

Sessions	Sullivan	Walden
Sestak	Sutton	Walz
Shadegg	Tanner	Wasserman
Shea-Porter	Taylor	Schultz
Sherman	Teague	Waters
Shimkus	Terry	Watt
Shuster	Thompson (CA)	Waxman
Simpson	Thompson (MS)	Weiner
Sires	Thompson (PA)	Westmoreland
Slaughter	Thornberry	Whitfield
Smith (NE)	Tierney	Wilson (OH)
Smith (NJ)	Titus	Wilson (SC)
Smith (TX)	Tonko	Wittman
Smith (WA)	Towns	Wolf
Snyder	Tsongas	Woolsey
Space	Turner	Yarmuth
Spratt	Upton	Young (AK)
Stearns	Van Hollen	Young (FL)
Stupak	Velázquez	
Stutzman	Visclosky	

NAYS—1

Paul

NOT VOTING—61

Arcuri	Fallin	Napolitano
Baca	Flake	Olver
Bachus	Fudge	Peters
Berry	Gallely	Petri
Blunt	Granger	Pingree (ME)
Boyd	Graves (MO)	Putnam
Buyer	Griffith	Radanovich
Cardoza	Hill	Sarbanes
Carnahan	Kind	Schmidt
Clyburn	King (NY)	Scott (GA)
Coble	Kirkpatrick (AZ)	Shuler
Coffman (CO)	Linder	Skelton
Cohen	Marchant	Speier
Connolly (VA)	Markey (CO)	Stark
Crenshaw	McKeon	Tiahrt
Davis (CA)	McMorris	Tiberi
DeGette	Rodgers	Wamp
Delahunt	Miller, Gary	Watson
DeLauro	Miller, George	Welch
Driehaus	Moran (KS)	Wu
Ellsworth	Myrick	

□ 1338

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and 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:

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following vote. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll-call vote 627, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass—H.R. 6412, Access to Criminal History Records for State Sentencing Commissions Act of 2010—I would have voted “aye.”

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2010

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Monday next; and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 14, 2010, for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. (Mr. KISSELL). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I hereby no-

tify the House of my intention to offer a resolution as a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of my resolution is as follows:

Authorizing and directing the Speaker to appoint a bipartisan task force to investigate the circumstances and cause of the decision to place professional staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct on indefinite administrative leave, and for other purposes.

Whereas the Constitution of the United States authorizes the House of Representatives to “determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behavior, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member”;

Whereas in 1968, in compliance with this authority and to uphold its integrity and ensure that Members act in a manner that reflects credit on the House of Representatives, the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct was established;

Whereas the ethics procedures in effect during the 111th Congress were enacted in 1997 in a bipartisan manner by an overwhelming vote of the House of Representatives upon the bipartisan recommendation of the ten member Ethics Reform Task Force, which conducted a thorough and lengthy review of the entire ethics process;

Whereas, the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct adopted rules for the 111th Congress;

Whereas rule 6(a) of the Rules of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct states “the staff is to be assembled and retained as professional, nonpartisan staff”;

Whereas rule 6(c) of the Rules of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct states “the staff as a whole and each individual member of the staff shall perform all official duties in a nonpartisan manner”;

Whereas rule 6(f) of the Rules of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct states “All staff members shall be appointed by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Committee. Such a vote shall occur at the first meeting of the membership of the Committee during each Congress and as necessary during the Congress”;

Whereas, on November 19, 2010 two members of the professional staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct were placed on indefinite administrative leave;

Whereas, on November 19, 2010 the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct canceled and has not rescheduled the adjudicatory hearing for a Member of Congress, previously scheduled for November 29, 2010;

Whereas all of these actions have subjected the Committee to public ridicule and weakened the ability of the Committee to properly conduct its investigative duties, all of which has brought discredit to the House; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Speaker shall appoint a bipartisan task force with equal representation of the majority and minority parties to investigate the circumstances and cause of the decision to place professional staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct on indefinite administrative leave and to make recommendations to restore public confidence in the ethics process, including disciplinary measures for both staff and Members where needed; and

(2) the task force report its findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives during the second session of this Congress.

□ 1340

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution of the gentlewoman from California will appear in the RECORD.

The Chair’s customary announcement will also appear in the RECORD.

Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentlewoman from California will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR SENIORS

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5987, the Seniors Protection Act. 2011 will mark the first time that Social Security retirees and other beneficiaries will receive no automatic cost of living increase for 2 consecutive years. At the same time, seniors must stretch each dollar further as health care and other costs continue to rise. And in these tough economic times, seniors have even fewer assets to help them make ends meet.

The Social Security program is in its 75th year of helping our seniors, and we must stay true to President Roosevelt’s vision of economic security for all of our citizens. This legislation will help more than 4 million seniors in my home State of Florida alone, many of whom struggle to meet their everyday living expenses.

As we move forward, let us rededicate ourselves to strengthening, not weakening, this vital program. I want to thank Congressman EARL POMEROY for sponsoring this much-needed legislation.

THE DREAM ACT AND IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reaffirm support for the general goals and ideals of the DREAM Act. Unfortunately and ultimately, America will have trouble getting there. But the ambition and hard work of immigrant students earning their degrees and citizenship will benefit our country. However, I voted against the passage of the DREAM Act last night. I believe passing this bill outside of comprehensive immigration reform is ill-advised.

Our immigration system is terribly broken. As a small business owner and farmer, I know the current system does not work for small businesses asked to play the role of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It also doesn’t work

for farmers harvesting their crops, for children raised as Americans, or the many people playing by the rules and seeking United States citizenship because they believe in the promise of America.

Border control, employer verification, exit controls, keeping family units intact, protecting our economy, and many others are tough issues that need to be resolved effectively and fairly. They deserve our time and attention now. I am not interested in just kicking the can down the road by not taking the tough votes on immigration reform. The whole system needs to be fixed, not just part of it.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. BRIAN MATHIE

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

Mr. BOCCIERI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of a man with a dedicated vision not just for himself, but for his life's work. My constituent, Dr. Brian Mathie of Louisville, Ohio, has a commitment to a lifetime of healthy vision for all Ohio residents. He proves why the Ohio Optometric Association named him the 2010 Optometrist of the Year.

For his contributions to preserving the gift of sight for people across our district and all across Ohio, for his mentorship and leadership in our community, I too join in congratulating Dr. Mathie for his service.

Countless times I have relied upon Dr. Mathie and his staff at the Roholt Vision Institute of North Canton to provide care for me. He is dependable, reliable, and accurate. Dr. Mathie is not only a leader in the physician's office, but in the classroom and the community, where he serves as an adjunct faculty member at Ohio State University College of Optometry and participates in the Louisville Community Foundation, Rotary Club, and Cross Eyed Missions.

Dr. Mathie, you are a community leader, one dedicated to public service and good public health. Thank you for your commitment. I wish you success in your profession and your leadership.

SUPPORTING VETERANS, DOCTORS AND SENIORS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I would like to address a few items for my colleagues. First of all, I am very proud today to introduce H.R. 6510, which will allow Texas veterans to have a Texas military museum. We look forward to this moving through this Congress and saying "thank you" to our veterans.

I think it is important that we move quickly to pass the Senior Protection Act of 2010 to get \$250 to our seniors. And I rise as well to support H.R. 4994

that we voted on, so that physicians do not get a 25 percent cut in their Medicare payments. That we also are able to provide for Medicare therapy that many of our seniors have. That as well that we will have a mental health add-on that many of my constituents, including MMHRA, will need. And as well that we are providing to make sure that we have enough money to pay for those in poverty to be able to pay their Medicare payments, Medicare Part B.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to address the needs of Americans who have worked, including the veterans who celebrate a veterans museum, including those doctors who work for us, and certainly seniors who need these Medicare benefits. This is a time for us to stand for them.

□ 1350

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

COMMENTS ON AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, this past Tuesday I came to the floor to talk about the corruption in Afghanistan and the growing concern of the American people due to the fact that many in both parties have said we need to stay there 4 more years, including the President of the United States.

In November of this year, we had 53 Americans killed in action in Afghanistan and 146 Americans wounded in Afghanistan. Beside me, Mr. Speaker, are the faces of marines who were killed from Camp Lejeune. Too many times, because of the fact that this country does not have a draft, this country seems to put the war in Afghanistan on the second, third, and fourth pages, and that is a tragedy to the families of those young men and women fighting in Afghanistan and to those families who have lost loved ones who have been killed.

I would like to take just a moment to read from the Washington Examiner a couple of comments and also a "60 Minutes" segment on November 28 by Anderson Cooper called "Good Cop, Bad Cop."

From the Washington Examiner earlier this year: "The Examiner reported that numerous insurgents captured in Pakistan, including some members of

al Qaeda, were returned to Afghanistan upon the request of the Karzai government, and then, according to senior Pakistan officials, 'released back to the Taliban as bargaining chips in negotiations.'

"A marine stationed in southern Afghanistan's volatile Helmand Province told the Examiner that efforts to retaining insurgent fighters are 'worthless.'" They are worthless.

"Earlier this year, his unit held a man known to be working with the Taliban. The marines had gathered evidence that the man was transporting hundreds of pounds of bomb-making equipment and explosives for the Taliban. But, shortly after they captured him, he was set free."

That is a tragedy in itself, Mr. Speaker, because our young men and women are over there dying for what, I do not know. In fact, there was an article written in the magazine called *The American Conservative* by Andrew Bacevich about 6 months ago, and the title of that article was "To Die for a Mystique." He was comparing Vietnam to Afghanistan. Actually, the writer of that article, Andrew Bacevich, fought in Vietnam for this country, and his son died in Iraq for this country.

Let me just briefly read from "Good Cops, Bad Cops: Afghanistan's National Police." This is the "60 Minutes" segment:

"We began with the three-star American general now in charge of their training. 'The police have to succeed,' Lt. General William Caldwell told CNN's Anderson Cooper.

"'If the Afghan police fail, we fail?' Cooper asked.

"'We do,' the general said.

"Caldwell began overseeing training of Afghan security forces last November. 'The sooner we can develop an effective police force, the sooner U.S. forces will be able to have less of an active combat role,' the general said. 'If we had a better-trained Afghan police at this point, that would save American lives,' Cooper said. 'There's no question about that. That is true,' said the general."

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me tell you just how difficult this job is:

"Not only are most of the police illiterate, but it turns out many of them also have a drug problem. There is one study said 10 to 20 percent use or smoke hash and other forms of drugs,' Cooper told Caldwell, 'and that's probably an accurate statistic based on what we have seen,' he replied.

"Another video taken by members of the 82nd Airborne shows an Afghan policeman smoking marijuana before going out on patrol—evidently not an uncommon ritual."

Mr. Speaker, it is time that this House and this Senate and this administration understand that it is not worth the lives of our men and women in uniform to keep them in Afghanistan for 4 years. History has proven it is an uncontrolled country. It will never be a nation, it will never have a