

Miller, Gary	Reynolds	Stearns
Miller, George	Richardson	Stupak
Mitchell	Rodriguez	Sullivan
Mollohan	Rogers (AL)	Sutton
Moore (KS)	Rogers (KY)	Tancred
Moore (WI)	Rogers (MI)	Tauscher
Moran (KS)	Roskam	Terry
Moran (VA)	Ross	Thompson (CA)
Murphy (CT)	Roybal-Allard	Thompson (MS)
Murphy, Patrick	Royce	Thornberry
Murphy, Tim	Ruppersberger	Tiahrt
Musgrave	Ryan (OH)	Tiberi
Myrick	Ryan (WI)	Tierney
Nadler	Salazar	Towns
Neal (MA)	Salazar	Tsongas
Neugebauer	Sanchez, Linda	Turner
Nunes	T.	Udall (NM)
Oberstar	Sanchez, Loretta	Upton
Obey	Sarbanes	Van Hollen
Olver	Scalise	Velázquez
Ortiz	Schakowsky	Visclosky
Pallone	Schiff	Walberg
Pascarella	Schwartz	Walden (OR)
Pastor	Scott (GA)	Walsh (NY)
Paul	Scott (VA)	Walsh (MN)
Payne	Sensenbrenner	Wamp
Pearce	Serrano	Wasserman
Perlmutter	Sessions	Schultz
Peterson (MN)	Sestak	Waters
Peterson (PA)	Shays	Watson
Petri	Shea-Porter	Watt
Pickering	Sherman	Waxman
Pitts	Shuler	Weiner
Platts	Shuster	Welch (VT)
Poe	Simpson	Weller
Pomeroy	Sires	Westmoreland
Porter	Skelton	Whitfield (KY)
Price (GA)	Slaughter	Wilson (NM)
Price (NC)	Smith (NE)	Wilson (OH)
Putnam	Smith (NJ)	Wilson (SC)
Rahall	Smith (TX)	Wittman (VA)
Ramstad	Smith (WA)	Wolf
Rangel	Snyder	Woolsey
Regula	Solis	Wu
Rehberg	Souder	Yarmuth
Reichert	Space	Young (AK)
Renzi	Speier	Young (FL)
Reyes	Spratt	

NOT VOTING—38

Akin	Johnson (IL)	Rothman
Cannon	Kind	Rush
Conyers	Kuhl (NY)	Saxton
Engel	Loebach	Schmidt
English (PA)	McHenry	Shadegg
Ferguson	Meeks (NY)	Shimkus
Fortenberry	Murtha	Stark
Fossella	Napolitano	Tanner
Frelinghuysen	Pence	Taylor
Gilchrest	Pryce (OH)	Udall (CO)
Green, Gene	Radanovich	Weldon (FL)
Hulshof	Rohrabacher	Wexler
Hunter	Ros-Lehtinen	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining on this vote.

□ 1913

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, on June 17, 2008, I regret that I was not present to vote on H.R. 2964, H.R. 3702, and H.R. 1275 due to a personal business conflict.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all votes.

□ 1915

AIR FORCE TANKER DECISION

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

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the Air Force tanker decision and its impact on our economy and jobs, especially during these hard economic times.

Recently, an independent report predicted that 14,000 jobs would be lost if the multibillion dollar Air Force tanker contract was awarded to a foreign company. And the report states, "These figures understate the potential losses to U.S. employment."

Madam Speaker, it's outrageous that the Air Force officials did not take into consideration the economic impact of this decision. By outsourcing the production of the tanker, we are denying hardworking Americans good, high-paying jobs, and turning a blind eye to our deteriorating economic situation.

Madam Speaker, this tanker deal further jeopardizes the economic security of our Nation. At a time when America is facing a record-high level of unemployment recession, creating jobs in Europe is not in the best interests of the American people.

Madam Speaker, this Congress must address the broader economic concerns raised by the tanker decision. We owe it to the American people to take advantage of the opportunity to create jobs right here in the United States and resuscitate our failing economy.

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 2472

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 2472, a bill originally introduced by Representative WYNN of Maryland, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

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

There was no objection.

CONGRESS MUST INCREASE DOMESTIC OIL SUPPLIES

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the absolute disgust that my constituents have with the inability of this majority to do anything about rising gas prices.

Today, I received this letter from a constituent in Wesley Chapel. His name is Benjamin, and he's more than ready to drill for oil and natural gas here in the United States and certainly off the coast of Florida. His message is, "It's Time to Drill Our Own Oil Now!" And that's very clear.

But in case you don't get the message, he was also kind enough to include a drill bit in his envelope so that we might start drilling right away.

Madam Speaker, if Benjamin gets the need for increased domestic production, why doesn't this Congress?

We need to promote efforts to drill in ANWR, drill in the non-protected areas of the Outer Continental Shelf, support new refineries, and promote nuclear power.

Instead, the Democrat majority wants to raise your gas tax by as much as 50 cents gallon, as the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee recently suggested.

Madam Speaker, we need to listen to Benjamin and to other constituents who don't want our taxes raised.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS BILL

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, the Interior appropriates bill will be in the full committee tomorrow and is, on balance, a very good bill. Chairman DICKS has done a thorough job, with many hearings, and has been very fair in looking at the various elements of the bill.

But it is an energy bill as well, and with gas at \$4.089 as a nationwide average, and with great opportunity in the Interior bill, we have done nothing to bring down the price of gas.

So, tomorrow, in the full committee, we have a series of amendments that will address the price of gasoline, and I urge all my colleagues to join in the effort to bring down the price of gas.

We can do this by increasing production in ANWR, in the Outer Continental Shelf. We can start to do the permitting process for oil shale. In every case, we will increase a reliable, environmentally safe supply of oil, and bring down the price of oil for working men and women here in America.

So, again, Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join with us and bring down the price of oil by increasing the supply.

WE NEED TO DRILL FOR OIL HERE IN AMERICA

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, you know, one of the things that I think everybody in business understands is if you raise the taxes on a business, they pass that tax along to the consumer in the form of a price increase, cars, no matter what the product is. And in this particular case, what we're talking about tonight is oil.

Senator OBAMA, who is running for President, says we ought to tax the windfall profits of the oil companies. Well, that may be a good idea as far as he is concerned, but when you tax the oil companies, they're going to pass that on to the consumer in the form of price increases. Gas prices are already high enough as it is.

What we should be doing instead of increasing taxes like that is to drill in the United States of America. As my colleagues have just said, we have a lot of oil in the ANWR, and the geologists have told us there is oil there, as much as 1 million or 2 million barrels of oil a day, which could drive the price of gasoline down. And yet, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle and Senator OBAMA continue to say, no, no, that's not the answer; raise taxes on the oil companies.

That isn't going to get us one drop of oil. We need to drill here in America.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

STOP-LOSS POLICY IS A BREACH OF TRUST

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, for over 5 years, the American people have seen the administration break one promise after another when it comes to Iraq. Now, another promise is being broken. This time, it has to do with the stop-loss policy, a policy that forces soldiers to stay in the military when their unit deploys to Iraq within 90 days of the end of the soldiers' enlistment period. Stop-loss means that troops must continue to serve even when their enlistment period has expired.

In January 2007, Secretary of Defense Gates ordered the military services to limit the number of stop-loss troops. For a while, in fact, the order seemed to be working. The number of troops affected by the policy dropped to about 8,500. However, now the number is back up to 11,000, and Admiral Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said just last week that the number of stop-loss troops would continue to rise over the next couple of years.

Stop-loss soldiers are forced to serve an average of over 6 months more than they signed up for. This creates enormous stress, Madam Speaker, and it also creates great strain on the soldiers and on their families. The multiple deployments that many of our troops face make the hardship even worse.

The stop-loss policy is actually a backdoor draft, but it is even worse than that. It is a breach of trust with the men and women who put their lives on the line for our country. They deserve a lot better treatment and a lot more respect than that.

The stop-loss policy is causing a great deal of suffering, but our troops and veterans are suffering in many other ways as well. It is easy for some of us to convince ourselves that every-

thing is just hunky-dory with our troops now because Iraq has disappeared from our television screens. But while the conflict may have disappeared from television, it has not disappeared from the lives of our troops and from the lives of their families.

Over 300,000 veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan have major depression or post-traumatic stress disorder, according to the Rand Corporation. That is one in five who have served, and an additional 320,000 have sustained head injuries. The great majority of these injuries were sustained in Iraq.

Only half of those suffering from depression or post-traumatic stress have sought treatment actually because many fear that it will harm their military careers. And half of those who have received treatment have gotten only "minimally adequate" treatment. That, too, is according to Rand.

And there was also a very disturbing report in the press today that the Veterans Administration has tested drugs on veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress without telling them about the possible mental side effects. Congress must conduct a full investigation of that report.

Most tragically, suicides among members of the Army have been rising steadily during the occupation. In 2007, 150 soldiers committed suicide, Mr. Speaker, compared with 67 in 2004. About a quarter of the deaths occurred in Iraq. And an average of five U.S. soldiers attempted suicide every day in the year 2007. Before the occupation, the number was one per day.

However, not everyone is being hurt by the occupation. Some people are doing quite well, thank you, and they've got the money to prove it. Chairman WAXMAN of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform has asked the Inspector General of the Department of Defense to investigate "potentially thousands of criminal cases involving fraudulent contracts in Iraq." Hundreds of millions of dollars could be involved.

□ 1930

And the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction has already reported that millions of dollars in contracts have been wasted.

Mr. Speaker, we must hold the administration accountable for every dollar spent in Iraq. We must do everything we can to give our veterans the best possible care. We cannot allow war profiteering to go on while our injured veterans lack the care that they need.

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

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

SUNSET MEMORIAL

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

tleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, as so many times before, I stand once again before this body with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is June 17, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. And that's just today, Mr. Speaker. That's more than the number that were killed on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,930 days since the tragedy called Roe v. Wade was first handed down. Since then, Mr. Speaker, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal chords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common: First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong in this world to anyone. And each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all of the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the host helpless of all victims yet to date, those yet unborn.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we're really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is that clarion declaration of the self-evident truth, that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth. It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Mr. Speaker, it is who we are. And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed yet again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.