

the world. It is imperative that we follow their lead.

Again, I want to thank the ranking member, DUNCAN HUNTER, for his leadership. He is a dedicated veteran and father of an Iraq veteran. And additionally, I want to thank my Republican colleagues for bringing this motion to the floor. I encourage all of my colleagues to support it and send a bipartisan message to our enemies and allies that we are committed to victory in Iraq and ensuring that Iraq does not become a failed state and a safe haven for terrorists.

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, we have no further speakers on our side and are prepared to close.

I just want to once again remind everyone what this is really about. We have an excellent national defense authorization bill for fiscal year 2008. It has broad bipartisan support, bicameral support, both the House and the Senate. Most Members voted for this bill when it came to the floor in the spring. We are about to go to conference and make sure that the bills become congruent so we can send it to the President.

This is a bill that the President must sign. It has so many good things in it. I want to take a couple of seconds and talk about the fact that Democrats, who took majority in January, have written their first bill in 13 years, and there are many, many good things in here that we are very proud of. We have done many things for the troops. We have included a 3.5 percent pay raise. We have prohibited increases in their health care, which is called TRICARE, and pharmacy user fees.

The bill also provides \$980 million for National Guard equipment. We know how stressed and strained our National Guard has been. We know how upset many Governors have been that the National Guard has been deployed out of States so the State is without their own National Guard. And the worst part of it is when they went to Iraq or Afghanistan, and some are there for the second and third time, they left their equipment there. So the State doesn't even have equipment that the State can use in the case of a flood or fire or some other kind of an emergency.

We have a lot of equipment that we have added; \$17.4 billion for MRAPs, which is a plus-up from what the President requested. We have also added a shipbuilding request that the President didn't ask for, which is a Virginia class submarine, an LPD and a T-AKE, and eight C-17s that the Pentagon didn't ask for either, because we know that we need global power projection.

This is a very important bill that is part of our congressional responsibility to raise and support our troops, and I am proud to say this is a strong bill that supports our troops, restores military readiness and improves accountability to the American people. I ask for my colleagues' support of it when we bring it back from the conference.

I appreciate the fact that this is a motion to instruct, but what we are being instructed is, frankly, two different issues that we have general widespread support for. Both in the House and Senate version of the bill, the language included in the motion to instruct has been included. We should be very confident that they will be part of the final conference report, so this is a motion to instruct that is very supportable.

I am happy to yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from California for her comments, and also the distinguished chairman, who is a great friend and a wonderful patriot and has done a great job of steering our committee through the authorization process.

Let me tell you why I think it is important to pass this motion to instruct. We built the bridge fund. The Armed Services Committee realized we have the winter months when you need funding for the troops before you get to the spring supplemental. So we came up initially several years ago with the idea of a \$50 billion bridge fund to make sure that those soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines had what they needed in the war-fighting theater to be successful.

It is true we have this in our bill this time because we are the major architects of the bridge fund. We are the people who came up with it the first time, and the appropriators followed us. But this time they did not follow us. This time they conditioned the bridge fund with get-out-of-Iraq language, and that was a disservice to everyone who wears the uniform in the theater and to the mission. So it is important for the Members of this body to cast their votes in favor of that bridge fund, and perhaps that will show the right direction to the Appropriations Committee and to the Members of Congress who vote on the full appropriations, because we need to have that bridge fund not only authorized but appropriated.

Finally, we do need to have that very strong language committing ourselves to avoid a failed state in Iraq. And we are winning.

Now let me go back to my good colleague Mr. SKELTON, who said we all support the troops and we have manifested that support in pay raises. And we have. We have manifested it in good medical care and a new Wounded Warrior bill to assist those in Walter Reed and Bethesda and in our medical facilities around the world. We have done that. And we have manifested that in getting them the right equipment to carry out their mission.

But there is something else we owe the troops. We owe them the right to have victory, and they are achieving victory. And we owe them the right to have a successful mission, because nothing will be more fulfilling to them than to be victorious. And that means

we need to continue to move the resources into Iraq and Afghanistan so they can continue to be victorious, so that the 80 percent drop-off in the violence rate in Anbar province will continue, and so that the Iraqi Army will continue to stand up to the point where it can displace America's heavy combat forces, Marines and Army, and our guys can come home or go to other places in CENTCOM.

Madam Speaker, this is a very important motion to instruct because it gives a very clear message to those 157,000-plus troops in Iraq and those 22,000-plus troops in Afghanistan. It says the American Congress, we stand behind our troops and we stand behind their mission.

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, I voted in favor of the motion to instruct conferees, which included Senate language stating that "the Senate should not pass legislation that will undermine our military's ability to prevent a failed state in Iraq", because I believe the men and women of the United States military are admirably and ably performing their duties. They are already doing everything they can to prevent Iraq from becoming a failed state, and I continue to support them and the professionalism and skill they have displayed. However, it is not the role of the United States military to control the long term viability of the Iraqi government. To avoid becoming a failed state, Iraqi political leaders must come to a consensus regarding the future of Iraq and the Iraqi government. There is no role for the United States military in that task. I continue to call for strong diplomatic efforts to resolve the situation in Iraq, and believe that a firm timeline for the withdrawal of U.S. troops will force Iraq's political leaders to take responsibility for the future of their country.

Mr. HUNTER. Madam 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. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### MOTION TO CLOSE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON H.R. 1585, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 12 of House Rule XXII, I move that meetings of the conference between the House and Senate on H.R. 1585 may be closed to the public at such times as classified national security information may be broached, provided that any sitting Member of Congress shall be entitled to attend any meeting of the conference.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, the motion is not debatable, and the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to permit conference meetings to be closed will be followed by 5-minute votes on the motion to instruct on H.R. 1585; suspension of the rules on H. Con. Res. 147; and suspension of the rules on H.R. 236.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 405, nays 6, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 1127]

#### YEAS—405

Abercrombie	Costa	Hastings (WA)
Ackerman	Costello	Hayes
Aderholt	Courtney	Heller
Akin	Cramer	Hensarling
Alexander	Crenshaw	Herger
Allen	Crowley	Herseth Sandlin
Altmire	Cuellar	Higgins
Andrews	Cummings	Hinchee
Arcuri	Davis (AL)	Hirono
Baca	Davis (CA)	Hobson
Bachmann	Davis (IL)	Hodes
Bachus	Davis (KY)	Hoekstra
Baird	Davis, David	Holden
Baker	Davis, Lincoln	Holt
Baldwin	Davis, Tom	Honda
Barrett (SC)	Deal (GA)	Hoyer
Barrow	DeGette	Hulshof
Bartlett (MD)	Delahunt	Hunter
Barton (TX)	Dent	Inglis (SC)
Bean	Diaz-Balart, L.	Inslee
Becerra	Diaz-Balart, M.	Israel
Berkley	Dicks	Issa
Berman	Dingell	Jackson (IL)
Berry	Doggett	Jefferson
Biggert	Donnelly	Johnson (GA)
Bilbray	Doolittle	Johnson (IL)
Bilirakis	Doyle	Johnson, E. B.
Bishop (GA)	Drake	Johnson, Sam
Bishop (NY)	Dreier	Jones (NC)
Bishop (UT)	Duncan	Jones (OH)
Blackburn	Edwards	Jordan
Blumenauer	Ehlers	Kagen
Blunt	Ellison	Kanjorski
Boehner	Ellsworth	Kaptur
Bonner	Emanuel	Keller
Bono	Emerson	Kennedy
Boozman	Engel	Kildee
Boren	English (PA)	Kilpatrick
Boswell	Eshoo	Kind
Boucher	Etheridge	King (IA)
Boustany	Everett	King (NY)
Boyd (KS)	Fallin	Kingston
Brady (PA)	Farr	Kirk
Braley (IA)	Fattah	Klein (FL)
Broun (GA)	Feeney	Kline (MN)
Brown (SC)	Ferguson	Knollenberg
Brown-Waite,	Filner	Kuhl (NY)
Ginny	Flake	LaHood
Buchanan	Forbes	Lamborn
Burgess	Fortenberry	Lampson
Burton (IN)	Fossella	Langevin
Butterfield	Fox	Lantos
Buyer	Frank (MA)	Larsen (WA)
Calvert	Franks (AZ)	Larson (CT)
Camp (MI)	Frelinghuysen	Latham
Cannon	Gallely	LaTourette
Cantor	Garrett (NJ)	Levin
Capito	Gerlach	Lewis (CA)
Capps	Giffords	Lewis (GA)
Capuano	Gilchrest	Lewis (KY)
Cardoza	Gillibrand	Linder
Carnahan	Gingrey	Lipinski
Carney	Gohmert	LoBiondo
Carter	Gonzalez	Loebsack
Castle	Goode	Lofgren, Zoe
Castor	Goodlatte	Lowey
Chabot	Gordon	Lucas
Chandler	Granger	Lungren, Daniel
Clarke	Graves	E.
Clay	Green, Al	Lynch
Cleaver	Green, Gene	Mack
Clyburn	Grijalva	Mahoney (FL)
Coble	Gutierrez	Maloney (NY)
Cohen	Hall (NY)	Manzullo
Cole (OK)	Hall (TX)	Marchant
Conaway	Hare	Markey
Conyers	Harman	Marshall
Cooper	Hastings (FL)	Matheson

Matsui	Poe	Skelton
McCarthy (CA)	Pomeroy	Slaughter
McCarthy (NY)	Porter	Smith (NJ)
McCaul (TX)	Price (GA)	Smith (TX)
McCollum (MN)	Price (NC)	Smith (WA)
McCotter	Pryce (OH)	Snyder
McCrery	Putnam	Solis
McDermott	Radanovich	Souder
McGovern	Rahall	Space
McHenry	Ramstad	Stearns
McHugh	Rangel	Stupak
McIntyre	Regula	Sullivan
McKeon	Rehberg	Sutton
McMorris	Reichert	Tanner
Rodgers	Renzi	Tauscher
McNerney	Reyes	Taylor
McNulty	Reynolds	Terry
Meek (FL)	Richardson	Thompson (CA)
Meeks (NY)	Rodriguez	Thompson (MS)
Melancon	Rogers (AL)	Thornberry
Mica	Rogers (KY)	Tiahrt
Michaud	Rogers (MI)	Tiberi
Miller (FL)	Rohrabacher	Tierney
Miller (MI)	Ros-Lehtinen	Towns
Miller (NC)	Roskam	Tsongas
Miller, George	Ross	Turner
Mitchell	Rothman	Udall (CO)
Mollohan	Royal-Ballard	Udall (NM)
Moore (KS)	Royce	Upton
Moore (WI)	Ruppersberger	Van Hollen
Moran (KS)	Rush	Velázquez
Moran (VA)	Ryan (OH)	Visclosky
Murphy (CT)	Ryan (WI)	Walberg
Murphy, Patrick	Salazar	Walsh (NY)
Murphy, Tim	Sali	Walden (OR)
Murtha	Sánchez, Linda	Walsh (NY)
Musgrave	T.	Walz (MN)
Myrick	Sanchez, Loretta	Wamp
Nadler	Sarbanes	Wasserman
Napolitano	Saxton	Schultz
Neal (MA)	Schakowsky	Watson
Neugebauer	Schiff	Watt
Oberstar	Schmidt	Waxman
Obey	Schwartz	Weiner
Oliver	Scott (GA)	Welch (VT)
Ortiz	Scott (VA)	Weldon (FL)
Pallone	Sensenbrenner	Weller
Pascarell	Serrano	Westmoreland
Pastor	Sessions	Wexler
Paul	Sestak	Whitfield
Payne	Shadegg	Wicker
Pearce	Shays	Wilson (NM)
Pence	Shea-Porter	Wilson (OH)
Perlmutter	Sherman	Wilson (SC)
Peterson (PA)	Shimkus	Wolf
Petri	Shuler	Wu
Pickering	Shuster	Wynn
Pitts	Simpson	Yarmuth
Platts	Sires	Young (FL)

#### NAYS—6

DeFazio	Lee	Waters
Kucinich	Stark	Woolsey

#### NOT VOTING—20

Boyd (FL)	DeLauro	Miller, Gary
Brady (TX)	Hill	Nunes
Brown, Corrine	Hinojosa	Peterson (MN)
Campbell (CA)	Hooley	Smith (NE)
Carson	Jackson-Lee	Spratt
Cubin	(TX)	Tancredo
Culberson	Jindal	Young (AK)

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1202

Mr. ELLISON and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1585, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the mo-

tion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1585 offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

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

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 328, nays 83, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 1128]

#### YEAS—328

Ackerman	Davis (CA)	Jones (NC)
Aderholt	Davis (KY)	Jordan
Akin	Davis, David	Kagen
Alexander	Davis, Lincoln	Keller
Altmire	Davis, Tom	Kennedy
Andrews	Deal (GA)	Kildee
Arcuri	DeGette	Kind
Baca	Dent	King (IA)
Bachmann	Diaz-Balart, L.	King (NY)
Bachus	Diaz-Balart, M.	Kingston
Baird	Dicks	Kirk
Baker	Dingell	Klein (FL)
Barrett (SC)	Donnelly	Kline (MN)
Barrow	Doolittle	Knollenberg
Bartlett (MD)	Dreier	Kuhl (NY)
Barton (TX)	Edwards	LaHood
Bean	Ehlers	Lamborn
Becerra	Ellsworth	Lampson
Berkley	Emanuel	Langevin
Berman	Emerson	Lantos
Berry	Engel	Larsen (WA)
Biggert	English (PA)	Latham
Bilbray	Etheridge	LaTourette
Bilirakis	Everett	Levin
Bishop (GA)	Fallin	Lewis (CA)
Bishop (NY)	Fattah	Lewis (KY)
Bishop (UT)	Feeney	Lipinski
Blunt	Ferguson	LoBiondo
Boehner	Flake	Lowey
Bonner	Forbes	Lucas
Bono	Fortenberry	Lungren, Daniel
Boozman	Fossella	E.
Boren	Fox	Mack
Boswell	Franks (AZ)	Mahoney (FL)
Boucher	Frelinghuysen	Maloney (NY)
Boustany	Gallely	Manzullo
Boyd (FL)	Garrett (NJ)	Marchant
Boyda (KS)	Gerlach	Marshall
Brady (PA)	Giffords	Matheson
Brady (TX)	Gilchrest	McCarthy (CA)
Braley (IA)	Gillibrand	McCarthy (NY)
Broun (GA)	Gingrey	McCaul (TX)
Brown (SC)	Gohmert	McCollum (MN)
Brown-Waite,	Gonzalez	McCotter
Ginny	Goode	McCrery
Buchanan	Goodlatte	McHenry
Burgess	Gordon	McHugh
Burton (IN)	Granger	McIntyre
Buyer	Graves	McKeon
Calvert	Green, Al	McMorris
Camp (MI)	Green, Gene	Rodgers
Cannon	Grijalva	McNerney
Cantor	Gutierrez	McNulty
Capito	Hall (NY)	Meek (FL)
Capps	Hall (TX)	Meeks (NY)
Cardoza	Hare	Melancon
Carnahan	Harman	Mica
Carney	Hastings (FL)	Miller (FL)
Carter	Hastings (WA)	Miller (MI)
Castle	Hayes	Miller (NC)
Castor	Heller	Mitchell
Chabot	Hensarling	Mollohan
Chandler	Herger	Moore (KS)
Clay	Herseth Sandlin	Moran (KS)
Cleaver	Higgins	Murphy (CT)
Clyburn	Hill	Murphy, Patrick
Coble	Hobson	Murphy, Tim
Cole (OK)	Hodes	Musgrave
Conaway	Hoekstra	Napolitano
Conaway	Holden	Neugebauer
Cooper	Hoyer	Oberstar
Costa	Hulshof	Ortiz
Courtney	Hunter	Pascarell
Cramer	Inglis (SC)	Pearce
Crenshaw	Israel	Pence
Cuellar	Issa	Perlmutter
Culberson	Jefferson	Peterson (MN)
Cummings	Johnson (IL)	Peterson (PA)
Davis (AL)	Johnson, Sam	Petri