

devastated by Hurricane Rita. But I will not barter my position. I will not betray our troops for 30 pieces of silver or \$3 billion of squealing pork.

The troops in Iraq need our total commitment, not total defeatism. Ronald Reagan put it best, "Men cry 'peace, peace,' but there can be no peace as long as there is one American somewhere dying for the rest of us."

And that's just the way it is.

DEMOCRATS ADDRESS VETERANS' HEALTH CARE IN IRAQ ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, we owe our Nation's freedom and quality of life to America's veterans. These brave men and women left their families behind and risk their lives for us and their country. Our government promised to take care of them when they returned home; this is a promise we simply must not break.

Today, the House has an opportunity to live up to these promises. The emergency supplemental bill provides \$1.7 billion more than the President's request to fund veterans' health care needs. The bill provides \$550 million to address the maintenance backlog at VA health care facilities, preventing situations like the one at Walter Reed. \$250 million for medical administration to ensure sufficient personnel to maintain a high level of service for the rising number of veterans. \$100 million to allow the VA to contract with private mental health care providers to offer veterans timely mental health care. And \$62 million to speed up claims processing for returning veterans.

Mr. Speaker, those who put their lives on the line for our country deserve not only our respect, but also the best medical care we can provide. This bill will ensure that they receive just that, while beginning a process to bring our troops home.

DEMOCRATIC SUPPLEMENTAL IS DANGEROUS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the supplemental bill is dangerous for our troops and dangerous for America.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates restated yesterday to the bipartisan Army Caucus that timetables will stop the military from completing its mission. The Washington Post has criticized the proposal, saying it could lead to massive civilian casualties, to al Qaeda establishing bases to attack America and our allies, and to a regional war of disastrous consequences.

Al Qaeda spokesman Zawahiri has identified Iraq and Afghanistan as the

central fronts in the global war on terrorism. Bin Laden has specifically referred to Iraq as the "Third World War."

As a 31-year veteran with four sons in the military, including one Iraq veteran, I understand the importance of supporting our troops in combat. I hope my colleagues of both parties will join me to support former Vietnam POW SAM JOHNSON'S bill to fully support and fund our men and women in uniform.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

TODAY CONGRESS WILL END THE WAR IN IRAQ

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today we will demonstrate that this Nation is not doomed to repeat the mistakes of the past.

Forty years ago we were in another war. We had lost just about as many soldiers, about 3,000 young men, at this point in the Vietnam War. Our President urged the Congress to stay the course so that he could save face, and the Congress did, as the President demanded, until we had lost another 55,000 soldiers before we eventually accepted the fact that it, too, was an inconceivable war.

Today, the Congress is going to end this war, this fiasco that we never should have begun. It is going to focus on our priorities of strengthening our military, going after the people who actually did attack us in 2001 and reinvesting in our nation's true priorities.

We will bring our troops home as soon and as safely as possible. We will not repeat history. This is an important vote, and all of the American people should be proud of their Congress.

THE BUDGET IS WRONG FOR OUR NATION

(Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week, the Budget Committee marked up the budget for fiscal year 2008. Unfortunately, instead of a commonsense balanced budget that lowers spending, reforms unsustainable entitlement programs and encourages economic growth without raising taxes, it is full of a lot of empty promises, with the exception of two, higher taxes and more spending.

My Republican colleagues and I believe that government should limit its taxing and spending, ease the burden on the economy and let the country grow. This Democratic budget trusts government more than it trusts the people. Those are the guys paying the bills.

As a result of Republican support of tax policies passed in 2001 through 2005, every taxpayer who paid income taxes

will get tax relief this year. If these tax policies are eliminated, as the Democratic budget calls for, these taxpayers will see a tax hike.

Mr. Speaker, for these and many other reasons, the budget put forth this week is just plain wrong for our Nation.

SUPPORT THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL

(Mr. SARBANES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, let this be the day that, respectful of the sacrifice of our men and women overseas, inspired and emboldened by the clarion call of the American people on November 7, 2006, and determined to show a decent respect for the opinions of thoughtful and caring people the world over, this Congress says to an administration that has been arrogant in its bearing and incompetent in its execution, no longer shall you turn a blind eye to the readiness of our troops. No longer shall you ignore the needs of our veterans. At long last, you are being called to account for a failed policy in Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the supplemental appropriation bill, which marks the return of sanity and wisdom in the conduct of American foreign policy.

SONG TITLES FOR 110TH CONGRESS

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. You know, Mr. Speaker, Alan Jackson lives in my district, a great country singer, and I was thinking of some songs for him. One of them was "I Would Rather Be in New York Raising Money Than Funding the War in Iraq." The other one was "How I Turned the Blue Dogs Yellow."

Then there is also an author in my district, Ferrell Sams; he writes a lot of books; you may have read some of them, but a good book is "How to Lose a War and Store Peanuts."

Let me say this, Mr. Speaker, for Alan Jackson to look at the rules. And he could do a whole album on the rules here. "We Only Change Them When We Have To" would make a great title for that rules album. "We Only Leave the Vote Open When We Are Losing, When the Time is Up," would be another good one. And the last one would be, "We Only Change Them When We Have To."

IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL

(Mr. HONDA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, in any endeavor, one must set achievable goals

and benchmarks. As a teacher, I found that it was critical to provide guidance to students whose reports were not proceeding on schedule.

President Bush definitely needs some help in his work in Iraq. His initial research was terribly flawed and cut corners in disturbing ways. He ignored the advice of learned experts in his stubborn pursuit of a flawed hypothesis. When he brainstormed an outline for pursuing the war, he never planned for how it would end. His incoherent strategy in Iraq rambles on and on without any movement towards a successful conclusion. I personally would have failed this student long ago.

The question we face today, however, is on whether we should set a strategy for redeploying our troops out of Iraq or continue giving the President a blank check to continue an open-ended war in Iraq. I voted against the war and I want our troops out now.

Now that Democrats have been voted in as the majority in the House and Senate, we have responsibilities to our constituents to exercise constitutional and congressional oversight in Iraq. To fulfill that responsibility, I stand in support of the Iraq Accountability Act, which would establish a definite date to end this awful war.

□ 0915

FUNDING PORK

(Mr. McHENRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McHENRY. \$120 million for shrimp, how does that help our men and women in harm's way? \$100 million for citrus growers, what does that do to help our fighting men and women? \$74 million for peanut storage. That may be grand for some Washington politicians and peanut growers, but how does that help and protect our American way of life and our men and women in harm's way? \$25 million for spinach. Even kids don't like spinach, but Washington politicians do, so they can take that pork-barrel project home.

But here is the kicker in this supplemental appropriations bill: Billions for livestock. That is the kicker because livestock is literally pork for pork.

It is the most hypocritical bill we have seen in decades here on the House floor. It is wrong for our troops in battle, but it is a great gift for Washington Democrat politicians.

All the while we debate here on the floor, the Speaker of the House goes to raise money with fat cats in New York City. That is wrong for America, and the American people should know it, Mr. Speaker.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAPUANO). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 263, nays 146, answered "present" 2, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 185]

YEAS—263

Abercrombie	Gillmor	Murphy (CT)
Ackerman	Gonzalez	Murphy, Patrick
Aderholt	Goodlatte	Murtha
Alexander	Gordon	Napolitano
Allen	Graves	Neal (MA)
Andrews	Green, Al	Oberstar
Arcuri	Green, Gene	Obey
Baca	Grijalva	Olver
Bachus	Gutierrez	Ortiz
Baird	Hall (NY)	Pallone
Baker	Hall (TX)	Pascrell
Baldwin	Hare	Pastor
Bean	Hastings (FL)	Paul
Becerra	Hastings (WA)	Payne
Berman	Hayes	Perlmutter
Berry	Herseth	Peterson (PA)
Bishop (GA)	Higgins	Petri
Bishop (NY)	Hill	Pickering
Bishop (UT)	Hinchev	Pomeroy
Blumenauer	Hinojosa	Price (NC)
Bono	Hirono	Rahall
Boren	Hodes	Rangel
Boswell	Hoekstra	Reichert
Boucher	Holden	Renzi
Boustany	Holt	Reyes
Boyd (FL)	Honda	Reynolds
Boyd (KS)	Hooley	Rodriguez
Brady (PA)	Hoyer	Ross
Braley (IA)	Hunter	Rothman
Brown (SC)	Inslee	Roybal-Allard
Brown, Corrine	Israel	Ruppersberger
Brown-Waite,	Issa	Rush
Ginny	Jackson (IL)	Ryan (OH)
Burgess	Jackson-Lee	Salazar
Butterfield	(TX)	Salli
Cannon	Jefferson	Sánchez, Linda
Capito	Jindal	T.
Capps	Johnson (GA)	Sanchez, Loretta
Capuano	Johnson (IL)	Sarbanes
Cardoza	Johnson, E. B.	Schakowsky
Carnahan	Jones (NC)	Schiff
Carney	Kagen	Schwartz
Castle	Kaptur	Scott (GA)
Castor	Keller	Scott (VA)
Chabot	Kennedy	Sensenbrenner
Clay	Kildee	Serrano
Cleaver	Kilpatrick	Kind
Clyburn	Kind	Klein (FL)
Coble	Klein (FL)	Kline (MN)
Cohen	Kline (MN)	Kucinich
Conyers	Kucinich	LaHood
Cooper	LaHood	Langevin
Costa	Langevin	Lantos
Costello	Lantos	Larsen (WA)
Cramer	Larsen (WA)	Larson (CT)
Crowley	Lee	Levin
Cuellar	Levin	Lewis (GA)
Cummings	Lewis (GA)	Davis (CA)
Davis (AL)	Davis (CA)	Davis (IL)
Davis (CA)	Davis (IL)	Davis, Tom
Davis (IL)	Davis, Tom	Deal (GA)
Davis, Tom	Deal (GA)	DeFazio
Deal (GA)	DeFazio	DeGette
DeFazio	DeGette	Delahunt
DeGette	Delahunt	DeLauro
Delahunt	DeLauro	Dent
DeLauro	Dent	Dicks
Dent	Dicks	Dingell
Dicks	Dingell	Doggett
Dingell	Doggett	Doolittle
Doggett	Doolittle	Doyle
Doolittle	Doyle	Edwards
Doyle	Edwards	Ellison
Edwards	Ellison	Emanuel
Ellison	Emanuel	Eshoo
Emanuel	Eshoo	Etheridge
Eshoo	Etheridge	Farr
Etheridge	Farr	Fattah
Farr	Fattah	Ferguson
Fattah	Ferguson	Filner
Ferguson	Filner	Fortenberry
Filner	Fortenberry	Fox
Fortenberry	Fox	Frank (MA)
Fox	Frank (MA)	Giffords
Frank (MA)	Giffords	Gilchrest
Giffords	Gilchrest	Gillibrand
Gilchrest	Gillibrand	
Gillibrand		

Whitfield	Wilson (OH)	Wynn
Wilson (NM)	Woolsey	Yarmuth

NAYS—146

Akin	Frelinghuysen	Nunes
Altmire	Gallely	Pearce
Bachmann	Garrett (NJ)	Pence
Barrett (SC)	Gerlach	Peterson (MN)
Barrow	Gingrey	Platts
Bartlett (MD)	Goode	Poe
Barton (TX)	Granger	Porter
Biggert	Hastert	Price (GA)
Billbray	Heller	Pryce (OH)
Billrakis	Hensarling	Putnam
Blackburn	Herger	Radanovich
Blunt	Hobson	Ramstad
Boehner	Hulshof	Regula
Bonner	Inglis (SC)	Rehberg
Boozman	Johnson, Sam	Rogers (AL)
Brady (TX)	Jordan	Rogers (KY)
Buchanan	King (IA)	Rogers (MI)
Burton (IN)	King (NY)	Rohrabacher
Buyer	Kingston	Ros-Lehtinen
Calvert	Kirk	Roskam
Camp (MI)	Knollenberg	Royce
Campbell (CA)	Kuhl (NY)	Ryan (WI)
Cantor	Lamborn	Saxton
Carter	Latham	Schmidt
Chandler	Lewis (CA)	Sessions
Cole (OK)	Lewis (KY)	Shays
Conaway	LoBiondo	Shuster
Courtney	Lucas	Smith (NE)
Crenshaw	Lungren, Daniel	Smith (TX)
Culberson	E.	Souder
Davis (KY)	Mack	Stupak
Davis, David	Manzullo	Sullivan
Diaz-Balart, L.	Marshall	Terry
Diaz-Balart, M.	Matheson	Thompson (CA)
Donnelly	McCarthy (CA)	Tiahrt
Drake	McCotter	Tiberi
Dreier	McHenry	Turner
Duncan	McHugh	Udall (CO)
Ehlers	McKeon	Upton
Ellsworth	Melancon	Walberg
Emerson	Mica	Walsh (NY)
English (PA)	Miller (FL)	Wamp
Everett	Miller (MI)	Weldons (FL)
Fallin	Miller, Gary	Weller
Feeney	Moran (KS)	Westmoreland
Flake	Murphy, Tim	Wicker
Forbes	Musgrave	Wilson (SC)
Fossella	Myrick	Wolf
Franks (AZ)	Neugebauer	Wu

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—2

Gohmert	Tancredo
---------	----------

NOT VOTING—22

Berkley	Jones (OH)	Millender-
Cardon	Kanjorski	McDonald
Clarke	Lampson	Nadler
Cubin	LaTourette	Pitts
Davis, Jo Ann	Linder	Spratt
Davis, Lincoln	Marchant	Young (AK)
Engel	McCaul (TX)	Young (FL)
Harman	McCrery	

□ 0942

Messrs. SHUSTER, GINGREY and CULBERSON changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1591.

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

There was no objection.

U.S. TROOP READINESS, VETERANS' HEALTH, AND IRAQ ACCOUNTABILITY ACT, 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution