

Mr. SPACE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS).

(Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I say thanks to my good friend from Ohio (Mr. SPACE) and others on the other side of the aisle who have taken it upon themselves to be sure that the ARC, the Appalachian Regional Commission, continues to exist.

Appalachia has long been plagued by lack of job opportunities and high unemployment, resulting in low per capita income, educational deficiencies, and a dilapidated infrastructure.

The Conference of Appalachian Governors was formed in 1960 to develop a regional approach to resolving these problems. In 1961 they brought their cause to President John F. Kennedy, known to have been moved by the poverty he saw during his campaign trips to West Virginia. At the time, one of every three Appalachians lived in poverty. Per capita income was 23 percent lower than the U.S. average. High unemployment and harsh living conditions had, in the 1950s, forced more than 2 million Appalachians to leave their homes and seek work in other regions of the Nation. By 1963, Kennedy had formed the President's Appalachian Regional Commission and directed it to create a comprehensive program for economic development of the Appalachian region. The resulting report was endorsed by the Conference of Appalachian Governors and President John Kennedy's cabinet. Soon after, Lyndon B. Johnson used the report to create legislation which ultimately created the Appalachian Regional Commission in 1965.

The ARC has long worked to address the long-term economic distress and isolation of the Appalachian region, and to press for greater Federal involvement in addressing the region's common problems. The ARC funds several hundreds projects annually affecting one of our Nation's most underserved populations. The ARC has played a leading role in granting consistently impoverished communities with improving water and sewer systems, sometimes providing running water for the first time, improving educational resources and teacher training in schools, access to health care, access to telecommunications and the Internet, and providing technical assistance for new business initiatives. They provide State and local agencies such as economic development agencies and human resource agencies in my 10,000-square mile congressional district, as well as nonprofit organizations. These projects have resulted in thousands of jobs.

Mr. Speaker, this is just the tip of the iceberg of ARC's good works. It is necessary and appropriate to reauthorize this valuable asset for rural America. It is my hope this Congress does.

And on a note from those that I represent, without that funding from ARC and many of the Federal agencies, people who are my neighbors would not be able to have a water line that has usable water, safe water, a sewer system, nor would they have in many cases first responder buildings, as well as equipment that is much needed.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I would just like to offer my gratitude to all of the Members who have worked so hard on this. This is extremely important to my home State of West Virginia. My entire State is part of the ARC. I mentioned several projects in my State. The gentleman from Tennessee mentioned water projects. I have two going right now that are the beneficiaries of ARC funding.

I think it is important to realize, too, that this is a partnership between the Federal Government and the States. By leveraging ARC funds just this year, \$9.55 million in my State of West Virginia, has resulted in another \$16 million of additional investment.

This part of our country has historically struggled, and with the current energy issues that we have before us and the high price of gasoline, we are an energy-rich region of this country. We can contribute to the solutions through either coal to liquid and our natural gas reserves and other things that need to be added to a comprehensive, all-of-the-above energy plan for this country.

With that, I express my deep gratitude and also my deep commitment to the ARC and its continuation.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 496, as amended, a bipartisan bill to improve the programs authorized by the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 (Pub. L. 89-4) and reauthorize the Appalachian Regional Commission ("ARC") for 5 years through fiscal year 2012.

The Appalachian Regional Commission was created to address economic issues and social problems of the Appalachian region as a part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society program. Historically, the Appalachian region has faced high levels of poverty and economic distress resulting from geographic isolation and inadequate infrastructure.

As a regional economic development agency, the ARC supports the development of Appalachia's economy and critical infrastructure to provide a climate for industry growth and job creation in 13 States, including all of West Virginia, and parts of Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The Appalachian region covers nearly 200,000 square miles and contains nearly 23 million people. Currently, of the 410 counties included in the ARC, 78 are economically distressed counties and an additional 78 counties are classified as "at-risk".

Since its creation in 1965, the ARC has administered a variety of programs to aid in the advancement of the region, including construction of the Appalachian Development Highway System, enhancements in education and job training, and the development of water and sewer systems. The ARC's funding and

projects have contributed significantly to employment, health, and general economic development improvements in the region. According to research conducted by Brandow Co. and the Economic Development Research Group, three fourths of ARC infrastructure projects with specific business or job-related goals met or exceeded formal projections.

S. 496 builds upon more than four decades of economic development successes by providing additional, much-needed Federal investment in the region. It authorizes \$510 million over the 5-year period through fiscal years 2012.

In addition, the bill provides authority for the Commission to make technical assistance grants for energy efficient projects or projects to increase the use of renewable energy resources. The bill authorizes \$65 million for the ARC to provide grants to promote energy efficiency and increase the use of renewable energy in Appalachia. This energy efficiency authorization is an outgrowth of the ARC's Energizing Appalachia report and I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. SPACE) for working to include this provision in the House bill and this House-Senate compromise bill. The gentleman is a true champion of Appalachia and I thank him for his efforts to move this bill forward.

ARC's authorization expired at the end of fiscal year 2006. This bill includes the anti-earmarking provision that I have insisted upon for the last three years in response to the Republican-led earmarking of ARC projects by the Committee on Appropriations. I am encouraged that the Committee on Appropriations, under the leadership of Chairman OBEY and Chairman VISCLOSKEY, has halted this practice. This provision will ensure that a future Congress doesn't restart it.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this House-Senate bipartisan compromise bill, S. 496, to reauthorize the Appalachian Regional Commission.

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

Mr. SPACE. Mr. Speaker, in thanking the gentlewoman from West Virginia for her very able advocacy of this bill, I too yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. SPACE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 496, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 299) supporting the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

## H. CON. RES. 299

Whereas cystic fibrosis is one of the most common life-threatening genetic diseases in the United States and one for which there is no known cure;

Whereas the average life expectancy of an individual with cystic fibrosis is 37 years—an improvement relative to the 1960s when children with cystic fibrosis did not live long enough to attend elementary school, but still unacceptably short;

Whereas approximately 30,000 people in the United States have cystic fibrosis, more than half of them children;

Whereas one of every 3,500 babies born in the United States is born with cystic fibrosis;

Whereas more than 10,000,000 Americans are unknowing, symptom-free carriers of the cystic fibrosis gene;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that all States consider newborn screening for cystic fibrosis;

Whereas the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation urges all States to implement newborn screening for cystic fibrosis to facilitate early diagnosis and treatment which improves health and life expectancy;

Whereas prompt, aggressive treatment of the symptoms of cystic fibrosis can extend the lives of people who have the disease;

Whereas recent advances in cystic fibrosis research have produced promising leads in gene, protein, and drug therapies beneficial to people who have the disease;

Whereas innovative research is progressing faster and is being conducted more aggressively than ever before, due, in part, to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's establishment of a model clinical trials network;

Whereas although the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation continues to fund a research pipeline for more than 30 potential therapies and funds a nationwide network of care centers that extend the length and quality of life for people with cystic fibrosis, lives continue to be lost to this disease every day;

Whereas education of the public about cystic fibrosis, including the symptoms of the disease, increases knowledge and understanding of cystic fibrosis and promotes early diagnosis; and

Whereas the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation will conduct activities to honor National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in May, 2008: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—*

(1) honors the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month;

(2) promotes further public awareness and understanding of cystic fibrosis;

(3) advocates for increased support for people with cystic fibrosis and their families;

(4) encourages early diagnosis and access to high-quality care for people with cystic fibrosis to improve the quality of their lives; and

(5) supports research to find a cure for cystic fibrosis by fostering enhanced research programs and expanded public-private partnerships.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and in-

clude extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 299, a resolution expressing support for the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month. I would like to commend my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Representatives ED MARKEY and CLIFF STEARNS, for their diligent work in bringing this resolution before us today.

Cystic fibrosis is a life-threatening, in fact it is a fatal genetic disorder, that currently afflicts over 30,000 Americans, with 1,000 new cases diagnosed each year. The disease affects the respiratory and digestive systems, causing serious health problems in organs such as the lungs, intestines, and the pancreas. Cystic fibrosis has no cure, and although treatment has been greatly improved, the average life expectancy for people with this disease is only 37 years.

With greater awareness of cystic fibrosis, we hope to encourage much more investment and research and treatment into this disease. That is why I am proud to cosponsor House Concurrent Resolution 299 which encourages Congress to support the National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month.

The resolution rightly praises the many public-private partnerships which have sprung up in the last few years, and it also stresses the promise of innovative research on cystic fibrosis, and this is the environment that we need today which is critical to finding a cure for this fatal disease.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of House Concurrent Resolution 299.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 299 that supports the goals and ideals of Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month.

I thank the sponsor of the resolution, ED MARKEY of Massachusetts, and cosponsor, CLIFF STEARNS of Florida, for their diligent work on this issue. And I would like to thank my colleague on the Energy and Commerce Committee, the gentlelady from California, for presenting the bill before us today.

H. Con. Res. 299 raises public awareness by observing Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month and recognizing the 30,000 people in the United States that have this hereditary disease. Cystic fibrosis affects the lungs, it affects virtually every system in the body, and certainly complications can arise such as life-threatening lung infections, and gastrointestinal complications that lead to malabsorption. Of the 30,000

Americans affected by this inherited and chronic condition, more than half are children.

Mr. Speaker, significantly, in the 1950s, very few children with cystic fibrosis lived to attend elementary school. Today, advances in research and medical treatments have further enhanced and extended the life of children, and now even adults with cystic fibrosis. In 2006, the predicted median age of survival had risen to 37 years, and many people with the condition can now expect to live into their 40s and beyond, a significant achievement.

When I began my medical studies back in the mid-1970s, cystic fibrosis was, indeed, a disease of childhood. And now we have many more people living well into young adulthood with the condition. And the expectation is with further advances in research, this age will greatly increase in the next several years.

It is important that we recognize Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month and educate the public about the symptoms of the disease, increase the knowledge and understanding of the condition, and promote early detection for the new cases that are diagnosed each year. And the bill makes reference to 3,500 children that are born each year with cystic fibrosis.

I thank the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for their efforts and continued funding of research and potential therapies. One of the intriguing things about treatments on the horizon, certainly we are all aware of changes that are going on in genome research and the fact that there may be new therapies that none of us dreamed of a few years ago. Compacted nanoparticles of aerosolized DNA taken as a nasal inhalant have made some dramatic changes in this disease, and certainly we look forward to many more advances on these fronts.

Certainly the hard work of the foundation has improved the life of the 70,000 people worldwide suffering from cystic fibrosis. And hopefully one day they will lead the way in finding a cure.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this worthwhile resolution.

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I have additional speakers on the way, and while awaiting their arrival, let me just also mention that this bill, coming as it did through our Committee on Energy and Commerce, for major pieces of health care legislation, that is the correct approach, for it to come through the committee process, committee hearings and subcommittee and committee markups.

Later on today we will have an opportunity to vote on a Presidential veto of the Medicare bill that we passed on this House floor a few weeks ago.

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That bill was an example of not following regular procedure, and that is what has made this issue that has embraced the correction of the physician reimbursement cuts—embraced by both sides of the aisle, but it has made it very contentious for this body. It was all unnecessary. Not a person in this body really opposed correcting the physician cuts.

Really the only issue was the approach. We could have had an opportunity to have a bill marked up in our subcommittee or in our full committee. I would have welcomed the opportunity to propose amendments, to perhaps perfect that legislation that would have rendered the whole process of this very contentious standoff we have now with the White House, would have rendered that absolutely unnecessary.

There are good ideas up there on both sides of the aisle. I would again use this opportunity to express how important it is that this House follow regular procedure, particularly on these major health care bills. This bill that the President will veto today, that we will have an opportunity to vote on the override, this will affect the delivery of health care for the next 30 or 40 years in ways that many of us have no ability to comprehend right now.

It's unfortunate, because we had the opportunity to do the markups in subcommittee and full committee, and, for whatever reason, the decision was made to bring it up on suspension, push it to the last minute, so there really was no opportunity to say, well, let's take it back and go through committee, because we were up against a hard deadline.

Everybody knew that last December. We had passed a 6-month extension. It was one of the most insulting things we could have done to the medical profession in this country was give them a 6-month reprieve on the rollback of the Medicare reimbursement rates.

Instead, we gave them a 6-month reprieve, and we pushed it up to the very last minute, so there was no other option. It's an up or down vote. Take it or leave it. You have got this bill. It has got a lot of other things appended to it.

We heard no discussion about the unfunded mandates for e-prescribing that were tagged onto this bill. I doubt many of the regular physicians out there in practice today really understand what we have passed for them, what we have layered on to their overhead that grows by leaps and bounds every year. It's the additional regulations that have been placed on physician practices.

This is an example today of doing things the right way. Later on this afternoon we will have an example of doing things the wrong way. I would urge the leadership of this House to pay attention to this.

We have good individuals on both sides of the aisle that have are serving in our committees of jurisdiction. Let's

not circumvent that committee process and bring things up on the suspension calendar that really are substantial changes in Federal policy that really should go through regular order.

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, well, again, we do have other speakers who are reportedly on the way.

Let me just add another couple of comments, because I have heard some discussion that we will have another opportunity to vote on SCHIP legislation before this House comes to a conclusion.

This, again, would be a mistake to bring it up through the suspension process. We have until March of 2009 to reauthorize the SCHIP, the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

I would urge this House to take up the work of that now. Let's begin in our committee this year. We actually don't have to do the bill until next year. We can do a lot of the groundwork this year, and that would be the correct way to approach that.

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the author of the bill, Mr. MARKEY from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. I thank the gentlelady, and let me begin by expressing my appreciation to Chairman DINGELL, Ranking Member BARTON, Mr. PALLONE and Mr. DEAL for their support of this important resolution, but I would also like to extend my special thanks to my friend and cofounder of the Congressional Cystic Fibrosis Caucus, CLIFF STEARNS of Florida. Thank you, CLIFF, for your commitment to this issue.

The resolution before us today is intended to highlight the importance of beating this dreadful, cruel disease, and bring hope to people with cystic fibrosis and their loved ones. Approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States have cystic fibrosis, a life-threatening genetic lung disease for which there is no cure.

In my home State of Massachusetts, 800 families are affected by this horrible disease. That's a lot of moms that wake up at 5 in the morning so that they can pound on their child's chest to clear the abnormally thick, sticky mucus that makes breathing difficult. That's a lot of children who cough and wheeze and are at constant risk for life-threatening lung infections. That's a lot of dads who want their child to have a healthy life but have to worry about the unpleasant alternative of a shortened life expectancy marked by frequent admissions to the hospital.

This resolution is about supporting these families and providing them with the hope for a better future. Significant improvements have been made in the treatment of cystic fibrosis. Fifty years ago many children with CF did

not live past 10 years of age. Today, the life expectancy is 37 years.

Many of those achievements are due to the hard work and dedication of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Yet we still have a long way to go to provide people with CF with a normal and a healthy life. It is time for Congress to become more involved in the pursuit of a cure. We need to make a greater investment in research and make a stronger commitment to the people with CF, their families, and their caretakers. The cystic fibrosis community has ensured that we understand the unique challenges that face people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from Massachusetts has expired.

Mrs. CAPPS. I yield my colleague an additional minute.

Mr. MARKEY. The cystic fibrosis community has ensured that we understand the unique challenges that face people with cystic fibrosis. With this resolution we express our support for the mission to find a cure or more control over this disease.

I thank the gentlelady and again, I thank my friend from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) and all of those in the cystic fibrosis community, especially my lifelong friend, Joe O'Donnell, who has dedicated his life to finding the cure for this disease.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS), a cosponsor of the resolution.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before my colleagues on the House floor today to lend my strong support to this House Concurrent Resolution 299, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month.

I am also honored to cochair this with my distinguished colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. ED MARKEY, and I look forward to passage of this resolution. He and I have worked on this together. We are very pleased that, finally, it's coming to the floor, and hopefully will pass today.

My colleagues, this is a disease that affects 30,000 Americans living in this country, more than half of which are children. One out of every 3,500 babies born in the U.S. today has cystic fibrosis, with 70 percent of the cases diagnosed by age 2 and 1,000 new cases diagnosed each year.

In my home State of Florida, there are roughly 1,100 patients who suffer each and every day from this debilitating disease. It's cruel. That is 1,100 too many. These CF patients have to endure hours of treatment each day just to stay relatively healthy and maintain normal lung functions. Treatments range from daily air clearance techniques to intensive nutrition and drug therapies, and even to lung transplants in the most severe cases.

People suffering from CF have two copies of a defective gene, which causes the body to produce abnormally thick sticky mucus which clogs the lungs

and can result in fatal lung infections. This kind of mucus can also obstruct the pancreas, making it difficult for people with CF to absorb nutrients, simple nutrients, in food. Unfortunately, more than 10 million Americans are unknowingly symptom-free carriers of the CF gene.

Now, the residents of Florida have recognized there is a real need for CF care and research. There are 15 specialized centers and clinics for cystic fibrosis care in my home State of Florida, including one at the University of Florida, which I represent here in Congress.

My colleagues, there is no cure for CF, even though it is one of the most common, life-threatening diseases in the United States. Now, 50 years ago, CF was considered a death sentence, as there were no drugs to combat and control the symptoms.

In 1955, a child born with CF was not expected to live long enough to attend elementary school. Today, the median age of survival for a CF patient is 37.

I am proud to say there are five drugs on the market, and there's over 30 new drugs that are in various stages of development. These drugs are helping children born with CF to live significantly longer and healthier lives. People with CF are living longer. Over 40 percent of the CF population is now age 18 or older.

But that is not enough, my colleagues. We need more research and more funding, and we can't stop until we find the cure. I believe in the ingenuity and strong ethic of the American people. I believe we have the brain power and the drive to cure this disease today.

I would like to recognize the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, which has led the development of these promising treatments through an innovative business approach to drug discovery and development. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation has entered into partnerships with biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies in an effort to find a cure, a simple cure for this disease.

As a result of their efforts, promising potential drug therapies to correct the cause of the disease are now entering clinical trials in CF patients, and new therapies that treat the symptoms of this disease are now helping patients every day as we speak.

In the past 5 years, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and its subsidiaries have invested over \$650 million in drug research. I commend them for their commitment to innovation and for acting as a facilitator in the development of these important new drugs.

With the support of the foundation, programs like the one at the University of Florida CF and Pediatric Pulmonary Disease Center are simply improving the health outcome of patients who have cystic fibrosis. In the past 5 years in the State of Florida, CF research and care supported by the CF Foundation has totaled \$3½ million.

I urge my colleagues to recognize the achievements of organizations like the

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and to bring awareness to and honor to the thousands of Americans suffering from CF every day, by simply passing this resolution.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers at this time, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this worthwhile resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Cystic Fibrosis Caucus, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 299, which supports the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month.

According to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, which is located in my congressional district in Bethesda, Maryland, more than 30,000 Americans suffer from cystic fibrosis. Approximately 1,000 new cases of cystic fibrosis are diagnosed each year. It is an inherited chronic disease that causes thick mucus to build up in the lungs and other organs, causing life-threatening lung infections and serious digestive complications.

We have made significant progress in fighting cystic fibrosis, but there is still much more to do. In the 1950s, few children with cystic fibrosis were expected to live to attend elementary school. Today, thanks to past funding of cystic fibrosis research, people with cystic fibrosis can expect to live into their thirties and forties. While that figure is still unacceptably low, it is cause for hope for those living with the disease and their families. We must continue to fund cystic fibrosis research at the National Institutes of Health so that new treatments and, hopefully, a cure, can be developed in which people with cystic fibrosis can live a normal life expectancy. And we must continue to raise public awareness and education about cystic fibrosis, and to increase support for those affected by the disease.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time.

I would like to thank the leadership of Energy and Commerce Committee and the authors of the legislation and the demonstration of strong bipartisan support for this resolution, and urge our colleagues to support and pass House Concurrent Resolution 299, as it has been amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 299, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMENDING THE 2008 WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES CHAMPION ARIZONA STATE SUN DEVILS

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and

agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1323) commending the Arizona State University softball team for their victory in the 2008 Women's College World Series.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1323

Whereas, on June 3, 2008, the Arizona State University Sun Devils won the 2008 NCAA Women's College World Series with a resounding 11 to 0 defeat over the Texas A&M Aggies;

Whereas this win marked the first national title for Arizona State University in softball;

Whereas the Arizona State University Sun Devils set a record for the highest margin of victory during a championship game in the NCAA Women's College World Series history;

Whereas the Arizona State University women's softball team won an impressive 66 games this season and went 56 to 5 during the season and went 10 for 10 in the post season under the leadership of Coach Clint Myers;

Whereas super slugger Kaitlin Cochran set a new, NCAA single-season record by drawing 29 intentional walks;

Whereas pitcher Katie Burkhart earned Most Valuable Player honors in the Women's College World Series with 53 strikeouts and a perfect record of 5 wins to 0 losses;

Whereas the Arizona State University coaching staff, comprised of Head Coach Clint Meyers and Assistant Coaches Kirsten Voak and Robert Wager, was named the NFCA's NCAA Division I National Coaching Staff of the Year;

Whereas 6 players, were named to the Louisville Slugger/NFCA All-Pacific Region Team;

Whereas 5 of those 6 players, Katie Burkhart, Mindy Cowles, Krista Donnenwirth, Kaitlin Cochran, and Jackie Vasquez, advanced to earn Louisville Slugger/NFCA All-America honors;

Whereas the Arizona State University softball team earned the enthusiastic support of students, faculty, alumni, and Sun Devils fans across the country during their national championship season; and

Whereas the Arizona State University softball team is an inspiration to student athletes in Arizona and across the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) commends the Arizona State University softball team for their victory in the 2008 Women's College World Series;

(2) recognizes the achievements of the players, coaches, students, and staff whose hard work and dedication helped the Arizona State University Sun Devils win the championship; and

(3) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit a copy of this resolution to Arizona State University President Michael Crow, softball Coach Clint Myers, and Athletic Director Lisa Love for appropriate display.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H. Res. 1323 into the RECORD.