

There was no objection.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, this resolution would affirm that States should maintain primacy for the regulation of hydraulic fracturing and prevent any President from imposing a ban on hydraulic fracturing.

In recent weeks, many of the Democratic candidates for President have pledged to ban hydraulic fracturing in the United States, a campaign promise straight out of the “keep it in the ground” playbook.

While this widely-used practice is often vilified by extreme environmentalists and proponents of the Green New Deal, in fact, hydraulic fracturing is heavily regulated by the States and governed by stringent industry standards throughout the country.

American households and businesses have benefited significantly from the shale gas revolution. After the introduction of hydraulic fracturing techniques, U.S. gas bills fell by \$13 billion collectively every year from 2007–2013.

All the while, natural gas production using fracking is driving emissions reductions, resulting in the lowest emission levels in a generation. In fact, methane emissions have decreased 15 percent since 1990 as natural gas production increased over 50 percent.

Thanks to hydraulic fracturing, the U.S. is leading the way in emissions reductions through innovation in the energy sector. In 2017, U.S. carbon emissions reached the lowest level since 1992, and per capita emissions reached the lowest level since 1950.

Also, banning domestic oil and gas production will return the U.S. to a time when we relied on foreign countries for oil and gas. Remember the 1970s? We do not want to put our country in a national security risk.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, the bills before us today are harmful to American jobs, American quality of life, and American security. The message underlying these bills is the false notion that domestic energy production is harmful.

I cannot disagree more. Domestic energy production creates hundreds of thousands of well-paying jobs, lowers electricity bills, and prevents us from being dependent on foreign actors.

Utilizing America’s natural resources is a commonsense step for America’s energy future. America must be able to utilize its natural resources for our economy and for our national security. We should encourage an expansion of domestic energy production, but, instead, my Democrat colleagues in the majority seek to limit them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge “no” on the previous question, “no” on the underlying measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SHALALA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, with all due respect to my distinguished colleague and friend from Arizona, these bills recognize that some places, lands that belong to Coloradans, to Arizonans, to the ancestral Pueblo peoples, belong to all Ameri-

cans, and they are just too precious to exploit.

I would like to close, once again, by quoting our conservation President, Teddy Roosevelt. “We have fallen heirs to the most glorious heritage a people ever received, and each one must do his part if we wish to show that the Nation is worthy of this good fortune.”

Mr. Speaker, today we are doing our part.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on the rule and the previous question.

The material previously referred to by Mrs. LESKO is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 656

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 8. That immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall resolve into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 659) affirming that States should maintain primacy for the regulation of hydraulic fracturing for oil and natural gas production on State and private lands and that the President should not declare a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing on Federal lands (including the Outer Continental Shelf), State lands, private lands, or lands held in trust for an Indian Tribe unless such moratorium is authorized by an Act of Congress. The first reading of the resolution shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the resolution are waived. General debate shall be confined to the resolution and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. After general debate the resolution shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the resolution are waived. When the committee rises and reports the resolution back to the House with a recommendation that the resolution be adopted, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and amendments thereto to adoption without intervening motion. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the resolution, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the resolution.

SEC. 9. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H. Res. 659.

Ms. SHALALA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

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

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

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 296, AFFIRMING THE UNITED STATES RECORD ON THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 655 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 655

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the resolution (H. Res. 296) affirming the United States record on the Armenian Genocide. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and preambles to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 655, providing for consideration of H. Res. 296 under a closed rule.

This resolution also provides 1 hour of general debate controlled by the Chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, this rule is about U.S. leadership, standing for human rights, and whether we are going to turn a blind eye to atrocities, even if they took place 100 years ago.

H. Res. 296 is a resolution formally recognizing and memorializing the Armenian genocide. And let me say, it is about time. 1.5 million Armenians died at the hands of the Ottoman Empire in the emerging Nation of Turkey over a century ago. Tens of thousands of Armenians were violently expelled from their ancestral homelands.

These truths are important. Acknowledging them is important. Yet, the United States has only tinkered around the edges of recognizing this reality. Some of our Nation’s closest allies already have—31 nations, in fact—countries like Canada, Italy, France, Poland, Sweden, Germany, even Russia have recognized this genocide.

Mr. Speaker, here is a map of those nations, and you can tell that the

United States stands out; and I say that with great sadness.

White House statements and Congressional resolutions over the years have referred to mass atrocities and other euphemisms; but nothing in recent times has fully recognized it by calling it what it actually was, a genocide.

Mr. Speaker, we need to speak the truth. Forty-nine of our 50 States have formally recognized the Armenian genocide, but the Federal Government has not.

This is a dark stain on our human rights record. The United States should stand foursquare for human rights. Anything short of that sends exactly the wrong message to abusers around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, I represent a congressional district in central Massachusetts. It is home to the oldest Armenian community in America. The first Armenian orthodox church in America was built in Worcester, Massachusetts, my hometown. People still worship in it today.

When I was first elected in 1996, we had rows and rows of pews filled with survivors of the Armenian genocide sitting at the front of the church during our annual April remembrance of the Armenian genocide. Sadly, almost 2 years ago, the last of our survivors, Rose, passed away.

I have learned so much from this community. And to those who insist that now is not the time for us to recognize the Armenian genocide; I have to ask in return, when will it be the right time? When the very last survivor of the genocide has passed away?

Those who want the world to forget, those who want to deny genocide, they believe that history will be erased with the last eyewitness to genocide.

Mr. Speaker, I must be honest. As many political leaders have proclaimed “never again” over the years, the Armenian American community has been left to wonder when “never again” would finally become “enough is enough.”

□ 1245

With this resolution, the United States will join the ranks of the many nations, parliaments, and institutions that have fully recognized and commemorated the Armenian genocide. We will speak out clearly in favor of human rights. Finally, we will say loud and clear that enough is enough.

Mr. Speaker, as we acknowledge this genocide from 100 years ago, I am glad this House is separately considering H.R. 4695 on suspension this week. This bill recognizes the blood that is being spilled today in northern Syria. Because of Turkey’s ruthless aggression, hundreds of civilians have been killed. Thousands more have been displaced.

Erdogan’s government has targeted the Kurds, one of our strongest and most courageous allies in the fight against ISIS. What is going on there can only be described as ethnic cleansing.

Instead of standing up for the people who have fought alongside U.S. troops in Syria, President Trump gave Turkey the green light to try and wipe the Kurds off the map. The President even complimented President Erdogan, calling him a friend, a tough man, a hell of a leader.

Just last week, 9 days after the President first announced sanctions against Turkey, he unilaterally lifted all the sanctions against Turkey—9 days. Are you kidding me?

Never in my life did I think I would see the day when a President of the United States would pave the way for a nation to systematically slaughter our allies, remove sanctions from a country engaging in ethnic cleansing without holding anyone to account, or put U.S. troops stationed abroad in harm’s way all while giving Russia not only a PR victory but control over territory that just days before had been safe, secure, and free from the control of ISIS terrorists and Assad’s murderous regime.

Standing up for human rights is not a Democratic or Republican issue; it is an American issue. Even in an age of heightened partisanship, this Congress must still be capable of speaking with one voice against genocide and crimes against humanity, no matter when they took place. I urge all of my colleagues to support this rule and the underlying resolution so we can show the world that we still are.

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. MCGOVERN for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today, we consider a resolution to once again assert the position of the House of Representatives with respect to the Armenian genocide that occurred between 1915 and 1923. This resolution cites previous United States recognition of the killing of Armenians, including in 1951, 1975, 1981, and 1984.

Numerous resolutions have been introduced in the House and Senate that did not pass both Chambers. In addition, Congress has twice designated April 24 as a National Day of Remembrance of Man’s Inhumanity to Man, specifically referencing Armenia. The United States has clearly indicated its support to the Armenians.

While there is historic precedent for recognizing the Armenian genocide, passing such a resolution today could complicate the situation with a NATO ally. Previously, this has resulted in protests at and around the Incirlik Air Base that have affected our men and women in uniform who were stationed there.

While the desire to recognize the Armenian genocide is laudable, these events took place over 100 years ago. It remains unclear why we are urgently considering this resolution. The Committee on Foreign Affairs did not conduct a hearing or hold a markup before

we voted last night in the Rules Committee to bring this to the floor today. Representative SCHIFF introduced this resolution on April 8 of this year, 2019, so we are left to wonder why we wait until there are 11 legislative days until expiration of the continuing resolution to fund the entirety of the Government of the United States on the discretionary side, why we are willing to suspend that to consider a nonbinding resolution.

Democrats continue to bring to the floor legislation that is either not urgent or has no chance of passing the Senate and becoming law. There are bipartisan policy areas in which Republicans stand ready to work with Democrats for the benefit of the American people. The most pressing issue, of course, is the continuing resolution expiration.

While the House did pass 10 of the 12 appropriations bills, they were constructed largely without Republican input on the Appropriations Committee, resulting in highly partisan provisions that actually prevented any Republicans from being able to support these bills when they came to the floor.

One of the most important appropriations bills providing funding for the Department of Homeland Security has not received consideration by the full House. We are facing a humanitarian and security crisis at our southern border. That is real. That is right now. This situation got so bad in early summer that Congress had to pass a supplemental appropriations bill to last year’s appropriation just to provide the basic necessities for those in the Customs and Border Protection custody. While this temporary funding influx helped alleviate a number of people in our border facilities and the Office of Refugee Resettlement shelters, it did not make any policy changes that would actually address the root cause of this crisis.

If Democrats are unwilling to provide funding to secure our border, we should consider disincentivizing people from making the dangerous journey in the first place. There are people who die along the way. Others are seriously injured or become ill. Still others become victims of human trafficking.

Additionally, the cartels are profiting big time off of these vulnerable individuals, taking a cut from two-thirds of southern border flows. The penalty for not paying off the cartel is death. Rather than incentivize this type of activity, could we not focus our efforts on combating the drivers of irregular migration from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras? We can also send a message that if you come to the United States without legal documentation, you will not be permitted to remain herein definitely.

To change this, Congress could pass a bill to reform our asylum laws and provide more resources to clear the backlog of immigration cases, a backlog that is approaching 1 million cases.

Another area where Congress could be spending our valuable time is discussing solutions for the cost of prescriptions and pharmaceuticals. There is bipartisan consensus that we could cap out-of-pocket costs for our seniors in Medicare part D. This is a policy that we can and should draft together. In fact, we had a bipartisan Committee on Energy and Commerce and Committee on Ways and Means request for information on the topic of restructuring part D last May.

If we work together in a thoughtful, bipartisan, bicameral manner on restructuring the part D benefit, the President would sign that legislation. He has even said that is a top priority. And our constituents would see lower out-of-pocket drug costs.

But what do we get? We get H.R. 3, Speaker PELOSI's partisan drug pricing bill, which sidelines achievable drug pricing policies that were in the works prior to the release of H.R. 3.

Additionally, last week marked the 1-year anniversary of President Trump's signing the SUPPORT Act into law. This legislation provides realistic solutions that span the breadth of the opiate crisis, from prevention and treatment to education and enforcement. This legislation will improve treatment for those with substance use disorders, fight deadly fentanyl, bolster the efforts of our agents at the international mail facilities, and provide vital resources for new and innovative alternatives for the treatment of pain. In a time when our country seems so divided, Congress was able to put political differences aside and put patients first to find solutions to address this crisis.

As it stands now, the SUPPORT Act is another tool in the toolbox for communities and Federal agencies to successfully combat the opioid epidemic. We could be having discussions on how to build on that success and ensure timely and effective implementation of the SUPPORT Act so we could continue to help those affected by the more than 130 American overdose deaths each and every day. Instead, we are spending our time considering a nonurgent, nonbinding resolution.

American consumers are concerned about their online privacy. The passage of California's Consumer Privacy Act has led to a patchwork of State privacy laws that do not reflect the reality that the internet doesn't know State lines.

We need one national standard, perhaps consider Federal preemption, and promote a cross-border data flow as American businesses seek to do business at home and abroad. You could even argue that e-commerce is the reason that the Founders drafted the Commerce Clause in the first place.

Again, Republicans stand ready to work with Democrats, but we have not been invited to engage in any substantive discussions.

Congress also could pass and, in fact, must pass the United States-Mexico

Canada Agreement on trade, the USMCA. This was negotiated to replace the North American Free Trade Agreement. This agreement is possibly the most impactful policy that Congress could pass this year.

The administration has negotiated with Canada and Mexico over the past 2 years to produce the best trade deal possible. The USMCA increases market access for American exports. It levels the playing field for the American worker and brings important intellectual property protections into the 21st century.

Millions of jobs and billions of dollars' worth of trade are waiting on the passage of this bill. If Speaker PELOSI brought the USMCA to the floor today, it would pass before the week was out. Unfortunately, the Democratic majority is slow-walking this USMCA and doing harm to our Nation's farmers, workers, and small businesses. There is no reason to continue to delay a vote on this agreement.

In addition, securing the USMCA would give the United States additional authority with the ongoing negotiations with China.

Providing full appropriations for the Federal Government, addressing the humanitarian and security crisis at our southern border, working to lower prescription drug prices and provide continued support to combat the opioid epidemic, negotiating a strong Federal privacy law, and passing the USMCA are all urgent policy priorities that could receive bipartisan support. And yet, we are delaying action on these necessary measures to consider a non-urgent, nonbinding resolution that simply reaffirms what has remained clear United States policy regarding Armenia.

I hope my fellow Democrats on the Rules Committee and in the House of Representatives will soon prioritize legislation that will help the American people. I urge opposition to the rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

My colleague from Texas talked about a lot of different subjects in his opening remarks. I have to say that I am a little bit disappointed—well, more than a little bit. I am disappointed and somewhat offended at the implication that this is not an important matter.

Let me remind him that 1.5 million Armenians died at the hands of the Ottoman Empire and the emerging nation of Turkey. Let me remind him of the countless hundreds of thousands of people who had to flee because of that oppression. Let me also remind him that it is not the official policy of the United States Government. If it were, that map that I showed you would have included us as a nation formally recognizing the Armenian genocide.

My friend may not think it is important, but as somebody who cares deeply about human rights, it is important that we respect historical accuracy and that we respect the truth.

I don't know if the gentleman was in the Rules Committee last night when our colleague from California, ANNA ESHOO, movingly and tearfully talked about her family's experiences during that time, when she lost ancestors and her parents came to the United States to try to have a better life. But I don't know how we can just kind of brush this off as not a big deal.

It is a big deal. It is a big deal to Armenian Americans, and it is a big deal to anybody who cares about human rights in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. SHALALA), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

□ 1300

Ms. SHALALA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the resolution affirming the United States' record on the Armenian genocide. This resolution is long overdue on the genocide of 1.5 million Armenians and thousands of Maronites, Chaldeans, Amalekites, Assyrians, and others who were part of the Ottoman Empire.

Mr. Speaker, my grandparents left the Ottoman Empire to escape that genocide just ahead, but their relatives were not as lucky. My grandparents were Maronites.

I remember my grandmother's tears as she spoke of their Armenian friends and the many Maronites and Amalekites who were slaughtered by the Ottoman Empire.

As a child, I remember the tears and the suffering of our Armenian neighbors and the many members of the other communities whose tears I could not erase.

As a child, I could not erase those tears, but for them, I proudly support this resolution.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), who has been a leader on this issue for many years.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, after decades of struggle, this House will recognize the Armenian genocide just in time for it to be seen by the last few survivors of the first genocide of the 20th century.

We should have recognized that genocide again and again long ago, but we didn't because we were told that we had a great alliance with Turkey.

Earlier this month, Turkish forces shelled near and deliberately bracketed American bases. Americans fled in unseemly haste. Great ally.

It has been a great alliance for Turkey. We defended them from communism in the 1940s, defended them from the Soviet Union for decades, and provided them with \$23 billion in aid.

It is critical that we counteract Turkey's genocide denial, because genocide denial is the last act of a genocide—first you obliterate a people, then you seek to obliterate their memory, and

finally you seek to obliterate the memory of the obliteration—and because genocide denial is also the first step in the next genocide.

When Hitler's cadres wondered if they could get away with the Holocaust, he was able to assure them: Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?

We must recognize this genocide to remove the stain on America's honor because, up until now, we have refused to acknowledge truth and we have been silent, all in an effort at appeasement.

The fact is that many other countries have recognized the genocide, including Belgium, Canada, Greece, Italy, Argentina, and Germany. And when France had the courage to pass a genocide recognition resolution, they were threatened with a boycott of all their exports. In fact, what happened was a fourfold increase in French exports to Turkey.

The only thing worse than unnecessary appeasement is appeasing a power that will not actually respond.

Today, Germany is a great and prosperous democracy, a great ally of the United States. Where would Germany be if, to this day, they denied the Holocaust?

Turkey will be a great ally of the United States and a prosperous and modern nation only when Turkey recognizes the first genocide of the 20th century.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman for bringing up this rule and for answering the question why this is so important to do this today.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. JUDY CHU).

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Speaker, I have just returned from Armenia, where I went to the Armenian Genocide Museum. I cannot get the pictures that I saw out of my mind: Armenian women and children murdered in mass graves, Armenian leaders hung as examples to others, Armenians forced onto long death marches without food or water.

There were 1.5 million Armenians killed in this genocide in 1915. I saw the documents of the many who had witnessed it, including U.S. diplomat Henry Morgenthau, and yet over 100 years later, the U.S. has never officially acknowledged it.

This vote to finally acknowledge the Armenian genocide should have come sooner, because of people in my district like Joseph "Bebo" Manjikian. When I met him, he was 104, but from his wheelchair, he told me about the many family members he lost in the genocide. Bebo passed away before he could see this day. He didn't forget them, and neither can we.

Mr. Speaker, for the sake of Bebo and so many others, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this resolution.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE), the co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. MCGOVERN for bringing this rule up today, and I rise in support of the rule to bring up the Armenian genocide resolution.

As JUDY CHU said—and I just came back from Armenia at the same time—we were at the genocide memorial in Yerevan. I was actually there a few years ago, on the 100th anniversary of the genocide, with our two Armenian Members of Congress, ANNA ESHOO and JACKIE SPEIER.

I have to say, it was unfortunate for us. We were proud to be there for the 100th commemoration, but we still were very upset over the fact that the United States had not recognized the Armenian genocide in recent years. And, of course, this has been a goal of the Armenia caucus and the Armenia diaspora for over 30 years that this day, this historic day, would finally occur.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Speaker of the House of Representatives, NANCY PELOSI, who has made this day possible.

This resolution is important. It commemorates the victims of the Armenian genocide at the hands of the Ottoman Turks over 104 years after it took place.

For too long, Congress has failed to recognize the indisputable fact that the Ottoman Turks perpetrated the first genocide of the 20th century. This crime against humanity would serve as the blueprint for other genocides in the Nazi concentration camps and massacres in Poland, Germany, and eastern Europe and, more recently, in Bosnia and Rwanda.

Today, we will finally acknowledge what historians have documented with clear evidence: that the Turkish campaign of slaughter and forced displacement of millions of Armenians, Greeks, Assyrians, and other religious minorities was, in fact, a genocide.

The passage of this resolution is an important step in raising awareness and showing the world that we have a commitment to human rights and the dignity of every human life.

In the words of George Santayana: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

We stand today to show that the House of Representatives will not be complicit in covering up past atrocities in the 20th century nor turn our back when ethnic or religious minorities are threatened in the 21st century.

We must also urge Turkey to come to terms with its own history and look beyond the thinly veiled facade of denial that covered up one of the most horrific crimes in world history.

We must urge Turkey to join the rest of the world in recognizing the sanctity of human life, even if it is someone who doesn't look like you, speaks a different language, or attends a different house of worship.

Turkey has a long history of repressing ethnic minorities, including the Kurds, whom they are killing as we speak. And it doesn't matter whether they are Christians or Muslims; many of the Kurds are their Muslim brethren.

I am also a strong supporter of the bipartisan Turkey sanctions bill that will also be considered this week.

It is unfortunate that it took the abandonment of our allies in northern Syria to get to this point, but I am pleased to see that we are working across the aisle to finally push back against the bully that is President Erdogan.

We cannot trust the Turkish, Russian, or Syrian Governments to uphold peace and protect innocent lives in the region. We must stand up to authoritarian leaders like Erdogan, Putin, and Assad to defend our regional partners and innocent lives.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman for bringing up this rule. I want to thank Chairman SCHIFF, the sponsor of this resolution; Chairman ENGEL; the House leadership; and other members of the congressional caucus for their support of strong American leadership and for their work to finally get this passed.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, Republicans will amend the rule to suspend the ongoing impeachment inquiry until we achieve operational control of our southern border.

As I previously stated, we are experiencing a humanitarian and security crisis on the southern border. In August, Customs and Border Protection apprehended over 64,000 individuals who lacked legal documentation to enter this country. Apprehensions are on track to reach over 1 million individuals attempting to cross into the United States along our southern border this fiscal year.

The House should prioritize securing our southern border and stemming the flow of irregular migration over a politically motivated impeachment inquiry. Until operation of the border control is achieved, the House should suspend the impeachment inquiry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have to say to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) that, again, it is frustrating to hear his comments. I mean, we are talking about a resolution recognizing the Armenian genocide; 1.5 million people

were murdered. I think it is generally a bipartisan resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend not only Chairman ENGEL and Chairman SMITH, who is a Republican, for their testimony before the Rules Committee; I want to thank Congressman SCHIFF, who is the main author of this; but our colleague in the Rules Committee, Congresswoman LESKO, came out very strongly in favor of this resolution.

It would be nice if there were a couple of moments here that didn't always have to be politicized, and I think this resolution should be one of those moments.

This is important; this is serious; and we shouldn't bring politics into a resolution dealing with the recognition of a genocide. So I obviously have a different opinion on how people should vote on the previous question.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SÁNCHEZ).

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this resolution to recognize the Armenian genocide.

This tragedy is one of the most painful moments in our world's history. We owe it to the more than 2 million victims and their descendants never to forget.

It is heartbreaking that some choose to deny our past rather than to learn from this painful moment in history. It is an insult to millions who died and the millions who risked their lives to escape violence.

Denial is all too easy. It is harder to face the truth, and facing the truth is the right thing to do.

When we rewrite the darkest chapters of our history, we open the door to them happening again. The United States cannot be complicit in that denial.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to send a resounding message to the world that we stand with the Armenian community: We will not forget; we will not obscure.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Speaker, I would just point out that this Congress has acted on this in the past. H.J. Res. 148 passed in the 94th Congress. A joint resolution to designate April 24, 1975, as a National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man passed the House April 8, 1975.

And then again, H.J. Res. 247 from the 98th Congress, a joint resolution to designate April 24 as a National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man, passed the House 10 September 1984.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, again, it really is frustrating to hear my colleague try and dismiss this. There has not been a resolution calling this a genocide and outlining all the facts before.

Mr. Speaker, I would again urge my colleagues, in a bipartisan way, to support the underlying bill and to reject any attempts to try to politicize this process.

And, again, we do this out of respect for those victims of the genocide, for its survivors, for the Armenian American community, for the Armenian community all over the world, and we do it because the United States of America is supposed to be committed to a very high standard of human rights.

□ 1315

If we stand for anything, we need to stand out loud and four square for human rights.

To not appropriately acknowledge a genocide only paves the way for future thugs, dictators, and authoritarians to commit similar atrocities, believing that somehow the United States, the most powerful country in the world, will just look the other way.

I hope that we have strong, bipartisan support on this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's courtesy, and I appreciate his words.

Mr. Speaker, for years, we have danced around this. It is complex with the Turks, in terms of the relationship that we have tried to deal with. But denying genocide has not helped resolve those issues. It hasn't changed the behavior of the Turks.

Look at what is happening with the Kurds today. Failure to acknowledge this horrific episode is a burden for us all—standing up for human rights, acknowledging the truth, giving a sense of closure and solace to the people who endured this horrific activity, and making sure that we are united in our opposition to those genocidal activities.

Sadly, unless and until the Turks own their history, acknowledge it, they are not going to be able to move past it. This is a chapter that needs a spotlight shone on it.

I appreciate this formal acknowledgment by the House of Representatives. I think it is a first step toward healing, and it is an important step toward preventing tragedies like this in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support it, and I look forward to its passage on the floor of the House.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I also would like to point out that the gentleman had said that he did not want to see this issue politicized. I would just simply note that this resolution could have been brought to the floor under suspension of the rules and likely passed with a large bipartisan majority under suspension of the rules.

The difficulty that I have today is that we are spending the time on a rule

bill for this bill that would have passed under suspension when we, in fact, have some pretty important things out there hanging over us.

One of those things, of course, is funding the entire Federal Government so we don't end up in another government shutdown, and the other is to somehow resolve this question of impeachment that has bogged down this body for months, if not years.

Mr. Speaker, as I previously outlined, there are other important, time-sensitive priorities. Once again, we have 11 legislative days remaining before the continuing resolution expires. In place of a nonurgent, nonbinding resolution, we could be finding a way to ensure that our government remains open and that Americans continue to receive the Federal benefits, services, and paychecks on which they depend.

I ask my fellow Democrats to prioritize the needs of the American people, and I urge a "no" vote on the previous question and "no" on the rule.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The gentleman wonders why we didn't bring this legislation up under suspension of the rules. To be honest with you, I think there was a concern by Democrats and Republicans on the Foreign Affairs Committee that we might not have all the votes that we needed to pass them under suspension of the rules.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Turkey employs very well-paid lobbyists here in Washington, and they have been working quite diligently trying to defeat this. So I hope we have a vote that is overwhelming, but we don't know.

Secondly, I don't know why the gentleman would object to bringing this up under a rule. It gives more time for Members on both sides of the aisle to be able to speak on this, and a lot of Members do. We had a lot of Democrats on our side who wanted to speak. We have others who are going to speak when the underlying bill comes up. So I don't quite get it.

Let me say, again, for the RECORD, this is not the official policy of the United States. If it was, President Trump would publicly acknowledge the Armenian genocide.

By the way, I am not picking on President Trump. The same could be said for President Obama. I can go right down the list of Presidents.

The deal is, this is not the official policy. If it was, we wouldn't be here.

It really is somewhat disappointing that the gentleman doesn't quite appreciate how impactful this is and how important it is.

Mr. Speaker, the horrors of human rights abuses can be mind-numbing, whether they occurred 100 years ago, like the Armenian genocide, or are happening today in Syria at the hands of Erdogan's government.

I get it. It is easier to turn away than to see the impact of brutality, the loss

of life, the maiming of civilians, including children, in the devastated communities. It can turn your stomach and break your heart, but we must not lose our capacity for outrage. That 1.5 million Armenians died at the hands of the Ottoman Empire in the emerging nation of Turkey should outrage all of us.

Formally recognizing this genocide is the right thing to do. I wish we took this step long ago, but it is always the right time to do the right thing.

I urge my colleagues: Let's speak with one voice. Let's join some of our closest allies in recognizing the Armenian genocide. Let's finally remove this dark stain on the record of the United States of America.

I say this all the time: The core of our being as a nation should be upholding a high standard of human rights. We should always be counted on to speak out when people's human rights are being denied. We certainly should be counted on to adhere to historical accuracy.

This happened, and it is time that it become the official policy of the United States of America to recognize that it did happen and call it for what it was, and it was a genocide.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the previous question, vote "yes" on the rule, and vote "yes" on the underlying bill.

The material previously referred to by Mr. BURGESS is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 655

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution, the Committees on the Judiciary, Ways and Means, Financial Services, Oversight and Reform, and Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence shall suspend pursuing matters referred to by the Speaker in her announcement of September 24, 2019, until such time as the United States achieves operational control of the southern border.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on ordering the previous question on House Resolution 655 will be followed by 5-minute votes on:

Adoption of House Resolution 655, if ordered;

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 656; and

Adoption of House Resolution 656, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 224, nays 189, not voting 18, as follows:

	[Roll No. 587]	Fleischmann	King (NY)	Rooney (FL)
	YEAS—224	Flores	Kinzinger	Rose, John W.
Adams	Gomez	Pallone	Fortenberry	Rouzer
Aguilar	Gonzalez (TX)	Panetta	Foxx (NC)	Roy
Allred	Gottheimer	Pappas	Fulcher	Rutherford
Amash	Green, Al (TX)	Pascrell	Gaetz	Scalise
Axne	Grijalva	Payne	Gallagher	Schweikert
Barragán	Haaland	Perlmutter	Gianforte	Scott, Austin
Bera	Harder (CA)	Peters	Gibbs	Sensenbrenner
Beyer	Hastings	Peterson	Gohmert	Shimkus
Bishop (GA)	Hayes	Phillips	Gonzalez (OH)	Simpson
Blumenauer	Heck	Pingree	Gooden	Smith (MO)
Blunt Rochester	Higgins (NY)	Pocan	Granger	Smith (NJ)
Bonamici	Himes	Porter	Graves (GA)	Smucker
Boyle, Brendan F.	Horn, Kendra S.	Pressley	Graves (LA)	Spano
Brindisi	Horsford	Price (NC)	Graves (MO)	Stauber
Brown (MD)	Houlahan	Quigley	Green (TN)	Stefanik
Brownley (CA)	Hoyer	Raskin	Grothman	Steil
Bustos	Jayapal	Rice (NY)	Hagedorn	Steube
Butterfield	Jeffries	Richmond	Harris	Stewart
Carbajal	Johnson (GA)	Rose (NY)	Hagedorn	Stivers
Cárdenas	Johnson (TX)	Rouda	Harris	Taylor
Carson (IN)	Kaptur	Royal-Allard	Hollandsworth	Thompson (PA)
Case	Keating	Ruiz	Hartzler	Thornberry
Casten (IL)	Kelly (IL)	Ruppersberger	Hern, Kevin	Tipton
Castor (FL)	Kennedy	Rush	Herrera Beutler	Turner
Castro (TX)	Khanna	Sánchez	Higgins (LA)	Upton
Chu, Judy	Kildee	Barbanes	Hill (AR)	Wagner
Cicilline	Kilmer	Scanlon	Holding	Nunes
Cisneros	Kim	Schakowsky	Hollingsworth	Walberg
Clark (MA)	Kind	Schiff	Hudson	Walden
Clarke (NY)	Kirkpatrick	Schneider	Huizenga	Walker
Clay	Krishnamoorthi	Schrader	Hunter	Walorski
Cleaver	Kuster (NH)	Schrier	Hurd (TX)	Watkins
Clyburn	Lamb	Scott (VA)	Johnson (LA)	Weber (TX)
Cohen	Langevin	Scott, David	Johnson (OH)	Webster (FL)
Connolly	Larsen (WA)	Serrano	Jordan	Wenstrup
Cooper	Larson (CT)	Sewell (AL)	Joyce (OH)	Westerman
Correa	Lawrence	Shalala	Joyce (PA)	Wittman
Costa	Lawson (FL)	Sherman	Katko	Womack
Courtney	Lee (CA)	Sherrill	Keller	Woodall
Cox (CA)	Lee (NV)	Sires	Kelly (MS)	Yoho
Craig	Levin (CA)	Slotkin	Kelly (PA)	Young
Crist	Levin (MI)	Smith (WA)	King (IA)	Zeldin
Crow	Lewis	Soto		
Cuellar	Lieu, Ted	Spanberger		
Cunningham	Lipinski	Speier		
Davids (KS)	Loebback	Stanton		
Davis (CA)	Lofgren	Stevens		
Davis, Danny K.	Lowenthal	Suozzi		
Dean	Lowey	Swalwell (CA)		
DeFazio	Luján	Takano		
DeGette	Luria	Thompson (MS)		
DeLauro	Lynch	Titus		
DelBene	Malinowski	Tlaib		
Delgado	Maloney	Tonko		
Demings	Carolyn B.	Torres (CA)		
DeSaulnier	Maloney, Sean	Torres Small		
Deutch	Matsui	(NM)		
Dingell	McAdams	Trahan		
Dogett	McBath	Trone		
Doyle, Michael F.	McCollum	Underwood		
Engel	McGovern	Van Drew		
Escobar	McNerney	Vargas		
Eshoo	Meeks	Veasey		
Espallat	Meng	Vela		
Evans	Moore	Velázquez		
Finkenauer	Morelle	Visclosky		
Fletcher	Mucarsel-Powell	Wasserman		
Foster	Murphy (FL)	Wasserman		
Frankel	Napolitano	Waters		
Fudge	Neal	Watson Coleman		
Gallego	Neguse	Welch		
Garamendi	Norcross	Wexton		
Garcia (IL)	O'Halleran	Wild		
Garcia (TX)	Ocasio-Cortez	Wilson (FL)		
Golden	Omar	Yarmuth		
		NAYS—189		
Abraham	Bost	Cole		
Aderholt	Brady	Collins (GA)		
Allen	Brooks (AL)	Comer		
Amodei	Brooks (IN)	Conaway		
Armstrong	Buchanan	Cook		
Arrington	Buck	Crawford		
Babin	Bucshon	Crenshaw		
Bacon	Budd	Curtis		
Baird	Burgett	Davidson (OH)		
Balderson	Burgess	DesJarlais		
Banks	Byrne	Diaz-Balart		
Barr	Calvert	Duncan		
Bergman	Carter (GA)	Dunn		
Biggs	Chabot	Emmer		
Bilirakis	Cheney	Estes		
Bishop (NC)	Cline	Ferguson		
Bishop (UT)	Cloud	Fitzpatrick		

NOT VOTING—18

Bass	Hice (GA)	Moulton
Beatty	Hill (CA)	Ryan
Carter (TX)	Huffman	Thompson (CA)
Cartwright	Long	Timmons
Davis, Rodney	Marchant	Williams
Gabbard	McEachin	Wright

□ 1352

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

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.

Mr. BURGESS. 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 223, nays 191, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 588]
YEAS—223

Adams	Carbajal	Costa
Aguilar	Cárdenas	Courtney
Allred	Carson (IN)	Cox (CA)
Amash	Case	Craig
Axne	Casten (IL)	Crist
Barragán	Castor (FL)	Crow
Bera	Castro (TX)	Cuellar
Beyer	Chu, Judy	Cunningham
Bishop (GA)	Cicilline	Davids (KS)
Bilirakis	Cisneros	Davis (CA)
Bishop (NC)	Davidson (MA)	Davis, Danny K.
Bishop (UT)	Clarke (NY)	Dean
	Clay	DeFazio
	Cleaver	DeGette
	Clyburn	DeLauro
	Cohen	DeBene
	Cohen	Delgado
	Connolly	Demings
	Cooper	DeSaulnier
	Correa	DeWeese

NAYS—191

Abraham	Crenshaw	Holding
Aderholt	Curtis	Hollingsworth
Allen	Davidson (OH)	Hudson
Amodei	DesJarlais	Huizinga
Armstrong	Diaz-Balart	Hunter
Arrington	Duncan	Hurd (TX)
Babin	Dunn	Johnson (LA)
Bacon	Emmer	Johnson (OH)
Baird	Estes	Johnson (SD)
Balderson	Ferguson	Jordan
Banks	Fitzpatrick	Joyce (OH)
Barr	Fleischmann	Joyce (PA)
Bergman	Flores	Katko
Biggs	Fortenberry	Keller
Bilirakis	Foxx (NC)	Kelly (MS)
Bishop (NC)	Fulcher	Kelly (PA)
Bishop (UT)	Gaetz	King (IA)
Bost	Gallagher	King (NY)
Brady	Gianforte	Kinzinger
Brooks (AL)	Gibbs	Kustoff (TN)
Brooks (IN)	Gohmert	LaHood
Buchanan	Gonzalez (OH)	LaMalfa
Buck	Gooden	Lamborn
Bucshon	Gosar	Latta
Budd	Granger	Lesko
Burchett	Graves (GA)	Long
Burgess	Graves (LA)	Loudermilk
Byrne	Graves (MO)	Lucas
Calvert	Green (TN)	Luetkemeyer
Carter (GA)	Griffith	Marshall
Chabot	Grothman	Massie
Cheney	Guest	Mast
Cline	Guthrie	McCarthy
Cloud	Hagedorn	McCaul
Cole	Harris	McClintock
Collins (GA)	Hartzler	McHenry
Comer	Hern, Kevin	McKinley
Conaway	Herrera Beutler	Meadows
Cook	Higgins (LA)	Meuser
Crawford	Hill (AR)	Miller

11, 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 656) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 823) to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1373) to protect, for current and future generations, the watershed, ecosystem, and cultural heritage of the Grand Canyon region in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2181) to provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico; and providing for proceedings during the period from November 1, 2019, through November 11, 2019, 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.

Abraham	Crenshaw	Holding	11, 2019	DelBene	Lynch	Thompson
Aderholt	Curtis	Hollingsworth		Delgado	Malinowski	(MS)
Allen	Davidson (OH)	Hudson		Demings	Maloney	Titus
Amodei	DesJarlais	Huizenga		DeSaulnier	Carolyn B.	Tlaib
Armstrong	Diaz-Balart	Hunter		Deutch	Maloney, Sean	Tonko
Arrington	Duncan	Hurd (TX)		Dingell	Matsui	Torres (CA)
Babin	Dunn	Johnson (LA)		Doggett	McAdams	Trahan
Bacon	Emmer	Johnson (OH)		Doyle, Michael	McBath	Trone
Baird	Estes	Johnson (SD)		F.	McCullom	Underwood
Balderson	Ferguson	Jordan		Engel	McGovern	Van Drew
Banks	Fitzpatrick	Joyce (OH)		Escobar	McNerney	Vargas
Barr	Fleischmann	Joyce (PA)		Eshoo	Meeks	Veasey
Bergman	Flores	Katko		Espaillet	Meng	Vela
Biggs	Fortenberry	Keller		Evans	Moore	Velázquez
Bilirakis	Foxx (NC)	Kelly (MS)		Finkenauer	Morelle	Visclosky
Bishop (NC)	Fulcher	Kelly (PA)		Fletcher	Mucarsel-Powell	Wasserman
Bishop (UT)	Gaetz	King (IA)		Foster	Murphy (FL)	Schultz
Bost	Gallagher	King (NY)		Frankel	Nadler	Waters
Brady	Gianforte	Kinzinger		Fudge	Napolitano	Watson Coleman
Brooks (AL)	Gibbs	Kustoff (TN)		Gaetz	Neal	Welch
Brooks (IN)	Gohmert	LaHood		Gallego	Neguse	Wexton
Buchanan	Gonzalez (OH)	LaMalfa		Garamendi	Norcross	Wild
Buck	Gooden	Lamborn		García (IL)	O'Halleran	Wilson (FL)
Pueoher	Casan	Latta		García (TX)	Ocasio-Cortez	Yarmuth

NAYS—191

Burchett	Graves (GA)	Long	WHEREAS land protection in certain
Burgess	Graves (LA)	Loudermilk	Federal land in the State of New Mex-
Byrne	Graves (MO)	Lucas	ico; and providing for proceedings dur-
Calvert	Green (TN)	Luetkemeyer	ing the period from November 1, 2019,
Carter (GA)	Griffith	Marshall	through November 11, 2019, on which
Chabot	Grothman	Massie	the yeas and nays were ordered.
Cheney	Guest	Mast	
Cline	Guthrie	McCarthy	The Clerk read the title of the resolu-
Cloud	Hagedorn	McCaul	tion.
Cole	Harris	McClintock	
Collins (GA)	Hartzler	McHenry	The SPEAKER pro tempore. The
Comer	Hern, Kevin	McKinley	question is on ordering the previous
Conaway	Herrera Beutler	Meadows	question.
Cook	Higgins (LA)	Meuser	
Crawford	Hill (AR)	Miller	This is a 5-minute vote.
			Abraham
			Biggs
			Aderholt
			Bilirakis
			Calvert
			Allen
			Bishop (NC)
			Bishop (UT)
			Chabot
			Amash
			Bost
			Cheney
			Amodei
			Brady
			Armstrong
			Brady
			Arrington
			Brooks (AL)
			Cloud
			Babin
			Brooks (IN)
			Cole
			Bacon
			Buchanan
			Collins (GA)
			Baird
			Buck
			Comer
			Balderson
			Bucshon
			Conaway
			Banks
			Budd
			Cook
			Barr
			Burchett
			Crawford
			Bergman
			Burgess
			Crenshaw