

Schweikert  
Scott, Austin  
Sensenbrenner  
Sessions  
Shimkus  
Shuster  
Simpson  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smucker  
Stefanik  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Taylor  
Tenney  
Thompson (PA)  
Thornberry  
Tiberi  
Tipton  
Trott  
Turner  
Upton  
Valadao  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Walden  
Walker  
Walorski

## NAYS—190

Adams  
Aguilar  
Barragán  
Bass  
Beatty  
Bera  
Beyer  
Bishop (GA)  
Blumenauer  
Blunt Rochester  
Bonamici  
Boyle, Brendan  
F.  
Brady (PA)  
Brown (MD)  
Brownley (CA)  
Bustos  
Butterfield  
Capuano  
Carbajal  
Cárdenas  
Carson (IN)  
Cartwright  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Chu, Judy  
Cicilline  
Clark (MA)  
Clarke (NY)  
Clay  
Cleaver  
Clyburn  
Cohen  
Connolly  
Conyers  
Cooper  
Correa  
Costa  
Courtney  
Crist  
Crowley  
Cuellar  
Davis (CA)  
Davis, Danny  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
Delaney  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
Demings  
DeSaulnier  
Deutch  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Doyle, Michael  
F.  
Ellison  
Engel  
Eshoo  
Españillat  
Esty (CT)  
Evans  
Foster  
Frankel (FL)  
Fudge  
Gabbard  
Gallego  
Garamendi  
Gonzalez (TX)  
Gottheimer  
Green, Al  
Green, Gene  
Grijalva  
Gutiérrez  
Hanabusa  
Hastings  
Heck  
Higgins (NY)  
Himes  
Hoyer  
Jackson Lee  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Jones  
Kaptur  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)  
Kennedy  
Khanna  
Kihuen  
Kildee  
Kilmer  
Kind  
Krishnamoorthi  
Kuster (NH)  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Lawrence  
Lawson (FL)  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lieu, Ted  
Lipinski  
Loebach  
Lofgren  
Lowenthal  
Lowe  
Lujan Grisham,  
M.  
Luján, Ben Ray  
Lynch  
Maloney,  
Carolyn B.  
Maloney, Sean  
Matsui  
McCollum  
McGovern  
McNerney  
Meeks  
Meng  
Moore  
Moulton  
Murphy (FL)  
Nadler  
Neal  
Nolan

## ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Sanford

## NOT VOTING—7

Cummings  
Gomez  
Huffman  
Labrador  
McEachin  
Napolitano  
Scalise

□ 1401

Ms. KAPTUR, Messrs. WELCH and PETERSON changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

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.

# PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2910, PROMOTING INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION FOR REVIEW OF NATURAL GAS PIPELINES ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2883, PROMOTING CROSS-BORDER ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 218, KING COVE ROAD LAND EXCHANGE ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 454) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2910) to provide for Federal and State agency coordination in the approval of certain authorizations under the Natural Gas Act, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2883) to establish a more uniform, transparent, and modern process to authorize the construction, connection, operation, and maintenance of international border-crossing facilities for the import and export of oil and natural gas and the transmission of electricity; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 218) to provide for the exchange of Federal land and non-Federal land in the State of Alaska for the construction of a road between King Cove and Cold Bay; and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 236, nays 192, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 393]

## YEAS—236

Abraham  
Aderholt  
Allen  
Amash  
Amodei  
Arrington  
Babin  
Bacon  
Banks (IN)  
Barletta  
Barr  
Barton  
Bergman  
Biggs  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (MI)  
Bishop (UT)  
Black  
Blackburn  
Blum  
Bost  
Brady (TX)  
Brat  
Bridenstine  
Brooks (AL)  
Brooks (IN)  
Buchanan  
Buck  
Bucshon  
Budd  
Burgess  
Byrne  
Calvert  
Carter (GA)  
Carter (TX)  
Chabot  
Cheney  
Coffman  
Cole  
Collins (GA)  
Collins (NY)  
Comer  
Comstock  
Conaway  
Cook  
Costello (PA)  
Cramer  
Crawford  
Culberson  
Curbelo (FL)  
Davidson  
Davis, Rodney  
Denham  
Dent  
DeSantis  
DesJarlais  
Diaz-Balart  
Donovan  
Duffy  
Duncan (SC)  
Duncan (TN)  
Dunn  
Emmer  
Estes (KS)  
Farenthold  
Faso  
Ferguson  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Flores  
Fortenberry  
Foxy  
Franks (AZ)  
Frelinghuysen  
Gaetz  
Gallagher  
Garrett  
Gianforte  
Gibbs  
Gohmert  
Goodlatte  
Gosar  
Gowdy  
Granger  
Graves (GA)  
Graves (LA)  
Graves (MO)  
Griffith  
Grothman  
Guthrie  
Handel  
Harper  
Harris

Hartzler  
Hensarling  
Herrera Beutler  
Hice, Jody B.  
Higgins (LA)  
Hill  
Holding  
Hollingsworth  
Hudson  
Huizenga  
Hultgren  
Hunter  
Hurd  
Issa  
Jenkins (KS)  
Jenkins (WV)  
Johnson (LA)  
Johnson (OH)  
Johnson, Sam  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Katko  
Kelly (MS)  
Kelly (PA)  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kinzinger  
Knight  
Kustoff (TN)  
LaHood  
LaMalfa  
Lamborn  
Lance  
Latta  
Lewis (MN)  
LoBiondo  
Long  
Loudermilk  
Love  
Lucas  
Luetkemeyer  
MacArthur  
Marchant  
Marino  
Marshall  
Massie  
Mast  
McCarthy  
McCaul  
McClintock  
McHenry  
McKinley  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
McSally  
Meadows  
Meehan  
Messer  
Mitchell  
Moolenaar  
Mooney (WV)  
Mullin  
Murphy (PA)  
Newhouse  
Noem  
Norman  
Nunes  
Olson  
Palazzo  
Palmer  
Paulsen  
Pearce  
Perry  
Pittenger  
Poe (TX)  
Poliquin  
Posey  
Ratcliffe  
Reed  
Reichert  
Renacci  
Rice (SC)  
Roby  
Roe (TN)  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rohrabacher  
Rokita  
Rooney, Francis  
Rooney, Thomas  
J.  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Roskam  
Ross  
Rothfus  
Rouzer  
Royce (CA)  
Russell

## NAYS—192

Adams  
Aguilar  
Barragán  
Bass  
Beatty  
Bera  
Beyer  
Bishop (GA)  
Blumenauer  
Blunt Rochester  
Bonamici  
Boyle, Brendan  
F.  
Brady (PA)  
Brown (MD)  
Brownley (CA)  
Bustos  
Butterfield  
Capuano  
Carbajal  
Cárdenas  
Carson (IN)  
Cartwright  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Chu, Judy  
Cicilline  
Clark (MA)  
Clarke (NY)  
Clay  
Cleaver  
Clyburn  
Cohen  
Connolly  
Conyers  
Cooper  
Correa  
Costa  
Courtney  
Crist  
Crowley  
Cuellar  
Davis (CA)  
Davis, Danny  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
Delaney  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
Demings  
DeSaulnier  
Deutch  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Doyle, Michael  
F.  
Ellison  
Engel  
Eshoo  
Españillat  
Esty (CT)  
Evans  
Foster  
Frankel (FL)  
Fudge  
Gabbard  
Gallego  
Garamendi  
Gomez  
Gonzalez (TX)  
Gottheimer  
Green, Al  
Green, Gene  
Grijalva  
Gutiérrez  
Hanabusa  
Hastings  
Heck  
Higgins (NY)  
Himes  
Hoyer  
Huffman  
Jackson Lee  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Jones  
Kaptur  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)  
Kennedy  
Khanna  
Kihuen  
Kildee  
Kilmer  
Kind  
Krishnamoorthi  
Kuster (NH)  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Lawrence  
Lawson (FL)  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lieu, Ted  
Lipinski  
Loebach  
Lofgren  
Lowenthal  
Lowe  
Lujan Grisham,  
M.  
Luján, Ben Ray  
Lynch  
Maloney,  
Carolyn B.  
Maloney, Sean  
Matsui  
McCollum  
McGovern  
McNerney  
Meeks  
Meng  
Moore  
Moulton  
Murphy (FL)  
Nadler  
Neal  
Nolan  
Norcross  
O'Halleran  
O'Rourke  
Pallone  
Panetta  
Pascarella  
Payne  
Pelosi  
Perlmutter  
Peters  
Peterson  
Pingree

Pocan	Schrader	Titus
Polis	Scott (VA)	Tonko
Price (NC)	Scott, David	Torres
Quigley	Serrano	Tsongas
Raskin	Sewell (AL)	Vargas
Rice (NY)	Shea-Porter	Veasey
Richmond	Sherman	Vela
Rosen	Sinema	Velázquez
Roybal-Allard	Sires	Visclosky
Ruiz	Slaughter	Walz
Ruppersberger	Smith (WA)	Wasserman
Rush	Soto	Schultz
Ryan (OH)	Speier	Waters, Maxine
Sánchez	Suozzi	Watson Coleman
Sarbanes	Swallow (CA)	Welch
Schakowsky	Takano	Wilson (FL)
Schiff	Thompson (CA)	Yarmuth
Schneider	Thompson (MS)	

## NOT VOTING—5

Cummings	McEachin	Scalise
Labrador	Napolitano	

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1410

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

(By unanimous consent, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee was allowed to speak out of order.)

## CONGRESSIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, this is the fourth year I have had the privilege of chairing the Members and former Members golf tournament to benefit Warfighters Sports and Tee It Up for the Troops, two charities that work with the most severely wounded warriors. This year, we had our biggest turnout ever. We had well over 200 participants, including 35 severely wounded golfers.

When I play golf, sometimes people ask me how I did. I tell them, “Unbelievable.” It could be either way. But the most unbelievable thing happened in this tournament. Finally, after many years of losses, we Republicans decided to let the Democrats win one year. The Democrats won by 4 points, and that is out of a several-thousand point system. So it was a very close match.

I want to offer my congratulations to my co-chairman, GENE GREEN, and thank every Member and former Member who participated. We had a great turnout.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN).

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Tennessee for yielding.

We are proud to accept the Speaker's trophy for winning the golf tournament. The most important thing—and you said it—is that we raised \$144,000 to go to wounded warrior and warfighter programs. Over the last 10 years, Members of Congress, on a bipartisan basis, raised over \$1 million.

JIMMY, I am just glad we were able to take this trophy home. We will see you next year.

## PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman will state her parliamentary inquiry.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the Rules Committee has posted a Rules Committee print of the Defense appropriations bill and that this committee version does not include the language added during the Defense appropriations markup on a bipartisan basis in committee that would repeal the 2001 authorization to use force and give 8 months for Congress to do what our Constitution requires, and that is to debate and to come up with a new vote and to decide what we are going to do on behalf of our country.

Further inquiry. Members don't really quite understand this. I can't explain to Members how in the heck this body can prevent this amendment from being undemocratically stripped from this bill.

Can the Chair explain that, please.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair appreciates the gentlewoman's inquiry but also states to the gentlewoman that it does not relate to a pending question or matter at this time.

Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 234, nays 194, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 394]

YEAS—234

Abraham	Comstock	Granger
Aderholt	Conaway	Graves (GA)
Allen	Cook	Graves (LA)
Amodei	Costello (PA)	Graves (MO)
Arrington	Cramer	Griffith
Babin	Crawford	Grothman
Bacon	Culberson	Guthrie
Banks (IN)	Curbelo (FL)	Handel
Barletta	Davidson	Harper
Barr	Davis, Rodney	Harris
Barton	Denham	Hartzler
Bergman	Dent	Hensarling
Biggs	DeSantis	Herrera Beutler
Bilirakis	DesJarlais	Hice, Jody B.
Bishop (MI)	Diaz-Balart	Higgins (LA)
Bishop (UT)	Donovan	Hill
Black	Duffy	Holding
Blackburn	Duncan (SC)	Hollingsworth
Blum	Duncan (TN)	Hudson
Bost	Dunn	Huizenga
Brady (TX)	Emmer	Hultgren
Brat	Estes (KS)	Hunter
Bridenstine	Farenthold	Hurd
Brooks (AL)	Faso	Issa
Brooks (IN)	Ferguson	Jenkins (KS)
Buchanan	Fitzpatrick	Jenkins (WV)
Buck	Fleischmann	Johnson (LA)
Bucshon	Flores	Johnson (OH)
Budd	Fortenberry	Johnson, Sam
Burgess	Fox	Jones
Byrne	Franks (AZ)	Jordan
Calvert	Frelinghuysen	Joyce (OH)
Carter (GA)	Gaetz	Katko
Carter (TX)	Gallagher	Kelly (MS)
Chabot	Garrett	Kelly (PA)
Cheney	Gianforte	King (IA)
Coffman	Gibbs	King (NY)
Cole	Gohmert	Kinzinger
Collins (GA)	Goodlatte	Knight
Collins (NY)	Gosar	Kustoff (TN)
Comer	Gowdy	LaHood

LaMalfa	Palmer	Smith (MO)
Lamborn	Paulsen	Smith (NE)
Lance	Pearce	Smith (NJ)
Latta	Perry	Smith (TX)
Lewis (MN)	Pittenger	Smucker
LoBiondo	Poe (TX)	Stefanik
Long	Poliquin	Stewart
Loudermilk	Posey	Stivers
Love	Ratcliffe	Taylor
Lucas	Reed	Tenney
Luetkemeyer	Reichert	Thompson (PA)
MacArthur	Renacci	Thornberry
Marchant	Rice (SC)	Tiberi
Marino	Roby	Tipton
Marshall	Roe (TN)	Trott
Mast	Rogers (AL)	Upton
McCarthy	Rogers (KY)	Valadao
McCaul	Rohrabacher	Wagner
McClintock	Rokita	Walberg
McHenry	Rooney, Francis	Walden
McKinley	Rooney, Thomas	Walker
McMorris	J.	Walorski
Rodgers	Ros-Lehtinen	Walters, Mimi
McSally	Roskam	Weber (TX)
Meadows	Ross	Webster (FL)
Meehan	Rothfus	Wenstrup
Messer	Rouzer	Westerman
Mitchell	Royce (CA)	Williams
Moolenaar	Russell	Wilson (SC)
Mooney (WV)	Rutherford	Wittman
Mullin	Sanford	Womack
Murphy (PA)	Schweikert	Woodall
Newhouse	Scott, Austin	Yoder
Noem	Sensenbrenner	Yoho
Norman	Sessions	Young (AK)
Nunes	Shimkus	Young (IA)
Olson	Shuster	Zeldin
Palazzo	Simpson	

## NAYS—194

Adams	Eshoo	Maloney,
Aguilar	Españillat	Carolyn B.
Amash	Esty (CT)	Maloney, Sean
Barragán	Evans	Massie
Bass	Foster	Matsui
Beatty	Frankel (FL)	McCollum
Bera	Fudge	McEachin
Beyer	Gabbard	McGovern
Bishop (GA)	Gallego	McNerney
Blumenauer	Garamendi	Meeks
Blunt Rochester	Gomez	Meng
Bonamici	Gonzalez (TX)	Moore
Boyle, Brendan	Gottheimer	Moulton
F.	Green, Al	Murphy (FL)
Brady (PA)	Green, Gene	Nadler
Brown (MD)	Grijalva	Neal
Brownley (CA)	Gutiérrez	Nolan
Bustos	Hanabusa	Norcross
Butterfield	Hastings	O'Halleran
Capuano	Heck	O'Rourke
Carbajal	Higgins (NY)	Pallone
Cárdenas	Himes	Panetta
Carson (IN)	Hoyer	Pascrell
Cartwright	Huffman	Payne
Castor (FL)	Jackson Lee	Pelosi
Castro (TX)	Jayapal	Perlmutter
Chu, Judy	Jeffries	Peters
Ciulline	Johnson (GA)	Peterson
Clark (MA)	Johnson, E. B.	Pingree
Clarke (NY)	Kaptur	Pocan
Clay	Keating	Polis
Cleaver	Kelly (IL)	Price (NC)
Clyburn	Kennedy	Quigley
Cohen	Khanna	Raskin
Connolly	Kihuen	Rice (NY)
Conyers	Kilmer	Richmond
Cooper	Kildee	Rosen
Correa	Kilmer	Roybal-Allard
Costa	Kind	Ruiz
Courtney	Krishnamoorthi	Ruppersberger
Crist	Kuster (NH)	Rush
Crowley	Langevin	Ryan (OH)
Cuellar	Larsen (WA)	Sánchez
Davis (CA)	Larson (CT)	Sarbanes
Davis, Danny	Lawrence	Schakowsky
DeFazio	Lawson (FL)	Schiff
DeGette	Lee	Schneider
Delaney	Levin	Schrader
DeLauro	Lewis (GA)	Scott (VA)
DelBene	Lieu, Ted	Scott, David
Demings	Lipinski	Serrano
DeSaulnier	Loebach	Sewell (AL)
Deutch	Lofgren	Shea-Porter
Dingell	Lowenthal	Sherman
Doggett	Lowe	Sinema
Doyle, Michael	Lujan Grisham,	Sires
F.	M.	Slaughter
Ellison	Luján, Ben Ray	Smith (WA)
Engel	Lynch	Soto

Speier	Torres	Wasserman
Suozi	Tsongas	Schultz
Swalwell (CA)	Vargas	Waters, Maxine
Takano	Veasey	Watson Coleman
Thompson (CA)	Vela	Welch
Thompson (MS)	Velázquez	Wilson (FL)
Titus	Visclosky	Yarmuth
Tonko	Walz	

## NOT VOTING—5

Cummings	Napolitano	Turner
Labrador	Scalise	

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1422

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

## CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 115-55)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days of the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to significant transnational criminal organizations declared in Executive Order 13581 of July 24, 2011, is to continue in effect beyond July 24, 2017.

Significant transnational criminal organizations continue to threaten the safety of the United States and its citizens through the scope and gravity of their actions. Such organizations derive revenue through widespread illegal conduct and overwhelmingly demonstrate a blatant disregard for human life through acts of violence and abuse. These organizations often facilitate and aggravate violent civil conflicts

and increasingly facilitate the activities of other dangerous persons. As the sophistication of these organizations increases, they pose an increasing threat to the United States.

The activities of significant transnational criminal organizations continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13581 with respect to transnational criminal organizations.

DONALD J. TRUMP.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 19, 2017.

## PROMOTING INTERAGENCY COORDINATION FOR REVIEW OF NATURAL GAS PIPELINES ACT

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill, H.R. 2910.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 454 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2910.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1426

## IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2910) to provide for Federal and State agency coordination in the approval of certain authorizations under the Natural Gas Act, and for other purposes, with Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentleman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 2910, the Promoting Interagency Coordination for Review of Natural Gas Pipelines Act, introduced by my colleague and friend from Texas (Mr. FLORES).

I want to congratulate him for his work on this very important piece of legislation that, in fact, will streamline the permit process for the building of energy infrastructure, which will strengthen our economy, create the jobs that we want, and, in fact, in-

crease our energy security. Very important.

This bill is going to address the critical need to expand and modernize the Nation's natural gas pipeline infrastructure by promoting a more timely and efficient review.

Mr. Chairman, by establishing FERC as the lead agency, this bill is going to bring greater certainty, accountability, and transparency to the siting process for interstate natural gas pipelines. Unfortunately, many important projects have been delayed unnecessarily while waiting for permits from participating agencies, and when siting a pipeline project, multiple permits are always required, permits under the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Air Act.

So FERC often coordinates with a variety of Federal, State, and local governments and Indian Tribes to balance a wide range of issues, including the potential impacts on environmental and wildlife resources, land use, and, of course, property rights.

This bill is going to improve the permitting process by strengthening the lead agency role of FERC in further defining the process for participating in Federal and State agencies, and the intent of these provisions is to involve stakeholders sooner so that they can be involved in the setting of the schedule and identify issues of concern earlier in the process.

Further, the legislation requires that agencies conduct their respective reviews concurrently and in conjunction with the project-related review conducted by FERC in compliance with NEPA—in compliance with NEPA.

□ 1430

To be clear, we are not skipping steps, we are just saying that one part of the process shouldn't hold up the entire project if progress can be made on other required permits.

So this bill is going to encourage more timely and efficient reviews, a more robust and reliable energy pipeline system, more affordable energy prices for every American.

Mr. Chair, I congratulate the gentleman from Texas, who has brought this bill before us through the committee process.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2910. The bill shortcuts the important review process for interstate natural gas pipeline projects, a process which already boasts one of the quickest review periods for any type of major energy project. The bill is unnecessary.

To my colleague from the Energy and Commerce Committee's point when he says that too many of these projects are being delayed; to the contrary. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission testified in front of our committee