis, Jo Ann Ballenger DeLay Hayes Havworth Bartlett DeMint. Diaz-Balart Hefley Barton Bass Doolittle Herger Bereuter Dreier Hobson Duncan Hoekstra Biggert Bilirakis Dunn Horn Hostettler Blunt Ehlers Boehlert Emerson Houghton Boehner English Hulshof Bonilla Everett Hunter Bono Ferguson Hyde Boozman Flake Isakson Fletcher Brady (TX) Issa Istook Brown (SC) Foley Bryant Forbes Jenkins Fossella Johnson (CT) Burr Burton Frelinghuysen Johnson (IL) Buver Gallegly Johnson, Sam Jones (NC) Calvert Gekas Gibbons Camp Keller Cannon Gilchrest Kellv Gillmor Cantor Kennedy (MN) Kerns King (NY) Capito Gilman Castle Goode Goodlatte Chabot Kingston Chambliss Goss Kirk Graham Knollenberg Coble Collins Granger Kolbe LaHood Combest Graves

Green (WI)

Latham

LaTourette

Cox

Crane

Lewis (CA) Lewis (KY) Linder LoBiondo Lucas (OK) Manzullo McCrery McHugh McInnis McKeon Mica Miller, Dan Miller, Gary Miller, Jeff Moran (KS) Myrick Nethercutt Northun Norwood Osborne 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

Smith (NJ) Smith (TX) Souder Stearns Sullivan Sununu Sweenev Tancredo Tauzin Taylor (NC) Terry Thomas Thornberry Thune Tiahrt. Tiberi Toomey Unton Vitter Walden Walsh Wamp Watts (OK) Weldon (FL) Weldon (PA) Weller Whitfield Wicker Wilson (NM) Wilson (SC) Wolf Young (AK) Young (FL)

#### NAYS-200

Moran (VA) Murtha Green (TX) Nadler Napolitano Neal Oberstar Obev Olver Ortiz Owens Pallone Pascrell Pastor Payne Pelosi Peterson (MN) Phelps Jackson (IL) Pomeroy Jackson-Lee Price (NC) Rahall Rangel Johnson, E. B. Reves Rivers Jones (OH) Rodriguez Kaniorski Roemer Kennedy (RI) Ross Rothman Kilpatrick Roybal-Allard Rush Sabo Sanders Sandlin Sawyer Schakowsky Larsen (WA) Larson (CT) Schiff Scott Serrano Lewis (GA) Sherman Shows Skelton Slaughter Lucas (KY) Smith (WA) Snyder Solis Maloney (CT) Spratt Maloney (NY) Stark Stenholm Strickland Stupak McCarthy (MO) Tauscher McCarthy (NY) Taylor (MS) McCollum Thompson (CA) McDermott Thompson (MS) McGovern Thurman Tierney Towns Turner Meek (FL) Udall (CO) Meeks (NY) Udall (NM) Menendez Velazquez Millender-Visclosky McDonald Miller, George Waters Watson (CA)

Waxman Wexler Wu Weiner Woolsey Wynn NOT VOTING-21 Abercrombie Ganske McKinney Barr Callahan Pitts Roukema Gutierrez Hastings (FL) Cooksey Hilleary Sanchez Davis, Tom LaFalce Stump Deal Lampson Tanner Ehrlich Mascara Watkins (OK)

□ 1524

Mr. EDWARDS and Mr. HINOJOSA changed their vote from "yea" to 'nav.

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

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-TION

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 patent, 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 inventions have received the exclusive Right to their respective Inventions without limita-

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

drug costs for purchasers; Whereas health care costs increased by 5% in 2001, 3.7 times faster than overall inflation

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.

### □ 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  $2\frac{1}{2}$  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 30-

month 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?

Gallegly

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]

## YEAS-212

Aderholt Gekas Miller, Jeff Gibbons Moran (KS) Akin Armey Gilchrest Myrick Nethercutt Bachus Gillmor Baker Gilman Ney Ballenger Goode Norwood Goodlatte Bartlett Nussle Barton Goss Osborne Bass Graham Ose Bereuter Granger Otter Oxley Biggert Graves Green (WI) Bilirakis Paul Greenwood Pence Peterson (PA) Boehlert. Grucci Gutknecht Boehner Petri Pickering Bonilla Hansen Bono Hart Platts Hastings (WA) Boozman Pombo Portman Brady (TX) Hayes Hayworth Pryce (OH) Brown (SC) Bryant Hefley Putnam Herger Quinn Burton Hobson Radanovich Ramstad Buyer Hoekstra Callahan Horn Regula Hostettler Calvert Rehberg Houghton Reynolds Camp Cannon Hulshof Riley Rogers (KY) Cantor Hunter Capito Hyde Rogers (MI) Castle Isakson Rohrabacher Chabot Issa Ros-Lehtinen Chambliss Istook Royce Ryan (WI) Coble Jenkins Johnson (CT) Rvun (KS) Collins Combest Johnson (IL) Saxton Cooksey Johnson, Sam Schaffer Jones (NC) Schrock Cox Crane Keller Sensenbrenner Crenshaw Kellv Sessions Kennedy (MN) Cubin Shadegg Culberson Kerns Shaw King (NY) Cunningham Shavs Davis, Jo Ann Sherwood Kingston Davis, Tom Kirk Shimkus DeLav Knollenberg Shuster DeMint Kolbe Simmons Diaz-Balart LaHood Simpson Doolittle Latham Skeen LaTourette Smith (MI) Dreier Smith (NJ) Duncan Leach Lewis (CA) Smith (TX) Dunn Ehlers Lewis (KY) Souder Linder Emerson Stearns LoBiondo English Sullivan Everett Lucas (OK) Sununu Manzullo Sweeney Ferguson Flake McCrery Tancredo Fletcher McHugh Tauzin Taylor (NC) Terry Foley McInnis Forbes McKeon Thomas Fossella Mica Thornberry Thune Frelinghuysen Miller, Dan Miller, Gary

Tiberi Toomev Upton Walden Walsh

Wamp Watkins (OK) Watts (OK) Weldon (FL) Weldon (PA) Weller Whitfield

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

#### NAYS-204

Green (TX) Abercrombie Nadler Ackerman Gutierrez Napolitano Hall (TX) Neal Andrews Harman Northup Baca Hill. Oberstar Hilliard Baird Obev Hinchey Baldacci Olver Baldwin Hinojosa Ortiz Barcia Owens Barrett Holden Pallone Becerra Holt Pascrell Honda Bentsen Pastor Berkley Hooley Payne Berman Hoyer Pelosi Inslee Peterson (MN) Bishop Israel Phelps Blagojevich Jackson (IL) Pomeroy Blumenauer Jackson-Lee Price (NC) Bonior (TX) Rahall Borski Jefferson Rangel John Boswell Reyes Johnson, E. B. Boucher Rivers Boyd Jones (OH) Rodriguez Brady (PA) Kanjorski Roemer Brown (FL) Kaptur Ross Kennedy (RI) Brown (OH) Rothman Capps Kildee Roybal-Allard Kilpatrick Capuano Rush Kind (WI) Cardin Sabo Carson (IN) Kleczka. Sanders Carson (OK) Kucinich Sandlin Clay LaFalce Sawver Clayton Langevin Schakowsky Clement Lantos Schiff Larsen (WA) Clyburn Scott Condit Larson (CT) Serrano Conyers Lee Sherman Costello Levin Shows Lewis (GA) Covne Slaughter Cramer Lipinski Smith (WA) Crowley Lofgren Snyder Cummings Lowey Solis Lucas (KY) Davis (CA) Spratt Davis (FL) Luther Stark Davis (IL) Lynch Stenholm DeFazio Malonev (CT) Strickland DeGette Maloney (NY) Stupak Delahunt Markey Tauscher DeLauro Matheson Taylor (MS) Matsui Deutsch McCarthy (MO) Thompson (CA) Dicks Dingell McCarthy (NY) Thompson (MS) Thurman Doggett McCollum Tiernev McDermott Dooley Towns McGovern Doyle Turner Edwards McIntyre McNulty Udall (CO) Engel Udall (NM) Eshoo Meehan Velazquez Meek (FL) Etheridge Evans Meeks (NY) Visclosky Farr Menendez Waters Watson (CA) Fattah Millender-Watt (NC) Filner McDonald Ford Miller George Waxman Frank Weiner Mollohan Moore Frost Wexler Moran (VA) Gephardt Woolsev Wu Gonzalez Morella. Gordon Wynn

### NOT VOTING-15

Hilleary Barr Roukema Deal Lampson Sanchez Ehrlich Mascara. Skelton McKinney Ganske Stump Hastings (FL)

# □ 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.