

Culberson	Jefferson	Towns	Wamp	Wicker
Cummings	Johnson (GA)	Obey	Tsongas	Wilson (NM)
Davis (AL)	Johnson (IL)	Olver	Turner	Wilson (OH)
Davis (CA)	Johnson, Sam	Pallone	Udall (CO)	Wilson (SC)
Davis (IL)	Jones (NC)	Pascrell	Upton	Watson
Davis (KY)	Jones (OH)	Payne	Van Hollen	Watt
Davis, David	Jordan	Pearce	Velázquez	Wolf
Davis, Lincoln	Kagen	Pence	Visclosky	Wu
Davis, Tom	Kanjorski	Perlmutter	Walberg	Weiner
Deal (GA)	Kaptur	Peterson (MN)	Walden (OR)	Wynn
DeFazio	Keller	Peterson (PA)	Walsh (NY)	Yarmuth
DeGette	Kennedy	Petri	Walz (MN)	Young (AK)
Delahunt	Kildee	Pickering		Young (FL)
DeLauro	Kilpatrick	Pitts		Whitfield (KY)
Dent	Kind	Platts		
Diaz-Balart, L.	King (IA)	Poe	Boustany	Johnson, E. B.
Diaz-Balart, M.	King (NY)	Pomeroy	Butterfield	Thompson (CA)
Dicks	Kingston	Porter	Cubin	Udall (NM)
Dingell	Kirk	Price (GA)	Gilcrest	Lynch
Doggett	Klein (FL)	Price (NC)	Hastings (FL)	Miller, Gary
Donnelly	Kline (MN)	Putnam	Hooley	Ortiz
Doolittle	Knollenberg	Radanovich	Jindal	Pastor
Doyle	Kucinich	Rahall		Hooley
Drake	Kuhl (NY)	Ramstad		Paul
Dreier	LaHood	Rangel		Pryce (OH)
Duncan	Lamborn	Regula		
Edwards	Lampson	Rehberg		
Ehlers	Langevin	Reichert		
Ellison	Lantos	Renzi		
Ellsworth	Larsen (WA)	Reyes		
Emanuel	Larson (CT)	Reynolds		
Emerson	Latham	Richardson		
Engel	LaTourette	Rodriguez		
English (PA)	Latta	Rogers (AL)		
Eshoo	Lee	Rogers (KY)		
Etheridge	Levin	Rogers (MI)		
Everett	Lewis (CA)	Rohrabacher		
Fallin	Lewis (GA)	Ros-Lehtinen		
Farr	Lewis (KY)	Roskam		
Fattah	Linder	Ross		
Feeney	Lipinski	Rothman		
Ferguson	LoBiondo	Royal-Allard		
Filner	Loebbecke	Royce		
Flake	Lofgren, Zoe	Ruppersberger		
Forbes	Lowey	Rush		
Fortenberry	Lucas	Ryan (OH)		
Fossella	Lungren, Daniel	Ryan (WI)		
Foxx	E.	Salazar		
Frank (MA)	Mack	Sali		
Franks (AZ)	Mahoney (FL)	Sánchez, Linda		
Frelinghuysen	Maloney (NY)	T.		
Gallegly	Manzullo	Sanchez, Loretta		
Garrett (NJ)	Marchant	Sarbanes		
Gerlach	Markley	Saxton		
Giffords	Marshall	Schakowsky		
Gillibrand	Matheson	Schiff		
Gingrey	Matsui	Schmidt		
Gohmert	McCarthy (CA)	Schwartz		
Gonzalez	McCarthy (NY)	Scott (GA)		
Goode	McCaull (TX)	Scott (VA)		
Goodlatte	McCullum (MN)	Sensenbrenner		
Gordon	McCotter	Serrano		
Granger	McCrery	Sessions		
Graves	McDermott	Sestak		
Green, Al	McGovern	Shadegg		
Green, Gene	McHenry	Shays		
Grijalva	McHugh	Shea-Porter		
Gutierrez	McIntyre	Sherman		
Hall (NY)	McKeon	Shimkus		
Hall (TX)	McMorris	Shuler		
Hare	Rodgers	Shuster		
Harman	McNerney	Simpson		
Hastings (WA)	McNulty	Sires		
Hayes	Meek (FL)	Skelton		
Heller	Meeks (NY)	Slaughter		
Hensarling	Melancon	Smith (NE)		
Herger	Mica	Smith (NJ)		
Herseth Sandlin	Michaud	Smith (TX)		
Higgins	Miller (FL)	Smith (WA)		
Hill	Miller (MI)	Snyder		
Hinchey	Miller (NC)	Solis		
Hinojosa	Miller, George	Souder		
Hirono	Moran (KS)	Stupak		
Hobson	Moran (VA)	Space		
Hodes	Mollohan	Spratt		
Hoekstra	Moore (KS)	Stark		
Holden	Moore (WI)	Stearns		
Holt	Moran (KS)	Stupak		
Honda	Moran (VA)	Sullivan		
Hoyer	Murphy (CT)	Sutton		
Hulshof	Murphy, Patrick	Tancredo		
Hunter	Murphy, Tim	Tanner		
Inglis (SC)	Murtha	Tauscher		
Inslee	Musgrave	Taylor		
Israel	Myrick	Terry		
Issa	Nadler	Thompson (MS)		
Jackson (IL)	Napolitano	Thornberry		
Jackson-Lee (TX)	Neal (MA)	Tiahrt		
	Neugebauer	Tiberi		
	Nunes	Tierney		

NOT VOTING—19

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

□ 1756

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on December 18, 2007, I missed nine votes because of scheduled eye surgery in Dallas.

Were I able to attend today's session in the House of Representatives, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes Nos. 1174, 1175, 1176, 1177, 1178, 1179, 1180, 1181 and 1182.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2499. An act to amend titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to extend provisions under the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP programs, and for other purposes.

□ 1800

HONORING BUCHANAN, GEORGIA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Buchanan, Georgia, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

The City of Buchanan, which is located in the southwest corner of Georgia's 11th Congressional District, was incorporated on December 22, 1857. Named after former President James Buchanan, Buchanan, Georgia, has served as the county seat of Haralson County since its incorporation back in 1857.

As Americans, we celebrate the role of history in our daily lives, and we

strive to preserve the heritage that has shaped us both as a people and as a Nation. Buchanan is truly a living example of that heritage, a city that is small in population, but abundant in heart, and that represents Georgia's warm and welcoming character so well.

Madam Speaker, Georgians take great pride in celebrating the traditions of our communities. The growth, rebirth and preservation of these historic towns are important to us all, for these communities are the very backbone of our great Nation.

And so, therefore, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the citizens of Buchanan on the city's sesquicentennial celebration of 150 years.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. STENY H. HOYER AND HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH JANUARY 15, 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BALDWIN) laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC.

December 18, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STENY H. HOYER and the Honorable CHRIS VAN HOLLEN to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through January 15, 2008.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointment is approved.

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

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

(Mr. BUTTERFIELD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN JULIA CARSON

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to stand with my colleagues to honor a truly remarkable Member of Congress, my friend, JULIA CARSON.

There are a lot of people in Washington, D.C., that sometimes forget their roots or why they want to be

here; not JULIA CARSON. JULIA never forgot why she was here or who she represented. She was here to expand the opportunities for others, to end inequalities in our society, and to seek justice for every American.

One of her most significant and meaningful accomplishments in the House was her effort to honor Rosa Parks with a Congressional Gold Medal. In the remarks that JULIA delivered when she introduced this bill, she said, "the quiet courage of Rosa Parks changed the course of American history."

For those of us who knew and worked with JULIA, we knew that she was not always quiet, but that the course of American history has always been changed by her courage. One of JULIA's greatest attributes was that it didn't matter who you were or where you came from or the color of your skin or the money in your pocket. She was happy to work with anyone who shared her commitment to treating everyone with respect and dignity.

Her relationship with a good friend of hers, Alan Hogan, comes to mind. Somehow, at age 17, a suburban boy from southeastern Indiana found a mentor in Ms. JULIA. Their mutual affection for each other and their work to promote justice and equality resonated with Alan and turned into a lifelong friendship. Her actions inspired Alan to fight to end social injustices, including working to ensure that young African American athletes were not exploited for their talents and that they received quality education when recruited to top-notch colleges and universities for their athletic scholarships.

Ms. JULIA affected Alan's life in a profound way, and I know she has uplifted countless others that I cannot begin to list here tonight. While she may have had many pieces of legislation that she could acknowledge as great accomplishments, I see an army of volunteers, like Alan, who will continue to carry her work as the greatest of her legacies.

JULIA's humanity always pierced through people's preconceived notions of what kind of stereotype she should fit into. You could never pigeonhole JULIA CARSON or predict what she could do or what she would say next. And it often left all of us at the edge of our seat, trying to predict what she would say next.

JULIA has said that it was Rosa Parks who paved the way for her to come to Congress. I believe that JULIA's work as a representative has paved the way and opened the doors for countless young Americans who I hope will follow in her footsteps and achieve great things.

Thank you, Ms. JULIA CARSON, for your friendship and for your legacy of justice and equality for all. We love you, and we will always miss you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

UNJUST PROSECUTION AND APPEAL OF FORMER BORDER PATROL AGENTS RAMOS AND COMPEAN

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

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, it has been 336 days since two United States Border Patrol agents entered Federal prison. Agents Ramos and Compean were convicted in March of 2006 for shooting a Mexican drug smuggler who brought 748 pounds of marijuana across our border into Texas. They're serving 11 and 12 years in prison.

Earlier this month, the White House released its list of 29 pardons which are traditionally granted around Christmastime. Among the list of pardons were those convicted of conspiring to import marijuana, possessing a stolen motor vehicle and distributing cocaine.

Madam Speaker, there are 7 days until Christmas, yet Agents Ramos and Compean, who were doing their duty to protect the American people from an illegal alien drug smuggler, are still in Federal prison, away from their families and loved ones.

There is bipartisan agreement among Members of Congress that the overzealous prosecution of these agents and their excessive prison sentence is a tremendous miscarriage of justice. In recent days, I was pleased to join Congressman ED ROYCE and other House colleagues in writing the President to urge him to ensure that Agents Ramos and Compean are released from jail by Christmas. I was also happy to join Congressman BILL DELAHUNT and others in cosponsoring a resolution calling on the President to commute the agents' sentences to time already served.

A ruling on this case from the 5th United States Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans is expected within weeks. Nothing can erase the suffering these agents and their families have undergone and the months they have spent in prison in solitary confinement away from their families; however, a judgment in favor of Ramos and Compean in this appeal would be an important victory and the first act of justice these agents have seen since their arrest.

During the appeal hearing, one of the three judges on this case, Judge E. Grady Jolly, said, "It does seem to me that the government overreacted here. For some reason, this got way out of hand."

Madam Speaker, in the eyes of many Americans, the prosecution of these border agents was not justified. An unbiased review of this case by Attorney

General Mukasey, a hearing by the House Judiciary Committee and a Presidential pardon for these agents are all steps that can and should be taken to rectify this gross miscarriage of justice.

Through the efforts of this Congress and the American people, I am hopeful that justice will soon prevail for Ramos and Compean, that the nightmare of their imprisonment will end, and they will soon return home to their families and those they long to be with.

Madam Speaker, before I close, I want to ensure the families of Ramos and Compean that those of us in Congress will not forget this injustice until these men are released.

With that, Madam Speaker, I ask God to bless our men and women in uniform and their families, and ask God to continue to bless America.

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

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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 addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

□ 1815

PUBLIC HOUSING IN NEW ORLEANS

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker and Members, I rise this evening to basically talk about what is happening in New Orleans and the fact that the city council is going to take a vote on Thursday to determine whether or not they're going to dismantle the big four public housing developments in that city. If they dismantle these public housing units, the City of New Orleans will lose 4,500 units.

These units have been boarded up for 2 years. The citizens who lived in these units were evacuated as a result of Katrina and Rita. They are now living in other cities, Houston and Dallas and Austin and Atlanta, all over the place, and they thought they would be able to return once these units were rehabbed.

These units, many of them, were not destroyed. Some of them had minimal damage. For example, the one housing development, La Fete, only had water damage on the first level. And they could have not only rehabbed that first level of La Fete projects, they could have opened up those other units, but