

ROSS) having assumed the chair, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2881) to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2008 through 2011, to improve aviation safety and capacity, to provide stable funding for the national aviation system, and for other purposes, pursuant to House Resolution 664, he reported the bill, as amended by that resolution, back to the House with sundry further amendments adopted by the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any further amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 267, noes 151, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 890]

AYES—267

Abercrombie Cleaver  
Ackerman Clyburn  
Allen Cohen  
Altmire Conyers  
Andrews Cooper  
Arcuri Costa  
Baca Costello  
Baird Courtney  
Baldwin Cramer  
Barrow Crowley  
Bean Cuellar  
Becerra Cummings  
Berkley Davis (AL)  
Berman Davis (CA)  
Berry Davis (IL)  
Biggert Davis (KY)  
Bishop (GA) Davis, Lincoln  
Bishop (NY) DeFazio  
Blumenauer DeGette  
Bono Delahunt  
Boren DeLauro  
Boswell Dent  
Boucher Diaz-Balart, L.  
Boyd (FL) Dicks  
Boyd (KS) Dingell  
Brady (PA) Doggett  
Braley (IA) Donnelly  
Brown, Corrine Doyle  
Butterfield Duncan  
Capito Edwards  
Capps Ehlers  
Capuano Ellison  
Cardoza Ellsworth  
Carnahan Emanuel  
Carson Jackson (IL)  
Castor Emerson  
Chandler Engel  
Clarke English (PA)  
Clay Eshoo  
Etheridge Kagen

Kanjorski  
Kaptur  
Kennedy  
Kildee  
Kilpatrick  
Kind  
King (NY)  
Kirk  
Klein (FL)  
Kucinich  
Kuhl (NY)  
Lampson  
Langevin  
Lantos  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lipinski  
LoBiondo  
Loeb sack  
Lofgren, Zoe  
Lowey  
Lynch  
Mahoney (FL)  
Maloney (NY)  
Manzullo  
Markey  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCollum (MN)  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McIntyre  
McNerney  
McNulty  
Meek (FL)  
Meeks (NY)  
Melancon  
Michaud  
Miller (MI)  
Miller (NC)  
Miller, George  
Mitchell  
Mollohan  
Moore (KS)  
Moore (WI)

Aderholt  
Akin  
Alexander  
Bachmann  
Bachus  
Baker  
Barrett (SC)  
Bartlett (MD)  
Barton (TX)  
Bilbray  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (UT)  
Blackburn  
Blunt  
Boehner  
Bonner  
Boozman  
Boustany  
Brady (TX)  
Brown (GA)  
Brown (SC)  
Brown-Waite,  
Ginny  
Buchanan  
Burgess  
Burton (IN)  
Buyer  
Calvert  
Camp (MI)  
Campbell (CA)  
Cannon  
Cantor  
Carter  
Castle  
Chabot  
Coble  
Cole (OK)  
Conaway  
Crenshaw  
Culberson  
Davis, David  
Davis, Tom  
Deal (GA)  
Diaz-Balart, M.  
Doolittle  
Drake

NOES—151

Moran (KS)  
Moran (VA)  
Murphy (CT)  
Murphy, Patrick  
Murphy, Tim  
Murtha  
Nadler  
Napolitano  
Neal (MA)  
Oberstar  
Obey  
Oliver  
Ortiz  
Pallone  
Pascrell  
Pastor  
Payne  
Perlmutter  
Peterson (MN)  
Peterson (PA)  
Platts  
Pomeroy  
Porter  
Price (NC)  
Rahall  
Rangel  
Regula  
Reichert  
Renzi  
Reyes  
Richardson  
Rodriguez  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Ross  
Rothman  
Roybal-Allard  
Ruppersberger  
Rush  
Ryan (OH)  
Salazar  
Sanchez, Linda  
T.  
Sanchez, Loretta  
Sarbanes  
Saxton  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schwartz  
Scott (VA)  
Scott (VA)  
Serrano

Dreier  
Fallin  
Feeney  
Flake  
Forbes  
Fossella  
Foxy  
Franks (AZ)  
Frelinghuysen  
Gallegly  
Garrett (NJ)  
Gingrey  
Gohmert  
Goode  
Goodlatte  
Granger  
Graves  
Hall (TX)  
Hastert  
Hastings (WA)  
Heller  
Hensarling  
Herger  
Hobson  
Hoekstra  
Hulshof  
Inglis (SC)  
Issa  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones (NC)  
Jordan  
Keller  
King (IA)  
Kingston  
Kline (MN)  
Knollenberg  
LaHood  
Lamborn  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Linder  
Lucas  
Lungren, Daniel  
E.  
Mack  
Marchant

Stearns  
Sullivan  
Tancredo  
Thornberry  
Tiberi  
Turner  
Upton  
Walberg  
Walden (OR)  
Wamp  
Weldon (FL)  
Westmoreland

NOT VOTING—14

Carney  
Cubin  
Davis, Jo Ann  
Everett  
Hunter  
Inslee  
Jackson-Lee  
(TX)  
Jefferson  
Jindal  
Johnson (GA)  
Marshall  
McHugh  
Myrick  
Waters

□ 1424

Mr. BUCHANAN and Mr. BACHUS changed their vote from “aye” to “no.” So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN EN-GROSSMENT OF H.R. 2881, FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that in the engrossment of H.R. 2881, the Clerk be authorized to correct section numbers, punctuation, cross-references, and make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to accurately reflect the actions of the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLEIN of Florida). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. BLUNT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend from Maryland, the majority leader, to update us on the schedule for next week.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

On Monday, the House will meet at 12:30 p.m. for morning-hour business, 2 p.m. for legislative business, with votes rolled until 6:30 that night. We will consider several bills under suspension of the rules. A list of those bills will be announced by the close of business tomorrow.

On Tuesday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for morning-hour business, and 10 a.m. for legislative business. On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for legislative business; and on Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business. We expect to consider a fiscal year 2008 Continuing Resolution, legislation dealing with the State Children’s Health Insurance Program, the Popcorn Workers Lung Disease Prevention Act, and the flood insurance bill.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for that information.

On the State Child Health Insurance Program, what bill would we be considering at that point?

Mr. HOYER. As you know, the House and Senate have been meeting. The

Senate has not gone to conference on this bill. But we all know that on September 30 the authorization for SCHIP expires, so we are hoping to have a bill on the floor early next week. That bill will incorporate what we believe to be, what we hope to be, what we are working to be a consensus which can pass the House and the Senate. I can't give you all the specifics of that because I don't have all the specifics of that.

Mr. BLUNT. Are there any specifics to a bill yet? I mean, I know what the House passed. I roughly know what the Senate passed, but I have absolutely no idea how we're working out the combination of those two things. There's no conferences, as I understand it.

Mr. HOYER. The Senate has not gone to conference yet.

Mr. BLUNT. So there's no conference. This is a multi-billion dollar bill, and I believe your indications are we'd be dealing with this currently non-existing bill early next week?

Mr. HOYER. That's my representation. There will be nothing, I think, in the bill that was not in the House or Senate bills so, to that extent, it will be like a conference.

We haven't gone to conference. We are having great difficulty, I'll tell my friend, in getting the minority party in the Senate to vote to go to conference. I regret that, but that's the fact of life; and we can either stop doing business until they agree to do so, or we can try to move forward and try to reach some agreement.

I will tell my friend that there were Republican Senators involved in the discussions, as he may know, and he is correct that there will probably be a new bill on the floor, but I tell my friend that that bill will incorporate items that were either in the Senate or House bill and will be items that we believe and hope, as I said, are now agreed between what we hope to be a majority of the House and a majority of the Senate. To that extent, it will be like a conference report because the expectation is it would not be amended in the Senate because, of course, we're facing the September 30 deadline.

I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my friend for that information. Of course that is, as he would know, frustrating for us. I'm familiar with the process where the minority in the Senate won't go to conference.

Mr. HOYER. I'm sure you are.

Mr. BLUNT. And, in fact, late in the last Congress we had that; and as I recall, we brought a tax bill to the floor and gave our friends on your side, the minority at that time, an opportunity to have a recommittal or some kind of motion that would change or improve that bill. I wonder if, at the very least, we could expect that same kind of treatment when a conference is not decided to be possible by the majority.

Mr. HOYER. Because we don't, under the rules, and you didn't either, have to provide that. Sometimes you did; sometimes you didn't. But in any

event, as I said, we will be treating this much like a conference report. We regret that we're not in conference; and therefore it will be treated more like a conference report than it will be a new piece of legislation because I would reiterate to my friend, it is, essentially, not a new piece of legislation. It is a compromise that we have tried to reach with bipartisan participation in the Senate side. Unfortunately, notwithstanding invitations, not on the House side.

The bill will, hopefully, be a bill, as I have said to my friend, that can be agreed upon and sent to the President so that we can provide for the Children's Health Insurance Program to continue and, obviously, to expand, as we hope it will.

□ 1430

Mr. BLUNT. Well, I would suggest on this topic that the way that the children's health care program is likely to continue at the end of this month will be a continuation of the current program.

A bill that has not been debated, a bill that's treated like a conference bill, with the exception of not having the conference on this big a topic, is a bill that's not likely to become law between now and September 30, I would think.

Mr. HOYER. Will my friend yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I would.

Mr. HOYER. I understand your angst because we shared that angst. We had a lot of angst, as you recall, and I asked the majority leader on a number of occasions when they were going to have conferences that were called, that had conferees, to which our conferees were never invited, some the most senior Members of this Congress, namely Mr. DINGELL and Mr. RANGEL, who were not invited to conferences. So I understand the gentleman's angst. I really do.

But having said that, I think it is unfair to say a bill that has not been seen. I would again reiterate to my friend that, as I understand it, there will be nothing in the bill that we will hope to consider early next week that was not included in either the Senate bill or the House bill, both of which passed respective bodies. But we haven't been able to get to conference. Meetings have obviously been held. We hope agreements have been reached which would be acceptable to both bodies so that we can move those bills as if a conference had been held. But because a conference hasn't been held, this is the alternative available to us.

Mr. BLUNT. Reclaiming my time on that, Mr. Speaker, I would just say that I'm sure when my good friend was frustrated that conferences weren't always scheduled in a way that was timely that the alternative that would have been presented would not have been, well, the way to solve this was just not to have conferences.

And the two bills, the Senate and House bill, were different from each other by tens of billions of dollars; so

there is plenty of debatable space between a known Senate bill and a known House bill that apparently we will have no opportunity to issue an alternative on.

I believe there was not an instance, and I don't know when I was unsuccessful, but I always argued in that rare case when this happened that the minority should have an opportunity. In fact, I very well remember having a significant disagreement with our chairman of the Ways and Means Committee in the last Congress on insisting that the minority be given that opportunity. And on something this big, I really think the process is at great fault here. But we'll have time to talk about this next week.

On appropriations will we have a continuing resolution on the floor next week or at what point?

Mr. HOYER. My expectation is we will have a continuing resolution on the floor next week. We don't intend to shut down government. I know that a number of Members on your side have indicated it's not their intention to shut down government. We, therefore, need to provide for an alternative which will provide for government to continue because, again, we are experiencing the same frustration you had, as you know, that while we have passed all 12 appropriation bills, that has not been the case in the Senate. The Senate has passed four of their appropriations bills. We haven't conferenced them yet, so that we are going to need a CR to continue government in operations, and I expect to have that on the floor next week.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I would ask if my friend has a sense of the time of that. Are we looking at what time frame that that CR would last for?

Mr. HOYER. I don't want to commit myself to a time frame, but I can tell you, in discussions with the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, he wants a longer term than a shorter term. In other words, I don't think he is looking for a week-to-week. It will be a longer term than that. I don't think I want to prejudice his decision which he may not yet have made, but my expectation is, I tell my friend, that it will be a longer term than shorter term, and by that I mean more than a couple of weeks.

Mr. BLUNT. I appreciate that information.

On Iraq legislation, would we have any reason to anticipate that legislation next week or, in your opinion, in the following week?

Mr. HOYER. I think you ought to anticipate some Iraq legislation coming to the floor, not necessarily next week, although that is a possibility. But, certainly, within the next couple of weeks or 3 weeks, I would think we will have various components coming forward.

Mr. BLUNT. And also I would ask as a final question of the majority leader, it appears we are now going to miss the anticipated deadline, and I know we almost always do. But could you give us

any more information about the fall schedule, dates that you have already determined we will likely now be working in that period of time but maybe dates where Members could plan to do things in their districts?

And I yield for a response.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his question. I know it's a very important one for his Members and ours.

We had hoped, as you know, when I inherited or succeeded, however one looks at it, to the scheduling authority from Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. BOEHNER had scheduled October 3, I believe, it may have been the 6th, October 3 or 6 as the ending date. I would have hoped Mr. BOEHNER was accurate in that assessment, but I thought it was not realistic at that point in time. So I was more pessimistic but apparently not pessimistic enough.

I scheduled October 26 as our target date for adjournment. It seems that we are not going to make that. I am very hopeful, and I'm not going to bet on it, but I'm going to plan on November 16 being our last day.

Senator REID, the leader of the Senate, has indicated that they will be out the last 2 weeks of November. From my experience serving here, it doesn't get better just because you get into December, that we would be able to adjourn sine die until the second session of the Congress, probably to begin the 3rd week in January, although the Speaker and I need to discuss that, and I want to discuss it also with you and Mr. BOEHNER. But my thought would be that we would come back the 3rd week in January.

In addition to that, because we are not going to adjourn sine die on the 26th of October, which I had hoped but which is not realistic at this point in time, I had scheduled the four Fridays of October to meet. I want all the Members to know, and I discussed this with the whip earlier in the week, that we will not be meeting on the 5th of October, that Friday, nor will we be meeting on the 19th so that, because of Columbus Day, the Members will have from Thursday late afternoon, and I don't commit to any particular time on Thursday, the 4th, until Tuesday the 9th at 6:30 p.m. before we come back.

Mr. BLUNT. Are we scheduled to work on the 12th or not?

Mr. HOYER. October 12?

Mr. BLUNT. Yes.

Mr. HOYER. That Friday is currently scheduled. We are obviously in a position where we are not going to hold Members here for Friday simply to be here on Friday. It has been made clear to me that most Members on both sides of the aisle don't think that's a sensible policy. I agree with that. As a matter of fact, I think my friend has made that observation to me as well.

Mr. BLUNT. I do agree with that.

Mr. HOYER. But we have to find out the workload. As you well know, as you get down towards the end, if we are going to have any shot at adjourning

on the 16th of November, when the Senate is scheduled to leave for the last 2 weeks, if we have any shot of doing that, it will be because we complete that work which we think must be done, should be done prior to that. And, therefore, I am reserving those Fridays, and if we have work, we will be working. And the logical follow-on is that if we don't have work, although we won't give the kind of notice we are giving for the 5th and 19th, we will try not to have Members here simply watching the other body.

Mr. BLUNT. So on the 5th and 19th Members can definitely schedule things in their districts?

Mr. HOYER. We are notifying Members now that they will not be in session on those days, voting sessions.

Mr. BLUNT. In discussing the Senate calendar now, which also anticipates the November 16 date, I think the Senate leaders said if they do work beyond November 16, they won't be working in Washington the week of Thanksgiving or the following week.

I'm wondering how quickly the leader thinks he may be able to give our Members some direction on that issue on the basis that the Senate has already given that specific direction.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I don't want to be specific on that because I don't want to anticipate where the Senate might be at that point in time. The leader in the Senate, although he had represented that they perhaps might be there in December, he has indicated now that his hope and plan is that they will not be there in December so that hopefully he is focused as well and the Senate is focused as well on the 16th of November as the adjournment date. If that is not and we have not done what we need to do by that time, hopefully we will be able to accommodate that certainly by late October and letting the Members know what we are going to do.

We will not be here, clearly, the week of Thanksgiving. That is a guarantee. I would not want at this juncture, because there is still a lot to happen over the next 6 weeks, to be definitive about what other weeks we would not be here.

Mr. BLUNT. Except you would be definitive about the week of Christmas, I'm sure, if it comes to that?

Mr. HOYER. As someone who has served here a long time and who has, unfortunately, been here on the 23rd and 24th, I believe, at least 1 year, I hesitate to say that. But my Members will be very unhappy with me if we are here Christmas week. I will tell you we have 233 Members, and if we meet on Christmas, I will guarantee you there are 233 Members on this side who will be very unhappy with me, and I will be in that rank.

Mr. BLUNT. I would assure my friend that our Members would be even more

dissatisfied with you if we are here on Christmas.

I said that was the last question, but I was just handed a note and I'll bring up one more topic.

The Senate just passed a resolution condemning Moveon.Org's ad in the New York Times that suggested that General Petraeus might be General "Betray Us."

Since that has now passed the Senate, when could we expect to see a resolution like that on the House floor?

Mr. HOYER. That information is new to me. I am pleased to hear the Senate can pass something.

Mr. BLUNT. Maybe we should encourage them by passing this as well.

Mr. HOYER. I'm not sure I want to encourage the Senate except to do the work that we have sent over to them. They have a lot of work on their table. But I haven't looked at that resolution.

I will say to my friend, he has seen me quoted as being not in agreement with and disappointed with the particular ad that appeared. But having said that, I don't have any intent, at this point in time, to bring up that resolution. I haven't seen it, so I have no intention of scheduling that resolution at this point in time.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my friend for that. I would encourage you to look at it and would hope that we could see a similar action taken on the House floor.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. Yes.

Mr. HOYER. I want to say, on behalf of myself and, I believe, the overwhelming majority of my caucus, perhaps every Member of my caucus, we have great respect for General Petraeus. It does not help, in my opinion, the debate to impugn the integrity of those who are serving our country in uniform in harm's way.

I believe that General Petraeus is an honorable man of great integrity who has served our country well. I may disagree with him; he may disagree with me on issues. But that does not in any way, any more than you and I might disagree and we are good friends, undermine our respect for each other's opinion.

And as I say, I want to articulate, because you bring up the issue, that I believe that that impugning of his integrity and of his patriotism and of his commitment to this country was inappropriate.

Mr. BLUNT. I appreciate that. And, in fact, while you may not want to articulate it, I thought you did very well. If you want to take that out of the just-entered-into CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of our proceedings, I'm sure I could cosponsor exactly the comments you just made and would like to see us have a chance to do that.

I thank my friend for the information.

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman would yield, the good news for you is my presumption is they are going to be in the RECORD.

I thank the gentleman.  
Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman.

□ 1445

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning-hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR  
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON  
WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF  
THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, September 19, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena, issued in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, for documents in a grand jury proceeding.

After consultation with the Office of the General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

DANIEL BEARD,  
Chief Administrative Officer,  
House of Representatives.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL  
EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO  
PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN  
TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT  
TERRORISM—MESSAGE FROM  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
STATES (H. DOC. NO. 110-59)

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 Foreign Affairs 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. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the Federal Register for publication, stating that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2007.

The crisis constituted by the grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the terrorist attacks in New York, in Pennsylvania, and against the Pentagon committed on September 11, 2001, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. These actions pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism, and maintain in force the comprehensive sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, September 20, 2007.

SERGEANT DELMAR WHITE

(Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to pay tribute to one of our Nation's heroes, Staff Sergeant Delmar White. Sergeant White lost his life when serving a convoy mission in Baghdad, Iraq on September 2, 2007.

Sergeant White was a dedicated soldier and served in the Marine Corps in the Persian Gulf War. He had been a member of the Kentucky Army National Guard since 1998 and was serving in Iraq with Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery based in Carlisle, Kentucky.

I recently had the opportunity to visit with Sergeant White's family, and his wife conveyed to me that he died for a cause that he truly believed in. His fellow officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers told me of a kind and gentle man who was dedicated to the military and to his family.

Today, as we honor his memory, our thoughts and prayers turn to his wife, Michelle, their two children, Shelby and Seth, and his family and friends as they struggle with the loss of this great man.

Our Nation is deeply indebted to Sergeant Delmar White for his service,

dedication to his mission, and for making the ultimate sacrifice.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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

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

UNJUST PROSECUTION OF  
FORMER BORDER PATROL  
AGENTS RAMOS AND COMPEAN

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

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today is day 247 of incarceration for two former U.S. Border Patrol agents. Agents Ramos and Compean were convicted in March of 2006 for shooting a Mexican drug smuggler who brought 743 pounds of marijuana across our border into Texas. These agents have now been in prison for more than 8 months. Since the agents' conviction, thousands of American citizens and dozens of Members of Congress have asked President Bush to pardon these two men.

Mr. Speaker, many in this country are disappointed that the prison sentence of Scooter Libby was committed, while these two law enforcement officers are still in prison. Mr. Libby did not spend one day in prison, yet two decorated Border Patrol agents with exemplary records, who were doing their duty to protect the American people from an illegal alien drug smuggler, are serving 11 and 12 years in prison. By attempting to apprehend an illegal alien drug smuggler, these agents were enforcing our laws, not breaking the laws.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Judiciary Chairman JOHN CONYERS for his concern and interest in this case. I also want to thank Foreign Affairs Subcommittee Chairman BILL DELAHUNT who, prior to the August recess, held a hearing to examine the Mexican Government's influence in this case. I am hopeful that Chairman JOHN CONYERS will see to it that the House Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing within the next 30 to 45 days to fully examine this case.

While the Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on this case in July 2007, additional questions remain about how this prosecution was initiated and how the U.S. Attorney's Office proceeded in this case. Since that time, it has become clear that not only