

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on concurring in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2029) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes, with the House amendment specified in section 3(a) of House Resolution 566, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on concurring in the Senate amendment with an amendment.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 316, nays 113, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 705]

YEAS—316

Adams	Cramer	Honda
Aderholt	Crenshaw	Hoyer
Aguiar	Crowley	Huffman
Allen	Culberson	Huizenga (MI)
Ashford	Cummings	Hurd (TX)
Barr	Curbelo (FL)	Israel
Barton	Davis (CA)	Issa
Bass	Davis, Danny	Jackson Lee
Beatty	Davis, Rodney	Jeffries
Benishek	DeFazio	Jenkins (WV)
Bera	DeGette	Johnson (OH)
Beyer	Delaney	Jolly
Bilirakis	DeLauro	Joyce
Bishop (GA)	DelBene	Kaptur
Bishop (MI)	Denham	Katko
Bishop (UT)	Dent	Keating
Blumenauer	DeSaulnier	Kelly (IL)
Bonamici	Deutch	Kelly (MS)
Bost	Diaz-Balart	Kilmer
Boustany	Dingell	Kind
Boyle, Brendan	Dold	King (NY)
F.	Donovan	Kinzinger (IL)
Brady (PA)	Doyle, Michael	Kirkpatrick
Brady (TX)	F.	Kline
Brooks (IN)	Duckworth	Knight
Brown (FL)	Duffy	Kuster
Brownley (CA)	Edwards	Langevin
Buchanan	Ellmers (NC)	Larsen (WA)
Bucshon	Engel	Larson (CT)
Burgess	Eshoo	Lawrence
Bustos	Esty	Lee
Butterfield	Farr	Levin
Calvert	Fattah	Lewis
Capps	Fitzpatrick	Lipinski
Capuano	Fleischmann	LoBiondo
Cárdenas	Flores	Loeb
Carson (IN)	Foster	Loudermilk
Carter (GA)	Fox	Love
Carter (TX)	Frankel (FL)	Lowenthal
Cartwright	Frelinghuysen	Lowe
Castor (FL)	Fudge	Lucas
Castro (TX)	Gabbard	Luetkemeyer
Chabot	Garamendi	Lujan Grisham
Chaffetz	Gibson	(NM)
Chu, Judy	Graham	Luján, Ben Ray
Cicilline	Granger	(NM)
Clark (MA)	Graves (GA)	Lynch
Clarke (NY)	Graves (MO)	MacArthur
Clay	Grayson	Maloney,
Cleaver	Green, Al	Carolyn
Clyburn	Green, Gene	Maloney, Sean
Coffman	Grothman	Marchant
Cohen	Guthrie	Matsui
Cole	Hahn	McCarthy
Collins (GA)	Hanna	McCaul
Collins (NY)	Harper	McCollum
Comstock	Hartzler	McGovern
Conaway	Hastings	McHenry
Connolly	Heck (WA)	McMorris
Conyers	Hensarling	Rodgers
Cook	Herrera Beutler	McNerney
Cooper	Higgins	McSally
Costa	Hill	Meeks
Costello (PA)	Himes	Meng
Courtney	Hinojosa	Messer

Mica	Rice (NY)	Stewart
Miller (MI)	Rice (SC)	Stivers
Moolenaar	Richmond	Swalwell (CA)
Moore	Rigell	Takai
Moulton	Rogers (KY)	Thompson (CA)
Mullin	Rokita	Thompson (PA)
Murphy (FL)	Rooney (FL)	Thornberry
Murphy (PA)	Ros-Lehtinen	Tiberi
Nadler	Roskam	Titus
Napolitano	Ross	Tonko
Neal	Rouzer	Torres
Neugebauer	Roybal-Allard	Trott
Newhouse	Royce	Tsongas
Noem	Ruiz	Turner
Nolan	Ruppersberger	Upton
Norcross	Rush	Valadao
Nugent	Russell	Van Hollen
Nunes	Ryan (OH)	Vargas
O'Rourke	Ryan (WI)	Veasey
Olson	Sánchez, Linda	Vela
Palazzo	T.	Velázquez
Pallone	Sánchez, Loretta	Visclosky
Pascarella	Sarbanes	Wagner
Paulsen	Scalise	Walberg
Payne	Schakowsky	Walden
Pearce	Schiff	Walorski
Pelosi	Scott (VA)	Walters, Mimi
Perlmutter	Scott, Austin	Walz
Peters	Scott, David	Wasserman
Peterson	Sensenbrenner	Schultz
Pingree	Serrano	Watson Coleman
Pittenger	Sessions	Weber (TX)
Pitts	Sewell (AL)	Wenstrup
Poe (TX)	Sherman	Westmoreland
Poliquin	Shimkus	Wilson (FL)
Price (NC)	Simpson	Wilson (SC)
Price, Tom	Sinema	Womack
Quigley	Sires	Woodall
Rangel	Slaughter	Yarmuth
Reed	Smith (NJ)	Yoder
Reichert	Smith (WA)	Young (AK)
Renacci	Speier	Zeldin
Ribble	Stefanik	Zinke

NAYS—113

Abraham	Grijalva	Mooney (WV)
Amash	Guinta	Mulvaney
Amodei	Gutiérrez	Palmer
Babin	Hardy	Perry
Barletta	Harris	Pocan
Becerra	Heck (NV)	Polis
Black	Hice, Jody B.	Pompeo
Blackburn	Holding	Posey
Blum	Hudson	Ratcliffe
Brat	Huelskamp	Roby
Bridenstine	Hultgren	Roe (TN)
Brooks (AL)	Hunter	Rogers (AL)
Buck	Hurt (VA)	Rohrabacher
Byrne	Jenkins (KS)	Rothfus
Carney	Johnson (GA)	Salmon
Clawson (FL)	Johnson, Sam	Sanford
Crawford	Jones	Schrader
DeSantis	Jordan	Schweikert
DesJarlais	Kelly (PA)	Shuster
Doggett	King (IA)	Smith (MO)
Duncan (SC)	Labrador	Smith (NE)
Duncan (TN)	LaHood	Smith (TX)
Ellison	LaMalfa	Stutzman
Emmer (MN)	Lamborn	Takano
Farenthold	Lance	Tipton
Fleming	Latta	Walker
Forbes	Lieu, Ted	Waters, Maxine
Fortenberry	Lofgren	Webster (FL)
Franks (AZ)	Long	Welch
Galleo	Lummis	Westerman
Garrett	Marino	Whitfield
Gibbs	Massie	Williams
Gohmert	McClintock	Wittman
Goodlatte	McDermott	Yoho
Gosar	McKinley	Young (IA)
Gowdy	Meadows	Young (IN)
Graves (LA)	Meehan	
Griffith	Miller (FL)	

NOT VOTING—5

Cuellar	Johnson, E. B.	Kildee
Fincher	Kennedy	

□ 0949

Messrs. SAM JOHNSON of Texas and SANFORD changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Ms. FUDGE changed her vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the second portion of the divided question was adopted.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, December 18th, I am not recorded on any votes because I was absent due to a death in the family.

If I had been present, I would have voted: “yea” on rollcall 705, on the Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2029 with House Amendment Number 1—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016.

Stated against:

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, on December 18, 2015 I missed a rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 705 on Amendment No. 1 to the Senate Amendment of H.R. 2029 and providing for appropriations for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2016.

GLOBAL HEALTH INNOVATION ACT OF 2015

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 2241) to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to submit to Congress a report on the development and use of global health innovations in the programs, projects, and activities of the Agency, 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 California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by the Speaker on Thursday, December 17, 2015:

H.R. 2297, to prevent Hezbollah and associated entities from gaining access to international financial and other institutions, and for other purposes;

H.R. 2820, to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3831, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the annual comment period for payment rates under Medicare Advantage;

S. 1090, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide eligibility for broadcasting facilities to receive certain disaster assistance, and for other purposes.

THANK YOU TO STAFF AND JO-MARIE ST. MARTIN

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

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, this has been a busy month for all of us. We have passed more major legislation in a few weeks than we have in a few years. And now I want to thank all of the people who made it possible. I am talking about all the committee staff and all the people behind the scenes here in the Capitol who make this work. Thank you very, very much.

In particular, Mr. Speaker, this includes, of course, our legislative counsel. I don't think you could find a group of people more dedicated to their jobs. These people work late nights every night. They work weekends. They are always on call.

So I want to put into the RECORD a statement thanking every one of them by name. They were a part of history, and history should know their names.

I also want to thank one person in particular, and that is Jo-Marie St. Martin. Today is Jo-Marie's last day on the Hill. She has been working for this House for over 20 years, most recently as general counsel and chief of legislative operations for the Speaker. I could not even begin to list everything that she has accomplished.

We all know her so well. She is a legend in her own right. But as her colleagues will tell you, what is even more impressive than her career is her character. She is simply unflappable. When everyone else is on edge, she is calm. When they are flustered—and, believe it or not, some people get flustered around here from time to time—she is steady.

And though other people might like to show off their brains and their know-how, she is the definition of kindness, of humility. I have never heard her dismiss a question, no matter how small. She is always eager to help people understand. And her enthusiasm is nothing short of infectious. You can see it when she walks into a room. She has an effect on people. Everyone feels more at ease. The word that comes to mind is Zen—except, of course, when she is at a Caps game.

She knows the law backwards and forwards because she loves the law. She cares about the law. She cares about this House. For over 20 years, she has done her part to uphold its rights, to make sure that every voice was heard. Everyone here owes her a debt of gratitude.

If I could use an old-fashioned word, I would say she is a true patriot. We salute her.

So please join me one last time in thanking our friend Jo-Marie St. Martin.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished minority whip.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of those who have been flustered by Jo-Marie.

Jo-Marie, as all of you know, has been with this institution for over two decades. She started as an intern in the Committee on Rules, unfortunately, because she got to know the rules very, very well.

And as majority leader for 4 years, as Jo-Marie ran the opposition—the constructive opposition, I will say, the friendly opposition but, nevertheless, the opposition—her intellect, her judgment, her tenacity, her focus was always a challenge. But it has always been good for this institution, because she made sure that the minority was heard. Unfortunately, for us, she has also made sure that the majority was loudly heard when the Republicans were in the majority.

Jo-Marie, as some of you know, is a mathematician by training. She is also a lawyer. She is also a scholar. She is also somebody who cares deeply about this institution.

Jo-Marie is my friend. Now, that does not mean that Jo-Marie and I always had an even-keeled relationship. Sometimes, as I said, she flustered me and us by her skill and by her devotion and loyalty to the Republican Party. But more than that, as the Speaker has said, she had a loyalty to this institution and to our country.

Jo-Marie, you have been an extraordinary representative not only of your party, but of this House. You have been an extraordinary friend of mine and so many.

I know Alexis Covey-Brandt, my chief of staff, and you have worked together a lot. Sometimes you agreed, and sometimes you didn't. Two brilliant women who cared, however, about this institution and making it work for the people.

We call this the people's House. Jo-Marie, you have been one who has always kept that uppermost in your mind. We, on this side of the aisle, share a great respect and affection for you, and we wish you the very best. As a young woman, you still have a lot of contributions to make, and we know you will make them.

We have mixed emotions about your leaving. To some degree, frankly, we think we are advantaged by your leaving. But as an individual and as someone who is your dear, dear friend, I will lament your not being on the floor and ever present, for your advice and counsel, always honest; sometimes in opposition, but always positive. Thank you for all you have done.

God bless you.

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. 4246. An act to exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and mem-

bers of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a joint resolution and a concurrent resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.J. Res. 76. Joint resolution appointing the day for the convening of the second session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress.

H. Con. Res. 102. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2576. An act to modernize the Toxic Substances Control Act, 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. 284. An act to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, and for other purposes.

S. 2261. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the way beneficiaries are assigned under the Medicare shared savings program by also basing such assignment on services furnished by Federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics.

□ 1000

CONGRATULATING PROSSER AND OKANOGAN HIGH SCHOOLS

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to congratulate two high school football teams that continue to establish central Washington as the football powerhouse of Washington State.

On December 5, the 13-1 Prosser Mustangs rolled over the Tumwater Thunderbirds to claim the Washington State 2A high school football championship. Led by a stellar defense, the Mustangs amassed four interceptions for the third time in the playoffs. This is Prosser's fifth State football championship.

Not to be outdone, the also 13-1 Okanogan High School Bulldogs pulled off an amazing nail-biter win, a win you usually only see in the movies. Rallying from a 27-14 third quarter deficit, the Bulldogs pulled off a late fourth-quarter touchdown to defeat the Napavine Tigers 36-34. This was Okanogan's second straight Washington State 2B high school football championship.

Both teams have proudly represented their schools and demonstrated a level of skill, teamwork, and tenacity that will prepare them well for future seasons and for future success in life.