

Pearce	Sali	Terry
Pence	Sánchez, Linda	Thompson (CA)
Perlmutter	T.	Thompson (MS)
Peterson (MN)	Sanchez, Loretta	Thornberry
Peterson (PA)	Sarbanes	Tiahrt
Petri	Saxton	Tiberi
Pickering	Schakowsky	Tierney
Pitts	Schiff	Tsongas
Platts	Schmidt	Turner
Pomeroy	Schwartz	Udall (CO)
Porter	Scott (GA)	Udall (NM)
Price (GA)	Scott (VA)	Upton
Price (NC)	Senseman	Van Hollen
Pryce (OH)	Serrano	Velázquez
Putnam	Sessions	Visclosky
Radanovich	Sestak	Walberg
Rahall	Shadegg	Walder (OR)
Ramstad	Shays	Walden (NY)
Rangel	Shea-Porter	Walsh (NY)
Regula	Sherman	Walz (MN)
Rehberg	Shimkus	Wamp
Reichert	Shuster	Waters
Renzi	Simpson	Watson
Reyes	Sires	Wat
Reynolds	Skelton	Watman
Richardson	Slaughter	Weiner
Rodriguez	Smith (NJ)	Welch (VT)
Rogers (AL)	Smith (TX)	Weldon (FL)
Rogers (KY)	Smith (WA)	Westmoreland
Rogers (MI)	Snyder	Wexler
Rohrabacher	Solis	Whitfield
Ros-Lehtinen	Souder	Wicker
Roskam	Space	Wilson (NM)
Ross	Spratt	Wilson (OH)
Rothman	Stark	Wilson (SC)
Royal-Allard	Stearns	Wolf
Royce	Stupak	Woolsey
Ruppersberger	Sullivan	Wu
Rush	Sutton	Wynn
Ryan (OH)	Tanner	Yarmuth
Ryan (WI)	Tauscher	Young (FL)
Salazar	Taylor	

NAYS—1

Conyers

NOT VOTING—23

Brown, Corrine	Hunter	Shuler
Carson	Jindal	Smith (NE)
Cubin	Kucinich	Tancredo
DeGette	Linder	Towns
DeLauro	Miller, Gary	Wasserman
Hall (TX)	Moran (VA)	Schultz
Hinojosa	Nunes	Weller
Hooley	Poe	Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised less than 2 minutes remain on this vote.

□ 1928

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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Postponed votes on remaining motions to suspend the rules will be taken later in the week.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2082, INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees:

From the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications com-

mitted to conference: Messrs. REYES, HASTINGS of Florida, BOSWELL, CRAMER, Ms. ESHOO, Messrs. HOLT, RUPPERSBERGER, TIERNEY, THOMPSON of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Messrs. LANGEVIN, PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, HOEKSTRA, EVERETT, GALLEGLY, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Messrs. THORNBERRY, MCHUGH, TIAHRT, ROGERS of Michigan, and ISSA.

From the Committee on Armed Services, for consideration of defense tactical intelligence and related activities: Messrs. SKELTON, SPRATT, and HUNTER.

There was no objection.

□ 1930

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. JONES of Ohio). 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.

WORLD AIDS DAY

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

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for the goals and ideals of World AIDS Day, which took place on Saturday, December 1. I also want to thank my distinguished colleague, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE of California, for her leadership in organizing this message hour and for introducing a resolution commemorating the occasion, which I have cosponsored.

Nineteen years after the first World AIDS Day and more than 25 years since the AIDS epidemic began, the need to spread the message about this devastating disease is as critical as ever.

Worldwide, the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS estimates that 33.2 million people are living with the disease, 2.5 million of whom are newly infected.

In the United States, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that more than 1 million individuals are living with HIV/AIDS. Tragically, communities of color and African Americans in particular are disproportionately impacted. African Americans are currently more likely to suffer from this disease, and the race gap is growing as we speak.

Despite the fact that African Americans constitute approximately 13 percent of the total United States population, they account for over 44 percent of all persons living with AIDS and 49 percent of all new HIV/AIDS diagnoses.

This trend is illustrated when the numbers are examined by subgroup as well. The CDC found in 2005 that women represented 26 percent of all new HIV/AIDS infections, with African American women 25 times more likely to be infected than white women and

accounting for 64 percent of all women living with HIV/AIDS.

A 2005 CDC study of 1,700 gay men in five cities found that African American men were infected at nearly twice the rate of whites, 46 percent compared to 25 percent. In my hometown of Baltimore, only an hour's drive away, 8 percent of the men interviewed had become infected in the previous year, the highest rate in any city surveyed.

These trends persist despite there being little difference between the sexual practices of white and African American gay men. Racial disparities in HIV and AIDS can be attributed at least in part to the same factors that contribute to racial disparities in overall public health: poor access to life-saving care.

Researchers find that African Americans are more likely to be infected with other sexually transmitted diseases, which makes them more likely to catch or transmit HIV. Further, African Americans are less likely to be taking antiretroviral medications which can lower the concentration of the virus in the bloodstream, thereby decreasing the risk of transmission.

Madam Speaker, we cannot afford to ignore these troubling trends any longer. Nearly a quarter of a century after HIV emerged, it continues to wreak havoc upon communities across the world. We must remain vigilant in our efforts to stamp out this global pandemic for the benefit of generations yet unborn.

BAN HUMAN CLONING

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Madam Speaker, earlier today in this body we observed a minute of silence to honor the great life of Henry Hyde, our distinguished former colleague from Illinois. Henry Hyde clearly established himself in America as one of the great defenders of the sanctity of human life. He was eloquent on a host of issues in his outstanding rhetorical skills, but perhaps none was he more able and capable than in defending the dignity and sanctity of human life. And this body has been engaged in a tremendous debate involving the sanctity of human life as to whether or not for years now the Federal Government should fund the experimental research called human embryonic stem cell research, which involves creating human embryos for the purpose of killing them.

President Bush, in what I believe to be one of the finest moments of his Presidency, decided to let the research go forward at the NIH, but denied funding to any more research which involved killing human embryos which had been occurring prior to the beginning of his term. This body has been engaged in a tremendous debate for years now as to whether or not the Bush policy should be overturned.

And the defenders of overturning the Bush policy have contended for years and years and years now, number one, that there was great potential from human embryonic stem cell research, which is something I and others have questioned for years. Adult stem cell research and cord blood stem cell research have been showing great potential and clinical utility cures. Embryonic stem cells form tumors. They have never been shown to be safe or useable.

But nonetheless, many people felt, myself included, that the science would outstrip this debate; and recently, I was very pleased to see the publication in two publications, *Cell* and *Science*, from two different research labs, one here in the United States involving Dr. Jamie Thompson, the researcher who originally was credited with discovering human embryonic stem cells. I would disagree, he didn't really discover them; we always knew they were there. He was just the first one to isolate them. The other is a research lab in Japan, I believe, and they have shown that you can create human embryonic stem cells from skin cells.

Why is this so important? Why is this so significant? Well, for years in this body, in this Congress, we have been trying to pass a bill to ban human cloning. Everybody agrees human cloning is bad, but there have been people in this body and in the other body contending that we only want to ban attempts to create a baby; we shouldn't ban the creation of human clones in the lab because embryonic stem cells can never be used in therapy. I could never be treated for a disease from some other embryo because my tissues would reject it; but through embryonic cloning, we could do something called therapeutic cloning.

Now, I have contended that was a science fix in that it had never been done in a research setting involving animals; and, furthermore, that it was not necessary. Now, this research shows you could scrape my skin and create embryonic stem cells from that skin scraping that would be genetically identical to me and could be used in therapies.

So why is this important? Number one, I think President Bush has been vindicated. We shouldn't be funding this research. It is ethically questionable research, and it is unnecessary.

Number two, it is now time for the Congress of the United States to put on the desk of President Bush a bill to ban all forms of human cloning because it is just not necessary.

I started out talking about Henry Hyde and the sanctity of human life. Even if you don't believe in the sanctity of human life, one thing is absolutely certain: to create embryonic stem cells in the old way you needed human eggs. Where were we ever going to get all of these human eggs from? You have to get them from women, a very ethically and morally questionable thing for us to be doing, to ask women to donate through a painful,

difficult surgical procedure, to donate their eggs for a form of research that has never been validated in the lab, in animal models as being viable in clinical therapeutics.

So you don't have to invoke the sanctity of human life, but I must say I personally believe in the sanctity of human life. I believe Henry Hyde was right when he spoke over and over again on the importance of this. And it is now time for the Congress of the United States to act, put a bill on the President's desk to ban human cloning. The science is finally with us now.

MISGUIDED PRIORITIES BY ADMINISTRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, the American people are well aware of the White House's long record of misguided priorities, fear-mongering and incompetence. But over the last few days and weeks, the administration has sunk to absolutely new lows.

First we learned that the administration is planning to slash the Department of Homeland Security's request for counterterrorism funding. The Department has asked for \$3.2 billion to help States and to help cities protect their ports and transit systems and to give police, firefighters, and other first responders the tools they need to save lives.

But the administration is planning to cut the request by more than half. My State of California could lose more than \$200 million under the administration's plan. These drastic and life-threatening cuts are outrageous. Just consider the administration's logic. It has spent or requested over \$600 billion for the occupation of Iraq which hasn't made us any safer, yet now it wants to cut \$1.8 billion out of programs that actually do make us safer.

The administration's priorities are not only twisted; they threaten the life of every single American person. But the administration's misdeeds don't end there.

A few days after we learned about the homeland security cuts, the administration launched a fear campaign to scare American people into believing that there will be massive cuts in Department of Defense personnel and operations and that Congress will be to blame. But the truth is Congress has already approved nearly half a trillion dollars for the Pentagon, enough to continue its operations.

And the majority of Congress tried to appropriate another \$50 billion for our troops in Iraq, but the administration and its allies in Congress rejected the money because it was linked to the responsible redeployment of our troops which the American people are demanding.

But the final evidence of the administration's blundering came yesterday

when the National Intelligence Estimate reported that Iran stopped work on its alleged nuclear weapons program way back in 2003. It now appears that the administration knew about this months and months ago, but continued to tell the world that the danger of Iranian nuclear weapons was real and getting worse.

The President went so far as to warn about World War III, and even yesterday the administration continued to raise the threat of World War III. A key section of the NIE said that Iran stopped its nuclear weapons program not because of any saber rattling, but "in response to increasing international scrutiny and pressure." And it said that "Iran may be more vulnerable to influence on the issue than we judged previously."

This tells us a lot about what works and what doesn't work when it comes to solving threats to peace. Diplomacy works. International cooperation works. Saber rattling does not work. Threatening World War III doesn't work, and carrots work better than sticks.

Our leaders in the White House have never learned these lessons, and the result has been devastating to our ability to be safe in the world. We cannot lead other nations in the fight against terrorism if they see us as warmongers, if they don't see us as peacemakers. We cannot solve the problems that cause terrorism, such as poverty and social injustice, when we have squandered our own claim to moral leadership.

Madam Speaker, it is time for a brand-new course in American foreign policy, and the first step must be the responsible redeployment of our troops out of Iraq. This will set the table for the regional and international diplomacy needed, needed for reconciliation and reconstruction in Iraq. And it will send a clear signal to the world that America is ready to be America again, and that means an America that has compassion for the people of the world and an America that stands on the side of peace once again.

□ 1945

HONORING FORMER CONGRESSMAN HENRY HYDE

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, one of the great things that has happened in my political life and serving in Congress is to have known Henry Hyde. Henry Hyde I think was one of the greatest Congressmen to ever serve in this Chamber. He was a man of integrity. He was honest. When he gave you his word, it was his bond. He was loved by everybody. Even during the controversial impeachment trial of Bill Clinton, he did it with honor, and he did it in a way that everybody respected him even though it was very, very controversial.