

By the way, I am informed by people who are a lot more expert than I am at the format by which the legislation was posted at 7 p.m. that at 7 p.m. with that format, the details of the legislation could not be accessed. So really, Mr. Speaker, what we are talking about is a lot less than even that time if we wouldn't have come to the floor until 7 p.m., which is what the New Direction for America promised, the majority repeatedly promised, and which would have been elementally fair in addition to in compliance with the promise of the majority.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would ask my friend, and he is my friend, Mr. ARCURI from New York, how many speakers he has wishing to speak.

Mr. ARCURI. I have no other speakers.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to adjourn.

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

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 150, nays 244, not voting 38, as follows:

[Roll No. 1095]

YEAS—150

Aderholt	Emerson	Lungren, Daniel
Akin	English (PA)	E.
Alexander	Fallin	Mack
Bachus	Feeney	Manzullo
Barrett (SC)	Flake	McCaul (TX)
Bartlett (MD)	Forbes	McCreery
Barton (TX)	Fox	McHenry
Biggert	Franks (AZ)	McKeon
Bilbray	Frelinghuysen	Mica
Bilirakis	Gallely	Miller (FL)
Bishop (UT)	Garrett (NJ)	Miller (MI)
Blackburn	Gerlach	Murphy, Tim
Blunt	Giffords	Musgrave
Boehner	Gilchrest	Pearce
Bonner	Gingrey	Peterson (PA)
Bono	Gohmert	Petri
Boustany	Goode	Pickering
Brady (TX)	Goodlatte	Pitts
Broun (GA)	Gordon	Platts
Buchanan	Granger	Porter
Burton (IN)	Graves	Price (GA)
Buyer	Hall (TX)	Pryce (OH)
Calvert	Hastings (WA)	Putnam
Camp (MI)	Hayes	Rangel
Campbell (CA)	Heller	Rehberg
Cannon	Hensarling	Reichert
Cantor	Hobson	Renzi
Capito	Hoekstra	Reynolds
Carter	Hulshof	Rogers (AL)
Chabot	Inglis (SC)	Rogers (KY)
Coble	Issa	Rohrabacher
Cole (OK)	Johnson (IL)	Ros-Lehtinen
Conaway	Johnson, Sam	Royce
Crenshaw	Jordan	Ryan (WI)
Culberson	Keller	Sali
Davis (KY)	King (IA)	Saxton
Davis, David	King (NY)	Schmidt
Deal (GA)	Kingston	Sensenbrenner
Delahunt	Kirk	Shadegg
Diaz-Balart, L.	Knollenberg	Shays
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lamborn	Shimkus
Doolittle	Latham	Shuster
Drake	LaTourette	Simpson
Dreier	Lewis (KY)	Smith (TX)
Duncan	Linder	Sullivan
Ehlers	Lucas	Tancredo

Thornberry	Walberg	Wilson (SC)
Tiahrt	Wamp	Young (AK)
Tiberi	Westmoreland	Young (FL)
Turner	Wicker	
Upton	Wilson (NM)	

NAYS—244

Abercrombie	Green, Gene	Myrick
Ackerman	Grijalva	Nadler
Allen	Gutierrez	Napolitano
Altmire	Hall (NY)	Neal (MA)
Andrews	Hare	Obey
Arcuri	Harman	Olver
Baca	Hastings (FL)	Ortiz
Bachmann	Herger	Pallone
Baird	Herseth Sandlin	Pascrell
Baldwin	Hill	Pastor
Barrow	Hinchee	Payne
Bean	Hinojosa	Perlmutter
Becerra	Hirono	Peterson (MN)
Berkley	Hodes	Pomeroy
Berman	Holden	Price (NC)
Berry	Holt	Rahall
Bishop (GA)	Honda	Ramstad
Bishop (NY)	Hooley	Regula
Blumenauer	Hoyer	Reyes
Boozman	Hunter	Richardson
Boren	Inslee	Rodriguez
Boswell	Israel	Rogers (MI)
Boucher	Jackson (IL)	Rogers (MI)
Boyd (FL)	Jackson-Lee	Ross
Boyd (KS)	(TX)	Rothman
Brady (PA)	Jefferson	Roybal-Allard
Braley (IA)	Johnson (GA)	Rush
Brown (SC)	Johnson, E. B.	Ryan (OH)
Brown, Corrine	Jones (NC)	Salazar
Brown-Waite,	Jones (OH)	Sánchez, Linda
Ginny	Kagen	T.
Burgess	Kanjorski	Sanchez, Loretta
Butterfield	Kaptur	Sarbanes
Capps	Kennedy	Schakowsky
Carnahan	Kildee	Schiff
Carney	Kilpatrick	Schwartz
Castle	Kind	Scott (GA)
Castor	Klein (FL)	Scott (VA)
Chandler	Kline (MN)	Serrano
Clarke	Kucinich	Sestak
Clay	Kuhl (NY)	Shea-Porter
Cleaver	LaHood	Sherman
Clyburn	Lampson	Shuler
Cohen	Langevin	Sires
Conyers	Lantos	Skelton
Cooper	Larsen (WA)	Slaughter
Costa	Larsen (CT)	Smith (NE)
Costello	Lee	Smith (NJ)
Courtney	Lewis (CA)	Snyder
Cramer	Lewis (GA)	Solis
Crowley	Lipinski	Space
Cuellar	LoBiondo	Spratt
Cummings	Loeb sack	Stark
Davis (AL)	Davis (AL)	Stearns
Davis (CA)	Davis (IL)	Stupak
Davis (IL)	Davis, Lincoln	Sutton
Davis, Lincoln	DeFazio	Tanner
DeFazio	DeGette	Tauscher
DeGette	DeLauro	Taylor
DeLauro	Dent	Terry
Dent	Dicks	Thompson (CA)
Dicks	Matheson	Thompson (MS)
Dingell	Matsui	Towns
Doggett	McCarthy (NY)	Tsongas
Donnelly	McCotter	Udall (NM)
Edwards	McGovern	Udall (NM)
Ellison	McHugh	Van Hollen
Ellsworth	McIntyre	Velázquez
Emanuel	McNerney	Visclosky
Engel	McNulty	Walden (OR)
Eshoo	Meeks (NY)	Walsh (NY)
Etheridge	Michaud	Walsh (NY)
Everett	Miller (NC)	Walz (MN)
Farr	Miller, Gary	Wasserman
Fattah	Miller, George	Schultz
Ferguson	Mitchell	Waters
Finer	Mollohan	Watson
Fortenberry	Moore (KS)	Watt
Fossella	Moore (WI)	Waxman
Frank (MA)	Moran (KS)	Weiner
Gillibrand	Murphy (CT)	Welch (VT)
Gonzalez	Murphy, Patrick	Wolf
Green, Al	Murtha	Woolsey
		Wu
		Wynn

NOT VOTING—38

Baker	Hastert	McMorris
Capuano	Higgins	Rodgers
Cardoza	Jindal	Meek (FL)
Carson	Levin	Melancon
Cubin	McCarthy (CA)	Moran (VA)
Davis, Tom	McCollum (MN)	Neugebauer
Doyle	McDermott	Nunes

Oberstar	Ruppersberger	Weldon (FL)
Paul	Sessions	Weller
Pence	Smith (WA)	Wexler
Poe	Souder	Whitfield
Radanovich	Tierney	Wilson (OH)
Roskam	Udall (CO)	Yarmuth

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there is less than 1½ minutes remaining.

□ 1456

Messrs. BRALEY of Iowa, ROTHMAN and HINCHEY, and Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio and Mrs. MYRICK changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. TURNER and BARTLETT of Maryland changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the motion to adjourn was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1095, I was unable to vote due to medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3074, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I will be asking for a "no" vote on the previous question so that we can amend this rule and move toward passing a conference report on the bipartisan Military Construction-Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act.

The House passed the veterans and military funding bill on June 15 by a vote of 409-2, with the Senate following suit and naming conferees on September 6. Unfortunately, the majority leadership in the House has refused to move the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act. They have even refused to name conferees.

Now, the question that is begged, Mr. Speaker, is why has the majority decided to hold off on moving this bill that obviously has such bipartisan support. Well, according to several publications, including this one, Roll Call, the majority intends to hold off sending appropriations bills to President Bush so that they can use the veto of the Labor-HHS appropriations bill to serve as "an extension of their successful public relations campaign on the SCHIP program."

Mr. DREIER. Will the gentleman yield for one moment?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Yes, I will yield to my distinguished friend.

Mr. DREIER. Was that quote that your friend provided something that was written by Republican staff members? Where exactly did that come from?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Roll Call.

Mr. DREIER. Oh, okay. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Reclaiming my time, fortunately that purely political move, Mr. Speaker, failed last week when the Senate removed the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs bill from the Labor-HHS bill.

Recently, Mr. Speaker, the Republican leader, Mr. BOEHNER, took a step toward naming House Republican conferees. Now the distinguished Speaker must follow suit and take the steps necessary to ensure that work can begin on writing the final veterans funding bill that can be enacted into law.

Mr. Speaker, every day that the majority chooses not to act on this bill, veterans lose \$18.5 million. Our veterans deserve better than partisan gamesmanship holding back their funding.

I urge my colleagues to help move this important legislation and oppose the previous question.

Mr. DREIER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I will yield to my friend.

□ 1500

Mr. DREIER. I thank my friend for yielding.

I would just like to ask him to clarify one more time before we vote on this issue, I think this is going to be the 11th time we have had an opportunity to vote on this.

I have just been reminded by our crack Rules Committee staff that this is, in fact, the 12th time that this House has had the opportunity to vote on this issue. I guess the second or third time in Veterans Week. We have just marked the date on which we honor our Nation's veterans, and this House has repeatedly, repeatedly denied us the opportunity to move ahead and get the very much-needed assistance to our Nation's veterans. I think that this vote is going to be critically important in our quest to move that effort forward.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I thank my friend. I think that it is critically important that we get this legislation passed as soon as possible and sent to the President. It is the 12th time that we have attempted in this House to get this bill sent to the President. Mr. Speaker, obviously this is critically important legislation, a critically important moment. And so I urge my colleagues to help move the important veterans legislation along by opposing the previous question.

I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of the amendment and extraneous materials immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ARCURI. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS).

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, if the American people have just heard the last colloquy between my two colleagues, perhaps they wouldn't have understood that when my two colleagues were in the majority in this House, for 12 years, the last time they passed a Veterans appropriation bill on time wasn't in 2005, 2004, no, not in 2003 either, not in 2002, not in 2001. You have to go back to 1996 to find when they passed an appropriations bill for veterans on time.

I can understand why the gentleman wouldn't want the facts to get out to the people who might have just watched him on television have a colloquy that was not factual in explaining the fact that when he was chairman of the Rules Committee, it was 11 years ago when they last passed a Veterans appropriation bill on time.

Mr. Speaker, let me also point out they forgot conveniently, perhaps convenient political memory here, they forgot conveniently to explain to the people listening that under the Democratic leadership we have passed \$8.1 billion of increase in veterans funding this year, most of that going to veterans health care, the largest in the history of America.

One final point, Mr. Speaker. The two gentlemen also forgot to make one other point, and that is that as they chastise this Congress as being a little over 1 month late in passing the Veterans bill, even though we have already passed an \$8.1 billion increase, they forgot to tell the American people that last year they didn't pass the VA bill in October, not in November, not in December. In fact, they adjourned the Congress for their Christmas holiday without passing the Veterans appropriation bill.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have a point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may state it.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. My parliamentary inquiry is as follows: When I asked the gentleman if he had any further speakers before yielding back the reminder of our time, I was informed that he did not. Is it correct for the gentleman to say that he has no further speakers, and then after, based on that statement, I yield back our time, he yields to someone else in contradiction to what he has told me?

Is that appropriate, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is free to yield his time as he sees fit.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Is that appropriate, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is recognized.

Mr. ARCURI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would also point out that the gentleman from Florida indicated that he had no further speakers, and he recognized the gentleman from California.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I didn't recognize. I yielded. No. No.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York controls the time, and the gentleman is recognized.

Mr. ARCURI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Additionally, I would like to point out that whenever anybody makes factually incorrect statements on the floor, I am going to yield to my colleagues to make sure that the record is made clear, and that is why I yielded to Mr. EDWARDS on that point.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, the Transportation-HUD appropriations bill, like very few other things that we as a body deal with, deals and helps and touches many, many millions of Americans, whether it is CDBG money that goes to help the elderly make a senior center more accessible, or whether it is fixing our roads that thousands of commuters travel on every day, it is a bill that is critically important. All we have heard from the other side of the aisle are procedural reasons why we shouldn't go forward. That is what the American people are tired of. They are tired of the process, the procedure. They want action. They want things accomplished.

During the break, I had an opportunity to talk to my friend and colleague from Wisconsin, Representative KAGEN, and he made a good point. He said, you know, while we spend billions of dollars in Iraq, and no one talks about it, we hear all kinds of complaints when we try to spend millions of dollars domestically on programs that help Americans, needy Americans, people that need it most.

Mr. Speaker, that's why we need to pass this rule. I urge a "yes" vote on the previous question and on the rule.

The material previously referred to by Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 817 OFFERED BY MR. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART OF FLORIDA

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 2. The House disagrees to the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 2642, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference requested by the Senate thereon. The Speaker shall appoint conferees immediately, but may declare a recess under clause 12(a) of rule I for the purpose of consulting the Minority Leader prior to such appointment. The motion to instruct conferees otherwise in order pending the appointment of conferees instead shall be in order only at a time designated by the Speaker in the legislative schedule within two additional legislative days after adoption of this resolution.

(The information contained herein was provided by Democratic Minority on multiple occasions throughout the 109th Congress.)

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Democratic majority agenda and a vote to allow the opposition, at least for the moment, to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives, (VI, 308-311) describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that "the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

Because the vote today may look bad for the Democratic majority they will say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the definition of the previous question used in the Floor Procedures Manual published by the Rules Committee in the 109th Congress, (page 56). Here's how the Rules Committee described the rule using information from Congressional Quarterly's "American Congressional Dictionary": "If the previous question is defeated, control of debate shifts to the leading opposition member (usually the minority Floor Manager) who then manages an hour of debate and may offer a germane amendment to the pending business."

Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: "Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Democratic majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Mr. ARCURI. I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of adoption of the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 221, noes 195, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 1096]

AYES—221

Abercrombie	Gutierrez	Napolitano
Ackerman	Hall (NY)	Neal (MA)
Allen	Hare	Obey
Altmire	Harman	Olver
Andrews	Hastings (FL)	Ortiz
Arcuri	Herseth Sandlin	Pallone
Baca	Higgins	Pascarell
Baird	Hill	Pastor
Baldwin	Hinchev	Payne
Bean	Hinojosa	Perlmutter
Becerra	Hirono	Peterson (MN)
Berkley	Hodes	Pomeroy
Berman	Holden	Price (NC)
Berry	Holt	Rahall
Bishop (GA)	Honda	Rangel
Bishop (NY)	Hooley	Reyes
Blumenauer	Hoyer	Richardson
Boren	Inslie	Rodriguez
Boswell	Israel	Ross
Boucher	Jackson (IL)	Rothman
Boyd (FL)	Jackson-Lee	Roybal-Allard
Boyd (KS)	(TX)	Rush
Brady (PA)	Jefferson	Ryan (OH)
Brale (IA)	Johnson (GA)	Salazar
Brown, Corrine	Johnson, E. B.	Sanchez, Linda
Butterfield	Jones (OH)	T.
Capps	Kagen	Sanchez, Loretta
Capuano	Kanjorski	Sarbanes
Cardoza	Kaptur	Schakowsky
Carnahan	Kennedy	Schiff
Carney	Kildee	Emerson
Castor	Kilpatrick	Schwartz
Chandler	Kind	Scott (GA)
Clarke	Klein (FL)	Scott (VA)
Clay	Kucinich	Serrano
Clyburn	Lampson	Sestak
Cohen	Langevin	Shea-Porter
Conyers	Lantos	Sherman
Cooper	Larsen (WA)	Shuler
Costa	Larson (CT)	Sires
Costello	Lee	Skelton
Courtney	Lewis (GA)	Slaughter
Cramer	Lipinski	Smith (WA)
Crowley	Loeb sack	Snyder
Cuellar	Lofgren, Zoe	Solis
Cummings	Lowe	Space
Davis (AL)	Lynch	Spratt
Davis (CA)	Mahoney (FL)	Stark
Davis (IL)	Maloney (NY)	Stupak
Davis, Lincoln	Markey	Sutton
DeFazio	Marshall	Tanner
DeGette	Matheson	Tauscher
Delahunt	Matsui	Taylor
DeLauro	McCarthy (NY)	Thompson (CA)
Diaz-Balart, L.	McCollum (MN)	Thompson (MS)
Dicks	McDermott	Tierney
Dingell	McGovern	Tsongas
Doggett	McIntyre	Udall (NM)
Edwards	McNerney	Van Hollen
Ellison	McNulty	Velazquez
Emanuel	Meeke (FL)	Visclosky
Engel	Meeks (NY)	Walz (MN)
Eshoo	Melancon	Wasserman
Etheridge	Michaud	Schultz
Farr	Miller (NC)	Waters
Fattah	Miller, George	Watson
Filner	Mitchell	Watt
Frank (MA)	Mollohan	Waxman
Giffords	Moore (KS)	Weiner
Gillibrand	Moore (WI)	Welch (VT)
Gonzalez	Moran (VA)	Wexler
Gordon	Murphy (CT)	Woolsey
Green, Al	Murphy, Patrick	Wu
Green, Gene	Murtha	Wynn
Grijalva	Nadler	Yarmuth

NOES—195

Aderholt	Alexander	Bachus
Akin	Bachmann	Baker

Barrett (SC)	Garrett (NJ)	Neugebauer
Barrow	Gerlach	Nunes
Bartlett (MD)	Gilchrest	Pearce
Barton (TX)	Gingrey	Pence
Biggart	Gohmert	Peterson (PA)
Bilbray	Goode	Petri
Bilirakis	Goodlatte	Pickering
Bishop (UT)	Granger	Pitts
Blackburn	Graves	Platts
Blunt	Hall (TX)	Poe
Boehner	Hastings (WA)	Porter
Bonner	Hayes	Price (GA)
Bono	Heller	Pryce (OH)
Boozman	Hensarling	Putnam
Boustany	Herger	Radanovich
Brady (TX)	Hobson	Ramstad
Broun (GA)	Hoekstra	Regula
Brown (SC)	Hulshof	Rehberg
Brown-Waite,	Hunter	Reichert
Ginny	Inglis (SC)	Renzi
Buchanan	Issa	Reynolds
Burgess	Johnson (IL)	Rogers (AL)
Burton (IN)	Johnson, Sam	Rogers (KY)
Buyer	Jones (NC)	Rogers (MI)
Calvert	Jordan	Rohrabacher
Camp (MI)	Keller	Ros-Lehtinen
Campbell (CA)	King (IA)	Roskam
Cantor	King (NY)	Royce
Capito	Kingston	Ryan (WI)
Carter	Kirk	Sali
Castle	Kline (MN)	Saxton
Chabot	Knollenberg	Schmidt
Coble	Kuhl (NY)	Sensenbrenner
Cole (OK)	LaHood	Shadegg
Conaway	Lamborn	Shays
Crenshaw	Latham	Shimkus
Culberson	LaTourette	Shuster
Davis (KY)	Lewis (CA)	Simpson
Davis, David	Lewis (KY)	Smith (NE)
Davis, Tom	Linder	Smith (NJ)
Deal (GA)	LoBiondo	Smith (TX)
Dent	Lucas	Souder
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lungren, Daniel	Stearns
Donnelly	E.	Sullivan
Doolittle	Mack	Tancredo
Drake	Manzullo	Terry
Dreier	Marchant	Thornberry
Duncan	McCarthy (CA)	Tiahrt
Ehlers	McCaul (TX)	Tiberi
Ellsworth	McCotter	Turner
Emerson	McCrery	Upton
English (PA)	McHenry	Walberg
Everett	McHugh	Walden (OR)
Fallin	McKeon	Walsh (NY)
Feeney	McMorris	Wamp
Ferguson	Rodgers	Weldon (FL)
Flake	Mica	Westmoreland
Forbes	Miller (FL)	Whitfield
Fortenberry	Miller (MI)	Wicker
Fossella	Miller, Gary	Wilson (NM)
Foxx	Moran (KS)	Wilson (SC)
Franks (AZ)	Murphy, Tim	Wolf
Frelinghuysen	Musgrave	Young (AK)
Gallegly	Myrick	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—16

Cannon	Jindal	Towns
Carson	Levin	Udall (CO)
Cleaver	Oberstar	Weller
Cubin	Paul	Wilson (OH)
Doyle	Ruppersberger	
Hastert	Sessions	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are less than 2 minutes remaining on this vote. Members are further reminded to stay in the Chamber. There are votes immediately following this one.

□ 1526

Mr. PEARCE changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1096, I was unable to vote due to medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to reconsider the vote on the previous question.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Did the gentleman cast a vote on the prevailing side?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, yes, I did.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. ARCURI

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I move to table the motion to reconsider.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 221, noes 196, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 1097]

AYES—221

Abercrombie	Engel	Maloney (NY)
Ackerman	Eshoo	Markey
Allen	Etheridge	Marshall
Altmire	Farr	Matheson
Andrews	Fattah	Matsui
Arcuri	Filner	McCarthy (NY)
Baca	Frank (MA)	McCollum (MN)
Baird	Giffords	McDermott
Baldwin	Gillibrand	McGovern
Barrow	Gonzalez	McIntyre
Bean	Gordon	McNerney
Becerra	Granger	McNulty
Berkley	Green, Al	Meek (FL)
Berman	Green, Gene	Meeks (NY)
Berry	Grijalva	Melancon
Bishop (GA)	Gutierrez	Michaud
Bishop (NY)	Hall (NY)	Miller (NC)
Blumenauer	Hare	Miller, George
Boren	Harman	Mitchell
Boswell	Hastings (FL)	Mollohan
Boucher	Hereth Sandlin	Moore (KS)
Boyd (FL)	Higgins	Moore (WI)
Boyd (KS)	Hill	Moran (VA)
Brady (PA)	Hinchev	Murphy (CT)
Braley (IA)	Hinojosa	Murphy, Patrick
Brown, Corrine	Hirono	Murtha
Butterfield	Hodes	Nadler
Capps	Holden	Napolitano
Capuano	Holt	Neal (MA)
Cardoza	Honda	Obey
Carnahan	Hookey	Olver
Carney	Hoyer	Ortiz
Castor	Inslee	Pallone
Chandler	Israel	Pascrell
Clarke	Jackson (IL)	Pastor
Clay	Jackson-Lee	Payne
Cleaver	(TX)	Perlmutter
Clyburn	Jefferson	Peterson (MN)
Cohen	Johnson (GA)	Pomeroy
Conyers	Johnson, E. B.	Price (NC)
Cooper	Jones (OH)	Rahall
Costa	Kagen	Rangel
Costello	Kanjorski	Richardson
Courtney	Kennedy	Rodriguez
Cramer	Kildee	Ross
Crowley	Kilpatrick	Rothman
Cuellar	Kind	Roybal-Allard
Cummings	Kind (FL)	Rush
Davis (AL)	Kucinich	Salazar
Davis (CA)	Lampson	Sanchez, Linda
Davis (IL)	Langevin	T.
Davis, Lincoln	Lantos	Sanchez, Loretta
DeFazio	Larsen (WA)	Sarbanes
DeGette	Larson (CT)	Schakowsky
Delahunt	Lee	Schiff
DeLauro	Lewis (GA)	Schwartz
Dicks	Lipinski	Scott (GA)
Dingell	Loeback	Scott (VA)
Doggett	Lofgren, Zoe	Serrano
Edwards	Lowey	Sestak
Ellison	Lynch	Shea-Porter
Emanuel	Mahoney (FL)	Sherman

Shuler	Tauscher
Sires	Taylor
Skelton	Thompson (CA)
Slaughter	Thompson (MS)
Smith (WA)	Tierney
Snyder	Towns
Solis	Tsongas
Space	Udall (NM)
Spratt	Van Hollen
Stark	Velazquez
Stupak	Visclosky
Sutton	Walz (MN)
Tanner	

Wasserman	Myrick
Schultz	Neugebauer
Waters	Nunes
Watson	Pearce
Watt	Pence
Waxman	Peterson (PA)
Weiner	Petri
Welch (VT)	Pickering
Wexler	Pitts
Woolsey	Platts
Wu	Poe
Wynn	Porter
Yarmuth	Price (GA)

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1097, I was unable to vote due to medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

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

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 224, noes 194, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 1098]

AYES—224

Aderholt	Fox	Myrick
Akin	Franks (AZ)	Neugebauer
Alexander	Frelinghuysen	Nunes
Bachmann	Gallegly	Pearce
Bachus	Garrett (NJ)	Pence
Baker	Gerlach	Peterson (PA)
Barrett (SC)	Gilchrest	Petri
Bartlett (MD)	Gingrey	Pickering
Barton (TX)	Gohmert	Pitts
Biggart	Goode	Platts
Bilbray	Goodlatte	Poe
Bilirakis	Graves	Porter
Bishop (UT)	Hall (TX)	Price (GA)
Blackburn	Hastings (WA)	Pryce (OH)
Blunt	Hayes	Putnam
Boehner	Heller	Radanovich
Bonner	Hensarling	Ramstad
Bono	Herger	Regula
Boozman	Hobson	Rehberg
Boustany	Hoekstra	Reichert
Brady (TX)	Hulshof	Renzi
Broun (GA)	Hunter	Reynolds
Brown (SC)	Inglis (SC)	Rogers (AL)
Brown-Waite,	Issa	Rogers (KY)
Ginny	Johnson (IL)	Rogers (MI)
Buchanan	Johnson, Sam	Rohrabacher
Burgess	Jones (NC)	Ros-Lehtinen
Burton (IN)	Jordan	Roskam
Buyer	Kaptur	Royce
Calvert	Keller	Ryan (WI)
Camp (MI)	King (IA)	Sali
Campbell (CA)	King (NY)	Saxton
Cannon	Kingston	Schmidt
Cantor	Kirk	Sensenbrenner
Capito	Kline (MN)	Shadegg
Carter	Knollenberg	Shays
Castle	Kuhl (NY)	Shimkus
Chabot	LaHood	Shuster
Coble	Lamborn	Simpson
Cole (OK)	Latham	Smith (NE)
Conaway	LaTourette	Smith (NJ)
Crenshaw	Lewis (CA)	Smith (TX)
Culberson	Lewis (KY)	Souder
Davis (KY)	Linder	Stearns
Davis, David	LoBiondo	Sullivan
Davis, Tom	Lucas	Tancredo
Deal (GA)	Lungren, Daniel	Terry
Dent	E.	Thornberry
Diaz-Balart, L.	Mack	Tiahrt
Diaz-Balart, M.	Manullo	Tiberi
Donnelly	Marchant	Turner
Doolittle	McCarthy (CA)	Upton
Drake	McCaul (TX)	Walberg
Dreier	McCotter	Walden (OR)
Duncan	McCrery	Walsh (NY)
Ehlers	McHenry	Conyers
Ehlsworth	McHugh	Cooper
Emerson	McKeon	Costa
Emerson (PA)	McMorris	Costello
English (PA)	McRogers	Courtney
Everett	Rodgers	Cramer
Fallin	Mica	Crowley
Feeney	Miller (FL)	Cuellar
Ferguson	Miller (MI)	Cummings
Ferguson	Miller, Gary	Davis (AL)
Flake	Moran (KS)	Davis (CA)
Forbes	Moran (KS)	Davis (IL)
Fortenberry	Murphy, Tim	Davis, Lincoln
Fossella	Murphy	DeFazio
	Mushgrave	DeGette

NOT VOTING—15

Carson	Levin	Ryan (OH)
Cubin	Oberstar	Sessions
Doyle	Paul	Udall (CO)
Hastert	Reyes	Weller
Jindal	Ruppersberger	Wilson (OH)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are less than 2 minutes remaining to vote.

□ 1534

So the motion to table was agreed to.

Abercrombie	Fattah	McIntyre
Ackerman	Filner	McNerney
Allen	Frank (MA)	McNulty
Altmire	Giffords	Meek (FL)
Andrews	Gillibrand	Meeks (NY)
Arcuri	Gonzalez	Melancon
Baca	Gordon	Michaud
Baird	Green, Al	Miller (NC)
Baldwin	Green, Gene	Miller, George
Barrow	Grijalva	Mitchell
Bean	Gutierrez	Mollohan
Becerra	Hall (NY)	Moore (KS)
Berkley	Hare	Moore (WI)
Berman	Harman	Moran (VA)
Berry	Hastings (FL)	Murphy (CT)
Bishop (GA)	Hereth Sandlin	Murphy, Patrick
Bishop (NY)	Higgins	Murtha
Blumenauer	Hill	Nadler
Boren	Hinchev	Napolitano
Boswell	Hinojosa	Neal (MA)
Boucher	Hirono	Obey
Boyd (FL)	Hodes	Olver
Boyd (KS)	Holden	Ortiz
Brady (PA)	Holt	Pallone
Braley (IA)	Honda	Pascrell
Brown, Corrine	Hookey	Pastor
Butterfield	Hoyer	Payne
Capps	Inslee	Perlmutter
Capuano	Israel	Peterson (MN)
Cardoza	Jackson (IL)	Pomeroy
Carnahan	Jackson-Lee	Price (NC)
Carney	(TX)	Rahall
Castor	Jefferson	Rangel
Chandler	Johnson (GA)	Reyes
Clarke	Johnson, E. B.	Richardson
Clay	Jones (OH)	Rodriguez
Cleaver	Kagen	Ross
Clyburn	Kanjorski	Rothman
Cohen	Kaputr	Roybal-Allard
Conyers	Kennedy	Rush
Cooper	Kildee	Ryan (OH)
Costa	Kilpatrick	Salazar
Costello	Kind	Sanchez, Linda
Courtney	Klein (FL)	T.
Cramer	Kucinich	Sanchez, Loretta
Crowley	Lampson	Sarbanes
Cuellar	Langevin	Schakowsky
Cummings	Lantos	Schiff
Davis (AL)	Larsen (WA)	Schwartz
Davis (CA)	Larson (CT)	Scott (GA)
Davis (IL)	Lee	Scott (VA)
Davis, Lincoln	Lewis (GA)	Serrano
DeFazio	Lipinski	Sestak
DeGette	Loeback	Shea-Porter
Delahunt	Lofgren, Zoe	Sherman
DeLauro	Lowey	Shuler
Dicks	Lynch	Sires
Dingell	Mahoney (FL)	Skelton
Doggett	Maloney (NY)	Slaughter
Edwards	Markey	Smith (WA)
Ellison	Marshall	Snyder
Emanuel	Matheson	Solis
Engel	Matsui	Space
Eshoo	McCarthy (NY)	Spratt
Etheridge	McCollum (MN)	Stark
Farr	McDermott	Stupak
	McGovern	Sutton

Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Tsongas
Udall (NM)

Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt

Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOES—194

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggart
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, M.
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella

NOT VOTING—14

Carson
Cubin
Doyle
Granger
Hastert

Jindal
Levin
Oberstar
Paul
Sessions
Udall (CO)
Weller
Wilson (OH)
Ruppersberger

□ 1540

So the resolution was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.
Stated for:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1098, I was unable to vote due to medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to reconsider the vote on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Did the gentleman cast his vote on the prevailing side?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Yes, I did.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. ARCURI

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I move to table the motion to reconsider.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 213, noes 194, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 1099]

AYES—213

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Becerra
Berkley
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyd (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carney
Castor
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dingell
Doggett
Edwards
Ellison
Emanuel

Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis

Space
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Tsongas
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez

Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOES—194

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggart
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella

NOT VOTING—25

Bean
Berman
Blackburn
Carnahan
Carson
Cubin
Cuellar
Dicks
Doyle

Gutierrez
Issa
Jindal
Levin
Linder
Moore (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Oberstar
Paul

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote).

□ 1547

So the motion to table was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1099, I was unable to vote due to medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3074, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 817, I call up the conference report on 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.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 817, the conference report is considered read.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of November 13, 2007, at page H13598.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the conference report to accompany H.R. 3074.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the conference report on H.R. 3074. Before I explain the contents of the conference report, however, I would like to thank my ranking member, the gentleman from Michigan, JOE KNOLLENBERG, for his great help in crafting a well-balanced Transportation and Housing bill. JOE and I have put together a strong bipartisan bill that will help address the Nation's important transportation and housing needs.

I think JOE and I have been a good team and I look forward to working closely with him again next year. I would also like to thank the staff on both sides of the aisle for all of their hard work. On the minority side, Dena Baron and Dave Gibbons and Jeff Goff. And on the majority side, Kate Hallahan, our clerk; Cheryle Tucker; David Napolliello; Laura Hogshead; Alex Gillen; Mark Fedor and Bob Letteney. They performed well under stress and trying circumstances, and without their dedication we would not be here today debating this bill.

Mr. Speaker, Members can and should be proud of this bill because it provides critical investments in our Nation's transportation and housing infrastructure, and does so within a fiscally sound manner and within our conference allocation.

Unlike some other issues we debate in Congress, transportation and housing have a long history of bipartisanship, and I hope we can continue in that spirit of bipartisanship today.

At their core, both transportation and housing have a direct impact on the people we represent. All of us are affected by congestion on our roads, travel delays in our airports, and the lack of dependable public transportation. We also all benefit from community development investments and the availability of affordable housing in our communities. This bill in so many ways affects each and every one of us.

Let me briefly explain some of the highlights of the conference report.

For the first time in 13 years, our bill includes \$75 million for the Veterans Affairs Supported Housing program, commonly known as VASH, to provide roughly 10,000 housing vouchers and supportive services to homeless veterans.

While we do not know the exact number of homeless veterans, the Veterans Administration has estimated that there were as many as 196,000 during a point-in-time count just last year. Surely we can all agree that 10,000 homeless veterans are 10,000 too many homeless veterans. Even one homeless veteran is a homeless veteran too many.

We have also included \$30 million for about 4,000 new housing vouchers for the disabled, the first new housing vouchers for the disabled in 5 years. The need for housing for the disabled has been well documented, with average housing rents rising much faster than a disabled person's monthly supplemental security income, SSI.

Secondly, the bill provides \$250 million to help with the current foreclosure crisis. We have included \$200 million over the President's request for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, a recognized national intermediary between lenders and homeowners, to help individuals and families forestall foreclosure and keep their homes. A separate \$50 million is provided for HUD's housing counseling program to help new potential home buyers avoid future foreclosures.

According to the Mortgage Bankers Association, the second quarter of this year saw the highest percentage of mortgages go into foreclosure since 1972. Many of those foreclosures and delinquencies are due to the proliferation of subprime and other adjustable-rate loans. With 2 million subprime mortgages expected to reset over the next 18 months, the number of homeowners facing delinquency is staggering in many parts of the country.

The funds included in this bill for foreclosure counseling is the first

major Federal investment into this growing crisis. The President has stated on a number of occasions that he wants to help solve this problem. If he is serious, he would sign this bill into law and help many tens of thousands of families receive the help they need to manage their finances and the refinancing of their mortgage so they can keep their homes.

In addition, the bill also makes significant investment in our transportation infrastructure. The Minnesota bridge tragedy put a national spotlight in the State, on the state of America's transportation infrastructure, especially with the number of lives lost in that tragedy. More than 20,000 out of some 100,000-plus bridges on the national highway system are characterized as "structurally deficient" or "functionally obsolete." Traffic on these bridges is over 190 million trips per day.

The conference report includes an additional billion dollars over the President's request for the bridge program as a downpayment to help States fix their long list of substandard bridges; \$195 million is specifically included for the I-35 bridge in Minnesota, which alone carried 140,000 passenger vehicles per day. And that sum will make Minnesota whole for the full replacement of that Interstate 35 bridge in Minneapolis.

Those are the new initiatives, but there are numerous other positive transportation and housing investments in this bill. The bill honors the highway guarantees which were set in the authorization bill in 2005, the SAFETEA-LU authorizing bill which was brought forward by the now minority just 2 years ago. That guarantee provides a record level of investment in transit as well. This funding will improve the Nation's transportation and infrastructure and is expected to create close to 80,000 new jobs between highways and transit.

The bill also provides \$1.375 billion for Amtrak, plus an additional \$75 million for a new intercity passenger rail program to create a faster, safer, and more reliable intercity passenger rail system. That \$75 million was requested by the President.

We have included \$3.5 billion for the Airport Improvement Program, the same as last year, for critical airport safety capacity and security upgrades.

We have also provided almost \$3.8 billion for Community Development Block Grants, the extremely popular CDBG program, which is \$100 million above fiscal year 2007 but still \$400 million below the fiscal year 2001 level. It is estimated that every dollar of community block grant funding leverages \$3 in private investment for critical community and economic development priorities in over a thousand localities around the country.

The bill restores housing for the elderly and disabled to last year's level. And finally, we have provided enough funding to ensure that no one that has