

GUANTANAMO BAY

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

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, for weeks this body has been subjected to uninformed, false demagoguery with regard to President Obama's effort to close the prison at Guantanamo Bay.

I want to share some actual facts with regard to the people at Guantanamo Bay. There were 772 sent between the years 2001 and 2003. They are clearly not the worst of the worst. According to the Department of Defense's own Combatant Status Review Tribunal, only 8 percent of detainees were characterized as fighters, 92 percent were not fighters.

Of all the foreign nationals at Guantanamo Bay, only 5 percent were captured by United States forces, 2 percent by coalition forces, but 93 percent were turned in primarily by Pakistani forces in return for ransom, oftentimes for as much as \$5,000. And from DoD records, a significant majority of the detainees are not even accused of committing a single hostile act.

Madam Speaker, it is time to put aside the rhetoric and start informing our constituents. We are a better Nation than the demagoguery we've been subjected to over Guantanamo Bay.

FINANCIAL EMERGENCY FACING U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

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

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I would like to talk about the financial emergency facing the postal service. We must act now to correct this problem.

The postal service lost nearly \$2 billion in the second quarter and expects to lose more than \$6.5 billion in 2009, despite cutting billions in costs. It faces an unprecedented decline in mail volume due to the recession and the diversion of mail to electronic communication.

Uniquely, the postal service is required to pay over \$5 billion annually into the Retiree Health Benefits Trust Fund, which is overfunded compared to similar companies. An inflexible law requires the postal service to shell out billions of dollars to prefund retiree benefits, regardless of economic or financial conditions.

The postal service expects a cash shortfall of \$1.5 billion at the end of the fiscal year and might not be able to meet its financial obligations. This situation is a threat to postal employees and customers. We must act now to address the financial emergency at the postal service and continue to work on its long-term challenges as well.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. WATSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, we urgently need to fix health care for American families, for American businesses, and for our fiscal future.

President Barack Obama and his Congress want to reduce your cost, offer you the choice of doctors and plans, and guarantee affordable quality health care for all. Cost less and cover more. Your choice: you have it, you like it, then you keep it. Security and peace of mind. Quality patient-centered care.

We need a uniquely American solution that builds on the best of what works to foster competition among private plans and provide patients with quality choices. We must ensure that every child in America is covered. We must invest in prevention and wellness. We must ensure that doctors and nurses get the information they need.

Never again will your coverage be denied, and never again will we have to make a life or a job decision based on coverage.

Never let your family suffer financial catastrophe or bankruptcy because of high medical costs.

DEMOCRATS' BROKEN PROMISES

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

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker and my colleagues, 3 years ago the Democrat leadership, in their document "A New Direction," made these promises: "Every person in America has a right to have his or her voice heard. No Member of Congress should be silenced on the House floor."

Secondly: "Respectful of both the wishes of the Founders and the expectations of the American people, we offer the following principles to restore democracy in the people's House, guaranteeing that the voices of all people are heard."

And, thirdly, one of those principles was this: "Bills should generally come to the floor under a procedure that allows for an open, full, and fair debate, consisting of a full amendment process that grants the minority its right to offer alternatives, including a substitute."

Madam Speaker, today, and over the last few months, the majority is breaking its promise. Why? Because Democrats here in Congress just can't spend taxpayer money fast enough. It is bad for taxpayers who are already paying too much, and it's even worse for future generations who will inherit the Democrats' mountain of unsustainable debt.

Americans want Democrats to stop the spending and start keeping their promises, like helping to create more jobs in America. Where are the jobs

that the administration and Democrats in Congress promised? After we passed the stimulus bill, where are the jobs? We haven't seen them yet. The American people deserve better, and Republicans will continue to demand it.

Madam Speaker, in my hand is the most dangerous credit card in the history of the world, it is also the most expensive: it is a voting card for Members of Congress. This voting card this year has been used to rack up trillions of dollars worth of additional debt, additional debt that our kids and our grandkids will be burdened under and will be imprisoned by.

Listen, we've got important work to do here on the floor, such as the Defense Authorization bill that we are about to take up. Republicans have been working with Democrats on this bill to get it done in a bipartisan way. And I think we also have a responsibility to protect taxpayers from Washington's out-of-control spending. We take that seriously as well, and we will never yield in our effort to protect taxpayers and future generations.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

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

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

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 96, nays 308, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 424]

YEAS—96

Aderholt	Frank (MA)	Nunes
Akin	Frelinghuysen	Olson
Alexander	Galleghy	Paul
Austria	Garrett (NJ)	Pence
Bachus	Gingrey (GA)	Petri
Barrett (SC)	Gohmert	Pitts
Bartlett	Goodlatte	Radanovich
Barton (TX)	Granger	Roe (TN)
Blackburn	Harper	Rogers (AL)
Boehner	Hastings (WA)	Rogers (MI)
Bonner	Hensarling	Rohrabacher
Broun (GA)	Hunter	Ryan (WI)
Burton (IN)	Inglis	Scalise
Calvert	Jenkins	Schmidt
Camp	Johnson (IL)	Schock
Cantor	Johnson, Sam	Sensenbrenner
Cao	Jones	Sessions
Capito	King (IA)	Shimkus
Carter	Kingston	Smith (NE)
Chaffetz	Kiine (MN)	Smith (TX)
Chandler	Lamborn	Souder
Clay	Latham	Stearns
Coble	Lewis (CA)	Thompson (PA)
Coffman (CO)	Lummis	Thornberry
Cole	Lungren, Daniel	Tiahrt
Crenshaw	E.	Turner
Culberson	McCauley	Wamp
Duncan	McKeon	Whitfield
Fallin	McMorris	Wilson (SC)
Flake	Rodgers	Wittman
Fleming	Miller, Gary	Young (AK)
Forbes	Myrick	Young (FL)
Foxx	Neugebauer	

NAYS—308

Ackerman	Arcuri	Baldwin
Adler (NJ)	Baca	Barrow
Altmire	Bachmann	Bean
Andrews	Baird	Becerra

Berkley Hastings (FL)
 Berry Heinrich
 Biggert Heller
 Bilbray Herger
 Billirakis Herseeth Sandlin
 Bishop (GA) Higgins
 Bishop (NY) Hill
 Blumenauer Himes
 Blunt Hinchey
 Boccieri Hinojosa
 Bono Mack Hirono
 Boozman Hodes
 Boren Hoekstra
 Boswell Holden
 Boucher Holt
 Boustany Honda
 Boyd Insee
 Brady (PA) Israel
 Braley (IA) Issa
 Bright Jackson (IL)
 Brown (SC) Jackson-Lee
 Brown, Corrine (TX)
 Brown-Waite, Johnson (GA)
 Ginny Johnson, E. B.
 Buchanan Jordan (OH)
 Burgess Kagen
 Butterfield Kanjorski
 Buyer Kaptur
 Capps Kildee
 Capuano Kilpatrick (MI)
 Carnahan Kilroy
 Carney Kind
 Carson (IN) King (NY)
 Cassidy Kirk
 Castle Kirkpatrick (AZ)
 Castor (FL) Kissell
 Childers Klein (FL)
 Clarke Kosmas
 Cleaver Kratovil
 Clyburn Kucinich
 Cohen Lance
 Conaway Langevin
 Connolly (VA) Larsen (WA)
 Cooper Larson (CT)
 Costa LaTourette
 Costello Latta
 Courtney Lee (CA)
 Crowley Lee (NY)
 Cuellar Levin
 Cummings Linder
 Dahlkemper Lipinski
 Davis (AL) LoBiondo
 Davis (CA) Loeb sack
 Davis (IL) Lofgren, Zoe
 Davis (KY) Lowey
 Davis (TN) Lucas
 Deal (GA) Luetkemeyer
 DeFazio Luján
 DeGette Lynch
 Delahunt Mack
 DeLauro Maffei
 Dent Maloney
 Diaz-Balart, L. Manzullo
 Diaz-Balart, M. Markey (CO)
 Dingell Markey (MA)
 Doggett Marshall
 Donnelly (IN) Massa
 Dreier Matheson
 Driehaus Matsui
 Edwards (MD) McCarthy (CA)
 Ehlers McCarthy (NY)
 Ellison McClintock
 Emerson McCollum
 Engel McCotter
 Eshoo McDermott
 Etheridge McGovern
 Farr McHugh
 Fattah McIntyre
 Filner McMahan
 Fortenberry McNeerney
 Foster Meeks (NY)
 Franks (AZ) Melancon
 Fudge Mica
 Giffords Michaud
 Gonzalez Miller (FL)
 Gordon (TN) Miller (MI)
 Graves Miller (NC)
 Grayson Miller, George
 Green, Al Minnick
 Green, Gene Mitchell
 Griffith Mollohan
 Grijalva Moore (KS)
 Guthrie Moore (WI)
 Guterrez Moran (KS)
 Hall (NY) Moran (VA)
 Hall (TX) Murphy (CT)
 Halvorson Murphy (NY)
 Hare Murphy, Patrick
 Harman Murphy, Tim

Murtha
 Nadler (NY)
 Napolitano
 Neal (MA)
 Nye
 Oberstar
 Obey
 Oliver
 Ortiz
 Pallone
 Pascrell
 Pastor (AZ)
 Paulsen
 Payne
 Holt
 Perlmutter
 Perriello
 Peters
 Peterson
 Pingree (ME)
 Platts
 Poe (TX)
 Polis (CO)
 Pomeroy
 Posey
 Price (GA)
 Price (NC)
 Putnam
 Quigley
 Rahall
 Rehberg
 Reichert
 Reyes
 Richardson
 Rodriguez
 Rogers (KY)
 Rooney
 Ros-Lehtinen
 Roskam
 Ross
 Rothman (NJ)
 Roybal-Allard
 Royce
 Rush
 Ryan (OH)
 Salazar
 Sánchez, Linda
 T.
 Sanchez, Loretta
 Schakowsky
 Schauer
 Schiff
 Schrader
 Schwartz
 Scott (GA)
 Scott (VA)
 Serrano
 Sestak
 Sherman
 Sires
 Skelton
 Slaughter
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Snyder
 Space
 Speier
 Spratt
 Stark
 Sutton
 Tanner
 Tauscher
 Taylor
 Teague
 Terry
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Tiberi
 Tierney
 Titus
 Tonko
 Towns
 Tsongas
 Upton
 Van Hollen
 Velázquez
 Visclosky
 Walden
 Walz
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson
 Watt
 Weiner
 Welch
 Westmoreland

Wexler Wolf
 Wilson (OH) Woolsey Wu
 Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—29

Messrs. CUMMINGS, LUJÁN, BRALEY of Iowa, FARR, ELLISON, BUTTERFIELD, DENT, LUETKEMEYER, COSTELLO, TAYLOR, BRIGHT, BERRY, JOHNSON of Georgia, ADLER of New Jersey, COURTNEY, SERRANO and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. DUNCAN, SCALISE, and GOODLATTE changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to adjourn was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later today.

DISABLED MILITARY RETIREE RELIEF ACT OF 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2990) to provide special pays and allowances to certain members of the Armed Forces, expand concurrent receipt of military retirement and VA disability benefits to disabled military retirees, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2990

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 “Disabled Military Retiree Relief Act of 2009”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND MILITARY RETIREES

Subtitle A—Bonuses and Special and Incentive Pays

Sec. 101. One-year extension of certain bonus and special pay authorities for reserve forces.

Sec. 102. One-year extension of certain bonus and special pay authorities for health care professionals.

Sec. 103. One-year extension of special pay and bonus authorities for nuclear officers.

Sec. 104. One-year extension of authorities relating to title 37 consolidated special pay, incentive pay, and bonus authorities.

Sec. 105. One-year extension of authorities relating to payment of other title 37 bonuses and special pay.

Sec. 106. One-year extension of authorities relating to payment of referral bonuses.

Sec. 107. Technical corrections and conforming amendments to reconcile conflicting amendments regarding continued payment of bonuses and similar benefits for certain members.

Subtitle B—Retired Pay Benefits

Sec. 111. Recomputation of retired pay and adjustment of retired grade of Reserve retirees to reflect service after retirement.

Sec. 112. Election to receive retired pay for non-regular service upon retirement for service in an active reserve status performed after attaining eligibility for regular retirement.

Subtitle C—Concurrent Receipt of Military Retired Pay and Veterans’ Disability Compensation

Sec. 121. One-year expansion of eligibility for concurrent receipt of military retired pay and veterans’ disability compensation to include all chapter 61 disability retirees regardless of disability rating percentage or years of service.

TITLE II—FEDERAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Subtitle A—General Provisions

Sec. 201. Credit for unused sick leave.

Sec. 202. Limited expansion of the class of individuals eligible to receive an actuarially reduced annuity under the civil service retirement system.

Sec. 203. Computation of certain annuities based on part-time service.

Sec. 204. Authority to deposit refunds under FERS.

Sec. 205. Retirement credit for service of certain employees transferred from District of Columbia service to Federal service.

Subtitle B—Non-Foreign Area Retirement Equity Assurance

Sec. 211. Short title.

Sec. 212. Extension of Locality Pay.

Sec. 213. Adjustment of special rates.

Sec. 214. Transition schedule for locality-based comparability payments.

Sec. 215. Savings provision.

Sec. 216. Application to other eligible employees.

Sec. 217. Election of additional basic pay for annuity computation by employees.

Sec. 218. Regulations.

Sec. 219. Effective dates.

TITLE III—DEEPWATER OIL AND GAS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDING SOURCE REPEAL

Sec. 301. Repeal.