

placing at risk the timely funding of our troops. Defense appropriations bills are historically the most protected type of legislation considered by the United States Congress. The Defense bill is usually the first piece of appropriations legislation passed by the House and Senate, and its language is kept clean from unnecessary and non-germane add-ons and amendments. That is why the addition of ANWR was so surprising to so many Members.

Prior to the vote earlier this week, I wrote a letter to the Rules Committee chairman expressing in the strongest terms possible my opposition and disappointment at the decision to place ANWR in the bill before the House. Mr. Speaker, I was not alone in my concern. Prior to Senate debate on the House-approved Defense bill, a group of high-ranking officers, including General Anthony Zinni, United States Marine Corps, sent a letter stating their concern over ANWR's inclusion in the legislation.

They wrote, and I quote: "With 160,000 troops fighting in Iraq, another 18,000 in Afghanistan and tens of thousands more around the world defending this country, Congress must finish its work and provide them the resources they need to do their job. We believe that any effort to attach controversial legislative language authorizing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to the Defense appropriations conference report will jeopardize Congress's ability to provide our troops and their families the resources they need in a timely fashion."

They continued, saying that "the passion and energy of the debate about drilling in ANWR is well known, and a testament to vibrant debate in our democracy. But it is not helpful to attach such a controversial nondefense legislative issue to a Defense appropriations bill. It only invites delay for our troops as Congress debates an important, but controversial, nondefense issue on a vital bill providing critical funding for our Nation's security."

As I speak, our brave men and women in the Armed Forces are serving in every corner of the globe. The work our servicemen and -women do each day will create a safer world, a world where liberty and democracy will take root in regions of the world untouched by freedom and choice. Our military deserves our support and the best equipment, training, armament, and reward our government can offer them. That is why I am here today, to lend my strong support to the legislation. The Senate made the right choice yesterday to strip this bill of unnecessary ornaments. ANWR does not belong in the Defense bill, and I am proud to support the Senate version without it.

The Defense appropriation bill being considered by the House today is a good bill. It will enable our troops to stand down as Iraqi security forces stand up. This legislation provides \$403.5 billion for our troops during this transition, equipping them with \$8 bil-

lion to replace damaged equipment, \$1.2 billion for force protection, and \$500 million to train new security forces in Iraq and in Afghanistan. Also, this legislation provides an essential 3.1 percent military pay increase for our soldiers effective January 1, 2006. This legislation honors our military and is deserving of all of our support.

As good as this legislation is, Congress must remain vigilant in our responsibility to support our troops. The Associated Press recently ran an article questioning the amount of money needed to address emergency combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The article reported that the military informally indicated to the House Armed Services Committee that they would need an additional 80 to \$100 billion to fund operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. This request is made in addition to the \$50 billion appropriated through the Defense bill. This request is still being drafted by the Department of Defense and will most likely come to the floor as an additional spending package after we return next year.

I call on my colleagues to support this additional funding when it arrives in the House. We cannot afford to leave our military unprotected and underfunded, especially at this important time in our Nation's history.

Next week, Mr. Speaker, I will travel to Iraq to see the progress the Iraqi security forces are making to take the fight to the insurgents and to take their nation's future into their own hands. I will also visit our troops to give them our thanks from a grateful Nation for the work that they are doing to fight the terrorists, to secure the nation and pave the way for a new and vibrant democracy in Iraq. Our troops must have a clear understanding that our support for them is unwavering. The American people must know that our support for our Armed Forces is strong. That is why this legislation must pass clean, devoid of any needless add-ons. I call on my colleagues to support the legislation and pass the Defense appropriation bill.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 74

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That, in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 2863) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:

Strike Division C, the American Energy Independence and Security Act of 2005 and Division D, the Distribution of Revenues and Disaster Assistance.

The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2005

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today pursuant to this order, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. on Monday, December 26, 2005, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 326, in which case the House shall stand adjourned sine die pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

OMISSION FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2005 (BOOK II) AT PAGE H12641

CHAPTER 7

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(RESCISSION)

The conference agreement includes a rescission of \$1,143,000,000 of the unobligated balances of funds apportioned to the States under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, excluding safety programs and funds set aside within the State for population areas. The conferees direct the Federal Highway Administration to administer the rescission by allowing each State maximum flexibility in making adjustments among the apportioned highway programs.

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

EFFICIENCY INCENTIVE GRANTS TO THE

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

(RESCISSION)

The conference agreement rescinds \$8,300,000 from Efficiency Incentive Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation and repeals section 135 of Division A of Public Law 109-115.

CHAPTER 8

GOVERNMENT-WIDE RESCISSIONS

The conference agreement includes a 1 percent across-the-board rescission to discretionary budgetary resources provided in fiscal year 2006 regular appropriations Acts, as well as to any previously enacted fiscal year 2006 advance appropriation and to any contract authority subject to limitation. The rescission does not apply to the Department of Veterans Affairs or spending designated as an emergency requirement.

TITLE IV—HURRICANE EDUCATION RECOVERY ACT

SUBTITLE A—ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION HURRICANE RELIEF

The conference agreement includes language that authorizes assistance to elementary and secondary students and schools impacted by the hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico in calendar year 2005. Funding to carry out this authority is included in chapter 6 of title 1.

SUBTITLE B—HIGHER EDUCATION HURRICANE RELIEF

The conference agreement includes temporary waivers to and modifications of certain higher education act requirements in order to provide flexibility to and ease financial burdens on postsecondary students and institutions impacted by the hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico in calendar year 2005.

SUBTITLE C—EDUCATION AND RELATED PROGRAMS HURRICANE RELIEF

The conference agreement includes language to extend certain deadlines of the individuals with disabilities education act and waivers relating to Head Start and the Child Care and Development Block Grant. This language is included to facilitate assistance related to the hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico in calendar year 2005.

TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS AND TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS

The conference agreement includes a provision relating to the availability of funds.

The conference agreement includes a provision relating to any reference to “this Act”.

The conference agreement includes a provision removing the authority to make further transfers to or from the Emergency Response Fund.

The conference agreement includes a technical correction regarding funds appropriated to the Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service.

The conference agreement includes a technical correction to the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2005, relating to the Animas-La Plata project.

The conference agreement includes a technical correction to the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2006, relating to the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund.

The conference agreement includes a technical correction to the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2006, relating to the Placer County, California, wastewater treatment project.

The conference agreement includes a technical correction to the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2006, relating to the Central New Mexico Project.

The conference agreement includes a provision correcting an enrollment error in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2006, relating to a Hurricane Protection Study in Louisiana.

The conference agreement includes a technical correction to the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2006, related to the Western Area Power Administration.

The conference agreement includes a general provision making \$50,000,000 available to the New York State Uninsured Employers Fund and \$75,000,000 to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for purposes related to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. These funds replace \$125,000,000 included in the supplemental appropriations for New York State made following the September 11th attacks that were unable to be spent for administering worker compensation claims and were rescinded in the regular FY 2006 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Act.

The conference agreement includes language that amends the Flexibility for Displaced Workers Act (Public Law 109-72) to strike “Hurricane Katrina” and insert “hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico in calendar year 2005” each place it appears.

The conference agreement includes a provision that amends section 124 of Public Law 109-114.

The conference agreement includes a provision that amends section 128 of Public Law 109-114.

The conference agreement includes a provision that makes a technical correction to a military construction project in Public Law 109-114.

The conference agreement includes a provision that makes a technical correction to the short title of Public Law 109-114.

The conference agreement makes technical corrections to the capital investment grants listed in Public Law 109-115.

The conference agreement clarifies activities that are subject to section 205 of division A of Public Law 109-115.

The conference agreement makes a technical correction to an economic development grant in Public Law 108-447.

The conference agreement makes technical corrections to economic development grants in Public Law 109-115.

The conference agreement makes technical corrections to an economic development grant in Public Law 108-447.

The conference agreement precludes the funds appropriated to the 2001 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Recovery from and Response to Terrorist Attacks from being transferred to or from the Emergency Response Fund.

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISON

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 2006 recommended by the Committee of Conference and comparisons to the 2006 budget estimates for 2006 follow:

	[In thousands of dollars]	
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2006	4,825,347	
Conference agreement, fiscal year 2006	-618,007	
Conference agreement compared with:		
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2006	-5,443,354	

DIVISION C—AMERICAN ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY

The conference report includes division C concerning the lease of lands for oil and gas exploration and production within a defined area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

DIVISION D—DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES AND DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The conference report includes division D, which provides for the distribution of revenues derived from bonus, rental, and royalty receipts from federal oil and gas leasing and operations within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and from receipts derived from the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Fund.

DIVISION E

The conference agreement includes as division E the “Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act”.

BILL YOUNG,
DAVID HOBSON,
HENRY BONILLA,
R.P. FRELINGHUYSEN,
TODD TIAHRT,
ROGER F. WICKER,
JACK KINGSTON,
KAY GRANGER,
JAMES T. WALSH,
ROBERT B. ADERHOLT,
JERRY LEWIS,
JOHN P. MURTHA,
NORMAN D. DICKS

(Except for Division C as to ANWR),

MARTIN OLAV SABO
(Except for 1% cut in Division B and Division C),

PETER J. VISLOSKEY
(Except for Division C and Division B as to 1% cut and avian flu section),

JAMES P. MORAN
(Except for Division B and Division C as to 1% cut, avian flu and ANWR provision),

MARCY KAPTUR
(Except for ANWR provision and Division B and Division C as to 1% cuts and avian flu),

CHET EDWARDS
(Except for 1% cut),

DAVID R. OBNEY
(Except for Division C, Division B as to 1% cut and avian flu),

Managers on the Part of the House.

TED STEVENS,
THAD COCHRAN,
ARLEN SPECTER,
PETE V. DOMENICI,
KIT BOND,
MITCH MCCONNELL,
RICHARD C. SHELBY,
JUDD GREGG,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
CONRAD BURNS.

CORRECTION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2005, AT PAGE H12232

The previous vote referenced by Mr. COLE of Oklahoma may be found in the daily RECORD of April 20, 2005, on page H2379.

CORRECTION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2005, (BOOK II) AT PAGE H12337

JOHN P. MURTHA,
NORMAN D. DICKS
(Except for Division C as to ANWR),

MARTIN OLAV SABO
(Except for 1% cut in Division B and Division C),

PETER J. VISLOSKEY
(Except for Division C and Division B as to 1% cut and avian flu section),

JAMES P. MORAN
(Except for Division B and Division C as to 1% cut, avian flu, and ANWR provision),

MARCY KAPTUR
(Except for ANWR provision and Division B and Division C as to 1% cut and avian flu),

CHET EDWARDS
(Except for 1% cut).

BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates, he had approved and signed bills and joint resolutions of the following titles:

September 8, 2005:

H.R. 3673. An Act making further emergency supplemental appropriations to meet immediate needs arising from the consequences of Hurricane Katrina, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

September 9, 2005:

H.R. 3650. An Act to allow United States courts to conduct business during emergency conditions, and for other purposes.