

[Roll No. 58]

AYES—239

Abraham	Griffith	Paulsen
Aderholt	Grothman	Pearce
Allen	Guinta	Perry
Amash	Guthrie	Pittenger
Amodel	Hanna	Pitts
Babin	Hardy	Poe (TX)
Barletta	Harper	Pompeo
Barr	Harris	Posey
Barton	Hartzler	Price (GA)
Benishek	Heck (NV)	Ratcliffe
Bilirakis	Hensarling	Reed
Bishop (MI)	Herrera Beutler	Reichert
Bishop (UT)	Hice (GA)	Renacci
Black	Hill	Ribble
Blackburn	Holding	Rice (SC)
Blum	Hudson	Rigell
Bost	Huelskamp	Roby
Boustany	Huizenga (MI)	Rogers (AL)
Brady (TX)	Hultgren	Rogers (KY)
Brat	Hunter	Rohrabacher
Bridenstine	Hurd (TX)	Rokita
Brooks (AL)	Hurt (VA)	Rooney (FL)
Brooks (IN)	Issa	Ros-Lehtinen
Buchanan	Jenkins (KS)	Roskam
Buck	Jenkins (WV)	Ross
Bucshon	Johnson (OH)	Rothfus
Burgess	Johnson, Sam	Rouzer
Byrne	Jolly	Royce
Calvert	Jones	Russell
Carter (GA)	Jordan	Ryan (WI)
Carter (TX)	Joyce	Salmon
Chabot	Kelly (PA)	Sanford
Chaffetz	King (IA)	Scalise
Clawson (FL)	King (NY)	Schock
Coffman	Kinzinger (IL)	Schweikert
Cole	Knight	Scott, Austin
Collins (GA)	Labrador	Sensenbrenner
Collins (NY)	LaMalfa	Sessions
Comstock	Lamborn	Shinkus
Conaway	Lance	Shuster
Cook	Latta	Simpson
Costello (PA)	LoBiondo	Smith (MO)
Cramer	Long	Smith (NE)
Crawford	Loudermilk	Smith (NJ)
Crenshaw	Love	Smith (TX)
Culberson	Lucas	Stefanik
Curbelo (FL)	Luetkemeyer	Stewart
Davis, Rodney	Lummis	Stivers
Denham	MacArthur	Stutzman
Dent	Marchant	Thompson (PA)
DeSantis	Marino	Thornberry
DesJarlais	Massie	Tiberi
Diaz-Balart	McCarthy	Tipton
Duffy	McCaul	Trott
Duncan (SC)	McClintock	Turner
Duncan (TN)	McHenry	Upton
Ellmers	McKinley	Valadao
Emmer	McMorris	Wagner
Farenthold	Fincher	Walberg
Fincher	Fitzpatrick	Walden
Fleischmann	Fleischmann	Walker
Fleming	Flores	Walorski
Flores	Forbes	Walters, Mimi
Forbes	Fortenberry	Weber (TX)
Fox	Fox	Mica
Franks (AZ)	Franks (AZ)	Miller (FL)
Frelinghuysen	Frelinghuysen	Miller (MI)
Garrett	Garrett	Moolenaar
Gibbs	Gibbs	Mooney (WV)
Gibson	Gibson	Mulvaney
Gohmert	Gohmert	Murphy (PA)
Goodlatte	Goodlatte	Neugebauer
Gosar	Gosar	Newhouse
Gowdy	Gowdy	Noem
Granger	Granger	Nugent
Graves (GA)	Graves (GA)	Nunes
Graves (LA)	Graves (LA)	Olson
Graves (MO)	Graves (MO)	Palazzo
		Palmer

NOES—186

Adams	Brownley (CA)	Clay
Aguilar	Bustos	Cleaver
Ashford	Butterfield	Clyburn
Bass	Capps	Cohen
Beatty	Capuano	Connolly
Becerra	Cárdenas	Conyers
Bera	Carney	Cooper
Beyer	Carson (IN)	Costa
Bishop (GA)	Cartwright	Courtney
Blumenauer	Castor (FL)	Crowley
Bonamici	Castro (TX)	Cuellar
Boyle (PA)	Cicilline	Cummings
Brady (PA)	Clark (MA)	Davis (CA)
Brown (FL)	Clarke (NY)	Davis, Danny

DeFazio	Kind	Quigley
DeGette	Kirkpatrick	Rangel
Delaney	Kuster	Rice (NY)
DeLauro	Langevin	Richmond
DelBene	Larsen (WA)	Roybal-Allard
DeSaulnier	Larson (CT)	Ruiz
Deutch	Lawrence	Ruppersberger
Dingell	Levin	Rush
Doggett	Lewis	Ryan (OH)
Dold	Lieu (CA)	Sánchez, Linda
Doyle (PA)	Lipinski	T.
Edwards	Loeb sack	Sanchez, Loretta
Ellison	Lowenthal	Sarbanes
Engel	Lowey	Schakowsky
Eshoo	Lujan Grisham	Schiff
Esty	(NM)	Schrader
Farr	Luján, Ben Ray	Scott (VA)
Fattah	(NM)	Scott, David
Foster	Lynch	Serrano
Frankel (FL)	Maloney,	Sewell (AL)
Fudge	Carolyn	Sherman
Gabbard	Maloney, Sean	Sinema
Gallego	Matsui	Sires
Garamendi	McCollum	Slaughter
Graham	McDermott	Smith (WA)
Grayson	McGovern	Speier
Green, Al	McNerney	Swalwell (CA)
Green, Gene	Meeks	Takai
Grijalva	Meng	Takano
Hahn	Moore	Thompson (CA)
Hastings	Moulton	Thompson (MS)
Heck (WA)	Murphy (FL)	Titus
Higgins	Nadler	Tonko
Himes	Napolitano	Torres
Hinojosa	Neal	Tsongas
Honda	Nolan	Van Hollen
Hoyer	Norcross	Vargas
Huffman	O'Rourke	Veasey
Israel	Pallone	Vela
Jackson Lee	Pascarell	Velázquez
Jeffries	Payne	Visclosky
Johnson (GA)	Pelosi	Walz
Johnson, E. B.	Perlmutter	Wasserman
Kaptur	Peters	Schultz
Katko	Peterson	Waters, Maxine
Keating	Pingree	Watson Coleman
Kelly (IL)	Pocan	Welch
Kennedy	Poliquin	Wilson (FL)
Kildee	Polis	Yarmuth
Kilmer	Price (NC)	

NOT VOTING—8

Chu (CA)	Lee	Roe (TN)
Duckworth	Lofgren	Young (AK)
Gutiérrez	Nunnelee	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1705

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 through Tuesday, February 3, 2015.

Had I been present on Wednesday, January 28, 2015, I would have voted "yea" on roll call vote 49, and "nay" on roll call vote 50 against final passage of H.R. 351, the LNG Permitting Certainty and Transparency Act.

Had I been present on Monday, February 2, 2015, I would have voted "yea" on roll call vote 51, "yea" on roll call vote 52, and "yea" on roll call vote 53.

On Tuesday, February 3, 2015 I would have voted "nay" on roll call vote 54, "nay" on roll call vote 55, and "nay" on roll call vote 56. I would have voted "yea" on roll call vote 57, and finally I would have voted "nay" on roll call vote 58 in strong opposition to H.R. 596, the 56th vote to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote today because of a serious illness in my family. Had I been present, I would have voted: Roll Call #57—Nay; Roll Call #58—Yea.

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. 203. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of annual evaluations of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 77

Resolved, That the following named Members be and are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM.—Mr. Welch and Ms. Michelle Lujan Grisham of New Mexico.

(2) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY.—Mr. Perlmutter and Mr. Tonko.

(3) COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS.—Ms. Adams.

(4) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—Mr. Walz and Mr. McNerney.

Mr. BECERRA (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCSALLY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE HOUSE DEMOCRACY PARTNERSHIP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4(b) of House Resolution 5, One Hundred Fourteenth Congress, and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, of the following Members to the House Democracy Partnership:

Mr. ROSKAM, Illinois, Chairman
Mr. FORTENBERRY, Nebraska
Mr. BOUSTANY, Louisiana
Mr. CONAWAY, Texas
Mr. BUCHANAN, Florida

Mr. CRENSHAW, Florida
 Mrs. BROOKS, Indiana
 Mrs. BLACK, Tennessee
 Mr. RIBBLE, Wisconsin
 Mrs. WALORSKI, Indiana
 Mr. ZELDIN, New York

MIDDLE CLASS ECONOMICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, and Members, wow. There are actually people here in the audience and Members.

We have talked a lot about middle class economics, but why? Why is it important? Why did the President raise this issue in his State of the Union? What is this all about?

We are going to spend some time here today working our way through middle class economics, and some of my colleagues may join me, and I asked the Republicans, if they want to join, they could too.

It is okay, Madam Speaker, that they are not listening. But this is really an important issue.

So why is middle class economics important?

What is it all about?

It is really about driving the economy. If you want to create jobs in America, if you want to have economic growth in America, the middle class of America, the great middle class, the millions upon millions of men and women that are working families, they need to grow. And so middle class economics is all about growing the American economy, because that is where demand is created.

We often talk about the job creators, and businesses really create product and they create profit. But it is the middle class that actually creates the growth in the economy by creating the demand. So if we are able to grow the middle class, grow the paychecks, increase the vast number of Americans who are in the middle class, we will create the jobs. So that is why middle class economics is on our agenda.

□ 1715

There are other pieces of this. It leads to higher wages. So when you increase the middle class, you increase the higher wages, creating the demand.

So that is what this is all about. It is about opportunity. It is about growing the ability of the working families in America to make it, to have a shot at education, to have a shot at a home. So that is what we are going to talk about today in the next 46 minutes, about middle class economics. The President brought this issue to us. We are going to spend some time discussing this.

I notice that our fearless whip, STENY HOYER of Maryland, has joined us.

Mr. HOYER, please, let's get into this conversation.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The reason I wanted him to yield is because I want to thank him. I don't know that there is any Member of this body or, frankly, the other body who has spent more time talking with the American public to let them know how focused we are on making sure that Americans can Make It In America. And the middle class, of course, is critically important.

I will tell the gentleman from California, he and I have both traveled outside this country—I think I have been to probably 60 nations—and every nation has its rich people, and every nation has its poor people. America's genius and success was posited, however, on the broad middle class that we had, that made America. They are the ones whose work and intellect and creativity and innovative spirit and entrepreneurial energy made America what it is and what it has been.

I want to congratulate the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) for the fidelity that he has shown over the years to this critically important objective of making sure that the middle class, working Americans have the ability to make it and to increase their standard of living over that of their parents. That has always been the genius of our country. It needs to continue to be. And the President, of course, has offered, as the gentleman points out, an agenda that is focused on working men and women in this country, making sure that they have the ability to live quality lives and have their children pursue education and do even better than their parents; and as they do so, their country, this great country of ours, will do better as well.

So I wanted to rise to thank the gentleman for his, as I say, fidelity to this objective, which is, after all, the critical agenda for our country.

Mr. GARAMENDI. I thank you, Mr. HOYER. Nobody has been at this longer than you. You have been working in the Halls of Congress and across this Nation advocating for the middle class.

Both Democrats and Republicans now agree that the middle class in America has stalled out. They have not seen the increase in their paychecks. In fact, in the last couple of years, there has actually been a decrease on the average middle-American paycheck.

So what we are all about and what the President proposed to us in his State of the Union was middle class economics. And it is critically important, if we want to grow the jobs in this Nation, that we have got to pay attention to the middle class and how they can improve themselves, how they can have a higher standard of living, have greater paychecks. In doing so, we will grow this economy. We will be able to deal with the deficit. There are numerous ways in which this can be done.

We need to look for higher wages. Infrastructure is critically important. In the budget that the President just put

forth yesterday, there is a major advancement that he is proposing for infrastructure, a 6-year program, over \$600 billion in that 6-year period—\$673 billion building our roads, rebuilding our bridges, our ports, our communication systems. When you do that, you actually are going to grow the economy, and it is the middle class that will have those jobs.

So this is all about growing the middle class, otherwise known as middle class economics. That is what we are going to debate this year.

We are going to spend the next several months as we put together the budget first and then the appropriations and the various pieces of legislation—for example, reauthorizing the surface transportation program. We want to structure that. We, the Democrats, want to structure that in such a way that the principal benefits flow to the working families of America so that they can see greater wages, so that they can see greater opportunities. And there are many, many pieces to this puzzle that we need to pay attention to. So we want to grow American jobs.

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) was here just a moment ago. And he has been talking about this theme of making it in America, which builds on the Buy America laws which have been in effect for more than 40 years. Our taxpayer money must be spent, should be spent on American-made equipment. We will come to this in a little more detail, but these are the fundamental parts of growing American jobs. You make things in America, whether that happens to be a movie or a new app for your iPhone or a train or a plane, whatever it happens to be. Make it in America; and use our taxpayer money to buy American-made equipment.

This one here: a well-educated workforce is fundamental to growing any economy, whether it be in Bangladesh or in the United States, the education of the workforce. If you have a well-educated workforce, your economy will grow.

America used to have the best education system in the world. We are not there anymore. We have fallen way off that power curve. We have got to establish America's position as having the best educated workforce in the entire world.

Now, the President, in his State of the Union and as part of the middle class economics, spoke to this issue when he talked about community colleges, all Americans being able to get 2 years of education at a community college, perhaps to pick up an AA degree or some skill set, and that it be free. What an important, important element that is in having a well-educated workforce. There are many, many other pieces to this educated workforce, and we will, over the next several weeks and months, be talking about this as we go forward.

Research and development. Well, I am from California, and I represent a