

now is the fact that standards that already are in place were not followed, and we had best practices that, of course, are required of the industry that were not being followed. And I think we're going to find that out. So the last thing we want to do is cripple the United States' production of domestic energy in order to find out and hold a certain group of people accountable for the fact that they did not follow the practices or the standards.

But let's put it this way: Congress has not done its job as well. We have spent billions of dollars on research and development for the Department of Energy. That money has been channeled into nonsense, like proving global warming rather than spending some money—which we have—spending money on research and development to make the technology that we need to have safe oil and gas production, which our country currently depends upon for our standard of living.

So we haven't done our job here. We haven't set our priorities here. And on top of that, we did not develop the technology necessary to deal with a spill of this magnitude. Kevin Costner came to our office and testified at a hearing. He's put his own money into this. So we need to set our own priorities. We need to deal with this crisis.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, this commission is necessary so the commission has subpoena power. I think everybody understands that and supports that. But we need to do the three things that I had mentioned earlier. And that is to cap the well, to clean up all of the oil that has spilled out, and to hold BP accountable. Those things I think have very, very strong bipartisan support.

The only issue is what has been addressed a few times at least from my perspective and in print about the objectivity of this commission. And of course, Madam Speaker, we all know that only time will tell when that judgment will be made. But if they work in an objective way, look at the facts, and come to a decision based on the facts rather than a political point of view, I think we'll all be better served by that.

And with that, I urge support of this legislation.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5481, as amended, to give subpoena power to the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling.

On April 20, 2010, the Deepwater Horizon, a mobile offshore drilling unit (MODU) operating in the Gulf of Mexico off Louisiana, suffered a blowout and an uncontrollable release of gas and oil. This touched off an explosion and fire that claimed the lives of 11 men, injured many others, and resulted in the loss of the rig.

This casualty has also resulted in the release of millions of gallons of gas and oil into the Gulf of Mexico, the destruction of critical shoreline and ocean habitats, impacts to the

health of potentially hundreds of workers engaged in the clean up, and catastrophic economic losses that will not be known for some time for the people of the Gulf Coast region. Gas and oil continue to gush out of control from the well nearly 65 days since the explosion.

On May 22, President Obama issued Executive Order 13543 to establish the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling Commission. The Commission's mission is to:

1. examine the facts and circumstances concerning the Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster;

2. develop options for preventing and mitigating the impact of oil spills associated with offshore drilling including: improvements to Federal laws, regulations, and industry practices and reforms to federal agencies; and

3. submit a public report to the President with findings and options for consideration within six months of the Commission's first meeting.

There are many serious questions that need to be answered surrounding this catastrophe. The President's Executive Order establishes a framework for pursuing these questions and providing needed policy improvements regarding offshore oil drilling. However, the Commission lacks a critical tool: subpoena power.

Unfortunately, it is in the interests of certain parties to withhold important information, rather than to provide it voluntarily. I know from our own oversight work on the Committee that subpoena power is absolutely necessary to identify and to get the information required to make better policies and to protect public health, the environment, and to prevent the mistakes of the past. For the Commission to fulfill its critical mission, it must have the power to compel parties to provide it with information. Congress has provided similar powers to prior commissions and provided this same investigatory power to the Offices of Inspector General pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978.

The gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) has introduced legislation (H.R. 5481) to ensure that the BP Deepwater Horizon Commission has the ability to pursue critical questions and lines of inquiry wherever they may lead. The bill allows the Commission to issue subpoenas to compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses, and produce records and correspondence, among other items.

Passage of this legislation will give the BP Deep Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling Commission a central tool that it needs to get to the truth.

I thank the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) for introducing this important bill and for her unwavering commitment to this issue.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5481.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5481, 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. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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.

PRIVILEGED REPORT ON RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY TO SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. RAHALL, from the Committee on Natural Resources, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-510) on the resolution (H. Res. 1406) directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit to the House of Representatives certain information relating to the potential designation of National Monuments, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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 3 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1617

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. RICHARDSON) at 4 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 5481, by the yeas and nays;
H.R. 3993, by the yeas and nays;
H. Res. 1388, de novo.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

GRANTING SUBPOENA POWER TO COMMISSION INVESTIGATING BP DEEPWATER OIL SPILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5481) to give subpoena power to the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 420, nays 1, answered “present” 2, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 382]

YEAS—420

Ackerman	Crowley	Holt	Michaud	Rangel	Smith (TX)
Aderholt	Cuellar	Honda	Miller (FL)	Rehberg	Smith (WA)
Adler (NJ)	Culberson	Hoyer	Miller (MI)	Reichert	Snyder
Akin	Cummings	Hunter	Miller (NC)	Reyes	Space
Alexander	Dahlkemper	Inglis	Miller, George	Richardson	Speier
Altmine	Davis (AL)	Inslee	Minnick	Rodriguez	Spratt
Andrews	Davis (CA)	Israel	Mitchell	Roe (TN)	Stark
Arcuri	Davis (IL)	Issa	Mollohan	Rogers (AL)	Stearns
Austria	Davis (KY)	Jackson (IL)	Moore (KS)	Rogers (KY)	Stupak
Baca	Davis (TN)	Jackson Lee	Moore (WI)	Rogers (MI)	Sullivan
Bachmann	DeFazio	(TX)	Murphy (CT)	Rohrabacher	Sutton
Bachus	DeGette	Jenkins	Murphy (NY)	Roohey	Tanner
Baird	DeLauro	Johnson (GA)	Murphy, Patrick	Ros-Lehtinen	Taylor
Baldwin	Dent	Johnson (IL)	Murphy, Tim	Roskam	Teague
Barrow	Deutch	Johnson, E. B.	Myrick	Rothman (NJ)	Terry
Bartlett	Diaz-Balart, L.	Johnson, Sam	Nadler (NY)	Roybal-Allard	Thompson (CA)
Barton (TX)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Jones	Napolitano	Royce	Thompson (MS)
Bean	Dicks	Jordan (OH)	Obey	Ruppersberger	Thompson (PA)
Becerra	Dingell	Kagen	Neal (MA)	Rush	Tiahrt
Berkley	Djou	Kanjorski	Neugebauer	Ryan (OH)	Tiberi
Berman	Doggett	Kaptur	Nye	Ryan (WI)	Tierney
Berry	Donnelly (IN)	Kennedy	Oberstar	Salazar	Titus
Biggert	Doyle	Kildee	Obey	Sánchez, Linda	Tonko
Blilray	Dreier	Kilpatrick (MI)	Olson	Oliver	Towns
Bilirakis	Driehaus	Kiroy	Paulsen	Sanchez, Loretta	Tsangas
Bishop (GA)	Duncan	Kind	Pence	Sarbanes	Turner
Bishop (NY)	Edwards (MD)	King (IA)	Perlmutter	Scalise	Upton
Bishop (UT)	Edwards (TX)	King (NY)	Pascarel	Schakowsky	Van Hollen
Blackburn	Ehlers	Kingston	Pastor (AZ)	Schaeuer	Velázquez
Blumenauer	Ellison	Kirkpatrick (AZ)	Paulsen	Schiff	Walden
Blunt	Ellsworth	Kissell	Petri	Schmidt	Walz
Boccieri	Emerson	Klein (FL)	Pitts	Schock	Wasserman
Boehner	Engel	Kline (MN)	Poe (TX)	Schrader	Schultz
Bonner	Eshoo	Kosmas	Polis (CO)	Schwartz	Waters
Bono Mack	Etheridge	Kratovil	Peterson	Perriello	Watson
Boozman	Fallin	Kucinich	Sensenbrenner	Peters	Watt
Boren	Farr	Lamborn	Petri	Shadegg	Westmoreland
Boswell	Fattah	Lance	Pingree (ME)	Pitts	Wheeler
Boucher	Filner	Langevin	Poe (TX)	Price (GA)	Welch
Boustany	Flake	Larsen (WA)	Polis (CO)	Price (NC)	Sessions
Boyd	Fleming	Larson (CT)	Pomeroy	Putnam	Shuster
Brady (PA)	Forbes	Latham	Radanovich	Quigley	Shea-Porter
Brady (TX)	Fortenberry	LaTourette	Rahall	Rahall	Whitfield
Braley (IA)	Foster	Latta			Wilson (OH)
Bright	Foxx	Lee (CA)			Wixson
Broun (GA)	Frank (MA)	Lee (NY)			Wolsey
Brown, Corrine	Franks (AZ)	Levin			Wires
Brown-Waite,	Frelighuysen	Lewis (CA)			Wu
Ginny	Fudge	Lewis (GA)			Yarmuth
Buchanan	Gallegly	Linder			Zeldin
Burgess	Garamendi	Lipinski			
Burton (IN)	Garrett (NJ)	LoBiondo			
Butterfield	Gerlach	Loebsack			
Buyer	Giffords	Lofgren, Zoe			
Calvert	Gingrey (GA)	Lowey			
Camp	Gohmert	Lucas			
Campbell	Gonzalez	Luetkemeyer			
Cantor	Goodlatte	Luján			
Cao	Gordon (TN)	Lummis			
Capito	Granger	Lungren, Daniel			
Capps	Graves (GA)	E.			
Capuano	Graves (MO)	Lynch			
Cardoza	Grayson	Mack			
Carnahan	Green, Al	Maffei			
Carney	Green, Gene	Maloney			
Carson (IN)	Griffith	Manzullo			
Carter	Grijalva	Marchant			
Cassidy	Guthrie	Markey (CO)			
Castle	Gutierrez	Markey (MA)			
Castor (FL)	Hall (NY)	Marshall			
Chaffetz	Hall (TX)	Matheson			
Chandler	Halvorson	Matsui			
Childers	Hare	McCarthy (CA)			
Chu	Harman	McCarthy (NY)			
Clarke	Harper	McCaul			
Clay	Hastings (FL)	McClintock			
Cleaver	Hastings (WA)	McCullom			
Clyburn	Heinrich	McCotter			
Coble	Heller	McDermott			
Coffman (CO)	Hensarling	McGovern			
Cohen	Herger	McHenry			
Cole	Herseth Sandlin	McIntyre			
Conaway	Higgins	McKeon			
Connolly (VA)	Hill	McMahon			
Conyers	Himes	McMorris			
Cooper	Hinchey	Rodgers			
Costa	Hinojosa	McNerney			
Costello	Hirono	Meek (FL)			
Courtney	Hodes	Meek (NY)			
Crenshaw	Hoekstra	Melancon			
Critz	Holden	Mica			

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING
THE PASSING OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS LUDLOW
ASHLEY

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, it is with a sad but grateful heart that I rise today on behalf of my Ohio colleagues to inform the House that Congressman Thomas Ludlow Ashley of Toledo, Ohio, passed from this life on June 15, 2010.

Lud ably served in our Congress from 1955 to 1981, a career that spanned a quarter century, after he returned home as a corporal in the Army during World War II, serving in the Pacific theater.

As the Toledo Blade editorial reminds us, “The late Senator Edward Kennedy once said: ‘Americans sleep in better housing today because of Lud Ashley.’” As chair of the House Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development, Lud led America in urban and small town revitalization, improving our condition as a society a home and block at a time. He voted for the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and authored many pieces of legislation to rebuild America following the civil rights movement of that period.

In 1977, Mr. Ashley was selected by his beloved friend and Speaker, Thomas “Tip” O’Neill, to lead the House in the first ad hoc Energy Committee after the first Middle East oil embargo threw America into a deep recession. As Speaker O’Neill said at the time, “Lud has a toughness and a never-say-die attitude, and who, when he was put on the first team, could run with the ball.”

Born on January 11, 1923, in Toledo, Lud was raised on Robinwood Avenue. He has been laid to rest nearby at Woodlawn Cemetery. He was the great grandson of James Mitchell Ashley of Ohio, who served before him from 1859–1869 and coauthored the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution outlawing slavery. In that tradition, Lud Ashley’s legacy was his abiding spirit of equal justice that moved civil rights forward in the post-World War II era.

It is appropriate this Congress has honored both Congressmen in passing legislation that named the Federal courthouse at Toledo forever in their memory.

Our prayers go out to the Ashley family: to his daughter Lisa and sons Meredith and his wife Monica, to Mark, brother Charles, sister-in-law Gerry, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Kathleen.

Our citizenry in the 9th Congressional District shall miss his great intellect, dogged nature, and incredible sense of humor that lifted us all to carry forward.

Thank you, Thomas Ludlow Ashley.

[From toledoBlade.com, June 16, 2010]

CONGRESSMAN KNOWN FOR AIDING HOUSING,
CIVIL RIGHTS DIES AT 87
(By Mark Zaborney)

Thomas Ludlow “Lud” Ashley, a liberal Democrat who played key roles in passing landmark civil rights, housing, and anti-poverty legislation while representing Toledo in Congress for more than a quarter century, died yesterday of melanoma at his home in Leland, Mich. He was 87.

Mr. Ashley cut a large figure on national and local stages, a genial good companion with a ready wit. He was colorful at times but also a thoughtful, skilled legislator capable of reconciling diverse interests to produce bills that would win floor approval.

While a student at Yale University in the 1940s, he befriended George H.W. Bush, and