

NAYS—1

Paul

NOT VOTING—23

Boucher	Israel	Peterson (MN)
Cannon	Kennedy	Pitts
Carnahan	Latta	Sensenbrenner
Cazayoux	Lee	Sestak
Ellison	Levin	Smith (WA)
Engel	McNulty	Towns
Hodes	Meeks (NY)	Young (AK)
Hulshof	Melancon	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1526

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title was amended so as to read: "Resolution condemning the broadcasting of incitement to violence against Americans and the United States in media based in the Middle East, calling for the designation of al-Aqsa TV as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist entity, and for other purposes".

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3667, MISSISQUOI AND TROUT RIVERS WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY ACT OF 2008

Ms. CASTOR, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-834) on the resolution (H. Res. 1419) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3667) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers in the State of Vermont for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### PROVIDING HOUSE EMPLOYEES WITH OPTION OF RECEIVING ELECTRONIC PAY STUBS

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1207) directing the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to provide individuals whose pay is disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer by electronic funds transfer with the option of receiving receipts of pay and withholdings electronically, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1207

Resolved,

#### SECTION 1. PROVIDING INDIVIDUALS PAID BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITH THE OPTION OF RECEIVING RECEIPTS OF PAY ELECTRONICALLY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall

take such steps as may be necessary to provide each individual whose pay is disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer by electronic funds transfer with the option of receiving the receipt of the pay and the accompanying withholdings electronically, the option of viewing electronically the individual's employee statement required under section 6051 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the option of revising electronically (to the extent permitted under applicable law and regulations) the individual's number of deductions and withholdings under that statement and information relating to the deposit of the individual's funds with the financial institution to which the electronic funds transfer is made.

(b) ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER DEFINED.—In subsection (a), the term "electronic funds transfer" has the meaning given such term by section 3332 of title 31, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks in the RECORD on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is a commonsense step in modernization of our pay system. It would offer Members and staff the option, not the requirement, of receiving their pay stubs electronically. It would also make W-2 forms available electronically and allow individuals to change the deductions and withholdings, and to electronically redesignate the depository institutions for their electronic deposits.

Not only will this simplify pay records for Members and staff, it will reduce paper waste to support the Speaker's Green the Capitol Initiative.

This resolution has strong bipartisan support. Once it has been adopted in the House, and the committee will work with the CAO to ensure a smooth transition.

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

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1207, which would enable House staff to receive their pay stubs electronically and encourages the CAO to make further technological improvements that would enable employees to make changes in withholding, deductions or deposits electronically.

Increasingly, individuals are using technology to keep track of their financial information, and putting key data such as compensation information online will assist many in their efforts to keep track of their finances.

With the impact of junk mail, paper bills and other items delivered via

postal mail, reducing the amount of wasted paper, even by a single item each month, would be good for the environment and likely will be a welcome change for many employees.

□ 1530

In this spirit of developing online tools for House staff, I also introduced an amendment to this bill that would direct the CAO to allow employees to make changes in withholdings, deductions, or deposits electronically. Not only would this service be of great use to employees, but it would also lessen the burden on payroll counselors who currently make these types of routine adjustments manually, which would in turn free them up to handle more complex questions that are not suited to a self-service model.

I am pleased that the committee voted unanimously to accept the amendment. I thank the chairman for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H. Res. 1207.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as she may consume to the gentlelady from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. I would like to thank Chairman BRADY, Ranking Member EHLERS for bringing this bill to the floor and for their kind comments. What they have said is what we are attempting to do, which is to bring an important innovative and needed resolution to the House for consideration. I would also like to thank Alec Hoppes of the Committee on House Administration for working with my staff to bring this bill forward. A separate thank you to Mr. EHLERS for offering his amendment which makes the bill an even better bill by including additional services to be made available to House employees.

While many private companies, corporations, and State governments like Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, South Dakota, and Nebraska give the option of accessing employee pay stubs electronically, e-stubs, the U.S. House of Representatives does not. Safer than receiving pay stubs by snail mail, electronically accessing pay stubs saves money and an immeasurable amount of paper.

H. Res. 1207 would simply direct the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to take the steps necessary to provide House Members, their staff, committee staff, legislative counsel, Sergeant at Arms employees, and all other employees whose pay is disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House the option of accessing their pay stub electronically.

Moving forward with technological advances means going paperless with pay stubs as so many employers have already done. I urge my colleagues in

supporting this nonpartisan sensible resolution and join with me in choosing to access our pay stubs electronically, and I ask my colleagues to vote for the bill.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I would also like to thank the gentlelady from North Carolina for a very sensible bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further comments on the bill, but I do have further comments to make.

In particular, all of us have spent 5 weeks or thereabouts home with our constituents and were impressed at how seriously our constituents and the Nation is taking the energy crisis that we face. There is a huge concern about this, particularly with the cost of gasoline.

In one example, a young woman in my district lives on a farm. It's hard today to make a living on a farm, and so she has a job off the farm as well. Their only vehicle is a pickup with, of course, very poor gas mileage. And she's faced with a position where the cost of driving to work is almost greater than the pay that she receives. This is one small example, and I believe that it is absolutely urgent for the House of Representatives to address this issue.

There are several bills out there regarding the energy crisis. There's been a lot of discussion about it. I think the only way I can summarize it after looking at the various bills is to say, what we really need is all of the above. Some members are focused totally on drilling, some are totally focused on alternative forms of energy, some on conservation. But what we really need is a comprehensive bill which addresses all of the above, because we are in a situation where we cannot depend on oil for very many more years.

Back in 1954 scientists predicted that by 1970, American oil production would peak, and they were right on the mark. In 1970, American oil production peaked. It's been going down ever since.

That same research projected that in about 2005, or 2010, world oil production would peak, and it looks like we've entered that period, and that's one reason why prices are going up.

We clearly have to develop the resources we have in this country. We clearly have to develop alternative forms of energy, particularly related to solar. An incredible amount of solar energy hits the Earth every day from the sun, to the point that in one year we get more energy from the sunlight hitting our planet than is contained in all of the resources of energy and the fossil fuels that are in the Earth.

So clearly there are ways to address this. We must address this. I just want to speak out and say it's absolutely essential for us to develop new approaches to energy. We certainly ought to put the money into developing alternative forms of energy. We have to put the money into developing drilling techniques that are safe, environ-

mentally safe, and are not going to pollute the waters if they are offshore. We really have to take this seriously.

And I think it's reached the point where we can't just throw spitballs or snowballs at each other, but must simply say that we have to do all of the above approaches to energy production, and develop legislation that does that. I am concerned that the legislation being proposed by the leadership of the House will not do all of the above. It will only do part of it.

So I urge all of the Members to work together to really solve this problem and show the people of this country that we can deal with an important problem like this. And it's my pleasure to raise this issue, and we will continue discussions on that in the House.

As we know, the minority party discussed it every day in the House during the recent recess, out of a sense of disappointment that we had taken the August recess without first dealing with the energy bills that were available for us to consider. We should carry that on and make sure that we do address this issue, especially before we adjourn for the next recess.

I thank the group here for listening, and I hope this will result in some action on the part of the House of Representatives.

I don't believe I have any further speakers, and if the gentleman from Pennsylvania doesn't, I will, at this point, yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the gentlelady for her very responsive bill, and I thank the gentleman from Michigan for his remarks even though it had nothing at all to do with this bill whatsoever.

And, Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1207, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### HOUSE RESERVISTS PAY ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2008

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6608) to provide

for the replacement of lost income for employees of the House of Representatives who are members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces who are on active duty for a period of more than 30 days, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6608

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2008".

#### SEC. 2. REPLACEMENT OF LOST INCOME FOR HOUSE EMPLOYEES ON ACTIVE DUTY UNDER INVOLUNTARY MOBILIZATION ORDER.

##### (a) PAYMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For each active duty month of an eligible employee of the House of Representatives who is also a member of a Reserve component of the Armed Forces, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall pay to the employee the amount by which—

(A) the amount of regular compensation the employee would have received from the House of Representatives if the month had not been an active duty month, exceeds (if at all)

(B) the total monthly military compensation paid to the employee for the month by the Secretary of Defense.

(2) ELIGIBILITY.—An employee of the House of Representatives is eligible for purposes of paragraph (1) with respect to an active duty month if the employee was an employee of the House of Representatives during each day of the 90-day period which ends on the day on which the employee reports for active duty under an involuntary mobilization order.

(b) DETERMINATION OF COMPENSATION EMPLOYEE WOULD HAVE RECEIVED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a)(1), the amount of regular compensation an employee would have received from the House of Representatives for a month shall be equal to the amount of compensation the employee received from the House of Representatives for the base month (excluding any bonus or incentive payment made during the month), increased (in a compound manner) by any cost-of-living adjustments applicable to the compensation of employees of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer for months occurring after the base month.

(2) BASE MONTH DEFINED.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term "base month" means, with respect to an employee, the most recent month for which the employee received compensation from the House of Representatives which precedes the active duty month.

(c) SPECIAL RULES REGARDING AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—

(1) REDUCTION FOR AMOUNTS PAID FROM OTHER SOURCES AS REPLACEMENT OF LOST INCOME.—The Chief Administrative Officer shall reduce the amount of any payment made to any individual under subsection (a) with respect to an active duty month by the amount of any payment received by the individual under section 910 of title 37, United States Code, or any other source that is provided to replace income lost by the individual during the month.

(2) MINIMUM AMOUNT REQUIRED FOR PAYMENT.—The Chief Administrative Officer shall not make a payment otherwise required under this section if the amount of the payment (as determined under subsection (a), taking into account the reduction made under paragraph (1)) is not greater than \$50.