

Kennedy  
Kildee  
Kilpatrick  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Kirk  
Klein (FL)  
Kline (MN)  
Knollenberg  
Kucinich  
Kuhl (NY)  
Lamborn  
Lampson  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Latta  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Linder  
Lipinski  
LoBiondo  
Loeback  
Lofgren, Zoe  
Lowey  
Lucas  
Lungren, Daniel E.  
Lynch  
Mack  
Mahoney (FL)  
Maloney (NY)  
Manzullo  
Marchant  
Markley  
Marshall  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (CA)  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCaull (TX)  
McCollum (MN)  
McCotter  
McCrery  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McHugh  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
McNerney  
Meek (FL)  
Meeks (NY)  
Melancon  
Mica  
Michaud  
Miller (FL)  
Miller (MI)  
Miller (NC)  
Miller, Gary  
Mitchell  
Mollohan  
Moore (KS)

Moore (WI)  
Moran (KS)  
Moran (VA)  
Murphy (CT)  
Murphy, Patrick  
Murphy, Tim  
Murtha  
Musgrave  
Myrick  
Napolitano  
Neal (MA)  
Neugebauer  
Oberstar  
Obey  
Oliver  
Ortiz  
Pallone  
Pastor  
Payne  
Pearce  
Pence  
Perlmutter  
Peterson (MN)  
Peterson (PA)  
Petri  
Pickering  
Pitts  
Platts  
Poe  
Pomeroy  
Price (GA)  
Price (NC)  
Putnam  
Rahall  
Ramstad  
Rangel  
Regula  
Rehberg  
Reichert  
Renzi  
Reyes  
Reynolds  
Richardson  
Rodriguez  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (MI)  
Rohrabacher  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Roskam  
Ross  
Rothman  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce  
Ruppersberger  
Ryan (OH)  
Salazar  
Sali  
Sánchez, Linda T.  
Sanchez, Loretta  
Sarbanes  
Saxton  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schmidt  
Schwartz  
Scott (GA)  
Scott (VA)  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Sestak

Shadegg  
Sha's  
Shea-Porter  
Sherman  
Shimkus  
Shuler  
Shuster  
Simpson  
Sires  
Skeltton  
Slaughter  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Snyder  
Solis  
Souder  
Space  
Speier  
Spratt  
Stark  
Stearns  
Stupak  
Sullivan  
Sutton  
Tanner  
Tauscher  
Taylor  
Terry  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Thornberry  
Tiahrt  
Tiberi  
Tierney  
Towns  
Tsongas  
Turner  
Udall (CO)  
Upton  
Van Hollen  
Velázquez  
Visclosky  
Walberg  
Walden (OR)  
Walsh (NY)  
Walz (MN)  
Wamp  
Wasserman  
Schultz  
Waters  
Watson  
Watt  
Waxman  
Weiner  
Welch (VT)  
Westmoreland  
Wexler  
Whitfield (KY)  
Wilson (NM)  
Wilson (OH)  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman (VA)  
Wolf  
Woolsey  
Wu  
Wynn  
Young (AK)  
Young (FL)

## NOES—7

Coble  
Duncan  
Flake  
Nunes  
Paul  
Rogers (KY)  
Tancred

## NOT VOTING—29

Alexander  
Andrews  
Blackburn  
Boyd (FL)  
Brown-Waite,  
Ginny  
Burgess  
Buyer  
Campbell (CA)  
Costello  
Cramer  
Doggett  
Everett  
Feeney  
Higgins  
Hulshof  
LaHood  
McNulty  
Miller, George  
Nadler  
Pascarell  
Porter  
Pryce (OH)  
Radanovich  
Rush  
Ryan (WI)  
Udall (NM)  
Weldon (FL)  
Weller  
Yarmuth

## □ 1513

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

# AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN ENGROSSMENT OF H.R. 2830, COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Clerk be authorized to make technical corrections in the engrossment of H.R. 2830, including corrections in spelling, punctuation, section and title numbering, cross-referencing, conforming amendments to the table of contents and short titles, and the insertion of appropriate headings.

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

There was no objection.

## □ 1515

## LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to my friend, the gentleman from Maryland, the majority leader, for information about the schedule.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the Republican whip.

On Monday, the House is not in session. On Tuesday, the House will meet at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for legislative business. On Friday, no votes are expected.

We will consider several bills under suspension of the rules. The final list of suspension bills, as usual, will be announced by the close of business tomorrow. We will consider H.R. 493, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, and H.R. 5522, the Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Prevention Act.

Finally, Members should note that on Wednesday, the Prime Minister of Ireland, The Honorable Bertie Ahern, will address a joint meeting of the House and Senate.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for that information.

Will the Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Prevention Act, will that act be under a rule?

Mr. HOYER. Yes.

Mr. BLUNT. And the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act will be as well?

Mr. HOYER. Yes.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for that. I notice the schedule doesn't include anything yet on the supplemental. I continue to see reports suggesting that the supplemental may come directly to the floor and not through committee. I wonder if the gentleman has any indication of what might be the schedule at this time on the supplemental.

I would yield.

Mr. HOYER. I thank my friend for yielding.

As you have read, we are discussing how to process the supplemental. As I indicated to you, it is my intention that we will pass the supplemental prior to Memorial Day. By that, I mean in sufficient time so the Senate can do so as well so we can pass it finally.

That is my hope and my intention. We are still working on the components of the supplemental, and very frankly, it has not yet been finally decided as to how that might be processed. Obviously, at times in the past it has been added to other legislation. In other times, it has been passed as a free-standing bill. Committee consideration, obviously, is part of the regular order, if we go that way, but there are other ways to go. We want to facilitate the passage of it as quickly as possible.

Mr. BLUNT. I appreciate the need to get this war supplemental done. Of course we have been talking about it during this entire work period for the last 4 weeks now. Since 1989, the Congress has passed 36 supplementals. All but seven of them went through the committee process. On those seven occasions—it was the supplemental right after 9/11, the supplemental right after Katrina. I would just say to the gentleman that I know our members of the Appropriations Committee today have expressed great concern if the committee doesn't have the opportunity to mark this up in regular order, and I don't know that that has anything other than informational value to you, it may very well go through the committee. If it doesn't, I have heard a lot of concern expressed about why, with the amount of time we have had here, we would do what is a relatively extraordinary thing.

I would be glad to yield.

Mr. HOYER. I appreciate the gentleman yielding.

Our intent obviously, as I said, is to pass this bill. Obviously we are considering the best way to do so, giving every Member an opportunity to vote as they see fit on various component parts of the supplemental, and we are considering how best to do that.

I understand, certainly, the committee's concern, having served on that committee for about 24 years, and having considered a number of supplementals. As a member of that committee, I understand that concern. But I will tell the gentleman that we are trying to proceed in a way that will facilitate the passage of this bill to the Senate and hopefully transmittal to the President prior to the Memorial Day break.

Mr. BLUNT. Well, I thank the gentleman for that. I do think the time does matter here because of the potential for furlough notices and other things for troops if we let this bill go much beyond the work period we are in right now between now and Memorial Day.

One of the items that I keep seeing reports that could be in this bill would be enhanced GI benefits. The cost estimates I have seen from a Senate cost

estimate on a bill over there, to a bill here, have been anywhere from a low of \$20 billion to a high of \$60 billion over 10 years. I know a number of Republicans have been working on that as well. Some of them have reached out to Democrats this week, saying, We hope we can find a way to pay for this.

Does the gentleman have any knowledge of whether or not that GI bill, expanded GI benefits, is being actively discussed as part of the bill?

I would yield.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I will tell the gentleman that very definitely it's being discussed. We believe this is a cost of war. We have over 4,000 families who have lost husbands, wives, brothers and sisters. We have over 30,000 severely injured. Obviously, the GI bill for those who came home from World War II and Korea had very good benefits that were helpful to them. Unfortunately, particularly with respect to our Guard and Reserve, that is not the case.

JIM WEBB, the former Secretary of the Navy, now the Senator from Virginia, as you know, has introduced a bill. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN on this side has also introduced a bill. Others have introduced legislation trying to make sure that the veterans who are coming home from Iraq that have been deployed for long periods of time, have had their lives very substantially disrupted, their families' lives disrupted, fighting for their country, that this is a cost of war.

We are trying to address this, and the gentleman is correct, there is discussion about, as a cost of war, having this proceed to the President perhaps on the supplemental. That is under discussion. That decision has not been made. But it's certainly very high on our priority list to take care of these veterans that have come home and give them the kind of benefits that we think they are due as great patriots who have sacrificed for our country.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for that information. I know Senator MCCAIN on the other side of the building also has come up with a proposal in this area. He introduced legislation in this area. So it's widely discussed. I think something can be done. Whether or not the supplemental is the place or not, I don't know. I do believe that whatever we do should become permanently part of the benefits that veterans should anticipate being able to have in the future and not have any kind of a temporary aspect to it.

The other question I had of my friend are just about the conferences that I haven't asked about in a couple of weeks. There are really three of them I am wondering about, and that would be the conference on the farm bill, the conference on the higher education bill, or the budget itself.

I would yield.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I think the good news is that certainly on the farm bill, Mr. PETERSON

indicates that progress is being made. As you know, we extended it to May 2 to give the conference committee a little more time.

They have been working at it very diligently. It's difficult. There were substantial differences, not so much partisan differences, but substantial differences between the two Houses. The Democrats and Republicans, frankly, on both sides of the issues.

We believe that progress is being made. I am hopeful that we can, in the next week, have a conference report on the farm bill on the floor. I am hopeful. I am not predicting that, but I am hopeful.

As to the budget, I think progress is being made there as well. There are some thorny issues. We are very committed to PAYGO. You mentioned PAYGO as it relates to the GI bill. We are committed to PAYGO. I was very pleased to hear that some of your members want to make sure that the veterans bill is paid for. The war costs, which we believe the veterans benefit are a part of, are not paid for, as you know, in the President's proposal.

But with respect to the third conference, the higher education bill, let me see if I have a note here. We are also making progress, it says, on the higher education conference. But it is likely, according to the chairman, that we will need a short-term extension next week because apparently they are not sure that they will get it finished by next week. So we may need an extension. If so, we will bring one to the floor. I presume that will be in agreement with both the ranking member and the chairman.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for that. Of course we did a 1-week extension on the farm bill again today. We have done several extensions now. I hope we get to a point where we have a bill on the floor or have some ongoing policy that farmers can rely on, even if that is an extension of the bill we have, but some ongoing policy really does matter, and I hope we get there.

I thank the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. I would just say we are in agreement.

#### AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2008, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING IN JOINT MEETING HIS EXCELLENCY BERTIE AHERN, PRIME MINISTER OF IRELAND

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Wednesday, April 30, 2008, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Bertie Ahern, Prime Minister of Ireland.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2008, TO TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2008

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns tomorrow, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday next for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

#### DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

#### PROVIDING ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS FOR EXPENSES OF SELECT COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER HOUSE RESOLUTION 611

Mr. DAVIS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 1148) providing additional amounts for the expenses of the select committee established under House Resolution 611.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1148

*Resolved,*

#### SECTION 1. EXPENSES OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

(a) PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—In addition to the amounts authorized under House Resolution 723, as agreed to October 10, 2007, there shall be paid out of the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives not more than \$150,000 for the expenses of the select committee established under House Resolution 611, as agreed to August, 3, 2007 (hereafter referred to as the "select committee").

(b) VOUCHERS.—Payments under this resolution shall be made on vouchers authorized by the select committee, signed by the chairman of such committee, and approved in the manner directed by the Committee on House Administration.

(c) REGULATIONS.—Amounts made available under this resolution shall be expended in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Administration.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTOR, THE HONORABLE SUSAN A. DAVIS, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Jessica Poole, Deputy