

became executive director of the Arca Foundation, which gives grants to civic groups, organizations that study the media, and public policy groups.

She helped lead the fight to pass the Violence Against Women Act, providing comprehensive funding to shelter and offer services to victims of domestic violence and their children.

The Washington Post has called her "bright" and "tough-minded" and recently said: "Poised, persistent and principled, she would make a fine representative for the fourth district" of Maryland.

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Madam Speaker, Leader BOEHNER, our majority leader and the dean of our delegation of the great State of Maryland, our Senators, BARBARA MIKULSKI and BEN CARDIN, thank you. I'm so glad that you could be here today, and to our entire delegation from Maryland, I am humbled and honored to be here in the people's House. And I want to thank my mother, Mary, and my sisters, Janice, Bonnie and Rhonda, my brother, Michael, and my son, Jared, for being here with me today and being so supportive of me.

As I swore to defend and protect the Constitution of the United States, I recall the oath that my brother, John, took when he was just 18 years old, joining the United States Air Force at the height of the Vietnam War. And most especially I thought of my father, John Edwards, who swore the same oath when he joined the United States Air Force as a young man and served in a career of great honor, dignity and service to this country.

And what I thought is that I am so proud to be able to take that same oath to serve the people of the Fourth Congressional District and to serve the United States Congress and the people of this country.

I'm standing here today on a very historic day, Juneteenth. And as the first African American woman to represent the great State of Maryland here in this Capitol and on the shoulders of all of our forefathers and foremothers who took that journey to freedom, I am so proud and humble to be here with my constituents throughout the Fourth Congressional District, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, united across race, religion, class, income, heritage and culture and all of the things that are the false lines that divide us. But we're united as a congressional district, and we're as united as we can be as a country. And in some micro way, in our Fourth Congressional District, I think that we're fulfilling the dream of this entire Nation.

Last February in Maryland's Fourth District, we sent a strong message that it's time for a change across the Potomac and up to this Hill. And this past Tuesday, they sent another message. They said "change can't wait until next year." And so today I'm an agent of change and an agent of their mandate. And America's profile, though slightly tarnished around the world

and with our economy teetering slightly here at home, we can only hope that we don't wait for that change to happen until next January, that my constituents have said to me, we can't wait for change to begin. We can't wait 6 months to do something about foreclosures forcing thousands of Marylanders, thousands of people across this country and in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties away from their homes. And we can't wait 6 months to address skyrocketing costs of gas and groceries while we engage in short-term solutions that abound without focusing on the long-term solutions for alternative energy and things that really will propel us through this 21st century.

I just want to say in closing that our brave servicemen and women, many of them like my brother and my father, can't wait for change either. And people do need help now. And so, more than anything else, I want to join with you in making that change happen. I know that this House is filled with an awfully lot of really good-hearted people who represent congressional districts just like mine across the country. And they're asking us to come together. And I want us to answer that call together. And so I'm here with my sleeves rolled up, and I'm ready to work. And I'm ready to get started, just as you are, in serving the people of the Fourth Congressional District and this country.

Thank you very much.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath of office to the gentleman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS), the whole number of the House is 435.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PAID PARENTAL LEAVE ACT OF 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT OFFERED BY MR. JORDAN OF OHIO

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. In its present form, I am.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Jordan of Ohio moves to recommit the bill (H.R. 5781) to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform with instructions to report the bill back to the House promptly in the form to which it may be perfected at the time of this motion with the following amendments:

In the matter proposed to be inserted by section 2(a)(3) of the bill, insert at the end the following:

"(7) An employee who is a father and who is not in compliance with a court ordered child support arrangement shall not be eligible for any paid leave under paragraph (2)."

In the matter proposed to be inserted by section 3(a)(3) of the bill, insert at the end the following:

"(5) EXCLUSION OF DEADBEAT DADS.—An employee who is a father and who is not in compliance with a court ordered child support arrangement shall not be eligible for any paid leave under this subsection."

In the matter proposed to be inserted by section 4 of the bill, insert at the end the following:

"(E) EXCLUSION OF DEADBEAT DADS.—An employee who is a father and who is not in compliance with a court ordered child support arrangement shall not be eligible for any paid leave under this paragraph."

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio (during the reading). I ask unanimous consent that the motion to recommit be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his motion.

□ 1400

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I offer this motion to recommit with instructions.

This motion to recommit is simple and straightforward, one of these important issues that I think we can all agree on, and, frankly, an issue I would have brought as an amendment in committee if I had thought about the idea then. It says that people who are not compliant with their court-ordered child support arrangements, deadbeat dads, are not eligible for the expanded Federal benefits included in the bill.

This motion sends a clear message to the American people that we have respect for their hard-earned tax dollars they send to Washington, DC. The underlying bill, however, sends a far different message about the priorities of the majority party in Congress.

Think about it: American families are paying more than \$4 a gallon for gasoline, but are we acting to bring more energy to this country? America faces unprecedented terrorist threats from abroad, but are we renewing legislation to help better secure the homeland? Are we addressing out-of-control Federal spending? Are we acting to better secure our borders? We are approaching a \$10 trillion national debt, a problem that threatens our Nation's economic future, but are we cutting spending or reforming the out-of-control earmark process?

Here is what Congress is doing, Mr. Speaker. Congress is spending its time and energy on H.R. 5781, a bill to give Federal bureaucrats, including deadbeat dads, a new handout, a vast expansion to the already generous benefits package they receive at the expense of

the American taxpayer, at the expense of every single American family. That is our priority? That is our answer to \$4 gasoline, expanding benefits to Washington bureaucrats and deadbeat dads?

I ask you, Mr. Speaker, what will you tell the folks about back home? What will you tell the folks who are worried about the economy, worried about higher taxes on the horizon, worried about paying more than \$4 a gallon for gasoline for the rest of the summer? Will you tell them not to worry, that their problems belong on the back burner? That the priority of their Member of Congress is to take their tax dollars and expand the benefits package of deadbeat dads in the Federal workplace? Will you tell them that these deadbeat dads, who already receive among the richest benefit packages in the Nation, are more deserving of relief than law-abiding families and taxpayers of your district who are paying \$4 a gallon for gasoline?

Mr. Speaker, like most issues, the people get it. The American people know what the priorities of Congress should be. Millions of them have signed petitions and communicated to our offices that we need to focus on their priorities. They know our priorities should not be giving deadbeat dads a new taxpayer-funded benefit. They know we should adopt this motion to recommit and move on with the important business facing our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, there is another old line that I think is appropriate. "Most politicians don't see the light; they feel the heat." With \$4 gasoline, possibly headed for \$5 this summer, can you handle the heat you will feel back home once your constituents find out that your priority is to lend a hand to deadbeat dads, or will you see the light and join me in supporting this motion to recommit?

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, there they go again, coming up with a gimmick because they don't want the underlying bill. If they don't want the underlying bill, let them vote no. But what they have offered instead is a motion to recommit promptly, which kills the bill. So I would urge all of my colleagues who believe that parents ought to be able to bond with their children and have a paid family leave on the birth of a child or the adoption of a newborn, that they vote against this motion to recommit.

Federal law is very clear. If you are behind in your child support payments, you can get your wages garnished. That means there is an automatic reduction in your paycheck to pay for the support of your children. The fact is that no one who is behind in childcare can get paid parental leave.

The reason is their wages will already be garnished. That is why this amendment is a gimmick.

No amendment like this was offered in our committee. This was never brought up in our deliberations. In fact, the gentleman was very clear in his arguments for the motion to recommit. He is against the bill. He was against the bill in committee, and he is against the bill now.

Now, I think we ought to understand that if this were a serious amendment, it would have been a "forthwith" motion. But it is not. It is a "promptly" motion to kill the bill.

There are 400,000 civilian DOD employees around the Nation. They have been working overtime to protect our Nation, often serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. But what this motion says to them, and to all other hard-working Federal employees, is you won't get any paid leave, and if you are sick and have used up your leave, you can't take the time to bond with your family.

It is wrong, it is anti-family, and I believe this motion to recommit should be defeated. It is like so many other motions to recommit that we have seen on this floor. When it is designed "promptly," it sends the bill back to the committee, and those who didn't like it in committee will fight it some more. But if you are for this bill, vote against the motion to recommit and vote "yes" on final passage.

I would like to yield the balance of the time to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), our majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the chairman for yielding, and I thank him for his work on this bill. I thank Mrs. MALONEY as well.

Ladies and gentlemen of the House, I would hope we would defeat this motion. Again, this is a motion to recommit promptly. If in fact the motion maker wanted to change the substance and offer an amendment that would go into effect, he would have offered a motion to amend and report back forthwith. The effect of this motion, as we all know, is to delay for some period of time the passage of this bill. My friend from Georgia will get up and ask the rhetorical question that we all know the answer to, does it kill it? It does not kill it. But, my friends, we have 5 legislative days to go in this session before we break. We ought to pass this bill now. We ought to pass this bill and tell the Federal employees of this country, who work for all of us, all 300 million of us, some 2 million civilian Federal employees, that we honor their service.

But, more importantly, this is not just about those who will get leave. It is, as I said in my statement, much more about the children, who will have better nurturing and a sense of self-confidence in their early months of life. Scientist after scientist, educator after educator, tell us that if that occurs, if that bonding occurs in the early months, children are much better off, and if those children are better off,

our communities and our society and our families are better off.

I would ask all my colleagues to oppose this motion. Pass this bill. Say to the children who are perhaps yet to be born and have just been born, we want to ensure the best start we can for you in life in America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time has expired.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Please state the inquiry.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I feel like I know the answer to this, but if this motion should pass, could the bill not be referred back to the committee from which it came and be reported out the next legislative day?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair reaffirmed on November 15, 2007, and a couple of times after that, at some subsequent time the committee could meet and report the bill back to the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. 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 any electronic vote on the question of passage.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 206, nays 220, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 427]

YEAS—206

Aderholt	Carney	Franks (AZ)
Akin	Carter	Frelinghuysen
Alexander	Castle	Galleghy
Altmire	Chabot	Garrett (NJ)
Bachmann	Childers	Gerlach
Bachus	Coble	Giffords
Barrett (SC)	Cole (OK)	Gingrey
Bartlett (MD)	Conaway	Gohmert
Barton (TX)	Crenshaw	Goode
Biggert	Cubin	Goodlatte
Billbray	Culberson	Granger
Billirakis	Davis (KY)	Graves
Bishop (UT)	Davis, David	Hall (TX)
Blackburn	Deal (GA)	Hastings (WA)
Blunt	Dent	Hayes
Boehner	Diaz-Balart, L.	Heller
Bonner	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hensarling
Bono Mack	Donnelly	Herger
Boozman	Doolittle	Hobson
Boustany	Drake	Hoekstra
Brady (TX)	Dreier	Hunter
Brown (GA)	Duncan	Inglis (SC)
Brown (SC)	Ehlers	Issa
Brown-Waite,	Ellsworth	Johnson (IL)
Ginny	Emerson	Johnson, Sam
Buchanan	English (PA)	Jones (NC)
Burgess	Everett	Jordan
Burton (IN)	Fallin	Keller
Buyer	Feeney	King (IA)
Calvert	Ferguson	King (NY)
Camp (MI)	Flake	Kingston
Campbell (CA)	Forbes	Kirk
Cannon	Fortenberry	Kline (MN)
Cantor	Fossella	Knollenberg
Capito	Fox	Kuhl (NY)

Ryan (WI)
Sali
Scalise
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster

Smith (NE)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancredo
Terry
Thornberry
Walberg
Walden (OR)

Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield (KY)
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)

NOT VOTING—10

Edwards (TX)
Gilchrest
Honda
Hulshof
Loeb sack
Meeks (NY)
Rush
Stark
Tiahrt
Wolf

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Two minutes remain in the vote.

□ 1439

Mr. PICKERING changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mrs. DRAKE changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon I was on an official leave of absence to attend the commencement ceremony for Potomac Falls High School, a high school in my congressional district, at which I was the main commencement speaker. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted “yea” on H.R. 5781, the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act of 2008.

Mr. EDWARDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I missed rollcall 428 today. It was my intention to vote “yea” on that vote.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 6041

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 6041.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 6041 AND
H. RES. 356

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of both H.R. 6041 and H. Res. 356.

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

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1708

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

tempore (Mr. TIERNEY) at 5 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PRO-
VIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF
SENATE AMENDMENTS TO
HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO SEN-
ATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2642,
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIA-
TIONS ACT, 2008

Ms. SLAUGHTER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-720) on the resolution (H. Res. 1284) providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the House amendments to the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2642) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PRO-
VIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF
H.R. 6304, FISA AMENDMENTS
ACT OF 2008

Ms. SLAUGHTER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-721) on the resolution (H. Res. 1285) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6304) to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO
HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO SEN-
ATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2642,
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIA-
TIONS ACT, 2008

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1284 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1284

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2642) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments to the House amendments to the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI, a single motion offered by the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House (1) concur in the Senate amendment to the House amendment numbered 1 and (2) concur in the Senate amendment to the House amendment numbered 2 with the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. The Senate amendments and the

motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except that the Chair shall divide the question between the dispositions of the two Senate amendments.

SEC. 2. During consideration of the motion to concur pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the motion to such time as may be designated by the Speaker.

SEC. 3. The chairman of the Committee on Appropriations may insert in the daily issue of the Congressional Record dated June 19, 2008, such material as he may deem explanatory of the motion.

SEC. 4. It shall be in order, any rule of the House to the contrary notwithstanding, to consider concurrent resolutions providing for the adjournment of the House and Senate during the month of July.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

I yield myself such time as I may consume and also ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 1284.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 1284 provides for consideration of the Senate amendments to the House amendments to the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 2642, Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2008. The rule makes in order a motion by the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations that the House, one, concur in the Senate amendment to the House amendment numbered 1, and two, concur in the Senate amendment to the House amendment numbered 2, with the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report.

The motion is debatable for 1 hour and controlled by the Committee on Appropriations, and the Chair shall divide the question between the dispositions of the two Senate amendments.

Mr. Speaker, the issue to be debated today could not be of greater consequence to the future of our Nation or the citizens of this body and all of this country. For that reason, the Rules Committee has reported out a rule that gives each Member the opportunity to vote his/her conscience on the most pressing issue of our day: funding for combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as critical domestic spending to bring relief to the American people and provide our veterans with access to higher education.

This legislation meets the spending requirements made by President Bush