

As a founding member of the Congressional Vision Caucus, I am particularly pleased to see this bill on the House floor today and consider it a milestone for our very young caucus. In 2003, I joined my colleagues DAVID PRICE, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, and PAT TIBERI in establishing the Congressional Vision Caucus. Today the Vision Caucus is comprised of more than 100 Members of the House, both Republican and Democrat, House Members and Senators. While our initial goal was to raise the awareness of vision disorders in Congress, the caucus has developed and endorsed two key pieces of vision legislation, including the Vision Care for Kids Act before us today.

It is particularly gratifying to see our efforts result in legislative success, and I thank the members of the Vision Caucus and the 152 cosponsors of this legislation for their support. I would also like to thank Chairman DINGELL and Ranking Member BARTON of the Energy and Commerce Committee, as well as the chairman and ranking member of the Health Subcommittee, Mr. PALLONE and Mr. DEAL, for their support of this legislation.

And I would also like to thank John Ford and William Garner of the committee's majority staff for their expertise, as well as Ryan Long and Katherine Martin of the minority staff for their willingness to work with us in a bipartisan fashion on this legislation.

With that, I encourage my colleagues to join us in passing this important bill to improve vision care for America's children.

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, let me again, in closing, thank the sponsors, Mr. GREEN and, of course, Mr. PASCRELL for really helping us to get to this point. I failed to mention Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN before. She was instrumental as well, and Mr. SULLIVAN and Mr. ENGEL. Let me commend and thank my colleague Ms. BALDWIN for her eloquence in shepherding all these bills to the floor.

As it relates to this bill, early detection, early diagnosis, and early treatment, we know that those are the magical things that have to happen in order for a child to lead a more forward, healthy life. Without the access to the care that a child needs, we know that that life is going to be compromised in some way, shape, or form.

I think that this bill helps to get us to that point. I think it will help a lot of children who currently have no help and no access.

I would also like to thank Ryan McKee from my office, who has worked on this bill for several years in our efforts.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, in closing, visual impairments can have lifelong consequences for children. As we have heard, this bill will help identify these impairments early so that our kids can live up to their full potential. This bill and the others that pre-

ceded it are prime examples of bipartisan cooperation.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and those that have preceded it. And I also thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA) for his assistance in expeditiously, yet comprehensively, managing the nine vital important and bipartisan health bills that were before us this afternoon.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 507, the Vision Care for Kids Act of 2007.

This issue is simple, Madam Speaker, kids can't learn if they can't see. Providing early vision screening for our nation's children will make sure they are all ready to learn when they enter school and the Vision Care for Kids Act will help provide states with the means to offer this important care.

When I was in the Connecticut State Senate, I championed an initiative which made school-based vision screening a priority through the mandated reporting of pediatric vision screening on school health assessment forms. The passage of today's legislation will enhance my state's ability to enhance vision programs for children by providing a much needed federal stream of funding. Importantly, it will allow Connecticut's children to receive followup care when uninsured children are identified through my state's existing vision screening program.

The passage of today's legislation is another example of how this Congress is actively working to provide health services to our nation's children. This week, as the House contemplates whether we should provide 10 million American children with health insurance through the SCHIP program, we should take today as an opportunity to affirm our commitment to comprehensive health screening and coverage for all American children.

Madam Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 507 and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 507 Care for Kids Act of 2007. As you know, this bill would award grants to states to: (1) provide comprehensive eye examinations by a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist for children identified by a licensed health care provider or vision screener, with priority to children under age nine; (2) provide treatment or services to correct vision problems of such children; and (3) develop and disseminate educational materials on recognizing signs of visual impairment in children.

Madam Speaker, studies have shown that African-Americans were most likely to report that they do not have a regular eye care professional (21 percent). And Hispanics were least likely to have seen an eye care professional in the last year (43 percent).

Madam Speaker, like many diseases, vision problems can disproportionately affect certain ethnic groups. For example, African-Americans are five times more likely to have glaucoma, Hispanics are at the greatest risk for cataracts, and myopia or near-sightedness is much more common among Asians than other ethnic groups.

But the story doesn't end there, a new study by University of Michigan pediatricians suggests that poor, uninsured, black and Hispanic children are getting the least vision care services in this country. In all, non-Hispanic and

non-black children were 47 percent more likely than Hispanic children—and 59 percent more likely than black children—to have received eye care in the last year. In addition, the study showed that uninsured black or Hispanic children were less likely than uninsured children of other races or ethnicities to have corrective lenses.

Madam speaker, we have to do better on providing care to these communities and giving these communities the healthcare professionals to deliver such care. To date, the current enrollment percentages of African-American and Hispanic students in optometry school is dismal at best. In the United States, only 3.5 percent of currently enrolled optometry students are African American. Hispanics do not fare much better, when including the InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico, the enrollment of Hispanics in U.S. optometry schools and Canada is even lower than that of African Americans.

So Madam Speaker while I strongly support this bill we must do more to address these disparities. Thus, the reason behind my outspoken wish to mandate vision care to the State Child Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) reauthorization. The lack of vision care for children can not be tolerated in this country and I look forward to working with the Congress in bringing this issue to the forefront of our debate around SCHIP.

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BERKLEY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 507, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 49 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. CAPPS) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 738, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 2089, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 20, by the yeas and nays.

The votes on H.R. 2295 and H. Con. Res. 182 will be taken tomorrow.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minutes votes.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING SYRIA'S CONTINUED INTERFERENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF LEBANON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 738, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ACKERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 738.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 375, nays 5, answered “present” 1, not voting 50, as follows:

[Roll No. 961]

YEAS—375

Ackerman	Cardoza	Fallin
Aderholt	Carnahan	Farr
Akin	Carney	Fattah
Allen	Carter	Feeney
Altmire	Castle	Ferguson
Andrews	Castor	Filner
Arcuri	Chabot	Flake
Baca	Chandler	Forbes
Bachmann	Clarke	Fortenberry
Bachus	Clay	Fossella
Baird	Cleaver	Foxx
Baker	Clyburn	Frank (MA)
Baldwin	Frank (AZ)	Franks (AZ)
Barrett (SC)	Cohen	Frelinghuysen
Barrow	Cole (OK)	Gallegly
Bartlett (MD)	Conyers	Garrett (NJ)
Barton (TX)	Cooper	Gerlach
Becerra	Costa	Giffords
Berkley	Courtney	Gilchrest
Berman	Cramer	Gillibrand
Berry	Crenshaw	Gingrey
Biggert	Crowley	Gohmert
Blibray	Cuellar	Gonzalez
Billirakis	Culberson	Goode
Bishop (GA)	Davis (AL)	Goodlatte
Bishop (NY)	Davis (CA)	Granger
Blackburn	Davis (IL)	Green, Al
Blumenauer	Davis (KY)	Green, Gene
Blunt	Davis, David	Grijalva
Boehner	Davis, Lincoln	Hall (NY)
Bonner	Davis, Tom	Hall (TX)
Bono	Deal (GA)	Hare
Boren	DeFazio	Harman
Boswell	DeGette	Hastings (FL)
Boucher	Delahunt	Hastings (WA)
Boustany	DeLauro	Hayes
Boyd (FL)	Dent	Heller
Boyd (KS)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hensarling
Brady (TX)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Herger
Braley (IA)	Dicks	Herseth Sandlin
Broun (GA)	Dingell	Higgins
Brown (SC)	Doggett	Hill
Brown, Corrine	Donnelly	Hinojosa
Brown-Waite,	Doolittle	Hirono
Ginny	Doyle	Hobson
Buchanan	Drake	Hodes
Burgess	Dreier	Hoekstra
Burton (IN)	Duncan	Holden
Butterfield	Edwards	Holt
Buyer	Ehlers	Honda
Calvert	Ellsworth	Hooley
Camp (MI)	Emanuel	Hoyer
Campbell (CA)	Emerson	Hulshof
Cannon	Engel	Hunter
Cantor	English (PA)	Inglis (SC)
Capito	Eshoo	Inslee
Capps	Etheridge	Israel
Capuano	Everett	Issa

Jackson (IL)	Miller (MI)	Scott (GA)
Jackson-Lee (TX)	Miller (NC)	Scott (VA)
Jefferson	Miller, Gary	Sensenbrenner
Johnson (GA)	Miller, George	Serrano
Johnson, Sam	Mitchell	Sestak
Jones (OH)	Mollohan	Shadegg
Jordan	Moore (KS)	Shays
Kagen	Moore (WI)	Shea-Porter
Kanjorski	Moran (KS)	Sherman
Kaptur	Moran (VA)	Shimkus
Keller	Murphy (CT)	Shuler
Kennedy	Murphy, Patrick	Shuster
Kildee	Murphy, Tim	Simpson
Kilpatrick	Myrick	Sires
Kind	Napolitano	Skelton
King (IA)	Neugebauer	Slaughter
King (NY)	Nunes	Smith (NE)
Kingston	Oberstar	Smith (NJ)
Kirk	Obey	Smith (TX)
Klein (FL)	Oliver	Snyder
Kline (MN)	Ortiz	Solis
Knollenberg	Pallone	Space
Kuhl (NY)	Pascarell	Spratt
LaHood	Payne	Stark
Lamborn	Pearce	Stearns
Lampson	Pence	Stupak
Langevin	Perlmutter	Sullivan
Lantos	Peterson (MN)	Sutton
Latham	Petri	Tanner
LaTourette	Pitts	Tauscher
Lee	Platts	Taylor
Levin	Poe	Terry
Lewis (GA)	Pomeroy	Thompson (CA)
Lewis (KY)	Porter	Thompson (MS)
Linder	Price (GA)	Thornberry
Lipinski	Price (NC)	Tiahrt
LoBiondo	Putnam	Tiberi
Loeb sack	Radanovich	Tierney
Lofgren, Zoe	Rahall	Towns
Lucas	Ramstad	Turner
Lungren, Daniel E.	Rangel	Udall (CO)
Mack	Regula	Udall (NM)
Mahoney (FL)	Rehberg	Upton
Manzullo	Reichert	Van Hollen
Markley	Renzi	Velázquez
Marshall	Reynolds	Visclosky
Matheson	Richardson	Walberg
Matsui	Rodriguez	Walden (OR)
McCarthy (CA)	Rogers (AL)	Walsh (NY)
McCarthy (NY)	Rogers (MI)	Walz (MN)
McCollum (MN)	Rohrabacher	Wamp
McCotter	Ros-Lehtinen	Wasserman
McCrery	Roskam	Schultz
McGovern	Ross	Watson
McHenry	Rothman	Watt
McHugh	Roybal-Allard	Waxman
McIntyre	Royce	Welch (VT)
McKeon	Ruppersberger	Westmoreland
McMorris	Rush	Wexler
Rodgers	Ryan (OH)	Wicker
McNerney	Ryan (WI)	Wilson (NM)
McNulty	Salazar	Wilson (SC)
Meek (FL)	Sali	Wolf
Meeks (NY)	Sanchez, Loretta	Wu
Michaud	Sarbanes	Wynn
Miller (FL)	Saxton	Yarmuth
	Schiff	Young (AK)
	Schmidt	Young (FL)
	Schwartz	

NAYS—5

Hinchey	McDermott	Waters
Jones (NC)	Paul	

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Abercrombie

NOT VOTING—50

Alexander	Johnson, E. B.	Pickering
Bean	Kucinich	Pryce (OH)
Bishop (UT)	Larsen (WA)	Reyes
Boozman	Larson (CT)	Rogers (KY)
Brady (PA)	Lewis (CA)	Sánchez, Linda T.
Carson	Lowey	Sessions
Conaway	Lynch	Schakowsky
Costello	Maloney (NY)	Smith (WA)
Cubin	Marchant	Souder
Cummings	Melancon	Tancredo
Ellison	Mica	Weiner
Gordon	Murtha	Weldon (FL)
Graves	Musgrave	Weller
Gutierrez	Nadler	Whitfield
Hastert	Neal (MA)	Wilson (OH)
Jindal	Pastor	Woolsey
Johnson (IL)	Peterson (PA)	

□ 1855

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida and Mrs. JONES of Ohio changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

Mr. ABERCROMBIE changed his vote from “nay” to “present.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) 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.

Stated for:

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 961, had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

LOUISIANA ARMED SERVICES VETERANS POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2089, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2089.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 383, nays 0, not voting 48, as follows:

[Roll No. 962]

YEAS—383

Abercrombie	Burton (IN)	Diaz-Balart, L.
Ackerman	Butterfield	Diaz-Balart, M.
Aderholt	Buyer	Dicks
Akin	Calvert	Dingell
Alexander	Camp (MI)	Doggett
Allen	Campbell (CA)	Donnelly
Altmire	Cannon	Doolittle
Andrews	Cantor	Doyle
Arcuri	Capito	Drake
Baca	Capps	Dreier
Bachmann	Capuano	Duncan
Bachus	Cardoza	Edwards
Baird	Carnahan	Ehlers
Baker	Carney	Ellsworth
Baldwin	Carter	Emanuel
Barrett (SC)	Castle	Emerson
Barrow	Castor	Engel
Bartlett (MD)	Chabot	English (PA)
Barton (TX)	Chandler	Eshoo
Becerra	Clarke	Etheridge
Berkley	Clay	Everett
Berman	Cleaver	Fallin
Berry	Clyburn	Farr
Biggert	Coble	Fattah
Bilbray	Cohen	Feeney
Billirakis	Cole (OK)	Ferguson
Bishop (GA)	Conyers	Filner
Bishop (NY)	Cooper	Flake
Blackburn	Costa	Forbes
Blumenauer	Costello	Fortenberry
Blunt	Courtney	Fossella
Boehner	Cramer	Foxx
Bonner	Crenshaw	Frank (MA)
Bono	Crowley	Franks (AZ)
Boren	Cuellar	Frelinghuysen
Boswell	Culberson	Gallegly
Boucher	Davis (AL)	Garrett (NJ)
Boustany	Davis (CA)	Gerlach
Boyd (FL)	Davis (IL)	Giffords
Boyd (KS)	Davis (KY)	Gillibrand
Brady (TX)	Davis, David	Gingrey
Braley (IA)	Davis, Lincoln	Gohmert
Broun (GA)	Davis, Tom	Gonzalez
Brown (SC)	Deal (GA)	Goode
Brown, Corrine	DeFazio	Goodlatte
Brown-Waite,	DeGette	Granger
Ginny	Delahunt	Green, Al
Buchanan	DeLauro	Green, Gene
Burgess	Dent	Grijalva