

readiness of the U.S. Armed Forces, perhaps for a generation.

At a time when we need to be more ready than before, this is a tremendous cause for alarm, as we are prosecuting two separate wars.

Today's bill addresses many of our current needs associated with:

A pay raise for the men and women who wear the uniform of the United States.

Beefing up today's ground forces—our boots on the ground overseas,

Addressing the many failings of this administration and the last Congress in ensuring our military is ready for any challenge we need to meet, such as finally providing oversight of contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan,

Equipping our National Guard to help offset some of the equipment lost to active duty needs in Iraq, and

Providing assistance for the men and women who are hospitalized at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, which was the center of tremendous shortcomings earlier this year.

I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for his hard work on the bill—as well as the rest of the leadership in the House—for their deep and abiding respect of the U.S. Armed Forces and the unique challenges they face at this moment in time.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the conference report.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the conference report.

Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 400, nays 15, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 1064]

YEAS—400

Abercrombie	Boustany	Conaway	Ellsworth	LaTourette	Rohrabacher	Ros-Lehtinen	Baldwin	Frank (MA)	NAYS—15
Ackerman	Boyd (FL)	Conyers	Emmanuel	Lewis (CA)	Roskam	Ross	Blumenauer	Kucinich	Paul
Aderholt	Boyd (KS)	Cooper	Engel	Linder	Roybal-Allard	Ehlers	Ellison	Lee	Payne
Akin	Brady (PA)	Costa	English (PA)	Lipinski	Royce	Filner	Lewis (GA)	Stark	Welch (VT)
Alexander	Brady (TX)	Costello	Eshoo	LoBiondo	Ruppertsberger	Rush	McDermott	Woolsey	
Allen	Brown (GA)	Courtney	Etheridge	Loebbecke	Lowey	Ryan (OH)	Boren	Giffords	Levin
Altmore	Brown (SC)	Cramer	Everett	Lofgren, Zoe	Lucas	Ryan (WI)	Braley (IA)	Goode	Lungren, Daniel
Andrews	Brown, Corrine	Crenshaw	Fallin	Manzullo	Lynch	Salazar	Buyer	Hunter	E.
Arcuri	Brown-Waite,	Crowley	Fortenberry	Manzullo	Mack	Sali	Carson	Kuhl (NY)	Miller (FL)
Baca	Ginny	Cuellar	Fossella	Matheson	Mahoney (FL)	Sánchez, Linda	Cubin	LaHood	Oberstar
Bachmann	Buchanan	Culberson	Fox	McCarthy (NY)	Maloney (NY)	T.	Feeney	Lantos	Rothman
Bachus	Burgess	Cummings	Franks (AZ)	McCarthy (CA)	Manzullo	Sanchez, Loretta			
Baird	Burton (IN)	Davis (AL)	Frelinghuyzen	McCarthy (NY)	Matheson	Sarbanes			
Baker	Butterfield	Davis (CA)	Galegley	McCarthy (CA)	Marshall	Saxton			
Barrett (SC)	Calvert	Davis (IL)	Garrett (NJ)	McCarthy (CA)	Matheson	Schakowsky			
Barrow	Camp (MI)	Davis (KY)	Gerlach	McCarthy (NY)	Marshall	Schiff			
Bartlett (MD)	Campbell (CA)	Davis, David	Gilchrest	McCaull (TX)	Matheson	Schmidt			
Barton (TX)	Cannon	Davis, Lincoln	Gillibrand	McCollum (MN)	McHugh	Schwartz			
Bean	Cantor	Davis, Tom	Granger	McCollum (MN)	McIntyre	Scott (GA)			
Becerra	Capito	Deal (GA)	Graves	McCotter	McIntyre	Scott (VA)			
Berkley	Capps	Defazio	Green, Al	McCrery	McKeon	Sensenbrenner			
Berman	Capuano	DeGette	Green, Gene	McGovern	McCrery	Serrano			
Berry	Cardoza	Delahunt	Grijalva	McGovern	McCrery	Sessions			
Biggert	Carnahan	DeLauro	Gutierrez	McNerney	McCrery	Sestak			
Bilbray	Carney	Dent	Hall (NY)	McNulty	McCrery	Shadegg			
Bilirakis	Carter	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hall (TX)	Meek (FL)	McCrery	Shays			
Bishop (GA)	Castle	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hare	Meeks (NY)	McCrery	Shea-Porter			
Bishop (NY)	Castor	Dicks	Hastert	Melancon	McCrery	Sherman			
Bishop (UT)	Chabot	Dingell	Hastings (FL)	Morris	McCrery	Shimkus			
Blackburn	Chandler	Doggett	Hastings (WA)	Rodgers	McCrery	Shuler			
Blunt	Clarke	Doolittle	Hastings (WA)	Rodgers	McCrery	Shuster			
Boehner	Clay	Donnelly	Hastings (WA)	Rodgers	McCrery	Simpson			
Bonner	Cleaver	Doyle	Hastings (WA)	Rodgers	McCrery	Sires			
Bono	Clyburn	Drake	Hastings (WA)	Rodgers	McCrery	Skelton			
Boozman	Coble	Dreier	Hastings (WA)	Rodgers	McCrery	Slaughter			
Boswell	Cohen	Duncan	Hastings (WA)	Rodgers	McCrery	Smith (NE)			
Boucher	Cole (OK)	Edwards	Hastings (WA)	Rodgers	McCrery	Smith (NJ)			

NOT VOTING—17

Boren	Giffords	Levin
Braley (IA)	Goode	Lungren, Daniel
Buyer	Hunter	E.
Carson	Kuhl (NY)	Miller (FL)
Cubin	LaHood	Oberstar
Feeney	Lantos	Rothman

□ 1350

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ changed her vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1064, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. KUHL of New York. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1064, adoption of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3222, Defense Appropriations, I was unavoidably detained and missed the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### A FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate having proceeded to reconsider the bill (H.R. 1495) "An Act to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes", returned by the President of the United States with his objections, to the House in which it originated, and passed by the House on reconsideration of the same, it was

*Resolved*, That the said bill pass, two-thirds of the Senators present having voted in the affirmative.

#### APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 3074, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1 of rule XXII and by direction of the Committee on Appropriations, I move to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3074) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, 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. The question is on the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. KNOLLENBERG

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. KNOLLENBERG 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. 3074, be instructed to insist on section 416 and section 417 of the House-passed bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XXII, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, my motion is very straightforward. It simply instructs the managers on the part of the House to insist that two important provisions included in the House bill be included in the conference report. The first provision, House section 416, prohibits funds in the bill from being used to provide housing assistance to illegal or otherwise unauthorized immigrants. This provision was offered as an amendment on the House floor and adopted unanimously. The second provision, House section 417, prohibits any funds in the bill from being used to hire illegal aliens. This, too, was an amendment adopted unanimously when the House considered the bill.

The House has clearly spoken on this matter, and I think it is important the conferees uphold the will of the House. I urge the adoption of the motion.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OLVER. I thank the gentleman from Michigan for his motion.

Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman from Michigan has already said, the provisions that are in the legislation on the House side, section 416 and 417, are two provisions that relate to illegal immigration. The first of those provisions is one which states that no funds in this act can be used to provide homeownership assistance for illegal immigrants. The second, section 417, says that no funds may be used to employ workers who are illegal immigrants.

The first of these sections applies to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the second one applies to the Department of Transportation and relates to people who might otherwise be employed in construction under the Department of Transportation.

As the gentleman from Michigan has pointed out, those were adopted unanimously by voice vote here in the House during the passage of this legislation. So they are before the conference and, because they were adopted earlier, I am willing to adopt them now and adopt the motion as is.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY).

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I want to say I appreciate the bipartisan support for the concept that people should not be rewarded for breaking our immigration laws. I appreciate the ranking member and the chairman agreeing on this.

I would just ask both of you to take a look at the leadership that the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. SHULER) has made with a piece of legislation that I feel should be the enforcement part of this direction, and that is that the e-verification be used before people benefit from public funds. That is a very simple system to allow anyone to check that Social Security numbers and names match. It's not an onerous check system to use, and it is one that many of us are looking forward to not only Federal Government but all employers using in the future.

I just ask that you consider the fact that to fulfill the intent of this motion, that the e-verification specifically try to be considered here as the vehicle that before anyone gets these benefits that we check that they are legally here as verified by the e-verification.

If anybody has any questions about that, I am sure Congressman SHULER can brief you extensively on it. But it is sort of the consensus of most of us working on these issues that this is a simple, clear way to allow everyone, including those who are providing public benefit, the assurance that those benefits are not going to somebody who's not qualified to be able to provide it.

So I would raise that as a discussion, that the e-verification be used to verify this motion.

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the comments by the gentleman from California, but just point out that that is a very complicated issue, not a part of the conference that we are involved in, and will take a bit more time, probably more than we can resolve today.

I am ready to yield back if the gentleman from Michigan has no other speakers.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further pro-

ceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

□ 1400

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3355, HOMEOWNERS' DEFENSE ACT OF 2007

Ms. CASTOR. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 802 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 802

*Resolved*, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3355) to ensure the availability and affordability of homeowners' insurance coverage for catastrophic events. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII and except pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. Each amendment so printed may be offered only by the Member who caused it to be printed or a designee and shall be considered as read. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. During consideration in the House of H.R. 3355 pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to such time as may be designated by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROSS). The gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. CASTOR. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS). All time