

That is where we are again.

Last week, on a bipartisan basis, the House voted to stop the President's overtime pay cut, which went into effect on August 23. It was a pretty big vote for a controversial issue: 223 voted against the President, including 22 Republicans, and 193 voted for the President's plan, all Republicans. Now the Senate is going to take up the issue.

But already aides to House leaders like Majority Leader TOM DELAY have indicated publicly that they will not let this amendment stay in the final bill that goes to the President for signature. Even though the majority of the House voted to stop the President's overtime pay cut, the President's allies are here to prevent the majority will of the House from prevailing.

Mr. Speaker, what is wrong with the current leadership in this Congress? They do not respect the will of the majority.

You know, sometimes it works just the other way. Take the vote on Medicare last year, one of the most controversial pieces of legislation to come before this body. The President's plan was crafted and designed for the drug companies and the insurance companies, even though it was supposed to be for seniors to help them pay for the high cost of valuable prescription drugs. But the Medicare bill does nothing to slow the rising prices of prescription drugs for seniors.

When the bill was brought to the House floor in November last year, those of us who opposed the bill were winning. When the clock ran out and the time was up for the vote to be ended, we were winning. The Medicare bill was going to be defeated. But the Republicans had another idea.

□ 1245

They refused to bring the vote to a close. Twenty minutes went by, a normal time for a vote. We were winning. An hour went by; we were winning. Two hours went by; we were still winning. By this time, early in the morning, the President had been woken up to make phone calls, to help in the feverish effort to twist congressional arms. One Congressman said afterwards that he had been offered a bribe by a congressional leader for his vote, a matter that is still under investigation by the FBI and the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

Finally, after nearly 3 hours, one of the longest votes to be held in the history of Congress, the President's allies turned enough votes; and they proceeded to pass the drug companies' Medicare bill by a slim majority. And that bill is now law.

Whether it is protecting overtime pay of the middle class or protecting seniors from the drug companies' Medicare law, or countless other issues, the current leaders in Congress do not respect or honor the majority here in the Congress who support these measures. They will not respect the will of the

majority of Americans who are represented by those Members of Congress, over half of the country expressing their view that they do not want that law to go into effect, whether it is to cut overtime pay or whether it is the phony prescription drug bill that does not provide the benefits that our seniors need and have come to expect.

This is one of the many things that is wrong with the way the House of Representatives is being run under the current leadership, and it is one of the things that must change come this November.

The House and Senate should respect the will of the majority of its Members on these issues of overtime pay and middle-class prescription drug benefits.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "Glorious things are said of You, Lord God, before the nations!"

This weekend from the pulpits, choirs and cantors across this Nation rang out the freedom of worship enjoyed by the American people.

Now, as the work of the 108th Congress ensues this week, may freedom of speech be modeled in the House of Representatives.

May respect for parliamentary law, civil debate and good order be strengthened in the legislative branch of government here and in other democratic countries around the world.

In modeling such behavior, we give You glory, Lord, and become a sign of Your glory to other nations.

Guide the work of Your people, now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Guam (Mr.

BORDALLO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BORDALLO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1368. An act to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. (posthumously) and his widow Coretta Scott King in recognition of their contributions to the Nation on behalf of the civil rights movement.

S. Con. Res. 127. Concurrent resolution representing the sense of Congress that the President should designate September 11 as a national day of voluntary service, charity, and compassion.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 10, 2004.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 10, 2004 at 9:25 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 361.

That the Senate agreed to House amendments S. 2634.

Appointments:
Helping to Enhance the Livelihood of People (HELP).

Around the Globe Commission.
Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH, L.
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 10, 2004.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 10, 2004 at 11:55 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3908.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 10, 2004.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on September 10, 2004 at 1 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits a copy of a notice extending the emergency as a result of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk of the House.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN TERRORIST ATTACKS— MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-212)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. Consistent with this provision, I have sent to the Federal Register the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the terrorist attacks on the United States of September 11, 2001, is to continue in effect for an additional year.

The terrorist threat that led to the declaration on September 14, 2001, of a national emergency continues. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect after September 14, 2004, the national emergency with respect to the terrorist threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, September 10, 2004.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

RECORD votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

SALUTING THE LIFE AND COURAGE OF THE LATE COMMANDER LLOYD "PETE" BUCHER

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 407) saluting the life and courage of the late Commander Lloyd "Pete" Bucher, United States Navy (retired), who commanded the U.S.S. *Pueblo* (AGER-2) at the time of its capture by North Korea on January 23, 1968.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 407

Whereas on January 28, 2004, Commander Lloyd "Pete" Bucher, United States Navy (retired), died and was subsequently buried with honors at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery in Point Loma, San Diego, California;

Whereas Lloyd Bucher was appointed as a commissioned officer in the Navy in June 1953 and in May 1967 was assigned command of the U.S.S. *Pueblo* (AGER-2), an auxiliary light cargo ship designated as an environmental research vessel;

Whereas the U.S.S. *Pueblo*, while under the command of Commander Bucher and in international waters conducting an intelligence mission off the coast of North Korea, was attacked by three North Korean torpedo boats and a North Korean sub chaser on January 23, 1968;

Whereas the U.S.S. *Pueblo* was armed only with two .50-caliber machine guns, and the attack resulted in the death of one Navy sailor and the capture of Commander Bucher, his crew, and the U.S.S. *Pueblo*;

Whereas Commander Bucher and his crew were starved and tortured for 11 months, and were repeatedly beaten, burned on steam radiators, and otherwise brutally treated by their North Korean captors;

Whereas Commander Bucher bore the brunt of the wrath of the North Koreans;

Whereas crewman James Kell said, "We were all beaten, we all were tortured. But [Commander Bucher] had it double, triple, quadruple what we got.";

Whereas crewman Stu Russell said, "[Commander Bucher] was a giant. No matter who did what, he was always punished. I simply don't know where he got the strength and courage to go through what he did.";

Whereas on December 23, 1968, the crew of the U.S.S. *Pueblo* was released, some of whom were crippled or nearly blind because of the brutality and malnourishment they endured;

Whereas Commander Bucher retired from the Navy in 1973; and

Whereas Commander Bucher is survived by his wife, Rose, their two sons, and several grandchildren: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) salutes the life and courage of the late Commander Lloyd "Pete" Bucher, United States Navy (retired), who commanded the

U.S.S. *Pueblo* (AGER-2) at the time of its capture by North Korea on January 23, 1968, and who passed away on January 28, 2004;

(2) praises Commander Bucher for his exemplary bravery and sacrifice, which were an inspiration to his crew and the United States, while he and his crew were held in captivity for 11 months in North Korea;

(3) praises the bravery of the crew of the U.S.S. *Pueblo*; and

(4) expresses its heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Commander Bucher.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the concurrent resolution currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, some observers have argued that the United States won the Cold War without firing a shot. While we may have secured our victory without a large-scale military conflict with the former Soviet Union, there are many Americans whose lives were indelibly marked by this not-so-Cold War. One of those Americans was Commander Pete Bucher. I rise today to honor this American patriot and the men who served under his command on the USS *Pueblo*.

On January 23, 1968, the USS *Pueblo* was commanded by Pete Bucher and was monitoring Communist ship movements and intercepting messages in international waters near the North Korean coast when it was attacked by North Korean naval forces. As a result of the attack, one Navy sailor, Fireman Duane Hodges, was killed and the remaining crew members were captured. Their incarceration marked the beginning of a nearly yearlong ordeal for Commander Bucher and the crew of the USS *Pueblo*.

Held in concrete cells for 11 months, Commander Bucher and the *Pueblo* crew were starved and tortured by the North Koreans. Mostly fed turnips, many of the malnourished crew members began to lose their sight. They were repeatedly beaten and burned. According to Crewman Bob Chicca, the North Koreans would use "rifle butts or pieces of wood, whatever they had handy, to beat us."

By all accounts, Pete Bucher bore the brunt of the North Koreans' wrath. According to crewman Stu Russell, Bucher "was a giant." As commanding officer, Bucher was the focus of the North Korean efforts. Russell recalled that "he took the brunt of everything. No matter who did what, he was always punished. I simply don't know where he