

CONGRESSIONAL GOLF
TOURNAMENT

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

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, for over three decades, there has been a positive bipartisan tradition in this House to have Democratic Members of the House and former Members challenge Republican Members of the House and former Members on the battleground of the links of Andrews Air Force Base in a friendly golf tournament.

As the chairman of the Democratic golf team, I am proud to say that for the second year in a row, this week the Democrats eked out a close victory over our Republican colleagues led by Congressman ZACH WAMP. I want to pay a particular salute to my colleague, JOE BACA of California, the medalist in the tournament, who shot an even par 70. The rest of us, Madam Speaker, let me say that it's probably well advised that we not give up our day job based on our abilities on the golf links.

In this day of bipartisanship, it's, I think, rather positive to have a day where we can all get together on a bipartisan basis on the friendly links of Andrews Air Force Base golf course.

Mr. WAMP. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. EDWARDS. I would be glad to yield to the gentleman.

Mr. WAMP. I just rise as the captain of the Republican team to say that these recruiting classes that you all continue to bring to Washington are a problem for us. Hopefully, the American people will weigh in the near future and send us an athlete or two in a larger class.

But congratulations to you. There is not enough of that comity, cooperation and fellowship around here.

Monday was a great day. To the captain of the team, CHET EDWARDS, and to JOE BACA, the low man, we did our best; they played their best and deserve their victory.

Mr. EDWARDS. I want to thank the gentleman for his comments, his great sportsmanship. I should have given credit to Congressman RAHM EMANUEL for his great recruiting class this year. He did a good job and brought our team over the top, just barely.

CRIMINAL ILLEGALS ARE SET
FREE

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

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, new Colorado State law requires local law enforcement agencies to report illegals to Immigration and Customs Enforcement authorities when those individuals are jailed for crimes. Then the Feds are to deport these criminals back to their countries after they serve their sentences, but there is a problem.

The Federal Government doesn't deport these criminals. According to a Colorado newspaper, 37 out of every 38 illegals that are convicted and are reported to ICE for deportation are just released back on the streets of those towns. What does this mean for homeland security, for citizens and law-abiding legal immigrants? It means criminal illegals, instead of being sent home by Uncle Sam, are set free to roam our communities, to continue to steal, rob and hurt people.

Colorado police are doing their job, but, once again, when it's time to ante into the pot, the Federal Government folds its hand.

Instead of our Government trying to figure out ways to keep illegals in the United States with these amnesty give-away plans, it ought to figure out ways to deport criminal illegals back to where they came from. Once again, our Government is missing in action.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF KIM OLIVE

(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. Madam Speaker, since July of last year, Kim Olive has served as the communications director for the Second Congressional District of South Carolina. I am grateful to say that she has done an excellent job serving on the staff. Kim has consistently been innovative in doing her duties, and her creativity, dedication and tenacity will be difficult to replace.

Kim began her time in Washington, DC, interning for Cassidy & Associates. She then came to Capitol Hill and interned for Congressman ROY BLUNT and worked for Senator RICHARD SHELBY and Congressman SPENCER BACHUS, both of Alabama, Kim's home State. After serving the people of the Second Congressional District for nearly a year, Kim will be leaving for the west coast to work in California.

An honors graduate of the University of Alabama, Kim is one of two children of Larry and Norene Olive of Florence, Alabama. She is a credit to the people of South Carolina and Alabama, and I wish her Godspeed.

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

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 502, LEGISLATIVE
BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2008

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 502 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 502

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pur-

suant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2771) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI are waived. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. During consideration in the House of H.R. 2771 pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to such time as may be designated by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California (Mr. CARDOZA) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume and I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 502.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, House Resolution 502 provides for consideration of H.R. 2771, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 2008, under a structured rule.

The rule provides H.R. 2771 with 1 hour of general debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The rule waives all points of order against the bill and its consideration except for those arising under clause 9

or 10 of rule XXI. The rule also waives points of order against provisions of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI.

The rule makes in order and provides appropriate waivers for three amendments, two offered by Republican Members and one bipartisan amendment.

Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Madam Speaker, the legislation we will consider today, H.R. 2771, funds the legislative branch of our government. This includes funding for the House of Representatives so Members of Congress have the resources we need to serve our constituents.

It includes funding for the Capitol Police, the Congressional Budget Office, the Government Accountability Office, the Office of Compliance and other government agencies.

□ 0915

The bill also takes a bold step forward and begins implementing the Speaker's Green the Capitol Initiative. For the first time ever, the House of Representatives will take steps to address the threats of global warming by ensuring the House operates in a carbon-neutral manner.

The bill provides initial funding to Green the Capitol by switching to 100 percent renewable wind energy for the House's electricity needs, increasing the use of cleaner-burning fuels, and making congressional offices more energy efficient.

This is necessary as Members of Congress must set an example for our constituents by being as environmentally friendly as possible, especially as we ask them to do the same in their own homes.

Most importantly, however, this bill shows the Democratic majority's commitment to change the way our government is run. This bill demonstrates a commitment to fiscal responsibility, increased oversight and increased accountability.

Madam Speaker, as my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have attested to, this bill is fiscally responsible. It provides an increase of only \$122 million, or 4.1 percent over the 2007 enacted level. This is significantly lower than the 13 percent increase requested by the President. And much of the increase is attributable to unavoidable expenses that come in a Presidential election year.

Reducing the President's budget request by nearly one-quarter of a billion dollars shows that the Democrats are committed to holding the line on unnecessary spending, while ensuring that government is still able to deliver services to the American taxpayer.

While funding is increased by 4.1 percent over the 2007 enacted level, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee chose to invest heavily in critical life and safety and security measures for the Capitol complex.

The world changed on September 11, and we now know that the United States Capitol will forever be a target of a terrorist attack.

We owe it to our staff members, our visitors, our constituents, our distinguished guests, and to ourselves to ensure that the Capitol complex is as safe and secure as possible.

In a post-9/11 world, we cannot be too lax when it comes to securing the Capitol complex. Security enhancements are no longer an option. They are a necessity.

The Legislative Branch appropriations bill provides almost \$50 million for security and lifesaving projects, including \$5 million for new, interoperable police radios, \$275,000 for utility, tunnel, health and safety process, \$1.2 million for visitors escape hoods, \$16 million for building security enhancements, \$1 million for emergency exit signs and lighting in the Capitol, and \$4.4 million in emergency lighting upgrades for the Rayburn Building.

The bill also provides a 7.7 percent increase for the Capitol Police Department and a 23 percent increase for the Office of Compliance so they can ensure health and safety of the Capitol complex.

Finally, Madam Speaker, one of the defining traits of the Democratic Congress has been increased government oversight. As such, this bill provides the tools Congress needs to hold the government accountable to the American taxpayer.

The Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee is determined to crack down on unnecessary spending by government agencies. The subcommittee held 11 agency budget hearings and is requiring government agencies to reexamine their needs based on priority, cost effectiveness, and fiscal responsibility.

The bill provides for additional staff at the Government Accountability Office to enable the GAO to better support congressional oversight efforts and address important issues such as health care, changing security threats, education, and continued audit work on the war in Iraq.

The Congressional Budget Office receives an increase in funding to better advise Congress on controlling runaway health care spending.

Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and I discussed CBO staffing in a colloquy during a Rules Committee hearing on Wednesday. We both agree that the current funding staff levels are insufficient to meet our needs. We'll work together with CBO Director Orzag to address the staffing and enhance this important agency's efforts in the future.

The bill increases support for the Inspector General overseeing the Capitol Police Department. It also establishes a statutory Inspector General at the Architect of the Capitol. It is absolutely essential that there is stringent oversight of the Architect's office to improve its financial and management practices.

The subcommittee is 100 percent committed to improving the oversight and completion of the Capitol Visitors Center. I have personally toured the Visitors Center, and it is a beautiful addition that, when finished, we will all be proud of. However, no Member of Congress is proud of how this edifice has been produced. The project has spiraled out of control due to an inexplicable lack of oversight and accountability in prior Congresses, resulting in unnecessary delays and massive cost overruns. This bill assures that there will no longer be a blank check and no questions asked.

The subcommittee has held, and will continue to hold, monthly hearings, and the Architect will be required to submit a detailed plan to the House and Senate before one cent can be spent.

Madam Speaker, this bill delivers on the promises that Democrats made. It's fiscally responsible. It focuses on life, safety, and security measures, and provides much needed accountability to the process.

I would like to thank Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee and the full Appropriations Committee for all their hard work and thoughtful work that went into this legislation.

In particular, I want to thank the gentlelady from Florida, Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. She has been a true champion for the Democratic majority's efforts to bring efficiency, fiscal responsibility, accountability to the Federal Government, and to this Chamber.

Madam Speaker, this bill is well thought out, well crafted, and sets the right priorities. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this unnecessarily and uncharacteristically restrictive rule. On Wednesday night, despite the protests and objections of Republicans on the committee, the Democrat majority on the Rules Committee did its level best to solidify the committee's status as the Graveyard of Good Ideas in this House by passing out the most restrictive rule for a Legislative Branch appropriations bill in recent history.

Last year, when the Republicans ran the Rules Committee, we reported out a rule for consideration of the 2007 Legislative Branch in which we made in order all seven, that's seven out of seven, amendments submitted by Members of this body so that they could be considered and debated on this House floor. These amendments included four sponsored by Democrats and three sponsored by Republicans, making the rule and that process a completely inclusive and bipartisan product.

The year before that, the Republican-run Rules Committee, nearly half of the 11 amendments submitted in it were made in order under the rule, with both bipartisan and Democrat-

sponsored amendments allowed to be debated there on the House floor.

Madam Speaker, I wish I could claim to be stunned by the majority's enormous departure from the Republican-led precedent to increase inclusiveness and dialogue in the House on this particular appropriations bill which is, by convention, the only bill to come to this floor under a closed process.

However, rather than honoring this tradition, on Wednesday the Democrat Rules Committee produced the most restrictive and closed rule in recent history. Earlier this week, 24 Members of this body submitted thoughtful and earnest proposals to improve this legislation to the Rules Committee. Additionally, Members tried to have their constituent voices be heard also by the committee, but they were turned away at the door because their amendments were submitted shortly after the arbitrary deadline.

And out of these 24 amendments, only three were given the opportunity to be debated on the floor. In passing this rule, Democrats made a calculated decision not to make every single amendment in order like Republicans did the year before. They even voted to abandon the more relaxed standard of 2 years ago, when half of the amendments were made in order.

So instead of making 100 percent of their colleagues' amendments in order, or even 50 percent of the amendments in order, this rule makes only 12 percent of the amendments submitted in order. This seems pretty meager in comparison to the grand promises made during last year by Speaker PELOSI to run the "most honest and open Congress" in history.

Among the amendments rejected by the committee on Wednesday were two amendments offered by someone with more knowledge of the legislative appropriations than perhaps any other Member of this body, my friend and the former chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from Georgia, JACK KINGSTON; an amendment by a Member of the Democrat majority, Mr. CLEAVER of Missouri, that was made in order last year by the Republican majority, not this year; and a number of friendly taxpayer amendments by my good friend and colleague from Texas, the gentleman, Mr. HENSARLING, that would have reduced the overall cost of this bill to the taxpayer.

Madam Speaker, I do understand that the majority Democrats outnumber Republicans and have enough Members on the committee to win every single vote in the Rules Committee. And I understand that, as the majority, it is their responsibility to run the committee and the floor as they see fit. So all things being equal, I will not take exception to their new, heavy-handed approach to shutting down debate.

However, the second-ranking member of this body, the majority leader, Mr. HOYER, crowed to the media on December 5 that Democrats would "have a

Rules Committee that would give opposition voices and alternative proposals the ability to be heard and be considered on the floor of the House."

Obviously, that is not happening. I believe every single Member of this body and, more importantly, the American people who send us here every 2 years have the right to know that when these grand promises are not being lived up to that those things will be noted on the floor. And they are, again, today.

So while my service in the Graveyard of Good Ideas in the House may prevent me from being surprised when these campaign pledges are broken on a daily basis by the Democrat majority on the Rules Committee at the direction of Democrat leadership, I hope that the American people are still shocked and appalled that promises delivered in November and December were promptly forgotten in January, and that they continue to be ignored today.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to send a message to this new Democrat leadership that this restrictive debate in the people's House is completely unacceptable. Join me in voting "no" on this rule so that the Rules Committee can live up to the standards set by the Democrat leadership and pass out a rule that allows for debate on the issues and ideas of every single Member of this body, not just the ones that the Democrat leadership find politically convenient.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I enjoy the comments and the colloquy that my colleague from Texas and I and the rest of the committee engage in. We seem to have this conversation quite a bit these days.

I'd like to remind the gentleman that, while it's true that we have made three amendments in order this year, two Republican and one bipartisan, last year there were four Democratic amendments made in order on this particular appropriations bill. The prior year, however, there were 11 amendments offered in committee, and only one Democratic amendment was offered in this bill.

Why I raise this number, I want to point out that this is not unusual for this Legislative Branch appropriations bill to be a structured rule in prior years. And, in fact, there's good reason for that. My distinguished colleague from California, Mr. DREIER, mentioned in committee yesterday, in fact, that there is potential for demagoguery on both sides of the aisle on this Legislative Branch appropriations bill, and that he has agreed in the past, and this year, on a structured rule.

Now, honorable men and women can disagree on the merit and the substance of particular amendments, the number of which are not as important as the fact that we are arguing about substantive language, about health and safety, about meeting our constituents'

needs. And I think it's important that we talk about that substance, rather than just the number on the bill.

And so, Madam Speaker, I think that we've done a good job producing a fiscally accountable bill for the Congress. In fact, the President asked for \$275 million more than our subcommittee is providing under this legislation. The President asked for a 15 percent increase in this appropriation, and Congress saw fit to only offer 4.1 percent. I think the subcommittee has done a good job crafting this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 0930

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, at this time I would like to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from San Dimas, California, the Honorable DAVID DREIER.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my friend from the Big D recognizing me, and I thank both of my friends for their management of this rule.

I have got to clear my throat, Madam Speaker, because it was last night and early this morning that we had a free-wheeling, very passionate, vigorous debate that took place on the Foreign Operations appropriations bill, as we all know. And we are here this morning addressing an issue which traditionally has, in a bipartisan way, been recognized that, as a measure to avoid demagoguery, should be brought up under a structured rule. It is the only appropriations bill that both Democrats and Republicans alike have recognized all along that we should do, and I am happy to say that we are proceeding with the other appropriations bills under an open amendment process.

I will say that I am very, very troubled, very troubled, with the way that this has been handled. My friend from California has just said that this is a discussion that has been going on and on. We seem to have this same discussion back and forth. And I will tell my friend we could end it right here, we could end it right here if, in fact, as the gentleman from Dallas has just said, the promises that were made in last year's election were, in fact, kept. We don't have to continue to have this kind of debate over the rule if we would see the kind of compliance with the commitments that were made to the American people.

Now, let me just say what did happen in the past on the issue of the Legislative Branch appropriations bill. As Mr. SESSIONS has just said, 100 percent of the amendments that were proposed last year were, in fact, made in order. And the year before, the gentleman is absolutely right, there were 11 amendments submitted, but the gentleman said only 1 amendment was made in order. No. One Democratic amendment was made in order of the 11 amendments, but there were Republican

amendments proposed, too, and there were 4 amendments made in order. So what I am saying is that this notion that somehow 11 Democratic amendments were submitted to the Committee on Rules and only 1 Democratic amendment made in order? That is wrong.

The fact of the matter is we have worked very hard to ensure that every Member who has come forward with a responsible, thoughtful amendment that should be debated on the legislative branch appropriations bill could, in fact, have that opportunity. And that is what has happened in the past. I am very proud to say that last year every single amendment submitted to the committee was made in order. This year 23 amendments were submitted to the Rules Committee, 23 amendments. And how many were made in order? It is very sad. Only three amendments were made in order.

Now, let's look at some of the amendments that were denied, Madam Speaker. The distinguished chairman, former chairman, of the Legislative Branch appropriations subcommittee, Mr. KINGSTON, is here, and he came before the Rules Committee with some very thoughtful amendments.

Now, my friend from California has just talked about the issue of the Visitors Center. Mr. KINGSTON, who has consistently raised very important questions about that in the past, said that we don't need to put \$16 million, which, as was said in the dissenting views on this issue, is the tip of the iceberg, creating a chance to spend well in excess of \$50 million, at the minimum of \$55 million, for another building with an additional 200,000 square feet behind the Ford Building over here.

Now, Madam Speaker, we are going to have an additional half a million square feet when we see completion of this Congressional Visitors Center. We all hope that it happens in our lifetime, but I will say that we are going to have an additional 500,000 square feet. And I know my friend from California said he has just been there.

And, by the way, I should extend congratulations to the gentlewoman from Florida for the great job that she has done in working closely with Mr. WAMP on this issue. She testified, Madam Speaker, before the Rules Committee, and I appreciate her diligence on this, and I suspect that she would be somewhat concerned as well that the opportunity for an amendment process like the one that we have had in the past is being denied to a number of our Members, both Democrats and Republicans alike.

Mr. KINGSTON, the former chairman of the appropriations subcommittee on the Legislative Branch, also offered an amendment calling for the Basic Pilot Program to be included, dealing with this notion that we impose on everybody else, Madam Speaker, the requirement that they comply with the Basic Pilot Program when it comes to this very serious issue of illegal immigrat-

tion, and yet we are free of having to comply with that within the first branch of government. I think that is an absolute mistake, and that is what Mr. KINGSTON has been trying to address with his amendment.

One of the amendments that troubled me most that was not made in order came from a very distinguished Democratic Member of this institution. I am proud of the fact that he represents my parents in Kansas City, Missouri. It is Reverend EMANUEL CLEAVER, who came before the Rules Committee, Madam Speaker, and he said that he had been told by staff not to offer the amendment. He was very concerned about being there, and he said that he was somewhat confused, and, understandably, that does happen on occasion. I just told one of my staff members that the moment they tell me to do something, I automatically and instinctively do the opposite. But what happened in his case was that he felt somewhat concerned about coming before the Committee on Rules when so many people had told him not to do it.

I have never seen a situation like this, Madam Speaker. The Chair of the Rules Committee Ms. SLAUGHTER had to say to Mr. CLEAVER that he was welcome at any time to come before the Rules Committee and offer an amendment. I thought that that was just a right that every Member in this institution had. And, unfortunately, while we made Mr. CLEAVER's amendment in order in the last Congress, this new majority refused to allow Mr. CLEAVER the opportunity to even have his amendment heard, even have it debated here, Madam Speaker.

And that is why Mr. SESSIONS is going to offer an opportunity, if we can, to defeat the previous question, to take the Cleaver amendment, which deals with the very important priority that has been set forth by our Speaker that looks at the environmental standards for this institution. Mr. CLEAVER simply says that prospectively we should have flex-fuel or hybrid vehicles purchased through the Members' representational accounts. It is an issue that should be debated here on the House floor. Again, we made that amendment in order last year, and it has been denied the opportunity this year.

One other thing that I will say again that is very troubling about this so-called new era of openness. Our colleague from West Virginia, a very distinguished former member of the Committee on Rules, tried to submit an amendment to the Rules Committee, and SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO was denied that opportunity at the door to even submit her amendment, recognizing that she was a few minutes, I think right around 30 minutes, beyond the imposed deadline. I think the flexibility for Members is something that we always recognized, but has been denied here. But to have a former member of the Rules Committee denied an opportunity to even submit the amend-

ment is, to me, Madam Speaker, undermining this entire spirit of openness.

So, Madam Speaker, let me say I am going to encourage my colleagues to support Mr. SESSIONS in his quest to defeat the previous question so that we can give EMANUEL CLEAVER an opportunity to offer the amendment that was denied him by the Rules Committee.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, the gentleman from California and I agree on one thing absolutely, and that is that Mr. CLEAVER is a great Member of Congress and offers thoughtful amendments.

The problem with his amendment was that it was simply unworkable. It required that vehicles be E85 ethanol-compliant. And, for example, in California, in Mr. DREIER's and my own State, there are only two gas stations that provide E85 fuel.

I drive a hybrid. I think it is an important thing for Members of Congress to lead on this issue, but the fact is that the amendment was unworkable. We discussed that in Rules Committee yesterday. I discussed that with Mr. CLEAVER, and, in fact, the committee did see fit not to make that amendment in order.

The gentleman raises a number of other points, but I would like to talk about the \$16 million and the FDA building that the gentleman raised and the fact that the appropriations subcommittee is, in fact, bringing fiscal accountability and better standards to the construction process of the Capitol, and that this proposal that the gentleman from California refers to was actually initially brought to the House by former Speaker HASTERT. And, in fact, we are continuing the prior administration's priority in this area.

The subcommittee has changed the way this building will be managed and procured in that the GSA will manage the construction and retrofit of this new building that is being acquired in order to provide swing space and allow the operations of Congress to continue as we revamp other buildings here in the Capitol complex. The \$16 million in security enhancements this bill provides for the FDA building are critical if we are to use the building for additional House office space. The project was originally approved, as I said, by former Speaker HASTERT and is now being carried forward in this bill. It is critical so that we can get the swing space ready for the House to use when we begin the badly needed renovations to the Cannon Building, which is nearly 100 years old, and to the Longworth Building, which is nearly 75 years old. We need flex space to move offices while those buildings are being renovated. The FDA building fits the bill.

GSA is ready to invest \$150 million in the renovations of this building. This additional funding is to bring security from the generic government building level up to meet the requirements of congressional office space. This is a long-term investment. If we don't put

this money into getting the FDA building ready now, we will have to delay much-needed renovations to our existing buildings.

I would also say that I believe it is important for our staff to get the same kind of security that we would get as Members. We know that in the post-9/11 world, as we have talked about many times on the floor before, Members of Congress and this Capitol complex are targets, and it is imperative that we provide our staff with the same security that we ourselves demand.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CARDOZA. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. DREIER. I thank my friend for yielding.

And let me, if I could, just respond to a couple of his points. First of all, the gentleman has offered some very thoughtful arguments on this issue, and I think that the fact that he has made these arguments underscores why the Rules Committee should have, in fact, allowed a debate on these issues to proceed.

He began by talking about how unworkable the amendment that Mr. CLEAVER has put forward by virtue of the fact that California has only two of these E85 stations. I know that the Cleaver amendment provides options, a hybrid vehicle, which the gentleman drives and obviously is able to get fuel very easily, and the option of looking at the flex-fuel vehicles. And, obviously, if it is a flex-fuel vehicle, it has the ability to use others. They don't have to go to those two stations that exist in California.

And I think that, again, that underscores the fact that we should be having this debate. We made it in order in the last Congress, and, unfortunately, they chose not to make it in order.

And on the issue of the additional building, he has raised a lot of interesting arguments about that. Mr. KINGSTON would simply like to have a chance, as a former chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to debate it.

I thank my friend for yielding, and I will just say that I wish we would have a chance to have a free-flowing debate on this.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, at this time I would like to yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I want to point out that this discussion is interesting, and, as Mr. DREIER has said to Mr. CARDOZA, it is worthy of debate.

I want to ask my friend, were you here during the anthrax threat?

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. CARDOZA. I was not.

Mr. KINGSTON. Well, it is important because there is a little history here, Madam Speaker, but during the period of time in which much of the Longworth office was shut down and evacu-

ated right in the wake of 9/11, I don't know how many Members, and perhaps Mr. DREIER knows, but we all had temporary offices in a building downtown, and I do not remember which building that was. But it was interesting. That was a direct threat to the United States Congress, and some of the offices were closed down for maybe a couple of months.

□ 0945

I moved my entire staff off premises. And so to say now that we have to construct expensive, unnecessary swing space just to fill in a gap is ridiculous.

I want to point out that I think it's important for newer Members to realize there is a history, there is a precedent. And because of the Rules Committee shutting down this amendment and free speech, most Members won't know that we are trying to prevent something that we've already gone through before, and that is temporarily locating elsewhere in a secure premises.

I wanted to commend Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, the Chair, and the ranking member, Mr. WAMP, for what they have done on the CVC, the Capitol Visitors Center. It is a monstrosity; something we're all very disappointed in. When I was Chair of this committee, we tried our best to get our arms around it. One of the things that we all discussed is unfortunately it's kind of a bicameral problem. You don't have one head of the snake, one committee, one Chair who was fully responsible from alpha to omega.

I commend the committee on what they've done on this. I do think that with this FDA building we are creating another CVC boondoggle, as already outlined and debated in the committee. Since 2002, we've been debating this unnecessary additional office space, this swing space. And at the same time, the committee of the same government agencies are involved in it that have given us the CVC. So not to allow that amendment on the floor is something, in my opinion, is worth voting "no" on the whole rule debate.

The other amendment that I offered, among the many amendments that were turned down by the Democrats, it's very important to say the people who talked about sunshine so much are now denying it on the bill that tells this institution and the public so much about ourselves. No one gets elected or unelected on leg branch politics, except it does show what your culture of leadership is. If you don't allow sunshine, if you don't allow an open rule, if you don't allow open debate on your own piece of legislation that governs the House, then how can you go around and pontificate from coast to coast what an open government you're going to bring the United States people?

I know that the members of the Rules Committee and the members of the Appropriations Committee have somewhat been under a mandate, maybe even a gag order, by the leader-

ship, but I would say there is huge hypocrisy and irony in this.

Another important amendment that I offered has to do with the Basic Pilot Program. And I'll ask you this: Do you think that people who do construction for the Federal Government should have legal employees, or should they be allowed to have illegal aliens? Well, we know and the Chair would be interested to know about the situation in California, because it's been such a hot debate out there, and the folks who have been building the fence, that the folks who are constructing the fence were busted for having illegal aliens to build a fence to keep illegal aliens out of the country. That is absurd. Similarly, we see this all over the place on Air Forces bases and Federal institutions, where contractors come in, and after close scrutiny we find they are hiring illegal aliens.

What the amendment would have done, which I believe would have wide bipartisan support, simply says that you need Social Security verification if you're going to do business with the Federal Government. No big deal, except for in this town and in this Chamber somehow that might offend some of our K Street friends, or should I say some other people's K Street friends. Because folks I know back home, they want Social Security verification. Unless you attack the job magnet, you're always going to have the attraction for illegals to come into the country.

This would give us an opportunity to lead by example to say we're not going to let you do business with the Federal Government unless you have verified Social Security. And the program is run by ICE, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency. It's called the Basic Pilot Program. Nothing controversial whatsoever. However, the Rules Committee is not even going to allow us to have a vote on it.

I cannot believe that the people one year ago, indeed, 7 months ago, were campaigning out there, telling Americans the Democrats are going to deliver open and honest government, because this rule is anything but that.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I will say that it seems ironic to me that they blame the Democrats for everything, yet this proposal that is being put forward by the gentleman from Georgia was originated under the speakership of Mr. HASTERT and was planned during that period of time. And, frankly, it was a good idea. It's something that needs to be done.

The other point I would just like to make at the outset of my discussion here.

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CARDOZA. No, I will not yield.

Mr. KINGSTON. I just want to know, is it in the Democrat budget?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman from California is recognized.

Mr. CARDOZA. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I also want to point out that Mr. KINGSTON is talking about immigration and the lack of accountability with regard to illegal workers on government projects. I would like to remind the gentleman that it is his President that is in charge of enforcement, it is the administrative branch of government that is in charge of adjudicating and prosecuting illegal aliens, and that it is their Department that is awarding the contracts. And so if the gentleman is concerned about this, he should talk to his President down the street. And with a single conversation, he should be able to get the administration to do what he wants, since he is of the same party.

With regard to this building that we're talking about, when we had the anthrax scare here in Congress, I am aware that they actually had to displace Federal workers to house congressional employees in that building. That was only for a couple of weeks. To do this for months on end while a building is being renovated is simply unacceptable.

Further, Mr. KINGSTON's amendment was argued in the subcommittee and it was put forward in the subcommittee and it was rejected by the subcommittee on a bipartisan basis. We need this swing space to be able to do the renovation. And I think this goes back to a very simple thing that Mr. DREIER said, that this can be demagogued.

Clearly, we can have disagreements, but we need to do the right thing by the American people to provide for the safety of Congress. This \$16 million appropriation is for Capitol security. Either you support security for Members, for the staff and for the general public, or you don't. You either support security or you don't. And I say that the bipartisan workings of the committee were the correct action and that the amendment that the gentleman offered was previously rejected in committee.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, the gentleman now seems to want to duck what Republicans have done for 12 years, and that is, take responsibility for that, which they should do. The fact of the matter is we're here asking for and we're in the Rules Committee asking for the ability to be able to debate these. We're not blaming anybody, except to say that we believe there should be a debate, an open and honest debate that would be good for the American people, which would avoid the gentleman having to be concerned about who is blaming who.

Madam Speaker, at this time I'd like to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE).

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I want to thank my friend from Texas for his leadership on the Rules Committee and on this issue of wanting and demanding what the American people want, and that is an open process.

I oppose this rule because I believe, Madam Speaker, that it stifles the

ability for Members of this House to represent their constituents. The reason that it stifles them is because it doesn't allow for the kind of debate and the kind of voting on issues that we've just heard about.

This is a good bill. I want to commend my classmate, Representative WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Representative WAMP for their work; but it's not a perfect bill. And so we ought to move in the direction of making it a more perfect bill by allowing amendments, other ideas from this House to come forward.

Madam Speaker, I'm sorry to say that this is just another example of what I have come to know and phrase as "Orwellian democracy" by this new majority. It's Orwellian democracy because they say one thing and they do exactly the opposite.

What did they say? Well, what they said is that they would assure a fair and open process. Before the last election, Speaker PELOSI said, "Because the debate has been limited and Americans' voice is silenced by this restrictive rule, I urge my colleagues to vote against the rule."

So what's different now, Madam Speaker? Is it political expediency, or is it a broken promise?

The chairman of the Rules Committee, Ms. SLAUGHTER, said before, "If we want to foster democracy in this body, we should take the time and the thoughtfulness to debate all major legislation under an open rule."

So what's changed, Madam Speaker? What's different now? Is it political expediency, or is it a broken promise?

Mr. MCGOVERN, a member of the Rules Committee, said, "I would say to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, if you want to show some bipartisanship, if you want to promote a process that has some integrity, this should be an open rule. All Members should have an opportunity to come here and offer amendments to this bill to improve the quality of deliberations on this House floor."

So what's different now, Madam Speaker? Is it political expediency, or a broken promise?

Democratic Caucus Chair, Mr. EMANUEL, said before, "Let's have an up or down vote. Don't be scared. Don't hide behind some little rule. Come on out here. Put it on the table. Let's have a vote. So don't hide behind the rule. If this is what you want to do, let's have an up or down vote. You can put your votes right up there, and then the American people can see what it's all about."

So what's different, Madam Speaker? Political expediency, or a broken promise?

I offered an amendment that would be debated on this floor that would have reduced the amount of spending by 1 percent. It would have saved the American taxpayer \$31 million. Now, \$31 million may not seem like a lot in Washington, but back where I come from and across this Nation, \$31 mil-

lion is a lot of money. It would say to the American people this is a step in the right direction for fiscal responsibility. That was said before, what was said before by the now majority leader, STENY HOYER, who said, "We want to get the budget deficit under control. We have said fiscal responsibility was necessary, but we're not going to be hoisted on the torrent of fiscal responsibility."

Madam Speaker, rules aren't rules if you only follow them when you want to, and choosing when to do so is breaking a promise. An open promise shouldn't just be something that you talk about on the campaign trail.

Madam Speaker, Americans understand that promises made on the campaign trail and promises that aren't kept in the heat of debate on the House floor are broken promises. And the American people are paying attention.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I would just like to respond to the gentleman from Georgia by saying that, in fact, the Rules Committee did offer Mr. JORDAN's amendment from Ohio that one-ups the gentleman from Georgia. In fact, the gentleman from Georgia said he wanted to cut overall the entire operations in Congress and legislative branch by 1 percent. Mr. JORDAN offers a 4 percent cut. And so we made that in order so that the Congress can have the debate that Mr. PRICE from Georgia has indicated that he wants to have on the House floor.

It is a very open process. And, in fact, I will tell you that this is a very bipartisan bill. Mr. WAMP and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ came to the Rules Committee and indicated absolutely that they had worked on a bipartisan basis on this bill and that they thought that they had done a good job working on a bipartisan basis.

We have, in fact, offered the debate. We will, in fact, have a debate on cutting overall administration. In fact, this is a responsible bill in that we have cut \$275 million from the President's request, 11 percent less than the administration asked for the operations of the legislative branch. This is a fiscally responsible bill. The committee has worked together to craft it in a bipartisan way, and I think that we in fact have a very good piece of legislation before the Congress today.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP).

(Mr. WAMP asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, I do rise as the ranking member of the subcommittee in reluctant opposition to the rule. I say that because I am very

grateful for the work that the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) have done on protecting the Appropriations Committee's prerogatives in this bill, particularly with, I think, the important recommendation to name the largest space in the new Capitol Visitors Center Emancipation Hall. We will talk more about that during general debate.

But I am in opposition because only three amendments were ruled in order; that is, three out of 23, which is 13 percent. Last year it was 100 percent; the year before last it was 45 percent. And that is not enough. Therefore, I am actually going to support the amendments that are offered.

But I am going to support the bill. We did work in a bipartisan manner. This is a good bill. I am going to support the bill, but the rule is just not quite enough, to be honest with you. We should have had these amendments ruled in order. I say that respectfully because I think it is important that we try to open this up as much as possible.

The structured rule is not a problem, but only three amendments being ruled in order is a problem. So I reluctantly rise in opposition to the rule. I look forward to the general debate. I look forward to the passage of the bill with the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

Mr. CARDOZA. I would just like to thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP) for his hard work on the bill. Clearly he and our chairwoman, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ of Florida, have done a good job working together on a bipartisan basis to craft a bill that will work for Congress and work for the American people.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, we are quite open about what we wanted today. We wanted the rule to match the promise that the new Democratic majority had made. They asked for the ability to lead this country and to make this the most open, honest Congress in history. Yet we find at this time that the Rules Committee does not do that.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER).

Mr. DREIER. I thank my friend for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I just want to say I am somewhat concerned with the whole tenor of this debate. My California colleague has stood here through the entire debate not yielding time to a single Member, talking about the fact that we are going to have this freewheeling debate. I asked him to yield to me, when he obviously has a great load of time. Madam Speaker, he chose not to yield. That is clearly his right. But if we are interested in at least a modicum of civility in the debate, I always try my darnedest to yield to any colleague who asks me to yield during debate, because I think that is what we should do around here.

I was simply going to respond when my friend said that Mr. PRICE was here decrying the fact that his amendment was not made in order, which had a more modest cut than the one that has been made in order under the Jordan amendment, that maybe some Members would determine that the \$275 million figure to which my friend referred earlier, being below the President's request, is not quite enough, but that maybe the Jordan amendment is too much.

Mr. PRICE simply wanted to have a chance, Madam Speaker, to say, gosh, maybe a little more modest cut than the one that is in the Jordan amendment should be considered.

So, I just want to say that I, again, as Mr. PRICE said so well during this debate, promises were made about a new sense of openness. It is very, very unfortunate that those promises have not been kept, Madam Speaker.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I would just like to remind my friend, the gentleman from California, that I, in fact, did yield to him earlier in the debate for quite some period of time and let him speak on my time prior. So, with that, I think we have, in fact, worked on a bipartisan basis. I am also willing to work and discuss with my colleagues.

But, in fact, as the gentleman said, this legislative branch appropriations bill is one where you can, in fact, have shenanigans, or I think his word was "demagoguery," and, in fact, we have a structured rule so that we limit that. We are, in fact, trying to have the most open process. I think we have succeeded in doing a better job than happened in the prior Congresses.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. If I could inquire of the time remaining on both sides, please.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 2½ minutes. The gentleman from California has 10 minutes.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, the Republicans are here today to say we believe the process should equal what the Democrats had said they would do. It did not.

Secondly, we have problems with the bill because of the more than 7-percent increase in spending over last year's level. We believe that that is excessive, at a time when we thought both sides agreed that fiscal sanity would be in order, especially in dealing with this body. So, the Republican Party is here today to say we think that is too much money.

Madam Speaker, I will be urging my colleagues to defeat the previous question so that I may amend the rule to make in order the very thoughtful amendments of my Democratic colleague from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER), which was made in order by the Republican-controlled Congress in the Republican Rules Committee last year.

The amendment would encourage House Members to lease hybrid and

other more economical vehicles. In this time of high gas prices and our need, the national desire, the need to reduce the reliance on foreign sources of energy, this House should have at least have the opportunity to debate such a thoughtful amendment.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have the text of the amendment and the extraneous material printed just prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, at this point I would like just to yield briefly to our distinguished chairwoman, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, to respond.

Mr. SESSIONS. If the gentleman will yield, we were advised that the gentleman did not have any additional speakers.

Mr. CARDOZA. The gentleman is correct. I will yield him additional time to respond.

Mr. SESSIONS. I appreciate that.

Mr. CARDOZA. I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I just want to address my comments to the remark by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) where he indicated that there is a 7-percent increase in the legislative branch appropriations bill. That is factually inaccurate.

If you take into consideration the \$50 million rescission that we had in the CR for 2007, we are actually at a 2.4-percent increase. Not taking that \$50 million rescission, which came out of the Library of Congress, we are actually at a 4.4-percent increase in this bill. So that is factually inaccurate. I want to make sure that we are dealing with facts. My colleague is incorrect.

We have really made an effort, both Mr. WAMP and myself, at being fiscally responsible, recognizing that we are in a difficult fiscal situation and constraining our spending, but at the same time making sure we can focus on life, safety and security needs, and the protection and oversight responsibilities that we need to make sure we can do in this institution.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I would like to yield 2 minutes to my colleague from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS).

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, without getting into an argument with the gentlewoman, we would just state the facts of the case. It is over \$4 billion additional spending, this year over the last, and \$4 billion is a lot of money to run this ship.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SESSIONS. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I would simply like to ask my friend, if a \$4 billion increase

is, in fact, a 6.76-percent increase over last year's funding level, which does round out to be a 7-percent increase in the spending over last year's funding level, I just ask my friend from Dallas if that, in fact, is correct?

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I believe it to be correct, but the fact of the matter is, whether it's a 6-percent increase or a 4-percent increase as the gentlewoman subscribes to, we believe that is not the proper way to grow this government.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, if the gentleman will yield further, I would just like to, again, say that I hope very much that my friends on both sides of the aisle will join in supporting Mr. SESSIONS in trying to defeat the previous question so that we can make in order the very thoughtful, environmentally sound amendment that has been offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER).

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, there were several misstatements of fact in the last statements that were made here on the floor by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

This bill actually does not provide \$4 billion for legislative branch appropriations, as the gentleman indicated, but \$3.1 billion for the legislative branch. The actual spending for fiscal year 2007, including the supplemental but not rescissions, this bill is a \$122 million increase, which is 4 percent of that amount. If the \$50 million rescission in the fiscal year 2007 CR is included, the bill is only \$73 million, or 2.4 percent, above the prior year.

We have provided in this measure fiscal responsibility, accountability, and security and life safety for the Members of Congress, for the general public and for our staff.

I would also like to make a point that this bill represents a \$276 million reduction from the Republican administration's request on this matter.

Madam Speaker, three principles guided the development of the underlying legislation: fiscal responsibility, security and life safety, and accountability.

This bill makes smart decisions with taxpayer dollars. It provides the necessary resources for Congress to carry out its constitutional oversight responsibilities, something we saw sorely lacking in the last Congress. It ensures the Capitol complex is safe and secure. Most importantly, it allows Members of Congress to represent and serve our constituents in the most efficient and effective manner possible.

Madam Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on the rule and on the previous question.

The material previously referred to by Mr. SESSIONS is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 502 OFFERED BY REP. SESSIONS OF TEXAS

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of this resolution, the amendment printed in section 4 shall be in order as though

printed as the last amendment in the report of the Committee on Rules if offered by Representative Cleaver of Missouri or a designee. That amendment shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent.

SEC. 4. The amendment referred to in section 3 is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. . . . None of the funds made available in this Act under the heading "House of Representatives—Salaries and Expenses—Members' Representative Allowances" may be used directly to provide any individual with a vehicle which is not powered in whole or in part by alternative fuel (as defined in section 301(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13211(2)), except under a lease in effect prior to the date of the enactment of this Act.

(The information contained herein was provided by Democratic Minority on multiple occasions throughout the 109th Congress.)

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Democratic majority agenda and a vote to allow the opposition, at least for the moment, to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's *Precedents of the House of Representatives*, (VI, 308-311) describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that "the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

Because the vote today may look bad for the Democratic majority they will say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the definition of the previous question used in the *Floor Procedures Manual* published by the Rules Committee in the 109th Congress, (page 56). Here's how the Rules Committee described the rule using information from Congressional Quarterly's "American Congressional Dictionary": "If the previous question is defeated, control of debate shifts to the leading opposition member (usually the minority Floor Manager) who then manages an hour of debate and may offer a germane amendment to the pending business."

Deschler's *Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives*, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee

on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Democratic majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting, if ordered, on the question of adoption of the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 179, not voting 36, as follows:

[Roll No. 543]

YEAS—217

Abercrombie	Davis, Lincoln	Johnson, E. B.
Ackerman	DeFazio	Jones (OH)
Allen	DeGette	Kagen
Altmire	Delahunt	Kanjorski
Andrews	DeLauro	Kaptur
Arcuri	Dicks	Kennedy
Baca	Dingell	Kildee
Baird	Doggett	Kilpatrick
Baldwin	Donnelly	Kind
Bean	Doyle	Klein (FL)
Becerra	Edwards	Kucinich
Berkley	Ellison	Lampson
Berman	Ellsworth	Langevin
Berry	Emanuel	Lantos
Bishop (GA)	Engel	Larsen (WA)
Bishop (NY)	Eshoo	Larson (CT)
Blumenauer	Etheridge	Lee
Boren	Farr	Levin
Boswell	Fattah	Lewis (GA)
Boyd (FL)	Filner	Lipinski
Boysd (KS)	Frank (MA)	Loebssack
Brady (PA)	Giffords	Lofgren, Zoe
Braley (IA)	Gonzalez	Lowey
Brown, Corrine	Gordon	Lynch
Butterfield	Green, Al	Mahoney (FL)
Capps	Green, Gene	Maloney (NY)
Capuano	Grijalva	Marchant
Cardoza	Gutierrez	Markey
Carnahan	Hall (NY)	Marshall
Carney	Hare	Matheson
Carson	Harman	Matsui
Castor	Herseth Sandlin	McCarthy (NY)
Chandler	Higgins	McCullom (MN)
Clarke	Hill	McDermott
Clay	Hinchey	McIntyre
Cleaver	Hinojosa	McNerney
Cohen	Hirono	McNulty
Conyers	Hodes	Meehan
Cooper	Holden	Meek (FL)
Costa	Holt	Meeks (NY)
Costello	Honda	Melancon
Courtney	Hooley	Michaud
Crowley	Hoyer	Miller (NC)
Cuellar	Inslee	Mitchell
Cummings	Jackson (IL)	Mollohan
Davis (AL)	Jackson-Lee	Moore (KS)
Davis (CA)	(TX)	Moore (WI)
Davis (IL)	Jefferson	Moran (VA)

Murphy (CT) Sánchez, Linda
 Murphy, Patrick T.
 Murtha Sarbanes
 Nadler Schakowsky
 Neal (MA) Schiff
 Obey Schwartz
 Olver Scott (GA)
 Pallone Scott (VA)
 Pascrell Serrano
 Pastor Sestak
 Payne Shea-Porter
 Perlmutter Sherman
 Peterson (MN) Shuler
 Pomeroy Sires
 Price (NC) Skelton
 Rahall Slaughter
 Rangel Smith (WA)
 Reyes Snyder
 Rodriguez Solis
 Ross Space
 Rothman Spratt
 Roybal-Allard Stark
 Ruppersberger Stupak
 Rush Sutton
 Ryan (OH) Tanner
 Salazar Tauscher

NAYS—179

Aderholt Gerlach
 Akin Gilchrest
 Alexander Gillmor
 Bachmann Gingrey
 Bachus Gohmert
 Barrett (SC) Goode
 Barrow Goodlatte
 Bartlett (MD) Granger
 Biggert Graves
 Bilbray Hall (TX)
 Bilirakis Hastings (WA)
 Bishop (UT) Hayes
 Blackburn Heller
 Blunt Hensarling
 Boehner Herger
 Bono Hobson
 Boozman Hoekstra
 Boustany Hulshof
 Brady (TX) Inglis (SC)
 Buchanan Issa
 Burgess Jindal
 Burton (IN) Johnson (IL)
 Buyer Johnson, Sam
 Calvert Jones (NC)
 Camp (MI) Jordan
 Campbell (CA) Keller
 Cannon King (IA)
 Cantor King (NY)
 Capito Kingston
 Castle Kirk
 Chabot Kline (MN)
 Coble Knollenberg
 Cole (OK) Kuhl (NY)
 Conaway Lamborn
 Crenshaw Latham
 Culberson LaTourette
 Davis (KY) Lewis (CA)
 Davis, David Lewis (KY)
 Davis, Tom Linder
 Deal (GA) LoBiondo
 Dent Lucas
 Diaz-Balart, L. Lungren, Daniel
 Diaz-Balart, M. E.
 Drake Mack
 Dreier Manzullo
 Duncan McCarthy (CA)
 Ehlers McCaul (TX)
 Emerson McCotter
 English (PA) McCrery
 Fallon McHugh
 Feeney McKeon
 Ferguson McMorris
 Flake Rodgers
 Forbes Mica
 Fortenberry Miller (FL)
 Fossella Miller (MI)
 Foxx Miller, Gary
 Franks (AZ) Murphy, Tim
 Frelinghuysen Musgrave
 Gallegly Myrick
 Garrett (NJ) Neugebauer

Taylor Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Tierney
 Towns
 Udall (CO)
 Udall (NM)
 Van Hollen
 Velázquez
 Visclosky
 Walz (MN)
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Sires
 Waters
 Watson
 Watt
 Weiner
 Welch (VT)
 Wexler
 Wilson (OH)
 Woolsey
 Wu
 Sutton
 Yarmuth
 Tauscher

Moran (KS)
 Napolitano
 Nunes
 Oberstar
 Ortiz

Paul Platts
 Sanchez, Loretta
 Sullivan
 Tancredo

Waxman Weldon (FL)
 Young (AK)

□ 1033

Messrs. TIBERI, GARY G. MILLER of California, and MANZULLO changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. EDWARDS and Mr. WEINER changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

(By unanimous consent, Mr. UPTON was allowed to speak out of order.)

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF THE LATE HONORABLE GUY VANDER JAGT

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I regret to inform the House today of the passing of Guy Vander Jagt, who died this morning. He served 18 years in this body representing most of west Michigan, a longtime member of the Ways and Means Committee, a very good friend of all of us, both in the Congress and after he left.

I talked to his wife Carol last week. This was his cancer’s second occurrence. He also leaves a beautiful daughter, Jimmy, and I yield to Mr. DINGELL.

Mr. DINGELL. I thank my dear friend for yielding.

This is a great loss to the country. Our friend, Guy Vander Jagt, was a distinguished Member of this body, a great public servant, and a friend of most of us here.

Mr. UPTON. I yield to the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. RANGEL. The tear that you hear in the voice of the gentleman from Michigan is felt by everybody that knew Guy Vander Jagt. I was with him on Tuesday morning with his beautiful wife Carol, and I would want everybody who knew this man to know that there was a big smile on his face, that wonderful voice of his was resonant, and even though he did not stay lucid for long periods of time, the only thing, the only thing that he talked about was his House of Representatives.

I really sincerely hope that those Members, Republican and Democrats, that had an opportunity to see a true Republican with the compassion and sensitivity and understanding that it takes all of us to make this Congress and this country work, that maybe those of us who knew Guy would make some kind of special effort to be tolerant with each other, which is what he was talking about, in hopes that new Members that never had the opportunity to enjoy that type of camaraderie will move in that direction.

We will miss him, but those who knew him, we have a constant reminder that when things get rough for us on this floor, there was a guy like Guy Vander Jagt, and as strong as a Republican as he was, that he cared enough about this House to care for all us.

NOT VOTING—36

Baker Clyburn
 Barton (TX) Cramer
 Bonner Cubin
 Boucher Davis, Jo Ann
 Brown (SC) Doolittle
 Brown-Waite, Everett
 Ginny Carter
 Gillibrand
 Hastert

Hastings (FL)
 Hunter
 Israel
 Johnson (GA)
 LaHood
 McGovern
 McHenry
 Miller, George

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I would ask that we stand for a moment of silence in honor of Guy Vander Jagt.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 222, noes 179, not voting 31, as follows:

[Roll No. 544]

AYES—222

Abercrombie	Farr	McNerney
Ackerman	Fattah	McNulty
Allen	Filner	Meehan
Altmire	Frank (MA)	Meek (FL)
Andrews	Giffords	Meeks (NY)
Arcuri	Gillibrand	Melancon
Baca	Gonzalez	Michaud
Baird	Gordon	Miller (NC)
Baldwin	Green, Al	Mitchell
Barrow	Green, Gene	Mollohan
Bean	Grijalva	Moore (KS)
Becerra	Gutierrez	Moore (WI)
Berkley	Hall (NY)	Moran (VA)
Berman	Hare	Murphy (CT)
Berry	Harman	Murphy, Patrick
Bishop (GA)	Herseth Sandlin	Murtha
Bishop (NY)	Higgins	Nadler
Blumenauer	Hill	Neal (MA)
Boren	Hinchey	Oberstar
Boswell	Hinojosa	Obey
Boyd (FL)	Hirono	Olver
Boysa (KS)	Hodes	Pallone
Brady (PA)	Holden	Pascarella
Braley (IA)	Holt	Pastor
Brown, Corrine	Honda	Payne
Butterfield	Hooley	Perlmutter
Capps	Hoyer	Peterson (MN)
Capuano	Inslee	Pomeroj
Cardoza	Israel	Price (NC)
Carnahan	Jackson (IL)	Pryce (OH)
Carney	Jackson-Lee	Rahall
Carson	(TX)	Rangel
Castor	Jefferson	Reyes
Chandler	Johnson, E. B.	Rodriguez
Clarke	Jones (OH)	Ross
Clay	Kagen	Rothman
Cleaver	Kanjorski	Roybal-Allard
Clyburn	Kaptur	Ruppersberger
Cohen	Kennedy	Rush
Conyers	Kildee	Ryan (OH)
Cooper	Kilpatrick	Salazar
Costa	Kind	Sánchez, Linda
Costello	Klein (FL)	T.
Courtney	Kucinich	Sarbanes
Crowley	Lampson	Schakowsky
Cuellar	Langevin	Schiff
Cummings	Lantos	Schwartz
Davis (AL)	Larsen (WA)	Scott (GA)
Davis (CA)	Larson (CT)	Scott (VA)
Davis (IL)	Lee	Serrano
Davis, Lincoln	Levin	Sestak
DeFazio	Lewis (GA)	Shea-Porter
DeGette	Lipinski	Sherman
Delahunt	Loebssack	Shuler
DeLauro	Lofgren, Zoe	Sires
Dicks	Lowey	Skelton
Dingell	Lynch	Slaughter
Doggett	Mahoney (FL)	Smith (WA)
Donnelly	Maloney (NY)	Snyder
Doyle	Markey	Solis
Edwards	Marshall	Space
Ellison	Matheson	Spratt
Ellsworth	Matsui	Stark
Emanuel	McCarthy (NY)	Stupak
Engel	McCullom (MN)	Sutton
Eshoo	McDermott	Tanner
Etheridge	McIntyre	Tauscher

Taylor	Velázquez	Weiner
Thompson (CA)	Visclosky	Welch (VT)
Thompson (MS)	Walz (MN)	Wexler
Tierney	Wasserman	Wilson (OH)
Towns	Schultz	Woolsey
Udall (CO)	Waters	Wu
Udall (NM)	Watson	Wynn
Van Hollen	Watt	Yarmuth

NOES—179

Aderholt	Gerlach	Neugebauer
Akin	Gilchrest	Pearce
Alexander	Gillmor	Pence
Bachmann	Gingrey	Peterson (PA)
Bachus	Gohmert	Petri
Barrett (SC)	Goode	Pickering
Bartlett (MD)	Goodlatte	Pitts
Biggert	Granger	Platts
Bilbray	Graves	Poe
Bilirakis	Hall (TX)	Porter
Bishop (UT)	Hastings (WA)	Price (GA)
Blackburn	Hayes	Putnam
Blunt	Heller	Ramstad
Boehner	Hensarling	Regula
Bono	Herger	Rehberg
Boozman	Hobson	Reichert
Boustany	Hoekstra	Renzi
Brady (TX)	Hulshof	Reynolds
Buchanan	Inglis (SC)	Rogers (AL)
Burgess	Issa	Rogers (KY)
Burton (IN)	Jindal	Rogers (MI)
Buyer	Johnson (IL)	Rohrabacher
Calvert	Johnson, Sam	Ros-Lehtinen
Camp (MI)	Jones (NC)	Roskam
Campbell (CA)	Jordan	Royce
Cannon	Keller	Ryan (WI)
Cantor	King (IA)	Sali
Capito	King (NY)	Saxton
Castle	Kingston	Schmidt
Chabot	Kirk	Sensenbrenner
Coble	Kline (MN)	Sessions
Cole (OK)	Knollenberg	Shadegg
Conaway	Kuhl (NY)	Shays
Crenshaw	Lamborn	Shimkus
Culberson	Latham	Shuster
Davis (KY)	LaTourette	Simpson
Davis, David	Lewis (CA)	Smith (NE)
Davis, Tom	Lewis (KY)	Smith (NJ)
Deal (GA)	Linder	Smith (TX)
Dent	LoBiondo	Souder
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lucas	Stearns
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lungren, Daniel	Terry
Drake	E.	Thornberry
Dreier	Mack	Tiahrt
Duncan	Manzullo	Tiberi
Ehlers	Marchant	Turner
Emerson	McCarthy (CA)	Upton
English (PA)	McCaull (TX)	Walberg
Fallin	McCotter	Walden (OR)
Feeley	McCrary	Walsh (NY)
Ferguson	McHenry	Wamp
Flake	McHugh	Weldon (FL)
Forbes	McKeon	Weller
Fortenberry	Mica	Westmoreland
Fossella	Miller (FL)	Whitfield
Foxx	Miller (MI)	Wicker
Franks (AZ)	Miller, Gary	Wilson (NM)
Frelinghuysen	Murphy, Tim	Wilson (SC)
Gallegly	Musgrave	Wolf
Garrett (NJ)	Myrick	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—31

Baker	Doolittle	Moran (KS)
Barton (TX)	Everett	Napolitano
Bonner	Hastert	Nunes
Boucher	Hastings (FL)	Ortiz
Brown (SC)	Hunter	Paul
Brown-Waite,	Johnson (GA)	Radanovich
Ginny	LaHood	Sanchez, Loretta
Carter	McGovern	Sullivan
Cramer	McMorris	Tancredo
Cubin	Rodgers	Waxman
Davis, Jo Ann	Miller, George	Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). One minute remains in this vote.

□ 1045

Mr. MARCHANT changed his vote from "aye" to "no."
So the resolution was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam 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. 2771, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

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

There was no objection.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 502 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2771.

□ 1046

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2771) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with Ms. BALDWIN in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Madam Chair and members of the Committee, I am pleased to present the Subcommittee on Legislative Branch appropriations legislation for the fiscal year 2008.

The Legislative Branch bill is unique in that it appropriates funding for the entire Capitol Building and Grounds as well as nine legislative branch agencies and the 435 Members of this body and their offices. As a new member of the Appropriations Committee serving as a subcommittee Chair, I recognize the tremendous responsibility that comes along with being steward of this great institution, and I am honored by the confidence and trust that Speaker PELOSI, Chairman OBEY, and my colleagues have placed in me.

Historically, the Legislative Branch bill has enjoyed the bipartisan spirit that has come to define the Appropriations Committee and my experiences in working with the ranking member have been consistent with that spirit. Over the past several months, I have worked with Ranking Member WAMP, the gentleman from Tennessee, and other members of the committee from both parties to shape and determine the appropriations for the people's

House. We held 14 oversight hearings prior to developing this bill, and I am very proud of our accomplishments.

I want to thank the members of the Legislative Branch Subcommittee for their help and input, Vice Chair LEE, Mr. UDALL, Mr. HONDA, Ms. McCOLLUM, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. WAMP, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mr. GOODE. The vast majority of our committee is new to the full committee, and we approached our task with zeal and with dedication.

I would particularly like to thank Ranking Member WAMP for his work on this bill. He has been a good partner, and I appreciate his cooperation and friendship. While we have not agreed on every issue, we worked in partnership to address our differences; and notwithstanding a few issues, they were resolved. I would also like to thank Chairman OBEY for his guidance during this process and Ranking Member LEWIS for his efforts as well.

Madam Chair, the bill provides \$3.1 billion for the legislative branch, not including Senate items. That's an increase of \$122 million, or just 4 percent, over the actual spending level in fiscal year 2007. This reflects a \$276 million reduction in the total amended budget request, and I think that's an important point that Members should note. We are bringing this bill in under the original request.

We used three guiding principles to develop this bill: fiscal responsibility, security and life safety, and accountability.

In terms of fiscal responsibility, we've emphasized that we need to keep this bill tight with a view towards the long term. We've funded the must-haves over the nice-to-haves and have focused on critical investments. We've held the actual spending increase in this bill to only 4 percent, \$122 million, compared to the 13 percent, or \$398 million, which was the increase that was requested.

In terms of security and life safety, we've made sure this bill makes the Capitol complex as secure and safe as possible. To this end, the bill includes \$50 million worth of critical security and life safety projects, including, at the suggestion and urging of my good friend from Tennessee, interoperable radios for the Capitol Police. It also provides substantial increases to agencies with a direct role in the health/safety of the complex. The Capitol Police receive an 8 percent increase, while the Office of Compliance, which ensures that we protect our visitors and our employees in a safe environment, receives a 23 percent increase.

Finally, in terms of accountability, we've crafted this bill to provide Congress with the resources it needs to perform its constitutional oversight role and hold agencies accountable. We've fully funded House committees and included resources to bulk up GAO to better support our congressional oversight efforts. We've also beefed up