By increasing public awareness of child abuse and neglect, we also have an opportunity to implement new policies that address the health and safety of our children. There are 8 million uninsured children in this country. Continuing to deny health care to all children is simply another form of child neglect. We should work to provide health coverage to every child.

I hope that the resolution before us will help to galvanize this body to push for policies that protect and nurture children. The thousands of abused children and the millions of uninsured children deserve our attention and commitment.

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 299.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Madam 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 and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

INTERNATIONAL SOLID WASTE IMPORTATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2007

Mr. WYNN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 518) to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to authorize States to restrict receipt of foreign municipal solid waste and implement the Agreement Concerning the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste between the United States and Canada, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 518

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6941 et seq.) is amended by adding after section 4010 the following new section:

''SEC. 4011. INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE.

''(a) STATE AUTHORITY TO ADDRESS IMPORTATION AND MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Until the date on which all final regulations issued by the Administrator to implement and enforce the Agreement (including notice and consent provisions of the Agreement) become effective, a State may enact a law or laws or issue regulations or orders imposing limitations on the receipt and disposal of foreign municipal solid waste within the State. Laws, regulations, and orders enacted or issued before that date may continue in effect according to their terms after that date.

''(2) EFFECT ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE.—No State action taken as authorized by this section shall be considered to impose an undue burden on interstate and foreign commerce or to otherwise impair, restrain, or discriminate against interstate and foreign commerce.

''(3) TRADE AND TREATY OBLIGATIONS.—Nothing in this section affects, replaces, or amends prior law relating to the need for consistency with international trade obligations.

''(b) AUTHORITY OF ADMINISTRATOR.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning immediately after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall—

''(A) perform the functions of the Designated Authority of the United States described in the Agreement with respect to the importation and exportation of municipal solid waste under the Agreement; and

''(B) implement and enforce the notice and consent and other provisions of the Agreement.

''(2) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall issue final regulations with respect to the Administrator's responsibilities under paragraph (1).

''(3) CONSENT TO IMPORTATION.—In considering whether to consent to the importation under article 3(c) of the Agreement, the Administrator shall—

''(A) give substantial weight to the views of the State or States into which the municipal solid waste is to be imported, and consider the views of the local government with jurisdiction over the location where the waste is to be disposed;

''(B) consider the impact of the importation on—

''(i) continued public support for and adherence to State and local recycling programs;

''(ii) landfill capacity as provided in comprehensive waste management plans;

''(iii) air emissions from increased vehicular traffic; and

''(iv) road deterioration from increased vehicular traffic; and

''(C) consider the impact of the importation on homeland security, public health, and the environment.

''(4) ACTIONS IN VIOLATION OF THE AGREEMENT.—No person shall import, transport, or export municipal solid waste for final disposal or for incineration in violation of the Agreement.

''(c) COMPLIANCE ORDERS.—(1) Whenever on the basis of any information the Administrator determines that any person has violated or is in violation of this section, the Administrator may issue an order assessing a civil penalty for any past or current violation, requiring compliance immediately or within a specified time period, or both, or the Administrator may commence a civil action in the United States district court in the district in which the violation occurred for appropriate relief, including a temporary or permanent injunction.

''(2) Any order issued pursuant to this subsection shall state with reasonable specificity the nature of the violation. Any penalty assessed in the order shall not exceed $25,000 per day of noncompliance for each violation. In assessing such a penalty, the Administrator shall take into account the seriousness of the violation and any good faith efforts to comply with applicable requirements.

''(d) PUBLIC HEARING.—Any order issued under this section shall become final unless, not later than 30 days after the order is served, the person or persons named therein request a public hearing. Upon such request, the Administrator shall promptly conduct a public hearing. In connection with any proceeding under this section, the Administrator may issue subpoenas for the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of relevant papers, books, and documents, and may promulgate rules for discovery procedures.

''(e) VIOLATION OF COMPLIANCE ORDERS.—If a violator fails to take corrective action within the time specified in a compliance order, the Administrator may assess a civil penalty of not more than $25,000 for each day of continued noncompliance with the order.

''(f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

''(1) AGREEMENT.—The term 'Agreement' means—

''(A) the Agreement Concerning the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste between the United States and Canada, signed at Ottawa on October 28, 1986 (TIAS 11099) and amended on November 25, 1992; and

''(B) any regulations promulgated and orders issued to implement and enforce that Agreement.

''(2) FOREIGN MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE.—The term 'foreign municipal solid waste' means municipal solid waste generated outside of the United States.

''(3) MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE.—

''(A) WASTE INCLUDED.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term 'municipal solid waste' means—

''(i) all waste materials discarded for disposal by households, including single and multifamily residences, and hotels and motels; and

''(ii) all waste materials discarded for disposal that were generated by commercial, institutional, municipal, and industrial sources, to the extent such materials—

''(I) are essentially the same as materials described in clause (i); and

''(II) were collected and disposed of with other municipal solid waste described in clause (i) or subclause (I) of this clause as part of normal municipal solid waste collection services, except that this subclause does not apply to hazardous materials other than hazardous materials that, pursuant to regulations issued under section 3001(d), are not subject to regulation under subtitle C.

Examples of municipal solid waste include food and yard waste, paper, clothing, appliances, consumer product packaging, disposable diapers, office supplies, cosmetics, glass and metal food containers, and household hazardous waste. Such term shall include debris resulting from construction, remodeling, repair, or demolition of structures.

''(B) WASTE NOT INCLUDED.—The term 'municipal solid waste' does not include any of the following:

''(i) Any solid waste identified or listed as a hazardous waste under section 3001, except for household hazardous waste.

''(ii) Any solid waste, including contaminated soil and debris, resulting from—

''(I) a response action taken under section 104 or 106 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9604 or 9606);

''(II) a response action taken under a State law with authorities comparable to the authorities of such section 104 or 106; or

''(III) a corrective action taken under this Act.

''(iii) Recyclable materials that have been separated, at the source of the waste, from

waste otherwise destined for disposal or that have been managed separately from waste destined for disposal.

''(iv) Scrap rubber to be used as a fuel source.

''(v) Materials and products returned from a dispenser or distributor to the manufacturer or an agent of the manufacturer for credit, evaluation, and possible reuse.

''(vi) Any solid waste that is—

''(I) generated by an industrial facility; and

''(II) transported for the purpose of treatment, storage, or disposal to a facility or unit thereof that is owned or operated by the generator of the waste, located on property owned by the generator or a company with which the generator is affiliated, or the capacity of which is contractually dedicated exclusively to a specific generator, so long as the disposal area complies with local and State land use and zoning regulations applicable to the disposal site.

''(vii) Any medical waste that is segregated from or not mixed with solid waste.

''(viii) Sewage sludge and residuals from any sewage treatment plant.

''(ix) Combustion ash generated by resource recovery facilities or municipal incinerators, or waste from manufacturing or processing (including pollution control) operations not essentially the same as waste normally generated by households.

''(x) Solid waste generated incident to the provision of service in interstate, intrastate, foreign, or overseas air transportation.''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. prec. 6901) is amended by adding after the item relating to section 4010 the following new item:

''Sec. 4011. International transportation and disposal of municipal solid waste.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. ROGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WYNN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material into the RECORD on the pending bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 518, the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act of 2007.

This legislation is a culmination of efforts that began with the introduction of the international waste bill in the 104th Congress and has been introduced by our committee chairman, Mr. DINGELL; and sponsored by all the members of the Michigan delegation, including Mr. ROGERS, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. UPTON, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. MILLER, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. CAMP, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. HOEKSTRA, and Mr. WALBERG. I want to thank and congratulate all these Members for their tireless efforts to move this legislation to the floor.

In March this legislation was reported out of the subcommittee which I chair, the Subcommittee on the Environment and Hazardous Materials, and out of the full Committee on Energy and Commerce.

□ 1300

This legislation, which has a long history of bipartisan support, is long overdue in providing States and localities control over the amount of international municipal solid waste that they are forced to accept.

The extent of this problem is exemplified by the millions of tons of solid waste that is trucked into this country at the rate of approximately 350 truckloads per day. The volume of the international solid waste that comes into this country on a daily basis places an undue burden on the States' and localities' landfill capacities, as well as their roads and infrastructure, solely at the expense of the States and localities.

This legislation seeks to address these concerns by providing the States with the authority to place limits on the amounts of international municipal solid waste that they will accept. It will give the States and the EPA clear authority to safely manage solid waste disposal and to control waste volumes in the best interests of the States and the Nation as a whole.

In addition, H.R. 518 provides the necessary legal authority for the United States, through the Environmental Protection Agency, to fully implement the 1986 Trans-Boundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes Agreement between the United States and Canada. These are simple steps that will provide the legislative authority to the Federal and State governments, and are also consistent with the powers enumerated in the United States Constitution and our international trade obligations and agreement. I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this very important and bipartisan bill.

Madam Speaker, I would reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I first want to thank JOHN DINGELL, a friend and colleague and chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, for working with us on putting together what I think is a great product, and really the first opportunity we are going to have in Michigan, I think the first really good opportunity to say ''no'' to Canadian trash. And for that, sir, I thank you. And Mr. WYNN, sir, thank you as well for working with us and standing tall, which is really an important issue. Michigan gets hit hardest, and your care and concern for those of us in the north is greatly appreciated.

Right now, the current law allows trash to move across international borders and States can do nothing to regulate this waste, as Congress has not given them the authority to do so. Canada has for years taken advantage of this situation by turning Michigan into the dumping ground for Ontario's trash. This bill, the fourth of its kind, really, since 2000, gives States the authority to regulate Canadian waste and directs the EPA to implement the existing U.S.-Canada Trans-Boundary Agreement. More importantly, it gives Michigan the authority to regulate trash coming from Ontario, no matter how the EPA chooses to implement that trans-boundary agreement.

In 2006 alone, over 3.6 million tons of Canadian trash was dumped in our great State of Michigan. As we lose landfill space, shipments of Canadian waste continue to increase every year, and this year was no exception, Madam Speaker.

While my colleagues and I have been trying to pass this law, the problem has only gotten worse. Since 2001, when I introduced the first bill to fight Canadian trash, over 17 million tons of garbage have been driven across the border and dumped into our back yards.

Since our first attempts to fix this problem, annual garbage loads from Canada have tripled. Of all the trash Canada sends to the United States, 90 percent of it ends up in Michigan. Six years ago, just 10 percent of the waste disposed in Michigan landfills came from Canada; today, that has doubled to 20 percent. Over 400 garbage trucks over a single day rumble through our neighborhoods and deposit and unload their waste in Michigan landfills.

Without the ability to regulate this out-of-control surge in Canadian waste, Michigan communities can only sit back and watch the trash pile up. And what have we been getting and why is this a concern? We have had human blood dripping from trash trucks; stopped the whole bridge crossing for almost 6 hours on one occasion as the local police tried to determine the cause of it. It turned out it was hazardous medical waste. Thank God it wasn't a body. But we didn't know, and there is no good way to search those trucks to find out. We had to find out because human blood was dripping from the back of a garbage truck.

We have found drugs in those garbage trucks. We have found, in the dumps that receive Canadian trash, that PCP levels have increased. It is a true and real environmental and security problem, not just for Michigan, but for the United States, that we don't get a handle and say to our good friends to the north, this is an unneighborly thing to do, let's work this out.

When we anticipated years ago in Michigan that we would cite landfills, which is a very difficult thing to do, we had 20 years' worth of capacity; pretty hard thing to do. You go in through neighborhoods, and we cited these landfills. And we did the right thing for the right environmental reasons. And because of Canada, we believe that our

landfill capacity, because we were diligent and were trying to protect our environment in the future, may have been cut in half because of Canada's inability to deal with their own household municipal garbage problem.

The best part of this is that in Canada they actually allow its provinces to restrict intraprovince waste. So if you think about this, Saskatchewan could say ''no'' to Ontario's trash, while Michigan is compelled by law to take it. That is a problem. And again, I argue, it is unneighborly, and we should be able to fix this problem.

It is important to note that this bill would not impact State shipments of trash, commercial waste streams; it is only that household municipal waste, that trash that is at the end of the revenue stream where you dig a big hole and you throw it in, that is the only trash that this bill narrowly focused on. 518 is a balanced, narrow NAFTA-compliant bill that gives Michigan and other States the authority they need to be good stewards of their land.

Ladies and gentlemen, and Madam Speaker, Michigan needs your help. My colleagues and I urge the support of this important bill.

I again want to thank Chairman DINGELL and Chairman WYNN for their help and assistance in what really is not only an environmental issue, but a national security issue as well.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WYNN. It gives me great pleasure at this time to yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

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

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 518, the International Solid Waste Management Act of 2007. This legislation is of the greatest importance to our people in Michigan, and it has been sponsored with great enthusiasm by all members of the Michigan delegation in a completely bipartisan fashion.

Mr. ROGERS, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. UPTON, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. MILLER, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. CAMP, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. HOEKSTRA and Mr. WALBERG have all been important supporters of this bill. And I want to pay particular tribute to my colleague from Michigan (Mr. ROGERS) for his leadership.

I also want to thank the distinguished Chairman of the Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials for his leadership and for his help and for the way that he has taken care of us in Michigan in making it possible for this legislation to be on the floor at this particular time.

The gentleman from Maryland is an extremely effective and able leader, and we are not only grateful to him, but also to our dear friend, Mr. GILLMOR, who moved it for us in the last Congress.

The legislation is identical to the bill that passed the House of Representatives without opposition last September. In this Congress it was reported out both by the Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials and the full Committee on Energy and Commerce by voice vote, without dissent.

I would point out that it requires the EPA to enforce the notice-and-consent provisions in the bilateral U.S.-Canadian agreement, an agreement which was signed by the United States and Canada in 1986 to govern trans-boundary movement of hazardous waste, and amended in 1992 to include municipal solid waste.

I note now that the administration should comply with the notice-and-consent provisions which require both parties to use best efforts, absent regulation. Unfortunately, the needed efforts by the Administration have not been forthcoming. Although legislation was promised to be delivered ''soon'', by the Administration it has yet to appear.

Michigan's ability to manage the importation of solid waste is crucial to the comprehensive and environmentally sound waste management that the State of Michigan wants to have. Since 1996 when Michigan first began collecting the data, we have seen a 350 percent rise in the amount of Canadian waste disposed in Michigan, going from 2.7 million cubic yards to 12.1 cubic yards.

As mentioned by Mr. ROGERS, better than 400 trucks haul this waste across the bridges every day from Canada into Michigan. Not only is this waste an obnoxious substance, but it is a hazard to travelers and to our roads. It is also an environmental risk, a security risk, and a hazard to the health and security and safety of our people.

This legislation would ensure that the U.S.-Canadian Agreement is properly implemented and properly enforced. The bill provides criteria to ensure that the views of State and local governments are properly taken into account in implementing the bilateral agreement and the bill adds the necessary enforcement authority so that this can be dealt with fully, completely, and properly.

The legislation would also give not just Michigan, but all of the States, more authority to regulate foreign waste until the Environmental Protection Agency's rules and regulations go into effect. This is extremely important, as all of my colleagues in Michigan and elsewhere know.

I want to say that I am pleased that the House is moving forward. I commend my colleagues in the Michigan delegation for the extraordinary cooperation, leadership and energy with which they have addressed this problem. And I want to again thank and express my deep gratitude to the Chairman of the Subcommittee, my good friend from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) for the fine leadership which he has shown in this matter.

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I will now yield 2½ minutes to the distinguished lady from Michigan, the former Secretary of State there, a distinguished Member in this body, CANDICE MILLER.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Thank you. I certainly appreciate the gentleman yielding time to me.

Madam Speaker, my home State of Michigan shares a very long liquid border with the nation of Canada. We have a very strong and we have a positive relationship with our neighbors to the north; but one issue that has festered in recent years is the fact that Canada has made Michigan a dumping ground for their trash. In fact, all of the municipal waste from the city of Toronto, 100 percent of it all, is carried across the border and dumped in our home State of Michigan. I do not find this to be very neighborly. In fact, if you come to the Blue Water Bridge in St. Clair County, which is in my district, you can literally see, sometimes as far as the eye can see, these trucks lined up to enter into our country just brimming with Canadian trash. They are obviously congesting our roads, they are clogging this very vital border crossing, they are tearing up our highways, and they are threatening the safety of our drivers.

Pine Tree Acres, which is one of the largest landfills in Michigan, is in my district, it's in Lenox Township, and every day you can drive down and see a mountain of trash that is growing higher and higher because of all of the influx of Canadian trash that is being dumped there. And most Michigan communities plan very prudently to meet the solid waste needs of our citizens. We all took a lot of pride in planning for that. But now with the influx of all of this foreign trash, the Canadian trash, landfills across the State are overflowing and they are reaching their capacity years sooner than was ever anticipated by the local municipalities.

Much of this trash presents enormous health and safety hazards to our communities as well, and to our residents. Some of the trucks have even been found to be ferrying illegal drugs into our communities. And just to give one example of the kind of dangerous trash that is being imported, just last year a Canadian truck spilled human waste, which I think Mr. ROGERS referred to as well, all the way along a highway in our State, and this is simply unacceptable. In fact, I find it rather ironic that Canada has a reputation of being environmentally conscious because it seems they are employing something of a double standard here. They find it perfectly acceptable to use Michigan as their own personal garbage can for their waste, but God forbid that they would pollute their own environment and endanger their own citizens with this trash.

Madam Speaker, the people of Michigan have had enough, but presently they have no ability to stop the flow of foreign trash, and this legislation does give them that ability. So I would urge all of my colleagues to stand with the people of Michigan and every community in our Nation, to give them the ability to protect our environment and to control the flow of foreign trash into our landfills by supporting this very important legislation.

Again, I appreciate our colleagues' responsible action on this.

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I would yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman, who has worked tirelessly on this effort in the past and has helped us craft this piece of legislation, Mr. GILLMOR of Ohio.

□ 1315

Mr. GILLMOR. Madam Speaker, I very much appreciate the gentleman yielding, and I am pleased to rise in support of this bill.

I introduced a similar bill in the last Congress with the cosponsorship of my friends Mr. DINGELL and Mr. ROGERS and much of the rest of the Michigan delegation. We were successful in getting it passed last year, but the Senate did not act. I am proud to join as a cosponsor with those gentlemen in this effort this year, and I hope we get better luck in the Senate in this session.

This is a commonsense bill. It gives authority to the States to regulate foreign waste which is being dumped in our landfills. The process of planning, developing and maintaining landfills is often contentious and often very expensive. Our communities should not be forced to sit back and watch as their resources are overwhelmed with trash from outside the United States.

International waste, as has been mentioned, has become a tremendous burden for my neighbors to the north in the State of Michigan. And while much of the foreign waste coming into the United States ultimately ends up in Michigan, this is an issue for all Americans. Our landfills are an important resource, and I believe there will come a day when Michigan's landfills have a sign outside that reads ''Landfill full. Continue to Ohio.'' It is that domino effect that makes international waste a national problem.

The current law rewards the environmentally irresponsible, those who won't make the investment and face the issue of creating landfill space. It punishes the environmentally responsible, like Michigan, who have gone to the effort to make landfill space available. That situation has to change. This legislation will do it, and I am pleased to support it.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, today I rise to express my strong support for passage of H.R. 518, the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act of 2007. Like every membr of the Michigan congressional delegation, I am a cosponsor of this bill.

For many years, Canada has shipped significant amounts of solid waste into the United States, with a large percentage of it going to Michigan. It is estimated that more than four hundred trucks bring this waste into Michigan from Ontario each day. That means nearly 150,000 truckloads full of Canadian solid waste is deposited in the great State of Michigan each year.

One of Michigan's greatest assets is the acres upon acres of beautiful land in its natural state. Michiganders are defined in part by our Great Lakes, and the health of our environment is one of our top priorities. It is imperative that we preserve our State's natural beauty, from the wilderness on Isle Royale and the Porcupine Mountains in the Upper Peninsula, all the way down to the lakes and streams in the bottom of our beloved mitten.

By allowing such an immense amount of Canadian trash into our landfills we are falling short of our responsibilities as stewards of our State's health. Canadian trash represents a threat to the health of our environment and the health of our citizens.

States must have the authority to address this matter as they see fit. H.R. 518 is necessary in order to provide Michigan with the power to address this issue, as the U.S. Supreme Court and other Federal courts have consistently ruled that States cannot restrict out-of-state trash without action by Congress.

Passage of H.R. 518 will finally allow States to regulate the importation of international waste in ways that best suit the needs of their citizens. I thank Mr. DINGELL for introducing this important legislation and urge my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 518.

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 518, the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act of 2007, and am proud to join Chairman JOHN DINGELL, the Dean of the House of Representatives, my bi-partisan colleagues from Michigan and others in strong support of its passage.

This legislation would require the U.S. to implement the ''notice and consent'' provisions of the 1992 bilateral U.S.-Canadian Agreement on municipal solid waste, and adds the necessary statutory enforcement authority. It also provides criteria to ensure that the views of the affected State and local governments are properly taken into account.

The importation of foreign trash is of great concern to the residents of Michigan's Fifth Congressional District, and citizens across the State vocally oppose the importation of foreign trash.

Nationally, more than 4 million tons of waste—about 400 truckloads per day—is transported from Canada to the U.S. each year, with three-quarters of it coming to Michigan. In Michigan alone, Canadian trash deposits have increased more than five-fold from 1999 to 2006—from about 710,000 tons to 3.67 million tons.

The growing amount of foreign trash coming into Michigan is polluting our environment, clogging our roadways, increasing the health and safety risks in our State, and poses a growing a homeland security threat. In 2006, the Department of Homeland Security Office of the Inspector General released a report finding that U.S. Customs does not have an effective method to screen and inspect the hundreds of truckloads of municipal solid waste that enter the U.S. daily through the Detroit and Port Huron ports of entry. In addition, multiple incidents have occurred on Michigan roadways where Canadian trash trucks have spilled waste on our roads.

Congress has had numerous opportunities to address this problem, either through legislation or the implementation of a bilateral agreement between the U.S. and Canada from 1992, which would allow Michigan to manage foreign waste being disposed of within its borders.

Madam Speaker, the time has come for Congress to take action to address this serious matter. H.R. 518 has broad, bipartisan support reinforced by its clear passage through the House Energy and Commerce Committee earlier this year without objection.

Once again, Madam Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 518, and urge my colleagues to pass this important legislation.

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on H.R. 518, introduced by Chairman JOHN DINGELL from Michigan.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 518 is going to be considered under ''suspension of the rules'' which is usually reserved for non-controversial bills, but it has come to my attention that there are some strong objections both from the Canadian Embassy here in Washington D.C. as well as from the Administration, specifically the Department of State and from the United States Trade Representative.

I feel it is my duty as one of the Co-Chairs of the Congressional Friends of Canada Caucus to submit for the RECORD letters from the Canadian Ambassador to the United States, Michael Wilson, as well as letters from the Administration to Speaker NANCY PELOSI and to Republican Leader JOHN BOEHNER that express concern over H.R. 518.

CANADIAN EMBASSY,
Washington, DC, April 12, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I am writing regarding H.R. 518, ''International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act of 2007'', approved by the Energy and Commerce Committee on March 22, 2007. I would like to share with you Canada's views on this legislation.

Canada and the United States have a longstanding partnership in managing the two-way flow of hazardous and municipal solid wastes. Managing hazardous and municipal solid wastes has two components: the commercial relationship, and environmental management.

On the first, the trade in waste is governed by our respective rights and obligations pursuant to the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreements and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). HR 518 will grant to states the authority to discriminate between types of waste based solely on national origin, without any environmental or sound waste management considerations. The State of Michigan has already passed Legislation that would prohibit landfill operators from accepting solid waste from foreign sources. Canada views this legislation as inconsistent with the United States' WTO and NAFTA obligations. HR 518 would authorize Michigan's legislation, which would place the United States in contravention of its international trade obligations.

Furthermore, in 1986, both countries signed the Canada-U.S. Agreement on the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes, which resulted in effective measures in both countries to ensure that hazardous wastes would be moved to the nearest safe disposal site, without regard to borders. In

1992, Canada and the United States took environmentally sound waste management one step further when they agreed to amend the agreement to include municipal solid waste.

Canada is working toward implementation of the 1992 amendment. We hope that the U.S. will take similar steps in the near future. An Environment Canada-U.S. E.P.A. pilot program in 2005, based on the Agreement, clearly demonstrated that it is possible for our two countries to work together co-operatively to ensure that municipal solid waste is shipped in an environmentally sound manner.

H.R. 518 is a departure from the principle that the sound environmental management of waste should not be impeded because of borders. Canada believes we should follow that principle for municipal solid waste, just like for hazardous waste (of which the U.S. is a net exporter to Canada).

Canada agrees that shipping municipal solid waste to Michigan is not a sustainable solution. Ontario has committed to eliminate by the end of 2010 the shipment to Michigan of all municipally managed wastes. Ontario is on target to meet this short timeline, having already taken the steps necessary to clear the first two hurdles, being 20 percent reductions for the end of each of 2007 and 2008. To that end, about 50 million tonnes of new landfill capacity has been approved by the province of Ontario over the past two years.

We therefore strongly believe that this issue can be managed without resorting to legislation.

I urge you to give serious consideration to these issues and thank you for the opportunity to share Canada's views on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

MICHAEL WILSON,
Ambassador.

APRIL 23, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This letter is to express the Administration's concern with H.R. 518, the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act of 2007. H.R. 518 would authorize states to restrict the receipt and disposal of municipal solid waste generated outside the United States.

The Administration is concerned that enactment of H.R. 518 would have the unintended result of increasing the disposal of hazardous waste in the United States and lead to an unnecessary trade dispute. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, approximately 230 U.S. companies in over 32 states shipped hazardous waste to Canada in 2004 alone. If states use the authority in H.R. 518 to restrict foreign waste imports, this could provoke reciprocal actions by Canada or other trading partners against U.S. waste exports.

In addition, because H.R. 518 would authorize states to enact laws or regulations that exclusively restrict the disposal of foreign-generated waste or limit the amount of foreign waste shipped to the United States, it could raise concerns by our trading partners regarding U.S. compliance with international rules prohibiting trade discrimination. In fact, the Government of Canada has already questioned whether H.R. 518, as well as the state laws and regulations it could lead to, would be compatible with U.S. obligations under the North American Free Trade Agreement and WTO agreements.

Moreover, H.R. 518 could result in a patchwork of individual and possibly conflicting state and federal laws and regulations on the receipt and disposal of foreign municipal waste that could make it more difficult to manage cross-border waste flows in an environmentally sound and economically efficient manner.

Finally, there are other ways to address concerns about imports of foreign waste. For example, the U.S.-Canada Agreement Concerning the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste has been a successful mechanism for managing the flow of hazardous waste between our countries and illustrates how issues relating to this type of trade can be handled in a manner that does not raise concerns for our trading partners.

We appreciate your attention to these concerns. The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the President's program

Sincerely,

JUSTIN MCCARTHY,
Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Congressional Affiars.

JEFFREY T. BERGNER,
Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs.

APRIL 23, 2007.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

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Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, as a cosponsor of H.R. 518, I rise in strong support of this measure. The issue of waste coming into Michigan from Ontario is one of great concern to the people I represent, and I appreciate Representative DINGELL's tireless efforts to move this legislation.

Like the bill approved by the House last year, the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act directs the Environmental Protection Agency to implement and enforce the Agreement Concerning the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste between the United States and Canada. The Administrator is required to issue final regulations within 24 months after the date of enactment.

The legislation further requires the Administrator of EPA, when considering whether to consent to a shipment of foreign municipal solid waste to give substantial weight to the views of the recipient State or States, and also consider the impact of the shipment on local recycling programs, landfill capacity, road deterioration, homeland security, public health and the environment, among other factors.

As I mentioned, the bill before the House is nearly identical to the legislation that the House approved last September. Unfortunately, the former leadership of the Senate failed to take up the bill last year, despite bipartisan pleas from Michigan's House delegation urging prompt action. Now that the Senate is under new management, I hope we can at last address this longstanding problem and get a bill to the President's desk for signature.

Our Nation has no closer friend in the world than Canada, but the current trash arrangement in which hundreds of trash trucks cross the border each day on their way to Michigan landfills is simply untenable. The legislation before the House builds on the agreement that Michigan's two Senators negotiated with the government of Ontario last year to reduce municipal waste shipments from Canada over the next four years.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting the legislation before the House.

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of the bill before us today, the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act, H.R. 518. Last year, the House of Representatives unanimously approved this bill. While the Senate failed to take action on this important legislation, I urge my colleges in the House to send it to the other body again.

This is an issue that transcends political partisanship. With the support of the entire Michigan delegation, and other Members representing Maryland and Virginia, H.R. 518 sends a strong signal to foreign countries, particularly Canada, that States should no longer be viewed as dumping grounds. The volume of foreign waste from Canada into Michigan continues unabated. Since 2002 Canadian

shipments of waste to Michigan have increased 83 percent. Not only do these shipments crowd our landfills, but they also pose environmental, public health, and even national security risks. It is long past that time States are lawfully able to regulate the amount of municipal solid waste coming across the border and into their communities. H.R. 518 gives States the legal authority to regulate this waste until the Federal Government implements a 21-year-old bilateral agreement between the U.S. and Canada on this subject.

H.R. 518 does not violate trade agreements. The House has done its due diligence in crafting this legislation to avoid any potential trade issues. Simply put, H.R. 518 provides the legislative authority for the United States to implement the 1986 bilateral agreement this country signed with Canada.

More specifically, the legislation authorizes and directs the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to implement and enforce the 1986 Agreement Concerning the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste between the United States and Canada. The Administrator is required to issue final regulations within 24 months after the date of enactment. Under the 1986 agreement shipments of hazardous waste require notification to the importing country and that country's consent before waste may be shipped. The agreement was amended in 1992 to establish similar requirements for municipal solid waste. H.R. 518 provides the legislative authority for the agreement to be implemented and ensure both governments provide proper notice and shipment information before dump trucks cross the U.S. northern border.

Stopping trash coming into Michigan from Canada must be done through statute—not handshakes. H.R. 518 accomplishes this goal. This bill represents the first real opportunity in a long time to ensure States know in advance what is coming into their communities and where it is going.

The Michigan delegation in the House of Representatives has done a terrific job of helping bring H.R. 518 to the floor for a vote. I encourage all of my colleagues to support it. I am hopeful the Senate will soon consider the measure.

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 518, the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act of 2007. H.R. 518 adds a new section to the Solid Waste Disposal Act requiring the Environmental Protection Agency to implement and enforce the "notice and consent" provisions of a bilateral U.S.-Canadian Agreement signed in 1986 to govern the transboundary movement of hazardous waste. This agreement was amended in 1992 to include municipal solid waste, but neither administration since then has made any effort to implement the bilateral agreement. Enforcement legislation promised "soon" by the present administration almost 4 years ago has yet to arrive. H.R. 518 provides criteria to ensure that the views of the affected State and local governments are properly taken into account, and it adds the necessary statutory enforcement authority.

According to the most recent information for fiscal year 2006, the largest source of waste imported into Michigan continues to be from Canada, with total reported imports to landfills of more than 12 million cubic yards. That is a 23 percent increase from fiscal year 2003. Even more disturbing is that the amount of Canadian waste being disposed of in Michigan has risen by 335 percent since 1996, when Michigan began collecting data.

Riverview and other downriver communities in my district have had to cope with hundreds of trucks full of Canadian trash rumbling down their streets on a daily basis for years. These trucks pass through our communities en route from the Ambassador Bridge to traffic dumps to the west. You can imagine the traffic congestion, environmental, and quality-of-life problems these truckloads of trash have created.

Local activists like Mr. George Read of Trenton and State Representative Kathleen Law have been working tirelessly alongside our congressional delegation to put an end to this never-ending flow of trash, and I am very pleased that the House today is taking a step toward that goal.

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time and would be honored to yield back my time.

Mr. WYNN. Likewise, Madam Speaker, we have no further speakers. Again, I would like to commend Chairman DINGELL and the Michigan delegation for their leadership on this issue.

I yield back the balance of my time as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 518.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 362, 10,000 TEACHERS, 10 MILLION MINDS SCIENCE AND MATH SCHOLARSHIP ACT

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 327 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 327

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 362) to authorize science scholarships for educating mathematics and science teachers, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science and Technology. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science and Technology now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. During consideration in the House of H.R. 362 pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to such time as may be designated by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H. Res. 327 provides for consideration of H.R. 362, the 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds Science and Math Scholarship Act, under a structured rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Science and Technology. The rule waives all points of order against the bill, except those arising under clauses 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule also makes in order and provides appropriate waivers for consideration of two amendments that