

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)	Matsui	Poe	Skelton	Ackerman	Davis (CA)	Jones (NC)
Ackerman	Costello	Hayes	McCarthy (CA)	Pomeroy	Slaughter	Aderholt	Davis (KY)	Jordan
Aderholt	Courtney	Heller	McCarthy (NY)	Porter	Smith (NJ)	Akin	Davis, David	Kagen
Akin	Cramer	Hensarling	McCaull (TX)	Price (GA)	Smith (TX)	Alexander	Davis, Lincoln	Keller
Alexander	Crenshaw	Herger	McCollum (MN)	Price (NC)	Smith (WA)	McIntyre	Davis, Tom	Kennedy
Allen	Crowley	Herseth Sandlin	McCotter	Pryce (OH)	Snyder	McKeon	Deal (GA)	Kildee
Altmine	Cuellar	Higgins	McDermott	Putnam	Solis	McMorris	Arcuri	DeGette
Andrews	Cummings	Hinchey	McGovern	Radanovich	Souder	Rodgers	Rodgers	Kind
Arcuri	Davis (AL)	Hirono	McHenry	Rahall	Space	McNerney	Reyes	King (IA)
Baca	Davis (CA)	Hobson	McHugh	Ramstad	Stearns	McNulty	Reynolds	King (NY)
Bachmann	Davis (IL)	Hodes	McIntyre	Rangel	Stupak	Meek (FL)	Richardson	Diaz-Balart, L.
Bachus	Davis (KY)	Hoekstra	McKeon	Regula	Sullivan	Meeks (NY)	Rodriguez	Diaz-Balart, M.
Baird	Davis, David	Holden	McMorris	Rehberg	Sutton	Melancon	Thompson (CA)	Kingston
Baker	Davis, Lincoln	Holt	McNerney	Reichert	Tanner	Mica	Thompson (MS)	Kirk
Baldwin	Davis, Tom	Honda	McNulty	Renzi	Tauscher	Rogers (AL)	Torrey	Dicks
Barrett (SC)	Deal (GA)	Hoyer	Meek (FL)	Rodgers	Taylor	Rogers (KY)	Thornberry	Baker
Barrow	DeGette	Hulshof	Miller (FL)	Rohrabacher	Terry	Towns	Thompson (MS)	Dingell
Bartlett (MD)	Delahunt	Hunter	Miller (MI)	Ros-Lehtinen	Tsongas	Altmire	Torrey	Visclosky
Barton (TX)	Dent	Inglis (SC)	Miller (NC)	Roskam	Turner	Andrews	Turner	Barrett (SC)
Bean	Diaz-Balart, L.	Insllee	Moran (KS)	Rothman	Udall (CO)	Turner	Udall (NM)	DeGette
Becerra	Diaz-Balart, M.	Israel	Rush	Rothman	Upton	Udall (NM)	Upton	Baca
Berkley	Dicks	Issa	Murphy (VA)	Ryan (OH)	Van Hollen	Van Hollen	Van Hollen	Dent
Berman	Dingell	Jackson (IL)	Murphy (CT)	Ryan (WI)	Walberg	Walden (OR)	Walberg	Bachmann
Berry	Doggett	Jefferson	Ortiz	Ryan (WI)	Watson	Walder (OR)	Watson	Bachus
Biggert	Donnelly	Johnson (GA)	Pallone	Schakowsky	Watson	Walder (OR)	Watson	Bartlett (MD)
Bilbray	Doolittle	Johnson (IL)	Sensenbrenner	Watson	Watt	Walsh (NY)	Walsh (NY)	Bartlett (MD)
Bilirakis	Doyle	Johnson, E. B.	Pascarella	Westmoreland	Waxman	Walz (MN)	Walz (MN)	Barton (TX)
Bishop (GA)	Drake	Johnson, Sam	Pastor	Westmoreland	Weiner	Walz (MN)	Walz (MN)	Edwards
Bishop (NY)	Dreier	Jones (NC)	Sessions	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wamp	Wamp	Ehlers
Bishop (UT)	Duncan	Jones (OH)	Whitfield	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Ellsworth
Blackburn	Edwards	Jordan	Wick	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Lampson
Blumenauer	Ehlers	Kagen	Wicker	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Langevin
Blunt	Ellison	Kanjorski	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Knollenberg
Boehner	Ellsworth	Kaptur	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Kuhl (NY)
Bonner	Emanuel	Keller	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	LoBiondo
Bono	Emerson	Kennedy	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	LaHood
Boozman	Engel	Kildee	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Lamborn
Boren	English (PA)	Kilpatrick	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Lampson
Boswell	Eshoo	Kind	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Langevin
Boucher	Etheridge	King (IA)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Larsen (WA)
Boustany	Everett	King (NY)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	LaTourette
Boyda (KS)	Fallin	Kingston	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Levin
Brady (PA)	Farr	Kirk	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Lewis (CA)
Braley (IA)	Fattah	Klein (FL)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Lewis (KY)
Brown (GA)	Feeney	Kline (MN)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Lipinski
Brown (SC)	Ferguson	Knollenberg	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	LoBiondo
Brown-Waite,	Filner	Kuhl (NY)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Maloney (FL)
Ginny	Flake	LaHood	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Maloney (NY)
Buchanan	Forbes	Lamborn	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCotter
Burgess	Fortenberry	Lampson	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCarthy (CA)
Burton (IN)	Fossella	Langevin	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCarthy (NY)
Butterfield	Foxx	Lantos	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCaul (TX)
Buyer	Frank (MA)	Larsen (WA)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCullom (MN)
Calvert	Franks (AZ)	Larson (CT)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Mack
Camp (MI)	Frelinghuysen	Latham	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McGrory
Cannon	Gallegher	LaTourette	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McIntyre
Cantor	Garrett (NJ)	Levin	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McKeon
Capito	Gerlach	Lewis (CA)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McMorris
Capps	Giffords	Lewis (GA)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McNerney
Capuano	Gilchrest	Lewis (KY)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Negebauer
Cardoza	Gillibrand	Linder	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCotter
Carnahan	Gingrey	Lipinski	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick
Carney	Gohmert	LoBiondo	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McGrory
Carter	Gonzalez	Loebssack	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McIntyre
Castle	Goode	Logfren, Zoe	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McKeon
Castor	Goodlatte	Lowey	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McMorris
Chabot	Gordon	Lucas	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McNerney
Chandler	Granger	Lungren, Daniel	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	Negebauer
Clarke	Graves	E.	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick
Clay	Green, Al	Lynch	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick
Cleaver	Green, Gene	Mack	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick
Clyburn	Grijalva	Mahoney (FL)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick
Coble	Gutierrez	Maloney (NY)	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick
Cohen	Hall (NY)	Manzullo	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick
Cole (OK)	Hall (TX)	Marchant	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick
Conaway	Hare	Markey	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick
Conyers	Harman	Marshall	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick
Cooper	Hastings (FL)	Matheson	Wicks	Westmoreland	Wierwille	Wierwille	Wierwille	McCormick

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
Altmine	Davis, Tom	Kennedy
Andrews	Deal (GA)	Kildee
Arcuri	DeGette	King (IA)
Baca	DeGette	King (NY)
Bachmann	DeGette	Kline (FL)
Bachus	DeGette	Kline (MN)
Baird	DeGette	Knollenberg
Baker	DeGette	Lamborn
Baldwin	DeGette	Lampson
Barrett (SC)	DeGette	Langevin
Barrow	DeGette	LaTourette
Bartlett (MD)	DeGette	Levin
Barton (TX)	DeGette	Lewis (CA)
Bean	DeGette	Lewis (KY)
Becerra	DeGette	Lewis (NY)
Berkley	DeGette	Lewis (WA)
Berman	DeGette	LoBiondo
Berry	DeGette	Maloney (FL)
Biggert	DeGette	Maloney (NY)
Bilbray	DeGette	McCormick
Bilirakis	DeGette	McCormick
Bishop (GA)	DeGette	McCormick
Bishop (NY)	DeGette	McCormick
Bishop (UT)	DeGette	McCormick
Blackburn	DeGette	McCormick
Blumenauer	DeGette	McCormick
Blunt	DeGette	McCormick
Boehner	DeGette	McCormick
Bonner	DeGette	McCormick
Bono	DeGette	McCormick
Boozman	DeGette	McCormick
Boren	DeGette	McCormick
Boswell	DeGette	McCormick
Boucher	DeGette	McCormick
Boustany	DeGette	McCormick
Boyda (KS)	DeGette	McCormick
Brady (PA)	DeGette	McCormick
Brown (SC)	DeGette	McCormick
Brown-Waite,	DeGette	McCormick
Ginny	DeGette	McCormick
Buchanan	DeGette	McCormick
Burgess	DeGette	McCormick
Burgess	DeGette	McCormick
Burton (IN)	DeGette	McCormick
Butterfield	DeGette	McCormick
Buyer	DeGette	McCormick
Calvert	DeGette	McCormick
Camp (MI)	DeGette	McCormick
Cannon	DeGette	McCormick
Cantor	DeGette	McCormick
Capito	DeGette	McCormick
Capps	DeGette	McCormick
Capuano	DeGette	McCormick
Cardoza	DeGette	McCormick
Carnahan	DeGette	McCormick
Carney	DeGette	McCormick
Carter	DeGette	McCormick
Castle	DeGette	McCormick
Castor	DeGette	McCormick
Chabot	DeGette	McCormick
Chandler	DeGette	McCormick
Clarke	DeGette	McCormick
Clay	DeGette	McCormick
Cleaver	DeGette	McCormick
Clyburn	DeGette	McCormick
Coble	DeGette	McCormick
Cohen	DeGette	McCormick
Cole (OK)	DeGette	McCormick
Conaway	DeGette	McCormick
Conyers	DeGette	McCormick
Cooper	DeGette	McCormick
Ackerman	Davis (CA)	Jordan
Aderholt	Davis (KY)	Kagen
Akin	Davis, David	Keller
Alexander	Davis, Lincoln	Kennedy
Altmine	Davis, Tom	Kildee
Andrews	Deal (GA)	King (IA)
Arcuri	DeGette	King (NY)
Baca	DeGette	Kline (FL)
Bachmann	DeGette	Kline (MN)
Bachus	DeGette	Knollenberg
Baird	DeGette	Lamborn
Baker	DeGette	Lampson
Baldwin	DeGette	Langevin
Barrett (SC)	DeGette	Levin
Barrow	DeGette	LaTourette
Bartlett (MD)	DeGette	Levin
Barton (TX)	DeGette	Levin
Bean	DeGette	LoBiondo
Becerra	DeGette	McCormick
Berkley	DeGette	McCormick
Berman	DeGette	McCormick
Berry	DeGette	McCormick
Biggert	DeGette	McCormick
Bilbray	DeGette	McCormick
Bilirakis	DeGette	McCormick
Bishop (GA)	DeGette	McCormick
Bishop (NY)	DeGette	McCormick
Bishop (UT)	DeGette	McCormick
Blackburn	DeGette	McCormick
Blumenauer	DeGette	McCormick
Blunt	DeGette	McCormick
Boehner	DeGette	McCormick
Bonner	DeGette	McCormick
Bono	DeGette	McCormick
Boozman	DeGette	McCormick
Boren	DeGette	McCormick
Boswell	DeGette	McCormick
Boucher	DeGette	McCormick
Boustany	DeGette	McCormick
Boyda (KS)	DeGette	McCormick
Brady (PA)	DeGette	McCormick
Brown (SC)	DeGette	McCormick
Brown-Waite,	DeGette	McCormick
Ginny	DeGette	McCormick
Buchanan	DeGette	McCormick
Burgess	DeGette	McCormick
Burgess	DeGette	McCormick
Burton (IN)	DeGette	McCormick
Butterfield	DeGette	McCormick
Buyer	DeGette	McCormick
Calvert	DeGette	McCormick
Camp (MI)	DeGette	McCormick
Cannon	DeGette	McCormick
Cantor	DeGette	McCormick
Capito	DeGette	McCormick
Capps	DeGette	McCormick
Capuano	DeGette	McCormick
Cardoza	DeGette	McCormick
Carnahan	DeGette	McCormick
Carney	DeGette	McCormick
Carter	DeGette	McCormick
Castle	DeGette	McCormick
Castor	DeGette	McCormick
Chabot	DeGette	McCormick
Chandler	DeGette	McCormick
Clarke	DeGette	McCormick
Clay	DeGette	McCormick
Cleaver	DeGette	McCormick
Clyburn	DeGette	McCormick
Coble	DeGette	McCormick
Cohen	DeGette	McCormick
Cole (OK)	DeGette	McCormick
Conaway	DeGette	McCormick
Conyers	DeGette	McCormick
Cooper	DeGette	McCormick
Ackerman	Davis (CA)	Jordan
Aderholt	Davis (KY)	Kagen
Akin	Davis, David	Keller
Alexander	Davis, Lincoln	Kennedy
Altmine	Davis, Tom	Kildee
Andrews	Deal (GA)	King (IA)
Arcuri	DeGette	King (NY)