

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

□ 1615

The Chair would further add that the Chair understands the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOLDEN) purported to invoke a question of privileges of the House as opposed to a point of personal privilege.

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I am appealing the ruling of the Chair and ask to be heard on the appeal.

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

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

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. SENSENBRENNER

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to lay the appeal on the table.

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

Mr. HOLDEN. 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 214, nays 202, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 435]

YEAS—214

Aderholt	Crenshaw	Grucci
Akin	Cubin	Gutknecht
Armey	Culberson	Hansen
Bachus	Cunningham	Hart
Ballenger	Davis, Jo Ann	Hastings (WA)
Barr	Davis, Tom	Hayes
Bartlett	DeLay	Hayworth
Barton	DeMint	Hefley
Bass	Diaz-Balart	Herger
Bereuter	Doollittle	Hobson
Biggart	Dreier	Hoekstra
Bilirakis	Duncan	Horn
Blunt	Dunn	Hostettler
Boehlert	Ehlers	Houghton
Boehner	Emerson	Hulshof
Bonilla	English	Hyde
Bono	Everett	Isakson
Boozman	Ferguson	Issa
Brady (TX)	Flake	Istook
Brown (SC)	Fletcher	Jenkins
Bryant	Foley	Johnson (CT)
Burr	Forbes	Johnson (IL)
Burton	Fossella	Johnson, Sam
Buyer	Frelinghuysen	Jones (NC)
Callahan	Galleghy	Keller
Calvert	Ganske	Kelly
Camp	Gekas	Kennedy (MN)
Cannon	Gibbons	Kerns
Cantor	Gilchrest	King (NY)
Capito	Gillmor	Kingston
Castle	Gilman	Kirk
Chabot	Goode	Knollenberg
Chambliss	Goodlatte	Kolbe
Coble	Goss	LaHood
Collins	Graham	Latham
Combest	Granger	LaTourette
Cooksey	Graves	Leach
Cox	Green (WI)	Lewis (CA)
Crane	Greenwood	Lewis (KY)

Linder	Putnam	Stearns
LoBiondo	Quinn	Sullivan
Lucas (OK)	Radanovich	Sununu
Manzullo	Ramstad	Sweeney
McCrery	Regula	Tancredo
McHugh	Rehberg	Tauzin
McInnis	Reynolds	Taylor (NC)
McKeon	Riley	Terry
Mica	Rogers (KY)	Thomas
Miller, Dan	Rogers (MI)	Thornberry
Miller, Gary	Rohrabacher	Thune
Miller, Jeff	Ros-Lehtinen	Tiahrt
Moran (KS)	Royce	Tiberi
Morella	Ryan (WI)	Toomey
Myrick	Ryun (KS)	Upton
Nethercutt	Saxton	Vitter
Ney	Schaffer	Walden
Northup	Schrock	Walsh
Norwood	Sensenbrenner	Wamp
Nussle	Sessions	Watkins (OK)
Osborne	Shadegg	Watts (OK)
Ose	Shaw	Weldon (FL)
Otter	Shays	Weldon (PA)
Oxley	Sherwood	Weller
Paul	Shinkus	Whitfield
Pence	Shuster	Wicker
Peterson (PA)	Simmons	Wilson (NM)
Petri	Simpson	Wilson (SC)
Pickering	Skeen	Wolf
Platts	Smith (MI)	Young (AK)
Pombo	Smith (NJ)	Young (FL)
Portman	Smith (TX)	
Pryce (OH)	Souder	

NAYS—202

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

Udall (NM)	Watson (CA)	Wexler
Velazquez	Watt (NC)	Woolsey
Visclosky	Waxman	Wu
Waters	Weiner	Wynn

NOT VOTING—15

Abercrombie	Hilleary	Pitts
Baker	Hunter	Roukema
Deal	Lampson	Sabo
Ehrlich	Mascara	Stump
Hastings (FL)	McKinney	Tanner

□ 1635

Messrs. DEFAZIO, HALL of Texas, and GEORGE MILLER of California changed their vote from “yea” to “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—SENSE OF HOUSE THAT CONGRESS SHOULD COMPLETE ACTION ON FISCAL YEAR 2003 LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS, AND SHOULD ADEQUATELY FUND THE “LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND ACT”**

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House, and I offer a privileged resolution, that I noticed on Monday, 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 IX, of the Constitution states that no money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in consequence of Appropriations made by law.

Whereas it is the fiscal duty of the Congress to appropriate annually, by October 1st of each year, the funds needed to support the execution of programs and operations of the Federal government.

Whereas the House to date has only considered five Appropriations bills, and has failed to consider the Fiscal Year 2003 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act which would provide funding for critical areas of national policy including pre-school, elementary and secondary education, special education, higher education and student loans.

Whereas as President, George W. Bush supported and signed into law Public Law 107-110, the “Leave No Child Behind Act,” which imposes substantial accountability and performance mandates on elementary and secondary schools in every state and congressional district in the United States.

Whereas the “Leave No Child Behind Act” included the authorization of significant additional resources to assist the states and local education agencies to provide the mandated improved educational services to America’s schoolchildren.

Whereas within weeks of signing the “Leave No Child Behind” Act, the President submitted the FY 2003 budget provides an increase in education funding of 0.5 percent (one half of one percent) compared with an average increase of 12 percent in the six years prior to enactment of the new law.

Whereas President Bush’s FY 2003 education budget request fails to provide the promised level of funding to states and local

education agencies which are required to implement significant educational reforms.

Whereas President Bush's FY 2003 budget would provide only 18 percent of the increase in compensatory education funding promise by the "Leave No Child Behind" Act.

Whereas about one third of the 53.6 million children now in elementary and secondary schools in America are at serious risk of educational failure without the resources promised in the "Leave No Child Behind" Act.

Whereas the funding level for improving teach quality in President Bush's budget would not even keep pace with the current level of funding, let alone help promote the expanded teacher quality programs contained in the "Leave No Child Behind" Act.

Whereas the President's education budget also fails to provide the level of federal assistance for the Individuals with Disability Education Act that was promised to states more than 27 years ago.

Whereas by failing to appropriate the funds it has promised to pay for the new accountability requirements for students, teachers and schools, the Congress would bring discredit on itself and undermine the ability of our schools to provide the improved education services for which the House has overwhelmingly voted. Now therefore be it,

Resolved that it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Congress should complete action on the Fiscal Year 2003 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations before recessing and should fund the "Leave No Child Behind" Act at levels commensurate with levels promised by the act less than a year ago.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will hear from the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) on whether the resolution constitutes a question of privileges of the House under rule IX.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, rule IX of the House rules states clearly that "questions of privilege shall be first those affecting the rights of the House collectively, its safety, dignity, and the integrity of its proceedings."

The refusal of the majority party leadership to allow the House to take up the Labor-Health appropriations bill and, thereby, to block increased education funding that is critical to the Nation's schools, and to hold hostage the remaining appropriation bills that the House has yet to consider obviously brings ridicule upon the House. The integrity and the dignity of the House are at stake. It is a clear reflection on the dignity of the House and on the integrity of its proceedings when the House has not completed its appropriations bills and then uses its rules to avoid responsibilities rather than to meet them.

It also subjects the House to ridicule when the House spends a great amount of time passing resolutions lecturing the Senate to take actions on authorization bills which are far less crucial to the operations of the government than the House's failure to act on its core responsibility, which is to pass appropriation bills, including and especially the Labor, Health and Education appropriation bill.

Funding education at a continuing-resolution level brings to a screeching halt the progress that we have made in the past 5 years in providing average

increases of about 14 percent a year for education. At the same time, that continuing resolution freezes many other programs and would fund the National Institutes of Health at a level \$3.8 billion below the amount that both parties have announced that they want to see it funded at. In my view, the inconsistency is glaring and again brings ridicule on the House.

The House is discredited, Mr. Speaker, not only because of the spectacular failure of the House leadership to get the education funding bill or any of the 13 appropriation bills adopted by the start of the fiscal year which began yesterday, but also because the House has abdicated its constitutional responsibilities and, in that sense, is avoiding the very accountability which we say we want to provide.

Rule IX of the House rules outlines questions of privilege relating to constitutional prerogatives. Under our Constitution, the Congress has the power to appropriate. We determine the Nation's spending priorities and, by law, must pass all 13 appropriation bills by October 1, yesterday, the beginning of the new year. Mr. Speaker, in my view, the House leadership has abrogated its constitutional responsibilities in regard to appropriations, and I would argue that their continued inaction on these urgent priorities, priorities as crucial as additional funding for education, meets the test for privileged resolutions, and I would ask for such a ruling.

□ 1645

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). The Chair is prepared to rule on the question of whether the resolution offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) constitutes a question of the privileges of the House under rule IX.

As the Chair has ruled previously 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 the 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 Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) does not constitute a question of privileges of the House under rule IX and may not be considered at this time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I regretfully 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?

Mr. LAHOOD. 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 Illinois (Mr.

LAHOOD) 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. OBEY. 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 202, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 436]

YEAS—212

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

NAYS—202

Abercrombie	Allen	Baca
Ackerman	Andrews	Baird

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

## NOT VOTING—17

Aderholt	Hastings (FL)	Pickering
Baker	Hilleary	Pitts
Conyers	Lampson	Roukema
Deal	Mascara	Stump
Ehrlich	McKinney	Tanner
Gilman	Murtha	

□ 1707

Mr. GORDON changed his vote from “yea” to “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.

#### NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING QUESTION OF PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of House rule IX, I rise to give notice of my intent to present a question of privilege to the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

A resolution, in accordance with House Rule IX, expressing a sense of the House that its integrity has been impugned and Constitutional duty hampered by the inability of the House to bring to the floor H.R. 854, legislation that would promote the general welfare of the nation by protecting its health care system.

Whereas President George W. Bush has urged Congress to put Medicare on a “sustainable financial footing” in order to assure Americans of affordable and accessible health care.

Whereas the Administration has failed to take action to protect Medicare and Medicaid programs from severe cuts that threaten basic services to persons in need of health care.

Whereas the Medicaid program is facing significant cuts through reductions in the disproportionate share hospital program, threatening the very financial viability of the nation’s public hospitals.

Whereas the cuts made in order by the Balanced Budget Act were postponed until 2003 by the Benefits Improvement and Protection Act but without further congressional action cuts will be reimposed and have the potential to seriously cripple safety-net public health services in states across the nation.

Whereas, in addition to slashing payments to hospitals the Administration has also eliminated the UPL payments for hospitals, further weakening their ability to provide health care to the indigent and uninsured.

Whereas federal payments to states for this program have been reduced by approximately \$700 million in FY 2002 and will be reduced further by about \$900 million in FY 2003, thus severely restricting public hospitals’ ability to serve persons in need of health care.

Whereas the number of uninsured persons without access to health care has risen in the last year to 41.2 million.

Whereas by failing to act Congress imposes on the states and localities an undue burden to carry health care costs as well as abrogates its responsibility to maintain the general welfare of the country, bringing discredit to this Body and threatening the very well-being of the populace.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Congress should complete action on H.R. 854 or other provider reimbursement legislation before recessing and should insure that Medicare and Medicaid providers have appropriate funds to carry out their health care mandates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is appropriately noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at a time designated for consideration of the resolution.

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask to be heard at the appropriate

time on the question of whether this resolution constitutes a question of privilege.

#### NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING QUESTION OF PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House rule IX, clause 1, I rise to give notice of my intent to present a question of privilege of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

#### TRANSPORTATION (AMTRAK) PRIVILEGED RESOLUTION

A resolution, in accordance with House Rule IX, expressing a sense of the House that its integrity has been impugned and Constitutional duty hampered by the inability of the House to bring to the floor the Fiscal Year 2003 Transportation Appropriations Act, due to the severe under funding of the National Passenger Rail Corporation (Amtrak) within the President’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 Budget.

Whereas under Article I, Section IX, of the Constitution states no money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by law.

Whereas it is the fiscal duty of the Congress to appropriate annually the funds needed to support the execution of the programs and operations of the Federal Government.

Whereas to date the House has only considered five Appropriations bills.

Whereas President George W. Bush has ignored the requests of Amtrak for an Appropriation of \$1.2 billion, and has instead proposed only \$521 million in funding.

Whereas the House Appropriations Committee gutted funding for Amtrak with every Republican member on the Committee voting to cut funding, despite the dire impact this will have on their own districts.

Whereas instead of strong support and consistent growth in support for the nation’s passenger rail system the President’s FY 2003 Budget seeks to strangle Amtrak so that the Administration can begin to implement plans to privatize the system.

Whereas Amtrak provided a critical transportation need in the months after the terrorist attacks of September 11th, and has seen consistent growth in ridership despite continued levels of inadequate funding.

Whereas Amtrak serves more than 500 stations in 46 states and employs over 24,000 people, and Amtrak passengers on Northeast corridor trains would fill 250 planes daily or over 91,000 flights each year.

Resolved that it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Congress should complete action on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 Transportation Appropriations, with an allocation of \$1.2 billion for Amtrak.

□ 1715

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from Indiana will appear in the RECORD at this point.