

McCotter	Pitts	Smith (TX)
McCrery	Poe	Smith (WA)
McDermott	Pombo	Snyder
McGovern	Pomeroy	Sodrel
McHenry	Porter	Solis
McHugh	Price (GA)	Souder
McIntyre	Price (NC)	Spratt
McKeon	Pryce (OH)	Stearns
McMorris	Putnam	Strickland
McNulty	Radanovich	Stupak
Meehan	Rahall	Sullivan
Meek (FL)	Ramstad	Sweeney
Meeks (NY)	Rangel	Tancredo
Melancon	Regula	Tanner
Menendez	Rehberg	Tauscher
Mica	Reichert	Taylor (MS)
Michaud	Renzi	Taylor (NC)
Millender-	Reyes	Terry
McDonald	Reynolds	Thomas
Miller (FL)	Rogers (AL)	Thompson (CA)
Miller (MI)	Rogers (KY)	Thompson (MS)
Miller (NC)	Rogers (MI)	Thornberry
Miller, Gary	Rohrabacher	Tiahrt
Miller, George	Ros-Lehtinen	Tiberi
Mollohan	Ross	Tierney
Moore (KS)	Roybal-Allard	Towns
Moore (WI)	Royce	Turner
Moran (KS)	Ruppersberger	Udall (CO)
Moran (VA)	Ryan (OH)	Udall (NM)
Murphy	Ryan (WI)	Upton
Murtha	Ryun (KS)	Van Hollen
Musgrave	Sabo	Velázquez
Myrick	Salazar	Visclosky
Nadler	Sánchez, Linda	Walden (OR)
Napolitano	T.	Walsh
Neal (MA)	Sanders	Wamp
Neugebauer	Saxton	Wasserman
Ney	Schakowsky	Schultz
Northup	Schiff	Waters
Norwood	Schwartz (PA)	Watson
Nunes	Schwarz (MI)	Watt
Oberstar	Scott (VA)	Waxman
Obey	Sensenbrenner	Weiner
Olver	Serrano	Weldon (FL)
Ortiz	Sessions	Weldon (PA)
Osborne	Shadegg	Weller
Owens	Shaw	Westmoreland
Pallone	Shays	Wexler
Pascrell	Sherman	Whitfield
Pastor	Sherwood	Wicker
Pearce	Shinkus	Wilson (NM)
Pelosi	Shuster	Wilson (SC)
Pence	Simmons	Wolf
Peterson (MN)	Simpson	Woolsey
Peterson (PA)	Skelton	Wu
Petri	Slaughter	Wynn
Pickering	Smith (NJ)	Young (FL)

NAYS—2

McKinney Paul

NOT VOTING—22

Andrews	Jackson-Lee	Payne
Brown, Corrine	(TX)	Platts
Green, Gene	Jenkins	Rothman
Gutierrez	Kennedy (RI)	Rush
Hastings (FL)	McCollum (MN)	Sanchez, Loretta
Honda	Nussle	Scott (GA)
Hyde	Otter	Stark
	Oxley	Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon) (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1908

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I missed two votes on June 7, 2005. Had I been present I would have voted yea on roll-call 228 and 229.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the floor during today's rollcall votes on H. Con. Res. 44 (recognizing the importance of Cinco de Mayo) and H. Res. 282 (expressing the sense of the House regarding anti-Semitism by United Nations members). Had I been present, I would have voted yea on each of these measures.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 65

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 65.

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

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, once again I rise tonight to talk about what Americans pay for prescription drugs compared to what the rest of the industrialized world pays for those same prescription drugs.

And for those who were watching on Sunday night the television show "60 Minutes," there was a very interesting segment, and it featured Dr. Peter Rost, who is both an M.D. and a VP of a very large pharmaceutical company. And what Dr. Rost talked about last night on "60 Minutes" is the same subject that I and many Members of this House have been talking about for several years, and that is that Americans pay by far and away much more for prescription drugs than consumers in any other industrialized country.

I do not know how well Members can see this, but this chart has five of the most commonly prescribed prescription drugs today; and it has prices from London, from Athens, and from the United States. And what we see on these charts is we really have three different price levels. We see the price, for example, of Lipitor in London is \$40.88. That same Lipitor, which incidentally Dr. Rost talked about and is made in Ireland, all of it is imported somewhere because it is all made in Ireland; but in London, \$40.88; in Athens, \$55.65; but a month's supply in the United States is \$76.41.

□ 1915

You look at the entire list and then you total them up, the five most commonly prescribed drugs. In London,

those five drugs are \$195 U.S. In Athens, they are \$231 in American dollars. Here in the United States, \$507.

Mr. Speaker, the chart can get worse, too. If you look at what we see, for example, in Germany, and these numbers again are from earlier this year, when you compare on this chart we have 10 of the most commonly-prescribed drugs brought at the Metropolitan Pharmacy in Frankfurt, Germany, and this is essentially just coming in off the street, not expecting any special discount either in the United States or here, but those 10 in the United States total \$1,040. In Germany, you can buy the same drugs for \$455.57.

Mr. Speaker, it really is time that we do what they do in Europe. It is called parallel trading. For Members, if we can work out the legalities, we are going to try to make available to Members a copy of that 60 Minutes segment so people can see for themselves and hear from somebody who is actually a pharmaceutical insider.

As I say, he is now a VP of marketing of one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world. He formerly though worked in Europe for a big pharmaceutical company, and he was involved in what is called parallel trading. That creates a competitive marketplace. Because, at the end of the day, we Americans understand it does cost money to develop these new drugs, and we are willing to pay our fair share. We ought to be willing to subsidize the starving people in Sub-Saharan Africa. We should not be forced to subsidize the starving Swiss.

Americans deserve world-class drugs at world market prices. The time has come to open up markets and allow Americans to have access to these drugs. When we do, you will see the prices balanced so that the prices in Europe are probably going to go up a little, but the prices here in the United States will go down dramatically.

Please join me in this important effort.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIERREZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GUTIERREZ addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FIRST CLASS WESLEY ROBERT RIGGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE. "I don't do it for the money . . . I don't do it for the glory . . . Providing for our future is my responsibility . . . I can't call in sick on Mondays when the weekend has been too strong. I just work straight through the holidays and sometimes all night long. You can bet that I stand ready

when the wolf growls at the door . . . I am solid . . . I am steady . . . I am true down to the core . . . I'm an American soldier."

Words from Toby Keith's "American Soldier."

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of a young American soldier, Private First Class Wesley Robert Riggs, who died serving our Nation in Iraq. Private First Class Riggs, in only 19 years, had exhibited a lifetime of dedication and duty. He was killed during a patrol on May 17, 2005, near Tikrit, Iraq, when a roadside bomb exploded.

He was a native of Baytown/Beach City, Texas. Wesley graduated in 3 years from Barbers Hill High School in 2003. He was active in the Future Farmers of America. To Wesley's Ag teachers, he was well devoted to the curriculum and is remembered for his skills in Ag Mechanics and Meats Technology. They recall his love of fishing, hunting and anything outdoors.

Before enlisting in the United States Army in 2004, Wesley spent his days like many other young Texans. He enjoyed hanging around with friends and working on cars. He liked four-wheeling and camping. He was also a member of the Houston Olympic weight lifting team.

He attended Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Mt. Belvieu, Texas. Reverend Andrew Moore, Wesley's Pastor at Holy Trinity, recalls a dedicated young man that was extremely motivated and driven. He dreamed of a career in law enforcement after his years in the military.

A number of his band of brothers in the military paid tribute to Wesley at his funeral service. Others commemorated him at his memorial service that I was able to attend this past Memorial Day weekend. They all spoke of a comrade who illustrated exemplary service.

To date, Mr. Speaker, in Operation Iraqi Freedom, our United States Army alone has lost 93 Texans in combat-related casualties. It is interesting to note that one out of every ten Americans in the United States military comes from the Lone Star State.

Our military cannot replace individuals of such exceptional character as Private First Class Riggs. However, his service will provide a stirring example for the men and women who carry forward his tenacious fight against tyranny, terror and treachery.

Moreover, Private First Class Riggs helped to establish a democracy, the historic start of which I was privileged to witness in Iraq this past January. Freedom does not come, Mr. Speaker, because somebody carries a sign in protest. It comes because of sacrifice.

So if today we could hear from Private First Class Wesley Riggs himself, as a member once and always of the United States Army, as a member of the Infantry, called "the Queen of Battle," he would resonate the remainder of Toby Keith's "American Soldier:"

"And I always will do my duty, no matter what the price. I have counted

up the cost, I know the sacrifice . . . I don't want to die for you, but if dying is asked of me, I will bear that cross with honor, cause freedom don't come free . . . I am out here on the front line. Sleep in peace tonight . . . I am an American Soldier, an American, an American Soldier."

Private First Class Riggs might also hear the words that were spoken many years ago regarding the band of brothers in Henry V. He could say, inspired by Shakespeare, "For he that sheds his blood with me is my brother. From this day to the ending of the world. But we in it shall be remembered, we few, we happy few, we band of brothers."

Private First Class Riggs, we will not forget you, an Army of one. He received the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal and the Army Service Ribbon. We thank you, Private First Class Riggs, for your service, your dedication and sacrifice to your country.

HEARING FROM AMERICA ON UNITED AIRLINES PENSION COLLAPSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, Congress needs to hear from America about the severe loss of private pensions. Tonight, I would like to share with my colleagues some of the testimony my Democratic colleagues and I have received through the first-ever congressional E-hearing.

It is clear from United Airlines' attempt to dump \$6.6 billion onto the Federal pension agency known as the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation and to cut over \$3 billion in pension benefits from its employees that the Federal pension laws are seriously broken.

Like United, other large companies have also abused Federal law to terminate their employees' pension plans and to deeply reduce the retirement security that hard-working Americans had every right to expect to have. These runaway pension terminations threaten employees, investors and taxpayers.

In the case of United, if it is allowed to dump all of its pension obligations onto the Federal Government, then its competitor airlines will seek to do the same. This is a real crisis, and it demands action. This crisis is about hard-working employees who in many cases will lose half or even more than half of the nest egg promised by their employers.

United failed to put away enough for the hard times, but it is the employees and taxpayers that are suffering the consequences. Congress needs to hear from United employees and from other Americans suffering from the collapse of private pension plans.

But, as with so many other important pocketbook issues, this Congress,

under the Republican leadership, does not listen. It does not afford average Americans an opportunity to be heard.

Democrats are listening, and we want to hear from America.

To do that, my Democratic colleagues and I on the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and also with the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), held the first-ever congressional E-hearing. We set up an online forum to hear from experts on the United pension crisis and from the employees and the retirees themselves.

The response has been overwhelming. We have received some 2,000 heart-breaking e-mails. These statements demonstrate what a real crisis looks like. I want to share with my colleagues and the public some of these e-mails. On my Web site you can read all of the testimony at house.gov/georgemiller.

Here is the testimony of Mynette Wijnveldt, of Mililani, Hawaii, who writes: "My husband and I were both employed as United Airlines flight attendants for 27 years. In 2001, he was diagnosed with a rare illness and became totally disabled. At age 50, he had to medically retire because he was no longer able to work. While I am still employed by United, I am seriously concerned about our future.

"If United is allowed to dump this pension our family will be hit very hard. My husband's medical retirement was severely reduced due to the early retirement factors, and I have lost 35 to 40 percent because of cuts in the plans resulting from the negotiated changes to our contract.

"If United is able to dump our pensions on the PBGC and walk away from its promise, we stand to lose our home and I will be working until I can no longer do so."

Here is another testimony, from Proctor Lucius in Carlsbad, California: "I sit in jeopardy of losing over 70 percent of my monthly income and with financial obligations not only for my immediate family but assisted living care for my elderly mother. Our future is very ominously bleak. As you are well aware, the costs for everything, especially medical care, are increasing astronomically and Social Security is pitifully inadequate to compensate. Now Social Security is in jeopardy of being thrown into the giant casino of Wall Street. Where does it end?"

Mrs. E.L. Smith of Hanover, Pennsylvania, wrote: "My husband is a retired United Airline pilot with 33 years of loyal service to the company. He also is a two-tour veteran of the Vietnam War with service to his country. I am a second generation, former United Airlines customer service employee. We have an 18-year-old son starting college and a 9-year-old daughter. The loss of my husband's pension will be very difficult for our family, but the loss of medical care will cripple us. Many retirees are in this position, and due to preexisting medical conditions, they will not be able to afford coverage.