

Democrats have continually asked for investigation of pre-war intelligence, and those requests have been repeatedly denied. The same is true for requests to investigate the other matters related to the war in Iraq: The prison abuse scandals, the no-bid Halliburton reconstruction contracts, the misuse of classified information to discredit administration critics.

Each of these matters has national security implications that need to be examined, particularly on the issue of going to war and the conduct of war. Congress has an obligation to make sure that decisions were made properly and that these decisions are based on truth and trust.

Until the Congress examines fully issues like whether intelligence was politicized, we have failed in a fundamental way to protect our troops and maintain a level of trust with the American people.

I urge the House to support both the Obey motion to instruct and my subsequent resolution on Iraq.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GINGREY). Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

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

The motion was agreed to.

#### QUESTION OF PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, because the Republican-led Congress has not conducted any investigations of abuses by the Republican administration's decision to go to war in Iraq, and because the over 2,000 American soldiers have lost their lives and more than 15,000 have been wounded, therefore, pursuant to rule IX, I rise in regard to a question of privileges of the House, and I offer a privileged resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution. The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

##### PRIVILEGED RESOLUTION ON IRAQ

Whereas the war in Iraq has resulted in the loss of over 2,000 American lives and more than 15,000 wounded soldiers, and has cost the American people \$190 billion dollars;

Whereas the basis for going to war was Iraq's alleged possession of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and the President made a series of misleading statements regarding threats posed by Iraq, but no weapons of mass destruction have been found;

Whereas the Republican Leadership and Committee Chairmen have repeatedly denied requests by Democratic Members to complete an investigation of pre-war intelligence on Iraq and have ignored the question of whether that intelligence was manipulated for political purposes;

Whereas the Vice President's Chief of Staff Lewis Libby has been indicted on five counts of perjury, obstruction of justice, and making false statements in connection with the disclosure of the identity of a CIA operative, and that disclosure was part of a pattern of Administration efforts to discredit critics of the Iraq war;

Whereas four separate requests to hold hearings on the disclosure of the CIA operative were denied in the Government Reform Committee, and Resolutions of Inquiry were rejected in the Intelligence, Judiciary, Armed Services, and International Relations Committees;

Whereas the American people have spent \$20.9 billion dollars to rebuild Iraq with much of the money squandered on no-bid contracts for Halliburton and other favored contractors;

Whereas Halliburton received a sole-source contract worth \$7 billion to implement the restoration of Iraq's oil infrastructure, and a senior Army Corps of Engineers official wrote that the sole-source contract was "co-ordinated with the Vice President's office";

Whereas despite these revelations, on July 22, 2004 the Republican controlled Government Reform Committee voted to reject a subpoena by Democratic Members appropriately seeking information on communications of the Vice President's office on awarding contracts to Halliburton;

Whereas prisoner abuses at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, Guantanamo, and Afghanistan have seriously damaged the reputation of the United States, and increased the danger to U.S. personnel serving in Iraq and abroad;

Whereas the Republican Leadership and Committee Chairmen have denied requests for hearings, defeated resolutions of inquiry for information, and failed to aggressively pursue serious allegations, including how far up the chain of command the responsibility lies for the treatment of detainees;

Whereas the oversight of decisions and actions of other branches of government is an established and fundamental responsibility of Congress;

Whereas the Republican Leadership and the Chairmen of the committees of jurisdiction have failed to undertake meaningful, substantive investigations of any of the abuses pertaining to the Iraq war, including the manipulation of pre-war intelligence, the public release of a covert operative's name, the role of the Vice President in Iraqi reconstruction, and the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the House calls upon the Republican Leadership and Chairmen of the committees of jurisdiction to comply with their oversight responsibilities, demands they conduct a thorough investigation of abuses relating to the Iraq War, and condemns their refusal to conduct oversight of an Executive Branch controlled by the same party, which is in contradiction to the established rules of standing committees and Congressional precedent.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the minority leader wish to offer argument on the parliamentary question whether the resolution presents a question of the privileges of the House?

Ms. PELOSI. Yes, I do, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) is recognized.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I do not hear an objection to my motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman is recognized to offer argument on whether the resolution is privileged.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I will reiterate some of what I said in the motion to instruct.

For the past 2½ years since our country has gone to war, we have paid a big price for a bad policy based on faulty intelligence which was wrong, based on

a false premise without proper planning and putting our young people at risk. In that period of time, that 2½ years, over 2,000 Americans have lost their lives. Every single one of them is precious to us, but, as the toll mounts, the grief does as well. Over 15,000 of our young people have lost their limbs, 15,000 have been injured, many of them permanently, many with loss of limb and sight, at a cost of over \$250 billion, a quarter of a trillion dollars, to the taxpayer and just endless cost to our reputation in the world.

I think it begs the question, are we safer in America because of this war? What is this war doing to the preparedness of our troops? I think that the answer to both of those is negative, and I think it calls for an examination of what the intelligence was to get us there in the first place. Was it manipulated? Why was there no plan for us to go into Iraq, a post-war plan for after the fall of Iraq, as well as an exit strategy?

The American people love freedom for ourselves and for people throughout the world, but we have to examine what the cost of this war is and why even the Republican Department of Defense has said—

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, regular order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair must ask the distinguished minority leader to confine her comments to the rule IX question.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thought there was no objection and that we were just speaking on the resolution. Is that a mistake? My impression from what you said when you yielded to me was that there was no objection, and did I wish to speak on the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The minority leader was recognized on the question of whether or not her resolution presents a question of the privileges of the House.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, then I will just conclude by saying, can the Chair please explain why it is not in order to discuss on the floor of this House, of this great democratic institution, a situation where our young people are in harm's way, the death toll mounts, the injuries mount, the cost to the taxpayer mounts, the cost to our reputation mounts, and we have a cover-up Congress that will not investigate, will not ask any questions about the intelligence which was wrong, which got us into war in the first place and the lack of a plan providing for our troops, what they need to serve and to come home safely and soon? Why is that not in order on the floor of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is not whether such a debate is in order but whether the resolution is a question of privilege.

Under rule IX, questions of the privileges of the House are those "affecting the rights of the House collectively, its safety, its dignity [or] the integrity of its proceedings." A question of the privileges of the House may not be invoked to effect an interpretation of the

rules of the House, or to prescribe an order of business for the House, or to establish a norm for the conduct of business by the House or its committees.

In some circumstances, the manner in which business is conducted might properly be arraigned by a question of the privileges of the House. But the Chair must maintain a distinction between, for example, an allegation of willful malfeasance by a Member, officer, employee, or committee of the House, on one hand, and an allegation that a Member, officer, employee, or committee of the House failed to follow a course of action that the proponent of the resolution or others consider advisable.

As Speaker pro tempore Cox noted in the decision of September 20, 1888 (which is recorded in Hinds' Precedents at volume 3, section 2601), there need be an allegation of, at least, impropriety.

□ 1130

The Chair must hold that the resolution offered by the distinguished minority leader does not affect the rights of the House collectively, its safety, its dignity, or the integrity of its proceedings within the meaning of rule IX. As such, the resolution does not constitute a question of privilege.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I must confess I am confused about where we are at this point. I thought I heard the Speaker—

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GINGREY). The gentleman is not recognized for debate.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, is it not appropriate for a Member to speak on a point of order? Is it not appropriate for the gentleman from Wisconsin to be able to speak on a point of order that was lodged by the other side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has ruled. The question of order has already been disposed of.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may state his inquiry.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I thought I just heard you indicate that for the motion to be in order one of the questions that might have to be present was the question of the dignity of the House. When we are told that \$100 million of taxpayers' money has been slipped into an appropriation bill for an illegal purpose, is that not, in fact, a challenge to the dignity of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That is not an appropriate parliamentary inquiry at this stage.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I think it brings shame to the House for this Congress to be engaged in a cover-up when it comes to reviewing what is happening in Iraq, and I 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.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. WALSH

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion that the appeal be laid on the table.

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

Ms. PELOSI. 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, this 15-minute vote on the motion to table will be followed by a 5-minute vote on adoption of House Resolution 527.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 220, nays 191, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 562]

YEAS—220

Aderholt	Garrett (NJ)	Moran (KS)
Akin	Gerlach	Murphy
Alexander	Gibbons	Musgrave
Bachus	Gilchrest	Myrick
Baker	Gillmor	Neugebauer
Barrett (SC)	Gingrey	Ney
Bartlett (MD)	Gohmert	Northup
Barton (TX)	Goode	Nunes
Bass	Goodlatte	Nussle
Beauprez	Granger	Osborne
Biggert	Graves	Otter
Bilirakis	Green (WI)	Oxley
Blackburn	Gutknecht	Paul
Blunt	Harris	Pearce
Boehert	Hart	Pence
Boehner	Hastings (WA)	Peterson (PA)
Bonilla	Hayes	Petri
Bonner	Hayworth	Pickering
Bono	Hefley	Pitts
Boozman	Hensarling	Platts
Boustany	Herger	Poe
Bradley (NH)	Hobson	Porter
Brady (TX)	Hoekstra	Price (GA)
Brown (SC)	Hostettler	Pryce (OH)
Burgess	Hulshof	Putnam
Burton (IN)	Hunter	Radanovich
Buyer	Hyde	Ramstad
Calvert	Inglis (SC)	Regula
Camp	Issa	Rehberg
Cannon	Jenkins	Reichert
Cantor	Jindal	Renzi
Capito	Johnson (CT)	Reynolds
Carter	Johnson (IL)	Rogers (AL)
Castle	Johnson, Sam	Rogers (KY)
Choccola	Jones (NC)	Rogers (MI)
Coble	Keller	Rohrabacher
Cole (OK)	Kelly	Ros-Lehtinen
Conaway	Kennedy (MN)	Royce
Crenshaw	King (IA)	Ryan (WI)
Cubin	Kingston	Ryun (KS)
Culberson	Kirk	Saxton
Cunningham	Kline	Schmidt
Davis (KY)	Knollenberg	Schwarz (MI)
Davis, Jo Ann	Kolbe	Sensenbrenner
Davis, Tom	Kuhl (NY)	Sessions
Deal (GA)	LaHood	Shadegg
DeLay	Latham	Shaw
Dent	LaTourette	Shays
Diaz-Balart, L.	Leach	Sherwood
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lewis (CA)	Shimkus
Doolittle	Lewis (KY)	Shuster
Drake	Linder	Simmons
Dreier	LoBiondo	Simpson
Duncan	Lucas	Smith (NJ)
Ehlers	Lungren, Daniel	Smith (TX)
Emerson	E.	Sodrel
English (PA)	Mack	Souder
Everett	Manzullo	Stearns
Feeney	Marchant	Sullivan
Ferguson	Marshall	Sweeney
Fitzpatrick (PA)	McCaul (TX)	Tancredo
Flake	McCotter	Taylor (NC)
Foley	McCrery	Terry
Forbes	McHenry	Thomas
Fortenberry	McHugh	Thornberry
Fossella	McKeon	Tiberi
Fox	Mica	Turner
Franks (AZ)	Miller (FL)	Upton
Frelinghuysen	Miller (MI)	Walden (OR)
Gallegly	Miller, Gary	Walsh

Wamp  
Weldon (FL)  
Weller  
Westmoreland

Whitfield  
Wicker  
Wilson (NM)  
Wilson (SC)

Wolf  
Young (AK)  
Young (FL)

NAYS—191

Abercrombie  
Ackerman  
Allen  
Andrews  
Baca  
Baird  
Baldwin  
Barrow  
Bean  
Becerra  
Berkley  
Berman  
Berry  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (NY)  
Blumenauer  
Boren  
Boucher  
Brown (OH)  
Brown, Corrine  
Capps  
Capuano  
Cardoza  
Carnahan  
Carson  
Case  
Chandler  
Clay  
Cleaver  
Clyburn  
Conyers  
Cooper  
Costa  
Costello  
Cramer  
Crowley  
Cuellar  
Davis (AL)  
Davis (CA)  
Davis (IL)  
Davis (TN)  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
Delahunt  
DeLauro  
Dicks  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Doyle  
Edwards  
Emanuel  
Engel  
Eshoo  
Etheridge  
Evans  
Farr  
Fattah  
Filner  
Ford  
Frank (MA)  
Gonzalez  
Gordon  
Green, Al  
Green, Gene

Grijalva  
Gutierrez  
Harman  
Herseth  
Higgins  
Hinchev  
Hinojosa  
Holden  
Holt  
Honda  
Hookey  
Hoyer  
Inslie  
Israel  
Jackson (IL)  
Jackson-Lee  
(TX)  
Jefferson  
Johnson, E. B.  
Jones (OH)  
Kanjorski  
Kaptur  
Kennedy (RI)  
Kildee  
Kilpatrick (MI)  
Kind  
Kucinich  
Langevin  
Lantos  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lipinski  
Lofgren, Zoe  
Lowey  
Lynch  
Maloney  
Markey  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy  
McColum (MN)  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McIntyre  
McKinney  
McNulty  
Meehan  
Meek (FL)  
Meeks (NY)  
Melancon  
Menendez  
Michaud  
Millender-  
McDonald  
Miller (NC)  
Miller, George  
Mollohan  
Moore (KS)  
Moore (WI)  
Moran (VA)  
Murtha  
Nadler

Napolitano  
Neal (MA)  
Oberstar  
Obey  
Olver  
Ortiz  
Owens  
Pallone  
Pascarell  
Pastor  
Payne  
Pelosi  
Peterson (MN)  
Pomeroy  
Price (NC)  
Rahall  
Rangel  
Reyes  
Ross  
Rothman  
Ruppersberger  
Rush  
Ryan (OH)  
Sabo  
Salazar  
Sánchez, Linda  
T.  
Sanchez, Loretta  
Sanders  
Schakowsky  
Schwartz (PA)  
Scott (GA)  
Scott (VA)  
Sherman  
Skelton  
Slaughter  
Smith (WA)  
Snyder  
Solis  
Spratt  
Stark  
Strickland  
Stupak  
Tanner  
Tauscher  
Taylor (MS)  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Tierney  
Udall (CO)  
Udall (NM)  
Van Hollen  
Velázquez  
Vislosky  
Wasserman  
Schultz  
Waters  
Watson  
Watt  
Waxman  
Weiner  
Wexler  
Woolsey  
Wu  
Wynn

NOT VOTING—22

Bishop (UT)  
Boswell  
Boyd  
Brady (PA)  
Brown-Waite,  
Ginny  
Butterfield  
Chabot

Cummings  
Davis (FL)  
Hall  
Hastings (FL)  
Istook  
King (NY)  
McMorris  
Norwood

Pombo  
Roybal-Allard  
Schiff  
Serrano  
Tiahrt  
Towns  
Weldon (PA)

□ 1158

Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Messrs. GORDON, GENE GREEN of Texas, ABERCROMBIE, PASTOR, and RUSH changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. MCHENRY, PENCE, SOUDER, and Mrs. BLACKBURN changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

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.

**PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4128, PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT OF 2005**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSSELLA). The pending business is the vote on adoption of House Resolution 527 on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 11, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 563]

YEAS—401

Abercrombie	Cole (OK)	Gibbons
Ackerman	Conaway	Gilchrest
Aderholt	Conyers	Gillmor
Akin	Cooper	Gingrey
Alexander	Costa	Gohmert
Allen	Costello	Gonzalez
Andrews	Cramer	Goode
Baca	Crenshaw	Goodlatte
Bachus	Crowley	Gordon
Baird	Cubin	Granger
Baker	Cuellar	Graves
Baldwin	Culberson	Green (WI)
Barrett (SC)	Cummings	Green, Al
Barrow	Cunningham	Green, Gene
Bartlett (MD)	Davis (AL)	Gutierrez
Barton (TX)	Davis (CA)	Gutknecht
Bass	Davis (IL)	Harman
Bean	Davis (KY)	Harris
Beauprez	Davis (TN)	Hart
Becerra	Davis, Jo Ann	Hastings (WA)
Berkley	Davis, Tom	Hayes
Berman	Deal (GA)	Hayworth
Berry	DeFazio	Hefley
Biggert	DeGette	Hensarling
Bilirakis	Delahunt	Herger
Bishop (GA)	DeLauro	Herseth
Bishop (NY)	DeLay	Higgins
Blackburn	Dent	Hinchee
Blumenauer	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hinojosa
Blunt	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hobson
Boehkert	Dicks	Hoekstra
Boehner	Dingell	Holden
Bonilla	Doggett	Honda
Bonner	Doolittle	Hooley
Bono	Doyle	Hostettler
Boozman	Drake	Hoyer
Boren	Dreier	Hulshof
Boucher	Duncan	Hunter
Boustany	Edwards	Hyde
Bradley (NH)	Ehlers	Inglis (SC)
Brady (TX)	Emanuel	Inslee
Brown (OH)	Emerson	Israel
Brown (SC)	Engel	Issa
Brown, Corrine	English (PA)	Jackson (IL)
Burgess	Eshoo	Jackson-Lee
Burton (IN)	Etheridge	(TX)
Buyer	Evans	Jefferson
Calvert	Everett	Jenkins
Camp	Farr	Jindal
Cannon	Fattah	Johnson (CT)
Cantor	Feeney	Johnson (IL)
Capito	Ferguson	Johnson, E. B.
Capps	Filner	Johnson, Sam
Capuano	Fitzpatrick (PA)	Jones (NC)
Cardin	Flake	Kanjorski
Cardoza	Foley	Kaptur
Carnahan	Forbes	Keller
Carson	Ford	Kelly
Carter	Fortenberry	Kennedy (MN)
Case	Fossella	Kennedy (RI)
Castle	Fox	Kildee
Chandler	Frank (MA)	Kilpatrick (MI)
Chocola	Franks (AZ)	Kind
Clay	Frelinghuysen	King (IA)
Cleaver	Galleghy	Kingston
Clyburn	Garrett (NJ)	Kirk
Coble	Gerlach	Kline

Knollenberg	Neugebauer	Shadegg
Kolbe	Ney	Shaw
Kucinich	Northup	Shays
Kuhl (NY)	Nunes	Sherman
LaHood	Nussle	Sherwood
Langevin	Oberstar	Shimkus
Lantos	Obey	Shuster
Larsen (WA)	Ortiz	Simmons
Larson (CT)	Osborne	Simpson
Latham	Otter	Skelton
LaTourette	Owens	Slaughter
Leach	Oxley	Smith (NJ)
Lee	Pallone	Smith (TX)
Levin	Pascrell	Smith (WA)
Lewis (CA)	Paul	Snyder
Lewis (GA)	Payne	Sodrel
Lewis (KY)	Pearce	Solis
Linder	Pelosi	Souder
Lipinski	Pence	Spratt
LoBiondo	Peterson (MN)	Stark
Lofgren, Zoe	Peterson (PA)	Stearns
Lowey	Petri	Strickland
Lucas	Pickering	Stupak
Lungren, Daniel	Pitts	Sullivan
E.	Platts	Sweeney
Lynch	Poe	Tancredo
Mack	Pomeroy	Tanner
Maloney	Porter	Tauscher
Manzullo	Price (GA)	Taylor (NC)
Marchant	Price (NC)	Terry
Markey	Pryce (OH)	Thomas
Marshall	Putnam	Thompson (CA)
Matheson	Radanovich	Thompson (MS)
Matsui	Rahall	Thornberry
McCollum (MN)	Ramstad	Tiberi
McCotter	Rangel	Tierney
McCrery	Regula	Turner
McGovern	Rehberg	Udall (CO)
McHenry	Reichert	Udall (NM)
McHugh	Renzi	Upton
McIntyre	Reyes	Van Hollen
McKeon	Reynolds	Velázquez
McKinney	Rogers (AL)	Visclosky
McNulty	Rogers (KY)	Walden (OR)
Meehan	Rogers (MI)	Walsh
Meek (FL)	Rohrabacher	Wamp
Meeks (NY)	Ros-Lehtinen	Wasserman
Melancon	Ross	Schultz
Menendez	Royce	Waters
Mica	Ruppersberger	Watson
Michaud	Rush	Watt
Millender-	Ryan (OH)	Waxman
McDonald	Ryan (WI)	Weiner
Miller (FL)	Ryun (KS)	Weldon (FL)
Miller (MI)	Salazar	Weldon (PA)
Miller (NC)	Sánchez, Linda	Weller
Miller, Gary	T.	Westmoreland
Miller, George	Sanchez, Loretta	Wexler
Mollohan	Sanders	Whitfield
Moore (KS)	Saxton	Wicker
Moore (WI)	Schakowsky	Wilson (NM)
Moran (KS)	Schmidt	Wilson (SC)
Moran (VA)	Schwartz (PA)	Wolf
Murphy	Schwarz (MI)	Woolsey
Murtha	Scott (GA)	Wynn
Musgrave	Scott (VA)	Young (AK)
Myrick	Sensenbrenner	Young (FL)
Napolitano	Serrano	
Neal (MA)	Sessions	

NAYS—11

Grijalva	Nadler	Sabo
Holt	Olver	Taylor (MS)
Jones (OH)	Pastor	Wu
McDermott	Rothman	

NOT VOTING—21

Bishop (UT)	Davis (FL)	Norwood
Boswell	Hall	Pombo
Boyd	Hastings (FL)	Roybal-Allard
Brady (PA)	Istook	Schiff
Brown-Waite,	King (NY)	Tiahrt
Ginny	McCarthy	Towns
Butterfield	McCaul (TX)	
Chabot	McMorris	

□ 1207

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So 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. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 562, had I been present I would have voted “nay.” On rollcall No. 563, had I been present I would have voted “aye.”

**APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2528, MILITARY QUALITY OF LIFE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSSELLA). Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees: Mr. WALSH, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mrs. NORTHUP, Messrs. SIMPSON, CRENSHAW, YOUNG of Florida, KIRK, REHBERG, CARTER, LEWIS of California, EDWARDS, FARR, BOYD, BISHOP of Georgia, PRICE of North Carolina, CRAMER, and OBEY.

There was no objection.

**APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 889, COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2005**

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 889) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2006, to make technical corrections to various laws administered by the Coast Guard, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. OBERSTAR

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct conferees.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. OBERSTAR moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill (H.R. 889) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2006, to make technical corrections to various laws administered by the Coast Guard, and for other purposes, be instructed to insist on section 603 of the House bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 7(b) of rule XXII, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) and the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, we will not take anywhere near the time allotted. I will take a few moments to explain the motion which the gentleman from Alaska, the chairman of our committee, and I have discussed previously.

The subject of this motion is summed up by a committee hearing held earlier this year on the tragedy that occurred November 26, 2004. The *Athos*, 750-foot single-hull tank vessel, hit a submerged object in Delaware Bay just