Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kind
Kolbe
Kucinich
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Platts
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Reyes
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sabo
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanders
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz (PA)
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Shays
Sherman
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Strickland
Stupak
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Wexler
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn

NOT VOTING—10

Blumenauer
Evans
Fattah
Gilchrest
Hastings (FL)
Jefferson
Millender-McDonald
Ortiz
Paul
Ros-Lehtinen

□ 1746

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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. JEFFERSON. Mr. Speaker, on the day of April 27, 2006, I was unable to vote due to an important prescheduled engagement with the President of the United States for which I was granted a leave of absence. I would like the RECORD to reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 109, and "nay" on rollcall No. 110.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as indicated below.

Rollcall No. 109: "Yes."

Rollcall No. 110: "No."

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the majority leader for the purposes of inquiring about the schedule for the balance of the week and the week to come.

Mr. BOEHNER. I thank my colleague for yielding. Given the hour and the commitments that Members have tomorrow, it is the intention of the majority leader to finish the bill under which the rule we just passed on ethics and lobbying reform on Tuesday. And so the House will convene at 12:30 for morning hour and 2 o'clock for legislative business. There will be some suspensions. Votes will be rolled until 6:30.

On Wednesday and the balance of the week, the House will consider H.R. 4943, the Prevention of Fraudulent Access to Phone Records Act. In addition to H.R. 4943, we will do H.R. 4954, the SAFE Port Act, which the Committee on Homeland Security completed yesterday, and we are continuing to work with other committees to assure that this bill will be ready. I would expect this bill to be considered on Thursday.

The committees of jurisdiction have also begun to hold hearings on energy, and Members should expect votes in the coming weeks addressing America's energy needs. That completes my report on what next week looks like.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Leader, could you comment perhaps on the Communications Opportunity Promotion and Enhancement Act, the Telecom Act.

I yield to my friend.

Mr. BOEHNER. There is a possiblity that the telco bill could get out next week. The committee acted. There are other committees of interest, and we are working with them. It is too early to give a hard commitment that it will be up next week.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman for that information. Of course, there was expectation that we were going to pass the lobbying reform act that was offered. We are obviously not doing that. You mentioned that it would be up on Tuesday. My question is, is that accurate? I am sure that you would tell the truth, but, I mean, I want to make that clear.

Mr. BOEHNER. If the gentleman would yield.

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the majority leader.

Mr. BOEHNER. Let me work with you on whether that is actually Tuesday or whether we do it first thing Wednesday morning.

Mr. HOYER. I think that is very important, Mr. Leader, for us to know and maybe we can work on that because obviously Members want to speak on amendments and they would have to know whether they have to be back before the 6:30 voting if you were going to take it up prior to that.

I yield to my friend.

Mr. BOEHNER. Does the gentleman want to agree right now that the first thing, the first order of business on Wednesday morning will be to take up the lobby and ethics reform package?

Mr. HOYER. Yes. We have not discussed that, but I am sure that would be fine.

Mr. BOEHNER. If it meets with your approval, I would be happy to do it.

Mr. HOYER. That is acceptable to us. We think the bill needs a lot of work, and that will give you some more time to work on it.

I am sorry. I couldn't help myself.

Now, Mr. Leader, the budget. We have not voted on a budget yet. And you did not mention it in your schedule. Is there any expectation that you might have, Mr. Leader, that the budget might be on the floor either next week or some week after that?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. BOEHNER. I am hopeful.

Mr. HOYER. Still?

Mr. BOEHNER. Still.

Mr. HOYER. I presume the Appropriations Committee, at some point in time, will proceed without the budget. Would that be your expectation if we don't pass a budget in the near term?

Mr. BOEHNER. I would hope that we would have a budget.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Leader, let me turn the page here. The other bills that you and I have talked about, one in particular we think is extraordinarily important. I know you feel it is important, and that is the pension bill. There are literally millions of Americans and thousands of companies very concerned about the status of the pension conference. Can you bring us up to date on whether or not you have any expectation that the pension conference would be completed in the near term and come to the floor?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. BOEHNER. I appreciate my colleague for yielding. It is important that we protect America's pensions and that we protect the pension system that we have. And having spent some 6 years working on this proposal, trust me, there is no one wants this finished more than me.

There was some progress last night amongst the principals, and I remain optimistic that we will have this finished before the Memorial Day District Work Period. I am hopeful that it will be finished before then. But there has been some movement. There is some cooperation with the Senate. And I have talked to Members on both sides of the aisle, both the House and Senate, that are working together to get this issue passed. And I am very optimistic.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time. Mr. Leader, again, I say this with all due respect and seriousness. I read in the paper today that the conferees met last night. With all due respect, Mr. Leader, the conferees did not meet last night. Apparently, the Republican conferees met last night. You indicated both sides of the aisle. It is my understanding, from our conferees, that they are not being included in the discussions of the conference. Again, it is our perspective that cuts out about 125 million Americans that we represent on this side of the aisle from discussions about an issue that you have worked very hard on, Members on our side have worked very hard on, and that we all agree is critical to our country and to millions of Americans individually. I would hope, Mr. Leader, that you would prevail on the chairman of the conference to include our side of the aisle in the discussions.

Mr. BOEHNER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. We can't be helpful or, frankly, we can't know what is going on if we are not in the room.

I would be glad to yield to my friend.

Mr. BOEHNER. I appreciate my friend yielding. The gentleman has been involved in a number of conferences himself over his long and distinguished career here in the House. And you realize that at some point, getting the basic framework or at least some beginning framework together amongst the principals, the committee Chairs, is essential before bringing other Members into this.

The chairman of the conference, Senator ENZI, and I have talked about this on several occasions, and I am very confident that you, all Members will have an opportunity to participate because it has been clear, as it is in all conferences that I am in, that nothing is agreed to until everything is agreed to. And so the gentleman should have no fears.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Leader, I hope that is accurate. I understand that in any conference, the chairman of the conference ought to take the position that unless all things are agreed to the conference is not closed on other issues that might have been tentatively agreed to. But if, frankly, our side of the aisle is not included, does not have the opportunity to put our input into the issues, very frankly, too often, I have been here a long time. You are right, and I have been in a lot of conferences. And those have been real conferences. They have not been conferences that one side has agreed on, comes to the conference and says it's done.

The leader looks at me somewhat disparagingly or at least incredulously that there haven't been such conferences that occurred prior to the leadership of the Republican Party. I understand what he is saying, but this is a pattern, Mr. Leader. We have talked about it on a regular basis. And it is not good for this institution.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the leader.

Mr. BOEHNER. I appreciate the concerns raised by my friend from Maryland, but I need to remind my colleagues that the Pension Protection Act passed right before Christmas with almost 300 votes. There was broad bipartisan support for this bill, and it is my intention to maintain that broad bipartisan support for an eventual conference report. And the gentleman has my word that all Members will have their opportunity to be engaged in this conference report.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, I appreciate the representation of the leader, and I take him at his word. I have found his word to be good in the past. I certainly take him at his word, and I thank him for that.

Mr. BOEHNER. It still is.

Mr. HOYER. No doubt in my mind. I am not going to quote Ronald Reagan.

AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4943, PREVENTION OF FRAUDULENT ACCESS TO PHONE RECORDS ACT

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. The Committee on Rules may meet the week of May 1 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 4943, the Prevention of Fraudulent Access to Phone Records Act. The Committee on Energy and Commerce ordered the bill reported and filed its report with the House on March 16.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H–312 of the Capitol by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2006. Members should draft their amendments to the text of the bill as reported by the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MAY 1, 2006, AND HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2006

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday next, and further, that when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2006, for morning hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF THE NATIONAL ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION AND NATIONAL ARBOR DAY

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Government Reform be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 383) supporting the goals and ideals of the National Arbor Day Foundation and National Arbor Day, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the right to object.

(Mr. FORTENBERRY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, in 1872 an outstanding Nebraskan, J. Sterling Morton, began the tradition of Arbor Day to encourage tree planting. One hundred years later, another outstanding Nebraskan, John Rosenow, founded the National Arbor Day Foundation to promote Morton's original goals. Today, I have the pleasure of honoring the fruits of their labor. There are over 1 million members of this organization nationwide.

These two visionary leaders recognized that the simple action of planting a tree can protect the environment and provide resources and beauty for generations to come. Thanks to their efforts and inspiration, today America is a much greener, healthier, and more beautiful place. Because of their foresight, people from around the world enjoy a better quality of life. The planting of trees is a great reminder of our duty to take responsible actions now that will benefit our children and our grandchildren later.

□ 1800

As J. Sterling Morton noted, ''Each generation of humanity takes the Earth as trustees.''

The resolution I introduced, House Concurrent Resolution 383, supports the goals and ideals of National Arbor Day and the National Arbor Day Foundation. I would like to begin expressing my sincere appreciation to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS), the chairman of the Committee on Government Reform; and the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), the ranking member of the committee, for their help in bringing this resolution to the floor.

This resolution honors National Arbor Day, which our country will celebrate tomorrow. I encourage my colleagues and others to join in the celebration by planting a tree or by taking part in Arbor Day activities nationwide. By doing so, we can carry on the spirit and the tradition of J. Sterling Morton, who once observed, ''Other holidays repose on the past. Arbor Day proposes for the future.''

I urge support for this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 383

Whereas the National Arbor Day Foundation was founded in 1972 and now has nearly 1,000,000 members;