

Tsongas	Visclosky	Wilson (FL)
Van Hollen	Walz	Yarmuth
Veasey	Wasserman	
Vela	Schultz	
Velázquez	Waters	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—10

Brooks (IN)	Dent	Meehan
Capuano	Deutch	Sánchez, Linda
Clarke (NY)	Gowdy	T.
Conaway	Issa	

NOT VOTING—31

Amodei	Gosar	Ruiz
Bachmann	Gutiérrez	Rush
Barber	Hensarling	Scott, David
Bass	Hinojosa	Smith (WA)
Becerra	Mulvaney	Vargas
Courtney	Noem	Wagner
Davis (CA)	Pastor (AZ)	Waxman
Davis, Danny	Peters (CA)	Welch
Delaney	Pingree (ME)	Whitfield
Dingell	Rangel	
Franks (AZ)	Ribble	

□ 1810

So the motion to table was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 133, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 13, 2014 I was unable to be in Washington, D.C. and vote on the legislative business of the day.

On Ordering the Previous Question for consideration of H. Res. 515, a resolution providing for consideration of both H.R. 3189, Water Rights Protection Act and H.R. 4015, SGR Repeal and Medicare Provider Payment Modernization Act of 2014, rollcall vote No. 125, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On Adoption of H. Res. 515, a resolution providing for consideration of both H.R. 3189, Water Rights Protection Act and H.R. 4015, SGR Repeal and Medicare Provider Payment Modernization Act of 2014, rollcall vote No. 126, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On Agreeing to the Ellison of Minnesota Amendment No. 1 to H.R. 3973, Faithful Execution of the Law Act of 2014, rollcall vote No. 127, had I been present I would have voted "no."

On the Motion to Recommit with Instructions H.R. 3973, Faithful Execution of the Law Act of 2014, rollcall vote No. 128, had I been present I would have voted "no."

On Passage of H.R. 3973, Faithful Execution of the Law Act of 2014, rollcall vote No. 129, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

On Agreeing to the Polis of Colorado Substitute Amendment No. 3 to H.R. 3189, Water Rights Protection Act, rollcall vote No. 130, had I been present I would have voted "no."

On the Motion to Recommit with Instructions H.R. 3189, Water Rights Protection Act, rollcall vote No. 131, had I been present I would have voted "no."

On Passage of H.R. 3189, Water Rights Protection Act, rollcall vote No. 132, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On the Motion to Table the Question of the Privileges of the House, rollcall vote No. 133, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BENTIVOLIO). The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 6968(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy:

Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY, Florida

BOB MURRAY

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a respected community leader and a great friend to so many in central Illinois.

On February 26, longtime broadcaster, weatherman, and radio host Bob Murray lost his battle to brain cancer at the age of 66.

Throughout his career, Bob took his work incredibly seriously. He used to be my weatherman. I would watch on TV while growing up, but in his later life, he was a radio broadcaster. He arrived at the radio station at 1:30 in the morning to prepare for the day because he felt an informed community was important—from community fundraisers, to what was happening with government, to the weather, and to the breaking local news.

I had the privilege of being interviewed by Bob dozens of times over the last 18 months, and I can tell you without a doubt that he was one of the most honest, respectful, and professional members of the media I have ever met.

Bob's family is honoring his life by having memorials made to the Illinois News Broadcasters Association Foundation for a scholarship to be awarded in his name. I can't think of a better way to ensure that he is remembered for years to come.

So thank you, Bob Murray, for the years of service you provided to the families in central Illinois.

Thank you to Bob's family for sharing him with us for more than 40 years and for allowing him to become a part of our family.

DON'T CUT OUR MILITARY

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last night, I held a telephone town hall and called almost 60,000 homes back in Texas. I heard from southeast Texans about a lot of things that were on their minds, but the number one concern I heard about was cuts to the military.

Mr. Speaker, one citizen said to me: We, the United States, were not pre-

pared militarily for World War II. Why are we doing the same thing now? We need to be increasing, not decreasing, our military capabilities.

I even took a poll and asked those who were listening in on the call: Do you think we should reduce our military? An overwhelming 85 percent of the people on the call said: No.

Mr. Speaker, our men and women in the military should be the last thing we cut from the Federal budget. The world is getting more and more dangerous as time goes on. We should not lose sight of the enemies we face. Both countries and terrorists who wish to do us harm still exist. Our military is the best in the world—and we must make sure it stays that way.

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1815

CHILDREN'S BUDGET

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, this happens to be Women's History Month. I will continue to salute the dynamic women of this Nation.

I rise today as a founder and cochair of the Congressional Children's Caucus and indicate to my colleagues that I believe we are overdue for naming children as our number one priority. Working with First Focus, I intend to introduce a children's budget for the needs of our children. We have left children behind. Many times, the issues around children are discussed in a partisan way. Who wants early childhood education? Who wants universal pre-K or around-the-clock child care?

In actuality, the consumers and beneficiaries of funding for those very important issues are our children. We should give them the security, protection, and resources to prevent child abuse and for bringing families together and providing intervention for families that are troubled that result in not only child abuse, but violence against these children.

What about the best education they can have? What about the best health care they can have?

Mr. Speaker, children are our number one priority. I truly believe that a children's budget in the United States of America is long overdue.

Join me on the children's budget.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3370. An act to delay the implementation of certain provisions of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1086. An act to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, and for other purposes.

S. 2137. An act to ensure that holders of flood insurance policies under the National Flood Insurance Program do not receive premium refunds for coverage of second homes.

PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. POCAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I am glad to be here on behalf of the Progressive Caucus today for the Progressive Caucus Special Order hour. We want to talk about the need to extend unemployment benefits in this country.

Since the end of December, millions of Americans have lost their extended unemployment benefits and are struggling just to get by in this economy.

We have had two really positive developments this week. One, the House Democrats have an initiative, led by Representative BRAD SCHNEIDER of Illinois, to do a discharge petition, which is a procedural motion to force the leadership of this body to let us vote on extending unemployment benefits, which it refuses to do.

We have to get 218 signatures—a majority of the House—to sign the discharge petition. If that happens, we can force a vote and make sure that people who have lost their benefits since the end of December get their benefits.

That is the first important thing that has happened.

The second important thing is, today, just this afternoon, it was announced there is a bipartisan agreement in the Senate by several senators to make sure that we can extend benefits through the month of May of this year.

We need to do everything possible not only to make sure that the Senate passes that, but to make sure that this House takes up that action. Because if we don't, millions of people—and many more every single week—will not get access to unemployment benefits.

So the Progressive Caucus is here today to highlight this issue and to raise awareness and explain why it is so important that we pass these benefits—and we pass them now—on behalf of the millions of people in this country that need those.

I am joined by several of my colleagues here today. I would like to make sure that they have a chance to talk about the unique situations in their area and why this is so important.

I would first like to yield to my colleague from the great State of Oregon, Representative SUZANNE BONAMICI.

Ms. BONAMICI. Thank you very much, Congressman POCAN. Thank you for leading this discussion. The discussion about extending the emergency unemployment compensation program is such an important topic.

Last week, the country marked a troubling milestone. The number of Americans who lost their emergency unemployment insurance hit 2 million. Thousands more will lose this lifeline every week if we do not extend this critical benefit.

The impact of losing unemployment benefits is immediate and devastating to our constituents. I recently spoke to a constituent in Oregon who was laid off from a large employer in my district. His unemployment benefits ended early this year when the program was cut off. Since then, unfortunately, things have gone from bad to worse. He has been in his home for about 10 years, and now he is in default because he cannot pay his mortgage.

I want to thank our colleague, Congressman MATT CARTWRIGHT, for leading the effort to provide my constituents and yours the opportunity to get a bit of relief. He is sponsoring the Stop Foreclosures Due to Congressional Dysfunction Act. That would put a 6-month moratorium on foreclosures of Federally-backed mortgages for individuals who have exhausted their unemployment benefits.

I have to say this is the least that we can do for our constituents who are still suffering because this House refuses to allow an "up-or-down" vote on extending unemployment compensation.

My constituent is actively looking for work. He continues to look for work. But he keeps getting passed over for jobs. They are being filled by employers who seem to be looking for younger, maybe less expensive workers.

He is one of many constituents across the country. What he and other constituents like him tell me is that it is particularly difficult for the more mature job seekers to find work, even though they have decades of productive experience.

His efforts to find work haven't stopped. And I have to emphasize this: the unemployment benefits that he was getting weren't making him lazy. They were allowing him to survive. But instead of giving him the resources he needs to help lift him up and out of this situation, we are abandoning him and constituents across the country when they really need that lifeline.

We need to extend this lifeline while we are tackling the problems of long-term unemployment in this country. The long-term unemployed need better access to job training; workforce development programs; resources; programs to engage employers and help connect the long-term unemployed, particularly older workers, with suitable employment.

All Americans must realize that being among the long-term unemployed does not diminish one's abilities, value, or potential contribution to the workforce and the economy. I want to emphasize that point, because when I had a roundtable discussion in my district, there were several constitu-

ents there who were unemployed. They get down and concerned that they aren't worthy. We wanted to emphasize to them, You are worthy. Keep looking. You can find work.

We should be extending this lifeline.

My home State of Oregon has been a bright spot in the midst of the recovery. In January, Oregon recorded its lowest unemployment rate since 2008. There is a recent report that shows that Oregon added more than 43,000 jobs last year—that is great news—adding to the unemployment base by 2.6 percent.

Unfortunately, the economic improvement provides little relief for the still about 30,000 long-term unemployed Oregonians who have lost these benefits over the last 2 months and are still struggling to reenter the workforce.

They need these resources to have a car to get to job interviews, to have a cell phone.

As the economy continues to recover, we must stimulate it, not stifle it. The Emergency Unemployment Compensation program doesn't just help the millions of Americans who are struggling to get by every day, it provides an economic boost.

When people get these benefits, they aren't saving this money. They put the benefits right back into the economy. While they look for work they use the unemployment benefits to pay their mortgages, to buy groceries, to keep the lights on.

We shouldn't be arguing over extending this lifeline to millions of hard-working Americans. I was glad to hear the news that the Senate has a bipartisan proposal. I hope they pass that and get it over to us right away.

Yesterday, I joined many other of our colleagues in signing the discharge petition calling for a vote to extend emergency unemployment. There is no better cause than helping the hard-working members of our country who desperately want to go back to work.

Thank you again, Representative POCAN, for organizing this hour. I hope that we can draw the attention of the Nation, but especially of our colleagues, about the effects of ending the benefit.

I urge our colleagues on the other side of the aisle and in leadership to reconsider this and put it up for a vote so we can help our constituents who are looking for work, trying to get back to work, and need that lifeline.

Thank you again, Representative POCAN, for leading this important discussion.

Mr. POCAN. Thank you, Representative BONAMICI. I am sorry to hear about your constituent losing housing.

For the State of the Union in this very Chamber, I brought a constituent of mine who had lost their benefits. Rather than be foreclosed on, they put their home up for sale. They are still looking for work.

It is a situation happening all too often. There is an article in today's Huffington Post talking about the