

Honda	Melancon	Scott (GA)
Hooley	Mica	Scott (VA)
Hoyer	Michaud	Sensenbrenner
Hulshof	Miller (FL)	Serrano
Inglis (SC)	Miller (MI)	Sessions
Inslee	Miller (NC)	Sestak
Israel	Miller, Gary	Shadegg
Issa	Miller, George	Shays
Jackson (IL)	Mitchell	Shea-Porter
Jackson-Lee	Mollohan	Sherman
(TX)	Moore (KS)	Shimkus
Jefferson	Moore (WI)	Shuler
Johnson (GA)	Moran (KS)	Shuster
Johnson (IL)	Moran (VA)	Simpson
Johnson, E. B.	Murphy, Patrick	Sires
Jones (NC)	Murphy, Tim	Skelton
Jones (OH)	Musgrave	Slaughter
Jordan	Myrick	Smith (NE)
Kagen	Nadler	Smith (NJ)
Kanjorski	Napolitano	Smith (TX)
Kaptur	Neugebauer	Smith (WA)
Keller	Nunes	Snyder
Kennedy	Oberstar	Solis
Kildee	Olver	Souder
Kilpatrick	Ortiz	Space
Kind	Pallone	Spratt
King (IA)	Pascarell	Stark
King (NY)	Pastor	Stearns
Kingston	Paul	Stupak
Kirk	Payne	Sullivan
Klein (FL)	Pearce	Sutton
Kline (MN)	Pence	Tancred
Knollenberg	Perlmutter	Tanner
Kucinich	Peterson (MN)	Tauscher
Kuhl (NY)	Peterson (PA)	Taylor
LaHood	Petri	Terry
Lamborn	Pickering	Thompson (CA)
Langevin	Pitts	Thompson (MS)
Lantos	Platts	Thornberry
Larsen (WA)	Poe	Tiahrt
Latham	Pomeroy	Tiberi
Lee	Porter	Tierney
Levin	Price (GA)	Towns
Lewis (CA)	Price (NC)	Turner
Lewis (GA)	Pryce (OH)	Udall (CO)
Lewis (KY)	Putnam	Udall (NM)
Linder	Rahall	Upton
Lipinski	Ramstad	Van Hollen
LoBiondo	Rangel	Velázquez
Loebach	Regula	Visclosky
Lofgren, Zoe	Rehberg	Walberg
Lowey	Reichert	Walden (OR)
Lucas	Renzi	Walz (MN)
Lungren, Daniel	Reyes	Wamp
E.	Reynolds	Wasserman
Mack	Rodriguez	Schultz
Mahoney (FL)	Rogers (AL)	Waters
Manzullo	Rogers (KY)	Watson
Marchant	Rogers (MI)	Watt
Markey	Rohrabacher	Waxman
Marshall	Ros-Lehtinen	Weiner
Matheson	Roskam	Welch (VT)
Matsui	Ross	Weldon (FL)
McCarthy (CA)	Rothman	Weller
McCauley (TX)	Roybal-Allard	Westmoreland
McCollum (MN)	Royce	Wexler
McCotter	Ruppersberger	Whitfield
McDermott	Ryan (OH)	Wicker
McGovern	Ryan (WI)	Wilson (NM)
McHenry	Salazar	Wilson (OH)
McHugh	Sali	Wilson (SC)
McIntyre	Sánchez, Linda	Wolf
McKeon	T.	Woolsey
McMorris	Sanchez, Loretta	Wu
Rodgers	Sarbanes	Wynn
McNerney	Saxton	Yarmuth
McNulty	Schakowsky	Young (AK)
Meehan	Schiff	Young (FL)
Meek (FL)	Schmidt	
Meeks (NY)	Schwartz	

NOT VOTING—27

Brady (PA)	Jindal	Millender-
Cantor	Johnson, Sam	McDonald
Carson	Lampson	Murphy (CT)
Costello	Larson (CT)	Murtha
Edwards	LaTourette	Neal (MA)
Fattah	Lynch	Obey
Ferguson	Maloney (NY)	Radanovich
Higgins	McCarthy (NY)	Rush
Hill	McCrery	Walsh (NY)
Hunter		

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes to record their vote.

□ 1908

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 218, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

ELECTION OF MEMBER TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 304) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 304

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.—Ms. Baldwin (to rank immediately after Mr. Sherman).

Mr. BECERRA (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE DUKE CASE: POLITICAL PANDERING?

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, District Attorney Mike Nifong of North Carolina quickly prosecuted Duke University lacrosse players for an alleged sexual assault against a minority female. He sensationalized and fueled racial unrest, all to promote his reelection campaign. He made outlandish allegations, calling the players hooligans.

Forget the presumption of innocence or due process. Forget the facts.

Nifong is yet another example of a prosecutor gone wild, wild about publicity and win-at-all-costs mentality. Now the cases have been dismissed for lack of evidence.

The damage is to the innocent players who cannot get their reputations back. The damage is to the bona fide sexual assault victims who may be reluctant to prosecute. The damage is to Duke University who acted too hastily by suspending the players due to media hysteria. The damage is to those who are actual victims of crime based on race.

DAs who violate their oath to seek justice and then flaunt their power by

relentlessly prosecuting people in spite of the facts, all to grab a headline, should be held personally liable in our courts and be accountable for their actions by removal from office and permanent suspension from the practice of law. There must be consequences for abuse of power.

And that's just the way it is.

WHAT IS THE ADMINISTRATION DOING TO COMBAT THE RISING PRICE OF GASOLINE

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, every day my constituents and people all around America go to a gasoline station to put gasoline in their cars and see that the prices are rising and rising and rising to a point of ridiculousness. I want to know what is the administration doing to combat this problem.

When the price of a barrel of oil goes up, gasoline prices go up, but when the cost of a barrel of oil goes down, gasoline prices still go up.

Americans remember the gasoline prices started dropping conveniently just before the last election in 2006. Is it a coincidence? I don't know, but certainly I do know that nothing is happening, and every single day Americans are feeling the pinch at the pump.

I call on the administration to take action. Enough is enough. I don't know if it's collusion. I don't know what it is. I just know it's wrong, and prices should be dropping when the cost of a barrel of oil goes down, not getting higher.

HONORING TEACHER EMILY JENNETTE

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Emily Jennette, a teacher at Sawyer Road Elementary School in Marietta, Georgia, who was recently recognized as our State's Teacher of the Year.

This award could not have gone to a more deserving candidate. Ms. Jennette is an exceptional educator, praised by her fellow teachers for her innovative teaching techniques, a commitment to learning and an outstanding ability to engage her students.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank both Ms. Jennette and another Cobb County teacher who was a top 10 finalist, Ms. Jennifer Dawson of Lost Mountain Middle School. Educators are among our communities' most valuable assets. Their gifts impact students in the classroom, and their lessons follow our children throughout life.

Georgia is fortunate to have teachers like Emily Jennette educating our children, and I know she will make our State proud at the National Teacher of the Year competition.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating Ms. Jennette and all the teachers who help mold our children's lives every day.

A THREE-POINT PLAN FOR RESCUING THE NATION FROM VIOLENCE

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, in the aftermath of the tragedy at Blacksburg, Virginia, it is becoming painfully obvious that the easy availability of handguns constitutes a growing national crisis of public health and safety, one that calls for a powerful, wide-ranging response from this Congress.

I am urging Members to support H.R. 676, the Conyers-Kucinich bill, which establishes a universal, not-for-profit health care system, which provides full and comprehensive mental health care.

Second, support H.R. 808, a bill establishing a Department of Peace and Nonviolence, which directly addresses the issues of domestic violence, gang violence, and violence in the schools which is reflected in our current homicide rates.

And third, the 33 deaths at Blacksburg constitute a national tragedy. So, too, does the fact that an average of 32 people each and every day in the United States perish in handgun-related incidents. Accordingly, I am drafting a bill to ban the purchase, sale, transfer or possession of handguns by civilians. A gun buy-back provision will be provided in the bill.

It's time for us to rescue this Nation from the violence which is engulfing it, and I have just articulated a three-point plan to do so.

□ 1915

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ELLSWORTH). 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.

BUILD A BETTER NATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Ms. KILPATRICK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker and Members, I stand here today as chairperson of the Congressional Black Caucus to say thank you to America, thank you to the president and CEO of NBC News network, as well as the president and CEO of CBS News network. I had an opportunity to meet with them last week. They did the right thing.

Our country is in peril. We need to bring our country together. Thank you

very much for the senior staffs of both of those organizations and for the people of America for standing up and speaking out.

We are in trying times at the moment, and there is much we must do to bring our country together and make our families stronger. Kudos, most gracious love, to the women of the Rutgers' basketball team, 10 young women, all honor students, child prodigies, dedicated and working to make life better for themselves and for America, to get to Rutgers, to stay there, to achieve academic excellence, and, yes, then to excel. Also, kudos to the University of Tennessee women's basketball team, the NCAA women's basketball champions.

This is the 35th anniversary year of title IX. Title IX is the legislation 35 years ago that was enacted that would make an equal playing field for women in sports and athletics. We will celebrate title IX and have been all year. I have spoken to President McCormick, and the Congressional Black Caucus, the Speaker of the House and others will be welcoming the Rutgers and Tennessee teams as well as the president and coaching staffs to our city of Washington, DC, very soon. We will hold a 2-hour summit and hear from the National Organization For Women, a psychiatrist from Rutgers University, some renowned women and others who speak to the values of America.

Today we had the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission in our Appropriations Committee. He came for his budget today. We talked about how do we make America better; how do we shut down some of the smut and other things that are negatively impacting our children. We are a better Nation than that. He has agreed to work with us and together, through this Congress, the FCC will be stronger. We must strengthen some of the things that they must do.

The 1934 law is archaic. The courts have interpreted that law very narrowly. This is far bigger than a person. This is about the strength and success of our families, of our children.

On behalf of the men and women who serve in this United States Congress, and specifically the men and women of the Congressional Black Caucus, let us rise up and build a better Nation for our sisters, our girls, our women, and, yes, our men and boys.

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

OPEN BORDER CHAOS

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, recent memos that have been released finally by the Justice Department regarding certain situations in the Federal Government, specifically in the U.S. Attorney's office, have revealed numerous things. No wonder the Justice Department fought releasing these e-mails and memos.

We now understand that the prosecution of Federal drug cases along the Texas-Mexico border has dropped dramatically. All the way from Texas to California, prosecutions of drug cases have dropped. In some places up to 25 percent of drug cases are not prosecuted that were prosecuted just a year ago. What is happening is the Federal Government is not able to prosecute drug smugglers, and they are asking the States to prosecute those cases.

Many States—especially those countries on the border with Texas and Mexico, same was true in Arizona and Mexico, New Mexico and California and Mexico—don't have the resources to prosecute all those drug cases.

So what is happening is many cases are dropping through the cracks, all because the Federal Government has dropped 25 percent of prosecution of drug smugglers into the United States because they say they are overwhelmed with cases.

How many cases are we talking about? What types of drug cases? Well, in some cases they are prosecuting cases of only 500 pounds or more of marijuana. Five hundred pounds, that is just a number. But we can relate it to money, and 500 pounds of marijuana is worth about \$400,000. A drug smuggler smuggling in \$400,000 worth of dope or less, in some cases is getting a pass by the Federal Government because they say they are too overwhelmed with the illegal entry into the United States by drug smugglers.

If the States don't prosecute those cases, as many States are not able to do, what is happening is those drug smugglers are getting a get-out-of-jail-free card.

Drug smugglers are not stupid. They can weigh their marijuana. So all they got to do, before they bring that dope into the United States, is make sure they have less than 500 pounds, because if they are caught by our border agents, the Federal Government won't prosecute them because the Federal Government says we have too many cases.

This is absurd; this is nonsense. This is chaos. Law enforcement is mad about this, and rightfully so. One former DEA official in the El Paso sector made the comment that if the Feds decline to prosecute, and the State lacks the resources to prosecute these drug smugglers, they just go free. You have people violating the drug laws who now get away with it in the United States, all because the Federal Government doesn't do its job. The job is bigger than prosecuting drug smugglers. The job is protect the borders, and our Federal Government doesn't do that.