

change on a permanent basis and greatly appreciates the inclusion of the provision—even in the short term.

As amended, S. 1533, would:

(1) reauthorize the critically important Community Health Centers program for another five years, including reaffirmation that Health Centers should be: located in high-need areas; provide comprehensive preventive and primary health care services; governed by community boards made up of a majority of current health center patients to assure responsiveness to local needs; and, open to everyone in the communities they serve, regardless of ability to pay; and

(2) reauthorize the important Telehealth Programs, as well as the Rural Health Care Outreach Program and the Rural Health Network Development Program. In addition, S. 1533, as amended, would authorize a new Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Program. These programs will go a long way to facilitate the provision of care to vulnerable populations living in rural areas all across the county.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, this Member urges his colleagues to support S. 1533, as amended.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support S. 1533, a bill which will reauthorize the Community Health Center program. This legislation ensures that community health centers will continue providing high-quality care to the medically underserved and neediest populations.

I have always been impressed with community health centers and have supported increasing the resources available to them. These centers have made wonderful contributions to the urban areas in the Fourth Congressional District, and the care they provide is as good or better than the care many patients with more comprehensive coverage receive.

Last year, these clinics served over 12 million people, 66 percent of whom live below the poverty level. Community health centers are located in 3,000 rural and urban communities throughout the country and provide quality cost-effective primary and preventive care for low-income, uninsured and underinsured patients.

By preventing costly hospitalizations and reducing the use of emergency care for routine services, it is estimated community clinics save the health care system over \$6 billion annually.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support passage of this legislation so community health centers can continue providing high-quality, cost-effective care. I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill.

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, today we will take another step toward promoting access to quality health care in Rural America. As a member of the House Rural Health Care Coalition, I am pleased with the overwhelming bipartisan support in both the House and Senate for the legislation we will pass today. Earlier this month we passed similar legislation by voice vote.

This bill supports a number of critical programs and grants leading to direct benefits to thousands of Maine citizens. There are 31 community health centers in the State of Maine, most of which are located in my district, the largest district in area east of the Mississippi River. Rural health care delivery has

been one of the top concerns of my constituents.

This bill reauthorizes the Community Health Centers Program, the National Health Service Corps, Rural Health Outreach and telehealth services. Significant improvements will be made to these programs. In particular, NHSC scholarship and loan expansions will enable rural areas to attract more mental health and dental providers. A focus on coordination and integration of telehealth networks through targeted grants will enable facilities across regions to improve direct, patient and training of providers. In addition, outreach grants, technical assistance grants, rural health network development grants, and small health care provider quality improvement grants will significantly expand access to quality health care services and enhance the delivery of health care in rural areas.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Leadership for bringing this important bill to the Floor and encourage its speedy passage.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 1533, the Health Care Safety Net Improvement Act. As you know, the House recently approved the Health Care Safety Net Improvement Act by voice vote. Today we are considering a solid bipartisan compromise between the House and Senate on this important legislation. I urge all of my colleagues to support the bipartisan compromise we are considering today.

This legislation reauthorizes our nation's key health care safety net delivery systems and creates additional efficiencies. Specifically, this bill reauthorizes the Community Health Center program, the National Health Service Corps and rural outreach grants. Each of these programs ensures that both the uninsured and the underinsured have access to quality health care services.

Since 1965, America's health centers have delivered comprehensive services to people who otherwise would face major barriers to obtaining quality, affordable health care. Health centers serve those who are hardest to reach and are required by law to make their services accessible to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay.

One of the most important programs for ensuring an adequate supply of health professionals is the National Health Service Corps. The National Health Service Corps recruits, trains, and places primary care providers in both urban and rural health care shortage areas. Program participants are health professionals who receive educational assistance in return for a period of obligated service. Our legislation reauthorizes this vital program, which serves as a pipeline for health care facilities that have trouble attracting health professionals.

S. 1533 also recognizes the importance of oral health care and authorizes the inclusion of primary dental care education. Improving rural health is another area of focus in this legislation. Often rural communities have trouble developing capacity and maintaining health care facilities. Our bill includes programs that will help rural providers develop new service capacity and integrated health delivery networks. It will help rural facilities implement quality improvement initiatives.

Mr. Speaker, given recent events and news of increasing numbers of uninsured, it is vitally important that we keep our safety net strong. This bill will allow critical programs to con-

tinue. I am certain it will improve services for our most vulnerable populations. I urge Members to support this bipartisan agreement.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I support S. 1533, the "Health Care Safety Net Amendments of 2002," an important piece of legislation. It reauthorizes the National Health Service Corps, the Community Health Centers program, and will establish a limited Community Access Program. S. 1533 is vital to providing health care services to the uninsured and under-insured. Health centers are located in more than 3,400 communities in all 50 states and often are the only available source of care for uninsured and medically underserved individuals.

We passed H.R. 3450, a very similar bill, two weeks ago, and are back with S. 1533 which incorporates changes to H.R. 3450 needed to assure speedy enactment. The most significant change is an improved Community Access Program, which helps local communities coordinate the use of scarce healthcare dollars. Other changes increase access to community healthcare programs. And the bill now authorizes demonstration projects for chiropractors and pharmacists within the National Health Service Corps, as well as provides a ten percent set-aside for loans and scholarships for disadvantaged individuals.

Health centers are effective and efficient providers of care to millions of our country's most vulnerable people. Ensuring access to primary and preventive care, regardless of insurance status or income, is an important component of our efforts here today. I urge adoption of this important legislation.

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1533, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 2 p.m. today.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON) at 2 p.m.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the text of the bill (H.R. 3295) "An Act to establish a program to provide funds to States to replace punch card voting systems, to establish the Election Assistance Commission to assist in the administration of Federal elections and to otherwise provide assistance with the administration of certain Federal election laws and programs, to establish minimum election administration standards for States and units of local government with responsibility for the administration of Federal elections, and for other purposes," and that the Senate recede from its amendment to the title of H.R. 3295.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on approval of the Journal, and then on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed on Tuesday, October 15, and earlier today in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Approval of the Journal, de novo;  
H.R. 2155, by the yeas and nays;  
S. 1533, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question de novo of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. McKEON. 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 330, nays 52, answered "present" 1, not voting 48, as follows:

[Roll No. 464]

YEAS—330

Abercrombie	Andrews	Ballenger
Ackerman	Baca	Barcia
Akin	Bachus	Barr
Allen	Baker	Barrett

Bartlett	Green (TX)	Myrick	Velazquez	Watts (OK)	Wilson (SC)
Barton	Green (WI)	Nadler	Vitter	Waxman	Wolf
Bass	Greenwood	Napolitano	Walden	Weiner	Woolsey
Becerra	Grucci	Neal	Walsh	Weldon (FL)	Wu
Bentsen	Gutierrez	Nethercutt	Wamp	Weldon (PA)	Wynn
Bereuter	Hall (TX)	Ney	Watkins (OK)	Wexler	Young (AK)
Berkley	Hansen	Northup	Watson (CA)	Whitfield	Young (FL)
Berman	Harman	Norwood	Watt (NC)	Wilson (NM)	
Berry	Hastings (WA)	Nussle			
Biggert	Hayes	Ortiz			
Bilirakis	Hayworth	Osborne			
Bishop	Herger	Ose			
Blumenauer	Hill	Otter	Aderholt	Hefley	Platts
Blunt	Hobson	Owens	Baird	Hilliard	Ramstad
Boehlert	Hoefel	Pascarella	Baldwin	Johnson, E. B.	Reyes
Boehner	Hoekstra	Paul	Borski	Jones (OH)	Schaffer
Bonilla	Holden	Pelosi	Brady (PA)	Kennedy (MN)	Schakowsky
Bonior	Holt	Pence	Capuano	Kucinich	Sherman
Bono	Honda	Petri	Clay	Larsen (WA)	Stenholm
Boozman	Hooley	Phelps	Condit	Latham	Stupak
Boswell	Horn	Pickering	Costello	LoBiondo	Sweeney
Boucher	Hostettler	Pitts	Crane	McDermott	Taylor (MS)
Boyd	Houghton	Pombo	DeFazio	McGovern	Thompson (CA)
Brady (TX)	Hoyer	Pomeroy	English	McNulty	Thompson (MS)
Brown (FL)	Hulshof	Portman	Fattah	Miller, George	Udall (NM)
Brown (OH)	Hunter	Price (NC)	Fossella	Moore	Visclosky
Brown (SC)	Hyde	Pryce (OH)	Gillmor	Oberstar	Weller
Burr	Inslee	Putnam	Gutknecht	Oliver	Wicker
Burton	Isakson	Quinn	Hart	Pallone	
Buyer	Israel	Radanovich	Hastings (FL)	Pastor	
Calvert	Issa	Rahall			
Camp	Istook	Rangel			
Cannon	Jackson (IL)	Regula			
Cantor	Jackson-Lee	Rehberg			
Capito	(TX)	Reynolds			
Capps	Jefferson	Rivers			
Cardin	Jenkins	Rodriguez			
Carson (IN)	John	Roemer			
Castle	Johnson (CT)	Rogers (KY)			
Chabot	Johnson (IL)	Rogers (MI)			
Chambliss	Johnson, Sam	Rohrabacher			
Clyburn	Jones (NC)	Ros-Lehtinen			
Coble	Kanjorski	Ross			
Collins	Kaptur	Rothman			
Cox	Keller	Roybal-Allard			
Cramer	Kelly	Royce			
Crenshaw	Kennedy (RI)	Ryan (WI)			
Crowley	Kerns	Ryun (KS)			
Culberson	Kildee	Sanchez			
Cummings	Kilpatrick	Sanders			
Cunningham	Kind (WI)	Sandlin			
Davis (CA)	King (NY)	Sawyer			
Davis (FL)	Kingston	Saxton			
Davis (IL)	Kirk	Schiff			
Davis, Jo Ann	Klecza	Schrock			
Deal	Knollenberg	Scott			
DeLauro	Kolbe	Sensenbrenner			
DeLay	LaFalce	Serrano			
DeMint	Lampson	Sessions			
Deutsch	Langevin	Shadegg			
Diaz-Balart	Lantos	Shaw			
Dicks	Larson (CT)	Shays			
Dingell	LaTourette	Sherwood			
Doggett	Leach	Shimkus			
Doolittle	Lee	Shows			
Doyle	Levin	Shuster			
Dreier	Lewis (CA)	Simmons			
Duncan	Lewis (KY)	Simpson			
Dunn	Linder	Skeen			
Edwards	Lipinski	Skelton			
Ehlers	Lofgren	Smith (MI)			
Emerson	Lowey	Smith (NJ)			
Eshoo	Lucas (KY)	Smith (TX)			
Etheridge	Lucas (OK)	Smith (WA)			
Evans	Lynch	Snyder			
Everett	Maloney (NY)	Solis			
Farr	Markey	Souder			
Ferguson	Mascara	Spratt			
Flake	Matheson	Stark			
Fletcher	Matsui	Strickland			
Foley	McCarthy (MO)	Sullivan			
Forbes	McCollum	Sununu			
Ford	McCrery	Tanner			
Frank	McHugh	Tauscher			
Frelinghuysen	McIntyre	Tauzin			
Frost	McKeon	Terry			
Gallegly	Meehan	Thomas			
Gekas	Meek (FL)	Thornberry			
Gibbons	Meeke (NY)	Thune			
Gilchrest	Menendez	Thurman			
Gilman	Millender	Tiahrt			
Gonzalez	McDonald	Tiberi			
Goodlatte	Miller, Dan	Tierney			
Gordon	Miller, Jeff	Toomey			
Goss	Mollohan	Towns			
Graham	Moran (KS)	Turner			
Granger	Moran (VA)	Udall (CO)			
Graves	Morella	Upton			
	Murtha				

## NAYS—52

## ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Tancred

## NOT VOTING—48

Armey	Dooley	McKinney
Baldacci	Ehrlich	Mica
Blagojevich	Filner	Miller, Gary
Bryant	Ganske	Obey
Callahan	Gephardt	Payne
Carson (OK)	Goode	Peterson (MN)
Clayton	Hilleary	Peterson (PA)
Clement	Hinchee	Riley
Combest	Hinojosa	Roukema
Conyers	LaHood	Rush
Cooksey	Lewis (GA)	Sabo
Coyne	Luther	Slaughter
Cubin	Maloney (CT)	Stearns
Davis, Tom	Manzullo	Stump
DeGette	McCarthy (NY)	Taylor (NC)
Delahunt	McInnis	Waters

□ 1426

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota and Mr. FOSSELLA changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 464 I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 464, I was conducting official business in my San Diego, California district. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on each additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

## SOBER BORDERS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 2155, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr.