

finger has gently touched her, and she now sleeps. May God comfort and help her family and friends to hold on to treasured yesterdays and to reach out with courage and hope to tomorrow, knowing that their beloved is with God.

Clara has labored long. She served well. She has made a difference. She loved the butterfly. She had a free spirit. Today we put her to rest.

**PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE—DISMISSAL OF CONTEST IN 46TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

Mr. GEPHARDT. Madam Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House, and I send to the desk a privileged resolution (H. Res. 318) pursuant to rule IX and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

H. RES. 318

Whereas, the election contest concerning the 46th District of California should be dismissed as there is no credible evidence to show that the outcome of the election is different than the election of Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez.

Whereas, State of California authorities should continue an investigation into any questionable registration activities; and

Whereas, the Committee on House Oversight should examine voter registration procedures; and now therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the contest in the 46th District of California is dismissed.

**THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE** (Mrs. EMERSON). The resolution presents a question of the privileges of the House.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. BOEHNER

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I move to table the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table offered by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BOEHNER].

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

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 218, nays 194, answered “present” 1, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 622]  
YEAS—218

Aderholt	Bereuter	Burton
Archer	Bilbray	Buyer
Armye	Bilirakis	Callahan
Bachus	Bliley	Calvert
Baker	Blunt	Camp
Ballenger	Boehlert	Campbell
Barr	Boehner	Canady
Barrett (NE)	Bonilla	Cannon
Bartlett	Brady	Castle
Barton	Bryant	Chabot
Bass	Bunning	Chambliss
Bateman	Burr	Chenoweth

Christensen	Hutchinson
Coble	Hyde
Coburn	Inglis
Collins	Istook
Combest	Jenkins
Cook	Johnson (CT)
Cooksey	Johnson, Sam
Cox	Jones
Crane	Kasich
Crapo	Kelly
Cunningham	Kim
Davis (VA)	King (NY)
Deal	Kingston
DeLay	Knollenberg
Diaz-Balart	Kolbe
Dickey	LaHood
Doolittle	Largent
Dreier	Latham
Duncan	LaTourette
Dunn	Lazio
Ehlers	Leach
Ehrlich	Lewis (CA)
Emerson	Lewis (KY)
English	Linder
Ensign	Livingston
Everett	LoBiondo
Ewing	Lucas
Fawell	Manzullo
Foley	Martinez
Fossella	McCollum
Fowler	McCrery
Fox	McDade
Franks (NJ)	McHugh
Frelinghuysen	McInnis
Galleghy	McIntosh
Ganske	McKeon
Gekas	Metcalfe
Gibbons	Mica
Gilchrist	Miller (FL)
Gilman	Moran (KS)
Goodlatte	Morella
Goodling	Myrick
Goss	Nethercutt
Graham	Neumann
Granger	Ney
Greenwood	Northup
Gutknecht	Norwood
Hansen	Norwood
Hastert	Nussle
Hastings (WA)	Oxley
Hayworth	Packard
Hefley	Pappas
Herger	Parker
Hill	Paul
Hilleary	Paxon
Hobson	Pease
Horn	Peterson (PA)
Hostettler	Petri
Houghton	Pickering
Hulshof	Pitts
Hunter	Pombo
	Porter

NAYS—194

Abercrombie	DeGette
Allen	Delahunt
Andrews	DeLauro
Baessler	Dellums
Baldacci	Deutsch
Barcia	Dicks
Barrett (WI)	Dingell
Becerra	Dixon
Bentsen	Doggett
Berman	Dooley
Berry	Doyle
Bishop	Edwards
Blagojevich	Engel
Blumenauer	Eshoo
Bonior	Etheridge
Borski	Evans
Boswell	Farr
Boucher	Fattah
Boyd	Fazio
Brown (CA)	Filner
Brown (FL)	Forbes
Brown (OH)	Ford
Cardin	Frank (MA)
Carson	Frost
Clay	Furse
Clayton	Gejdenson
Clement	Gephardt
Clyburn	Goode
Costello	Gordon
Coyne	Green
Cramer	Gutierrez
Cummings	Hall (OH)
Danner	Hall (TX)
Davis (FL)	Hamilton
Davis (IL)	Harman
DeFazio	Hastings (FL)

Portman	Portman
Pryce (OH)	Mascara
Quinn	Matsui
Radanovich	McCarthy (MO)
Ramstad	McCarthy (NY)
Redmond	McGovern
Regula	McHale
Riggs	McIntyre
Rogan	McKinney
Rogers	McNulty
Rohrabacher	Meehan
Ros-Lehtinen	Meek
Roukema	Menendez
Royce	Millender-McDonald
Ryun	Miller (CA)
Salmon	Minge
Sanford	Mink
Saxton	Moakley
Scarborough	Mollohan
Schaefer, Dan	Moran (VA)
Schaffer, Bob	Murtha
Sensenbrenner	Nadler
Sessions	Neal
Shadegg	Oberstar
Shaw	Obey
Shays	Olver
Shimkus	Ortiz
Shuster	Owens
Skeen	Pallone
Smith (MI)	
Smith (NJ)	
Smith (OR)	
Smith (TX)	
Smith, Linda	
Snowbarger	
Solomon	
Souder	
Spence	
Stump	
Sununu	
Talent	
Tauzin	
Thomas	
Thornberry	
Thune	
Tiahrt	
Traficant	
Upton	
Walsh	
Watkins	
Watts (OK)	
Weldon (FL)	
Weldon (PA)	
Weller	
White	
Whitfield	
Wicker	
Wolf	
Young (AK)	
Young (FL)	

Markey	Pascrell	Smith, Adam
Mascara	Pastor	Snyder
Matsui	Payne	Spratt
McCarthy (MO)	Pelosi	Stabenow
McCarthy (NY)	Peterson (MN)	Stark
McGovern	Pickett	Stenholm
McHale	Pomeroy	Strickland
McIntyre	Poshard	Stupak
McKinney	Price (NC)	Tanner
McNulty	Rahall	Tauscher
Meehan	Rangel	Taylor (MS)
Meek	Reyes	Thompson
Menendez	Rivers	Thurman
Millender-McDonald	Rodriguez	Tierney
Miller (CA)	Roemer	Torres
Minge	Rothman	Towns
Mink	Roybal-Allard	Turner
Moakley	Rush	Velazquez
Mollohan	Sabo	Vento
Moran (VA)	Sanchez	Visclosky
Murtha	Sanders	Waters
Nadler	Sandlin	Watt (NC)
Neal	Sawyer	Waxman
Oberstar	Scott	Wexler
Obey	Serrano	Weygand
Olver	Sherman	Wise
Ortiz	Sisisky	Woolsey
Owens	Skaggs	Wynn
Pallone	Skelton	
	Slaughter	

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Wamp

NOT VOTING—20

Ackerman	Gillmor	Schiff
Bono	Gonzalez	Schumer
Condit	Hoekstra	Stearns
Conyers	Klecza	Stokes
Cubin	Klug	Taylor (NC)
Flake	McDermott	Yates
Foglietta	Riley	

□ 1454

Ms. PELOSI and Mr. MURTHA changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. SHAYS and Mr. MCDADE changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to table was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**CORRECTION OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF LEGISLATION TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER SUSPENSION OF THE RULES TODAY**

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, earlier today when announcing motions to suspend the rules, an incorrect number was announced for the adoption bill. The correct number is H.R. 867, not H.R. 861.

**RADIO FREE ASIA ACT OF 1997**

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 302 and as the designee of the chairman of the Committee on Internal Relations, I call up the bill (H.R. 2232) to provide for increased international broadcasting activities to China, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The bill is considered read for amendment.

The text of H.R. 2232 is as follows:

H.R. 2232

*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 "Radio Free Asia Act of 1997".

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

The Congress makes the following findings:  
(1) The Government of the People's Republic of China systematically controls the flow of information to the Chinese people.

(2) The Government of the People's Republic of China demonstrated that maintaining its monopoly on political power is a higher priority than economic development by announcing in January 1996 that its official news agency Xinhua, will supervise wire services selling economic information, including Dow Jones-Telerate, Bloomberg, and Reuters Business, and in announcing in February of 1996 the "Interim Internet Management Rules", which have the effect of censoring computer networks.

(3) Under the May 30, 1997, order of Premier Li Peng, all organizations that engage in business activities related to international computer networking must now apply for a license, increasing still further government control over access to the internet.

(4) Both Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America, as a surrogate for a free press in the People's Republic of China, provide an invaluable source of uncensored information to the Chinese people, including objective and authoritative news of in-country and regional events, as well as accurate news about the United States and its policies.

(5) Radio Free Asia currently broadcasts only 5 hours a day in the Mandarin dialect and 2 hours a day in Tibetan.

(6) Voice of America currently broadcasts only 10 hours a day in Mandarin and 3½ hours a day in Tibetan.

(7) Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America should develop 24-hour-a-day service in Mandarin, Cantonese, and Tibetan, as well as further broadcasting capability in the dialects spoken in Xinjiang and other regions of the People's Republic of China.

(8) Radio Free Asia and Voice of America, in working toward continuously broadcasting the People's Republic of China in multiple languages, have the capability to immediately establish 24-hour-a-day Mandarin broadcasting to that nation by staggering the hours of Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America.

(9) Simultaneous broadcasting on Voice of America radio and Worldnet television 7 days a week in Mandarin are also important and needed capabilities.

**SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR INCREASED FUNDING FOR RADIO FREE ASIA AND VOICE OF AMERICA.**

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING TO CHINA.—In addition to such sums as are otherwise authorized to be appropriated for "International Broadcasting Activities" for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, there are authorized to be appropriated for "International Broadcasting Activities" \$46,900,000 for fiscal years 1998 and \$31,200,000 for fiscal year 1999, which shall be available only for broadcasting to China.

**(b) LIMITATIONS.—****(1) RADIO FREE ASIA.—**

(A) Of the funds authorized to be appropriated under subsection (a) \$26,900,000 is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1998 and \$21,200,000 is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1999 for Radio Free Asia.

(B) Of the funds under subparagraph (A), \$1,200,000 is authorized to be appropriated for each such fiscal year for additional personnel to staff Cantonese language broadcasting.

(C) Of the funds under subparagraph (A) authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year

1998, \$900,000 is authorized to be appropriated for additional advanced editing equipment.

**(2) 1998.—**

(A) Of the funds under subsection (a) authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1998, \$11,800,000 is authorized to be appropriated for capital expenditures for the purchase and construction of transmission facilities.

(B) Of the funds under subsection (a) authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1998, \$3,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated to facilitate the timely augmentation of transmitters at Tinian, Marshall Islands.

(c) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated under subsection (a), the Director of the United States Information Agency and the Board of Broadcasting Governors shall seek to ensure that the amounts made available for broadcasting to nations whose people do not fully enjoy freedom of expression do not decline in proportion to the amounts made available for broadcasting to other nations.

**SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, in consultation with the Board of Broadcasting Governors, the President shall prepare and transmit to Congress a report on a plan to achieve continuous broadcasting of Radio Free Asia and Voice of America to the People's Republic of China in multiple major dialects and languages.

**SEC. 5. REDUCTION IN AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, such amounts as are authorized to be appropriated for "Migration and Refugee Assistance" for fiscal year 1998 shall be reduced by \$21,900,000 and for fiscal year 1999 shall be reduced by \$6,200,000.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 302, the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the bill is adopted.

The text of the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute is as follows:

H.R. 2232

*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 "Radio Free Asia Act of 1997".

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

The Congress makes the following findings:  
(1) The Government of the People's Republic of China systematically controls the flow of information to the Chinese people.

(2) The Government of the People's Republic of China demonstrated that maintaining its monopoly on political power is a higher priority than economic development by announcing in January 1996 that its official news agency Xinhua, will supervise wire services selling economic information, including Dow Jones-Telerate, Bloomberg, and Reuters Business, and in announcing in February of 1996 the "Interim Internet Management Rules", which have the effect of censoring computer networks.

(3) Under the May 30, 1997, order of Premier Li Peng, all organizations that engage in business activities related to international computer networking must now apply for a license, increasing still further government control over access to the internet.

(4) Both Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America, as a surrogate for a free press in the People's Republic of China, provide an invaluable source of uncensored information

to the Chinese people, including objective and authoritative news of in-country and regional events, as well as accurate news about the United States and its policies.

(5) Radio Free Asia currently broadcasts only 5 hours a day in the Mandarin dialect and 2 hours a day in Tibetan.

(6) Voice of America currently broadcasts only 10 hours a day in Mandarin and 3½ hours a day in Tibetan.

(7) Radio Free Asia and Voice of America should develop 24-hour-a-day service in Mandarin, Cantonese, and Tibetan, as well as further broadcasting capability in the dialects spoken in the People's Republic of China.

(8) Radio Free Asia and Voice of America, in working toward continuously broadcasting to the People's Republic of China in multiple languages, have the capability to immediately establish 24-hour-a-day Mandarin broadcasting to that nation by staggering the hours of Radio Free Asia and Voice of America.

(9) Simultaneous broadcasting on Voice of America radio and Worldnet television 7 days a week in Mandarin are also important and needed capabilities.

**SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR INCREASED FUNDING FOR RADIO FREE ASIA AND VOICE OF AMERICA BROADCASTING TO CHINA.**

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR RADIO FREE ASIA.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for "Radio Free Asia" \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 1998 and \$22,000,000 for fiscal year 1999.

**(2) LIMITATIONS.—**

(A) Of the funds under paragraph (1) authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1998, \$8,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for one-time capital costs.

(B) Of the funds under paragraph (1), \$700,000 is authorized to be appropriated for each such fiscal year for additional personnel to staff Cantonese language broadcasting.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING TO CHINA AND NORTH KOREA.—In addition to such sums as are otherwise authorized to be appropriated for "International Broadcasting Activities" for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, there are authorized to be appropriated for "International Broadcasting Activities" \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1998 and \$7,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, which shall be available only for enhanced Voice of America broadcasting to China and North Korea.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR RADIO CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to such sums as are otherwise authorized to be appropriated for "Radio Construction" for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, there are authorized to be appropriated for "Radio Construction" \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1998 and \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, which shall be available only for construction in support of enhanced broadcasting to China.

(2) LIMITATION.—Of the funds under paragraph (1) authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1998, \$3,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated to facilitate the timely augmentation of transmitters at Tinian, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(d) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for "International Broadcasting Activities", the Director of the United States Information Agency and the Board of Broadcasting Governors shall seek to ensure that the amounts made available for broadcasting to nations whose people do not fully enjoy freedom of expression do not decline in proportion to the amounts made available for broadcasting to other nations.

(e) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR NORTH KOREA.—Of the funds under subsection (b), \$2,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year for additional personnel and broadcasting targeted at North Korea.

#### SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, in consultation with the Board of Broadcasting Governors, the President shall prepare and transmit to Congress a report on a plan to achieve continuous broadcasting of Radio Free Asia and Voice of America to the People's Republic of China in multiple major dialects and languages.

#### SEC. 5. UTILIZATION OF UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING SERVICES FOR PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING FUGITIVES FROM UNITED STATES JUSTICE.

United States international broadcasting services, particularly the Voice of America, shall produce and broadcast public service announcements, by radio, television, and Internet, regarding fugitives from the criminal justice system of the United States, including cases of international child abduction.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 302, the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE].

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Madam Speaker, for the last few days, the House of Representatives has been debating policy for the most important bilateral relationship the United States has, and that is our relationship with the People's Republic of China. We have heard different views on how we should deal with this emerging power. It has been a good debate, a healthy debate for us to have. I have supported the initiatives that are part of that policy for freedom in China package, because together they contribute to a well-crafted China policy, a policy which positions the United States to stand up forcefully for our values and protect our national security. For certain our relationship with China is not easy. It will be the most challenging relationship we face in the next century. Moving forward, we must have principles to guide this relationship. For one, in all our dealings with the Beijing regime, it is essential that we do not shy away from our values. This means calling the Chinese leadership on democracy and on human rights, spotlighting the organ harvesting many Members have spoken against on this floor, and acting when we can. Standing up for our values also means promoting the free flow of uncensored information, which is the life-

blood of our values that Americans cherish and wish for the Chinese people.

□ 1500

That is why I am proud to be the author of the Radio Free Asia Act of 1997.

Everyone here has heard of Radio Free Europe; that is our effort which was so effective during the cold war in bringing information to those stuck behind the Iron Curtain. At that time we told the people of Eastern Europe what was happening in their own countries, but it was not really us telling them. It was the voices of Hungarians and Czechs and Poles broadcast on Radio Free Europe, telling their fellow countrymen about the politics and other developments in their home countries, and through this surrogate broadcasting Hungarians and Czechs and Poles and others were able to learn about human rights abuses and repression in their own countries and to ask why.

This information transmitted through the airwaves was tremendously effective in bringing about the demise of totalitarian regimes in these countries. How do we know that?

Lech Walesa of Poland and Vaclav Havel and Alexander Dubcek of Czechoslovakia, men who pulled the foundation out from communism, have said that Radio Free Europe did more than anything else to change those Communist regimes of Eastern Europe. It is clear, information is deadly to dictators. The Chinese people deserve no less of an effort from us.

Radio Free Asia has been up and running, breaking official silence in Asia for over a year now. It is patterned after Radio Free Europe. Radio Free Asia targets countries where Asians are unable to hear about developments in their own country, unable to hear about what is happening in their own capitals and even in their own cities and towns. Some 95 percent of Radio Free Asia's programming focuses on people and events within that targeted country. So while no Lech Walesa has emerged in China, I believe Radio Free Asia is one of the most powerful tools we have for promoting democracy and promoting human rights in China.

This bill will provide the means to broadcast 24 hours a day into China and Tibet and to expand broadcasting in North Korea. This round-the-clock broadcasting in Mandarin, Cantonese, Tibetan, and other dialects will be an invaluable source of uncensored information for the Chinese people, information they otherwise would be denied.

What do the Chinese people hear on Radio Free Asia? Weekly commentators, a discussion of topical issues with Chinese journalists. They hear China In Perspective, which deals with a range of issues, including the Chinese media; politics in the media; Tibet Today, a discussion of current issues in Tibet; "Voices of Current Party Members", which is a weekly discussion with current party members hosted by

a former editor of the People's Daily; and they have their own "Crossfire" show that they hear as well.

That sounds like pretty standard news and information, right? But it is not standard in a totalitarian country. And so the Beijing regime has complained. A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman recently denounced Radio Free Asia, saying it was using freedom of speech as an excuse to interfere in China's internal affairs. Freedom of speech and interference in internal affairs, and the Chinese Government has punished those caught listening to Radio Free Asia.

It also has tried to shut out these broadcasts through jamming. This jamming is not too effective though, and it will be less effective after the new transmitter approved by the Radio Free Asia Act of 1997 is built.

The fact is that there is no denying Radio Free Asia. Just look at this map of China. Each orange dot on this map represents a significant cluster of letters received by Radio Free Asia's Chinese listeners. Up and running only a little over a year, Radio Free Asia has received hundreds of these letters, many of them from students, which indicate that young people are listening as well, and let me just read sections of two.

This is from a worker in a labor union written this past September. He says, "every day in the past 8 months, 2 hours of my day belong to Radio Free Asia, which brings a fresh spring breeze to the stifling and repressed China and lets us see the hope for a free and democratic China."

Another letter written 2 months ago, quote: "Like most of my Chinese countrymen, I did not know what press freedom was and what human rights were, did not even know that Taiwan called itself the Republic of China and that the Dalai Lama even was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Then I bought a radio set, which made me hunger knowledge as I never have before."

I cannot imagine more powerful words, and I have nothing to add to those words.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of the bill. The bill authorizes \$30 million for Radio Free Asia for fiscal year 1998, \$22 million for fiscal year 1999. It authorizes an additional \$10 million for enhanced VOA broadcasting in China and North Korea for fiscal year 1998, and \$7 million for the same purpose in fiscal year 1999. The bill also authorizes an additional \$10 million in fiscal year 1998 and \$3 million for fiscal year 1999 for radio construction in support of enhanced broadcasting to China.

The bill requires that within 90 days the President and the Board of Broadcasting Governors submit to the Congress a plan to achieve 24-hour broadcasting of Radio Free Asia and Voice of

America to China in multiple dialects and languages.

The authorization funding for Radio Free Asia in this bill is identical to that provided in the State Department authorization conference language, so in a sense this is an issue that has already been agreed upon. There is additional authorization here for Voice of America broadcasting in China and North Korea and for radio construction that represents an increase in authorization levels from the State Department authorization conference language or the Commerce-Justice-State conference contemplated funding levels.

Insofar as I know, the administration has no objection to this bill. It did have some problems with the original bill. I think they have been addressed in the markup of the bill.

I totally agree with the sponsors of the bill that the promotion through Radio Free Asia of democracy and human rights is an extremely important element of U.S. foreign policy and one that we should support. I urge then the support for the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

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

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of H.R. 2322 sponsored by the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE]. This measure is an important enhancement to our international broadcasting to Asia.

Broadcasting to Asia, and particularly to China, is vital to the spread and support of democracy and the freedom of expression. I fully support the measure to expand broadcast capabilities of Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America through additional funding for personnel, for transmitters and for other broadcast requirements.

I commend the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE], the distinguished chairman of our Committee on International Relations Subcommittee on Africa for his foresight in drafting this bill. This additional funding that is supported by the Speaker and the President will increase the opportunity for the peoples living under communism in Asia to hear news and other programming untainted by State news services. Mr. ROYCE's worthy proposal will increase transmissions in Mandarin, Cantonese, Tibetan languages and other dialects. It is hoped that when we work with the Senate in conference on this proposal, we will not forget to add the Uygers in East Turkestan.

I commend the gentleman and urge our colleagues to support this measure.

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

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3½ minutes to the distinguished gen-

tleman from Nebraska [Mr. BEREUTER], chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I would like to begin with an announcement. As some of the Members know, the Speaker appointed a bipartisan task force on the Hong Kong transition, were to give a quarterly report, and I want my colleagues to know that the first quarterly report or a summary thereof will be in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for today.

Madam Speaker, this legislation is very important. I rise in strong support of it and commend my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE], for introducing this legislation. Madam Speaker, as mentioned this legislation authorizes appropriations specifically for broadcasting to China and North Korea and construction of broadcasting facilities. The purpose of this is to enhance America's ability to broadcast, increase the number of languages and dialects in which Radio Free Asia can broadcast.

As the chairman of the subcommittee, my colleagues might be interested in knowing that in order to assure that accurate, timely, uncensored news and information gets to China, Vietnam, Burma, Cambodia, North Korea and the rest of East Asia, that it is important to support the activities of Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America. Radio Free Asia can provide news to those who otherwise cannot obtain it because many of the governments in the region systematically control the flow of information to their own citizens.

Currently United States broadcasting in Chinese dialects totals only 7.5 hours daily by Radio Free Asia and 13 hours daily by Voice of America. This will permit expansion of broadcasting to 24 hours per day in Mandarin Chinese, plus expanded broadcasting in Cantonese, Tibetan, and other dialects. The combined Voice of America and Radio Free Asia broadcast to the region will provide listeners with a full-service broadcast covering local, national and international news, together with U.S. news and discussion of foreign policy. This would be the first around-the-clock broadcasting in Mandarin to China by any nation.

This resolution would also support one-time expenditures required to ensure reliable transmission of broadcasts to listeners in China and North Korea. This includes the purchase, modification, and operation of a transmission station in Saipan. Actually I think it is Tinian, an United States territory currently providing the strongest broadcast signal to China. The transmitter would also give Radio Free Asia a permanent transmission site, something it now lacks. The increased funds will also go to augment relay stations that carry the message on to China and other Asian countries.

Madam Speaker, in a world where Chinese military and diplomatic influence is growing, it is useful to remember the lessons of Radio Free Europe. Diplomats may have dismissed those broadcasts, but ordinary people listened. Eventually it was these ordinary people who were able to change those Communist systems.

The people of Asia who live under authoritarian regimes deserve no less of a commitment from the United States. If we are serious about spreading the voice of democracy to China, Vietnam, Cambodia, North Korea, Burma, and other authoritarian States in East Asia, this legislation assures that the message of democracy reaches the broadest possible audience.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, this Member again would like to commend the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE] for his dedication and assistance in making this important increase in funding for Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America. It is an initiative which this Member has advocated in the House Committee on International Relations and elsewhere, and I thank this gentleman for bringing it to fruition.

Mr. HAMILTON. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Indiana [Mr. ROEMER].

Mr. ROEMER. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend and fellow Hoosier from Indiana for yielding this time to me, and I rise in strong support of this legislation.

I think this legislation has been explained very well by Members on both the Republican and the Democratic side. This bill authorizes \$30 million for Radio Free Asia for fiscal year 1998 and \$22 million for fiscal year 1999. As importantly, the bill authorizes an additional 10 million for enhanced VOA broadcasting in China and in North Korea for fiscal year 1998 and 7 million for the same purpose for fiscal year 1999.

As we have talked, Madam Speaker, this past week about American values, about human rights, about putting emphasis on these kinds of things in our very important bilateral relationship between the United States and China, this bill, I think, is at the crux of many of the things that the United States stands for.

□ 1515

We have engaged, I think, the past 2 weeks, when Jiang Zemin visited this country, in what the President has very appropriately called constructive engagement.

Now, there are some in this body that feel like we should not engage with the Chinese. I personally strongly support the President's constructive engagement. That means that you sit down and listen to one another, you meet with one another, and, at times, you strongly disagree with one another.

There is no better example, and I say to my colleagues on constructive engagement, there is no better example

of this than when the President was having a press conference with Jiang Zemin last week and a reporter asked them about Tiananmen Square. And Jiang Zemin said they did, in fact, what they had to do to restore economic and social stability.

And then the President had his turn, and the President very forcefully said, "I disagree, and you did the wrong thing. You did not do what was just, you did not stand up for human rights, and you will continue to be isolated in the world if you engage like that."

That is constructive engagement. I think in the most important bilateral relationship that our two countries will engage in, the Chinese and the American people in the next 20 and 30 and 50 years, the President's policy is right on the mark.

Now, I also think that we have engaged in some very constructive votes this past week. I personally have voted to stop the coerced abortions, and I applaud this body for that. I have voted to more prominently monitor human rights, and I applaud this body for that. I encourage more religious freedom in China. I think that these are the kinds of things we need to engage in with the Chinese, constructive engagement, and not destructive rhetoric.

I applaud the author of this bill, and I strongly encourage my colleagues to support it.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. SOLOMON. Madam Speaker, I certainly thank the gentleman from California for yielding me time.

Madam Speaker, as we bring this China package to a close, I would just once again like to thank all of these people who helped make this happen, the gentleman from California [Mr. COX], the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SMITH], the gentlewoman from California [Ms. PELOSI], the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT] on the other side of the aisle, and all of the rest of the Members and staff who have been so committed on this for such a long time.

This has been a grueling process, yes, it has; several days on the floor, and months, even years of work, by the people that I have just mentioned.

But for those who are fatigued, and I certainly am, we must remember, what we endure is nothing compared to what the people of China have endured on a daily basis, every single day throughout the 48-year reign of the Communists in that unfortunate country, and they are the reason we have been here for the past several days with this very, very vital legislation, for we all know that when the people of China are free, America and China will develop a long-lasting friendship, and that is the way it ought to be, based on respect, based on trust and the mutual interests of 1.5 billion people.

That is why it is fitting that we end this process with the gentleman from

California [Mr. ROYCE], and I commend the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE] on this bill to enhance the capabilities of Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America to broadcast the truth to the Chinese people.

Madam Speaker, few things could be more heartening than to hear the stories from the victims of Communist repression in the former Soviet Union about how Radio Liberty about how Radio Free Europe and the Voice of America kept their hopes alive, gave them a beacon of hope during their darkest hours behind that Iron Curtain, and now they are free. Awareness of the truth and the knowledge that someone else really cared about them kept these people going under the worst of circumstances.

Madam Speaker, this is real engagement, engagement with the people of China, not with those Communist thugs who repress them, who imprison them, who beat them and give them a bad name abroad with their missile diplomacy and rogue activities. And we all know what we have been talking about for the last 3 weeks.

Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America are underfunded. They are only broadcasting a few hours a day and only a couple of dialects. This bill rectifies that by giving \$50 million for this year alone.

Madam Speaker, if the Committee on Appropriations sees fit to provide this money, and we all here will see they will, I can even suggest a perfect offset. Thursday night, this House approved my bill to oppose the World Bank's soft loans to the Communist Government of China by an overwhelming majority.

In 1996, the World Bank loaned about \$500 million to these thugs in Beijing. Since the United States owns about 15 percent of the World Bank, that means American taxpayers directly gave the Communist dictators in Beijing \$75 million of the taxpayers' money in interest-free, 35-year loans, and a 30-year grace period. We can put an end to that.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. And this is perhaps the fitting end to these 10 bills that we have brought on this floor. The gentleman is to be commended. Let us come over here and vote unanimously for this vital piece of legislation.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from California [Mr. ROHRBACHER].

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this amendment and Radio Free Asia. I would like to compliment the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE], my colleague and fellow Orange Countian, who has done so much over the years on this issue. He has made it real.

Ed, congratulations for a job well done.

There would not be a Radio Free Asia in the works and heading toward going

on the air if it was not for the fact that the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE] put in so much time and effort on this commendable piece of legislation.

During the cold war, we must remember that it was not our weapons and technology alone that won the day and ushered the world into a new era of peace and prosperity. And peace and prosperity is yet to prevail, but we have more opportunities for that than we have had during my entire lifetime.

While the courage of the Armed Forces and their technological edge was certainly an imperative that we needed during the cold war, our commitment to Radio Free Europe, the Voice of America, and Radio Liberty kept alive the flame of freedom in the hearts of people who were oppressed from the Balkans to the Baltics. This flame was in the hearts of America's greatest allies.

Our greatest allies in the cold war were those people who lived in Communist countries. And when they knew that we did not forget them, the flame lived on and eventually that conflagration brought down the Communist empire. With communism we were able to destroy the wills of the leadership by mustering support among the people they repressed.

The Good Book tells us that the truth will make you free. Today, with the Soviet collapse, it is our turn now; we must turn to finish the job. We must show the people of Asia that we have as great a commitment to their freedom as we had to the people of Europe.

Radio Free Asia will affirm to the good people throughout Asia that we are on their side, and they need this message when they can only see U.S. corporations exploiting their cheap labor, exploiting their environmental laws that permit corporations to come in and exploit the environment. When they see these, they need to be reaffirmed.

The people of Asia need a confirmation that we are on their side, and that is what Radio Free Asia will do. The Ughyurs, for example, in East Turkmenistan, now live under the heel of the Communist dictatorship in Beijing. We need to broadcast to those and other people, whether they be in Burma, Vietnam, or elsewhere, we believe in freedom, and if we hold firm to our principles in the United States of America, those principles of our Founding Fathers, we will finish the job of ending the cold war, and indeed the world will have a new era of peace and prosperity and freedom.

Mr. HAMILTON. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE].

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I, too, rise this afternoon to give my appreciation for the author of this legislation

and as well the ranking member of this committee for coming together around a very instructive and creative opportunity for us to recognize and to commemorate, if you will, the results of Radio Free Europe.

I can almost say to this House, need I say any more, all of us who have grown up in the World War era are aware of the impact of Radio Free Europe. In fact, it became the symbol of freedom. And as we listened ourselves, hearing about stories and reports on Radio Free Europe, needless to say, those voices that were being heard were impacting on smaller ears, younger people, people who thought that freedom now could be a reality for them.

Why not Radio Free Asia? In the time of child labor, religious persecution, and the denial of free thought, in one of the biggest markets in this world, do we not have the responsibility to say that economics is important but the free thought of those who live under those systems has to be of primary importance to those of us who claim capitalism on the economic side but freedom of thought and religion on the social justice side?

Yes, many of us have supported most favored-nation and we recognize through our corporate community that Southeast Asia is an attractive market. But can we stand by while the dollars flow in and out, while the markets increase, and yet there are people in these nations who cannot gather in their homes to worship their God?

There are people in these nations who cannot think freely for themselves to worship as they desire. And, yes, there are those who have been called to claim the message of whatever faith they believe in who cannot speak.

Radio Free Asia has to exist. We must use it responsibly, however. It cannot be accusatory. It cannot be threatening. It should not be where it is decisive. We simply have to let them hear the truth. We simply have to have them hear the voices of reason. We simply have to have those voices of free thought who can speak about the issues in a free and thoughtful manner be projected on those younger ears, those ears of those who have not heard.

I think Radio Free Asia will tell the real story. Once you hear and once you understand, then you will act. That is what this whole opportunity for Radio Free Asia will generate, and that is a hearing and understanding and an acting.

Madam Speaker, I would simply say that the dollar is not the almighty dollar as some of us have heard it claimed. It must be balanced with the freedom of speech and understanding, the freedom of religion, the freedom of thought. And out of that comes a real appreciation for where you live, and the value of the dollar diminishes when you have freedom for all.

I thank the author of the bill and encourage all of my colleagues to vote for this very timely legislation.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from Arizona, [Mr. SALMON], who speaks Mandarin and has spent time in China.

Mr. SALMON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for introducing this badly needed piece of legislation. In fact, I do not think I am alone in believing that this alone will probably go further than almost anything else that we have done this week or probably this year.

Mr. Rohrabacher made a comment, in fact quoted my favorite scripture from the New Testament, when he said, you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. Unfortunately, in China the truth does not find a way of filtering itself down to the common people on a daily basis.

I saw some footage last week when President Jiang Zemin visited these United States about the coverage in China, and it is interesting, because as we know, in watching our media, when Mr. Jiang went from place to place, there were numerous protests regarding various policies, regarding policies regarding Tibet, regarding policies regarding religious worship, regarding policies dealing with forced abortion. In fact, it was a very mixed bag of reviews. Most of the stops that he made had very, very angry people.

But none of that was filtered down to the common citizens in China. They never heard that information. They think everything is hunky-dory and we all love the guy.

That kind of information has to get down to the people so they do not give way to despondency, so they can keep some hope, some courage, that freedom is very much alive here in this country and we are still plugging for them.

When we continue with MFN, which a majority of Members in this body supported, sometimes I wonder if they get a mixed message, a wrong message. Many of us who support MFN also care deeply about human rights. We don't believe it is OK to turn a deaf ear to the human misery and suffering going on in China. We believe it is time for tough talk.

As the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. ROEMER] said, the President made some very tough statements last week, as he should have. That needs to be filtered down to the rank and file. They need to know that we care; they need to know we are with them, that we believe in freedom and that we believe it will happen if we persevere. That is what constructive engagement is all about.

Congratulations, Mr. ROYCE. This bill is going to go a long way to providing truth for the Chinese people.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2¼ minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON].

□ 1530

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2232, and I want to express my appreciation to the gentleman from California for

his leadership on this very important issue.

As a new Member of Congress, I believe this legislation involves one of the most important issues we have dealt with. My colleagues might ask why is that the case, and it is because it involves the fundamental issues of freedom and liberty.

I think about my father, who is now deceased, but when wartime came around, he was past draft age, he had 4 children, he did not need to go, but he went to serve in our Armed Forces. Why did he go, as so many others went? Because it was not necessarily what was happening in America, but it was about what America stood for; it was about liberty, it was about freedom, it was about supporting that voice around the world.

I think it is what America stands for. Today, the Voice of America, Radio Free Asia, needs to be strengthened in China. Madam Speaker, \$10 million for the Voice of America, \$20 million for Radio Free Asia. It is money well spent.

I think about Tiananmen Square and the images that that portrayed across America of those Chinese students, in their way, standing for freedom and speaking against a repressive regime. What can we do to help them?

Well, there are some things that we can do in these bills that we have passed, and China sanction legislation represents that. But there is one thing that government cannot stop and that is the Voice of America, it is the voice of freedom, the voice of liberty. Truth, truth cannot be shut out. If we can get that message in, then we can encourage those people who are still being repressed; we can raise the voice and awareness of democracy.

There is a temptation in America today that we should withdraw from world affairs, that we do not need to be concerned with what happens in China, and I reject that argument. I believe that we still need to be the leader of the free world. As Alexander Solzhenitsyn said, who is the Russian dissident who spent years in the gulag, "If America does not lead the free world, then the free world will not have a leader."

This is a small burden to pay for the price of liberty. We should support it enthusiastically. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. HAMILTON. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois [Mr. PORTER].

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Indiana for his graciousness in yielding me this time. I commend him and the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE] for their tremendous leadership in bringing this bill to the floor of the House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, when we complete this series, we will have passed nine very significant bills designed to effect change in China. While I am biased on this matter, I believe this is the best of

the nine, and I believe that because I think it has more potential than any of the others in really providing for change in Chinese society.

We know this because of the record of Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe during the cold war. Madam Speaker, surrogate radios are not propaganda, they are the beaming of truth and ideas and news into censored societies, societies where those ideas from outside are not permitted. And under Radio Free Asia, the concepts of freedom, of democracy, of free enterprise, of the rule of law, of an independent judiciary, the very values that we as Americans believe in so deeply, are reaching their way today into closed societies in Asia.

The ideas of Jefferson and Lincoln, the ideas that cannot be heard there, the ideas of their own people in believing in these values are getting through, and this legislation will cause that to be ramped up 3 times what we are doing today, and will affect not only China, but Burma, Vietnam, Tibet, North Korea, Laos, places where autocratic regimes hold sway.

Madam Speaker, this is cost-effective legislation and \$40 million will provide for construction of new antennae and broadcasting facilities and the broadcasts themselves. Through Voice of America and Radio Free Asia, and let me say, Madam Speaker, that Voice of America is equally important in doing a marvelous job for this country all across this world. It is simply a different approach than the surrogate radios. Both are needed. We will be able to broadcast 24 hours a day in Mandarin, more broadcasts in Cantonese. This is exactly what we need to be doing.

Madam Speaker, 3 years ago myself and Helen Bentley conceived Radio Free Asia. Senator BIDEN picked up this matter over in the Senate and came aboard, and we passed legislation into law, and today Dick Richter and his very able staff are making a real difference in that part of the world.

The concept of beaming truth and uncensored news and information and ideas and values will change these closed societies, will make a difference in the lives of the Chinese people and the people of Burma and Vietnam and other places in Europe. They will do so at a much less cost than any other approach, and with tremendous effectiveness. I commend the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE]; I commend the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN]; the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON]; the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. BEREUTER]. All of them have provided tremendous leadership in making this happen.

This is extremely important legislation that will make a true difference in this world, and I commend it to all Members.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. COX], chairman of the Policy Committee, a

colleague who has spearheaded the Policy for Freedom package.

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank especially the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE]. I want to commend the sponsor of this vital bill, my colleague from California, the chairman of the Committee on International Relations Subcommittee on Africa, for his leading role in policymaking. Prior to his committee chairmanship on the Subcommittee on Africa, he was the vice chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. He went with the Speaker of the House this year to the People's Republic of China, to Taiwan and to Hong Kong, and today, after literally years of work, he is bringing to us this bill which is rightly praised by his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Radio Free Asia builds on Justice Louis Brandeis' great axiom of civil liberties, that sunshine is the best disinfectant. That is what this is all about. That is what in fact makes our system so wonderfully resilient.

Driving to the Capitol on a recent day, listening to our local news radio station, WTOP, I heard no fewer than 3 separate China Moments, China Moments paid for by government-owned firms in the People's Republic of China. They lionized President Jiang Zemin. They hyped Communist rule in China. They propagandized in the best Madison Avenue style that money can buy, and I listened to it, because I am an American.

The Government of the People's Republic of China can talk directly to us as Americans whenever they wish to do so, through their own magazines, which they do in this country, through the Internet, through talking heads on television and via authentic, unbiased, competitive news media in our country. Information, not just in America, but in the world, is the oxygen of freedom, and at the same time, censorship is the staff of life for a dictatorship. The People's Republic of China's Government knows this full well, and as a result, control and suppression of information is of paramount priority for them.

The PRC's oligarchy controls all newspapers, all radio, all television, through suffocating direct ownership or, just as stifling, censorship and regulation. It controls informal flows of information through the pervasive use of wiretapping, informants and surveillance, and it is even building an infrastructure so that the state in the 21st century can control the Internet. It is now seeking to jam broadcasts of Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America, an issue that our leadership raised directly with President Jiang when he was here in the Capitol just days ago.

The bill of the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE] is going to allow 24-hour-a-day broadcasts of Radio Free Asia in Mandarin, Cantonese and Tibetan as well as broadcasting in other major dialects. It will allow the cre-

ation of a Cantonese Language Service with 16 journalists. I strongly commend this bill which will let sunlight shine into every corner of China.

When Jiang Zemin visited the United States of America, he went to visit the Liberty Bell, and he read the Biblical verse on the Liberty Bell that reads: "Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." That is what Radio Free Asia will do in Communist China.

Let freedom ring across the length and breadth of China, Madam Speaker. Pass this bill.

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

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I want to thank our colleague, the gentleman from California [Mr. COX] and his able staff, and I would like to thank the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. PORTER], who promoted Radio Free Asia over the years. A tremendous amount of work has gone into this effort. We have had a long and thorough debate throughout the last few days. There have been differences, but the Chinese people are yearning for information; not propaganda, but unbiased information, that is all. So I hope bolstering Radio Free Asia is something we can all support. This program has the opportunity to provide more than 1.4 billion, one-fourth of the world's population, with a daily dose of truth.

I would like to close my time by reading one last letter Radio Free Asia received from one of its Chinese listeners. "Congratulations on the first anniversary of your Mandarin broadcasts. I am one of your listeners writing to offer my thanks and congratulations. You have worked so hard and during this last year you have won some great victories. Here is hoping that your station in the future will gain a foothold in Asia and the world, and not fear cruelty and inhumanity."

Madam Speaker, in closing, let me yield 3 minutes to my distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from San Francisco, CA [Ms. PELOSI].

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I intend to yield back so that he can close, because he has worked so hard on this issue. But I will take a little bit of the time, if I may.

I thank my colleague the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE] for his leadership in bringing this important bill to the floor. It is appropriate that this piece of legislation be the last in this series of China bills, because it is a banner issue that we treat the people in Asia, Radio Free Asia in Asia and in China the way we conducted our approach to people in Eastern Europe throughout the cold war.

The gentleman from California [Mr. COX] was instrumental in putting a package together which had great consensus in this body. There were some of us who thought we could do more, but my colleague can prove us wrong by making these bills long, and then making these issues policy.

The leadership of the gentleman from California [Mr. COX] and the gentleman from California [Mr. ROYCE] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and others enabled us to call to the attention of our colleagues and to our country the concerns that we have about the United States-China relationship. Most certainly we believe in engagement, but it must be effective engagement, that instead of contributing to an increased trade deficit and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction with impunity and ignoring of the repression in China, instead, that effective engagement would make the world safer, the trade fairer, and people freer. And Radio Free Asia, the Radio Free Asia part of this package is further to the point of making people freer.

So many people have told us, and I know that my colleagues have addressed this, that in the course of the cold war their consolation was Radio Free Europe, that people in the outside world had not forgotten them, that we did respect their aspirations to live in a freer society. It was true then in Europe, it is true now for Asia, and we reject the notion that democratic freedoms and individual human rights are Western values. Indeed, they are universal values written on the hearts of men. The people in China who aspire for a freer China have quoted Thomas Jefferson, really quoted Thomas Jefferson. They have lived his words, not mocked them, as President Jiang did when he came here.

□ 1545

They have fought, risked their personal lives, the security of their families, and, indeed, their lives for principles that we as a country have advocated.

We say that promoting democratic values is a cornerstone of our foreign policy. If indeed it is in the world, it must be also in China. Radio Free Asia is the mechanism for us to give some encouragement to those who take such risks for freedom. Those people are the legitimate heirs of our Founding Fathers. For that reason, I commend my colleague for his leadership.

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

Madam Speaker, for the sake of freedom in China and throughout Asia, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2232, as amended, the Radio Free Asia Act of 1997.

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2232, a bill to authorize additional funds for Voice of America broadcasts in Chinese and Korean.

As a young boy growing up in Seoul during the Communist invasion, I can remember huddling around the radio with my family listening to these Voice of America broadcasts. In occupied Seoul, VOA was a prime source of news and inspiration in desperate times by providing timely and accurate news, unfiltered by our North Korean oppressors.

Today, North Korea is the most isolated, closed society in the world. The Communist

regime maintains tight control of the dissemination of information within North Korea. Our VOA broadcasts are the people's lifeline to outside news and information, and otherwise available.

Several weeks ago, I had the opportunity to meet with two North Korean defectors who were visiting Washington. They told of how North Koreans—desperate for real news from the outside world—risk their lives to listen to VOA broadcasts. If found by North Korean authorities, they face certain execution on the spot. Yet thousands surround secret, miniature radios listening to our VOA broadcasts.

Madam Speaker, VOA broadcasts to China and North Korea provide those people with their primary source of accurate news and information about events in their country and around the world.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mrs. LINDA SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2232, the Radio Free Asia Act authored by Congressman Ed ROYCE. I believe this legislation is one of the most important pieces of the China package that the House of Representatives has been considering this week because it gives people hope. It is the most tangible way for the Chinese people to learn about the democratic rule of law, human rights, and current events around the world. It will also audibly demonstrate the aspirations of the American people to have a positive relationship with China as we enter the 21st century.

The Radio Free Asia Act is a direct counterpoint to the oppressive policies of the Chinese Government. The lack of a free flow of information within China makes it all the more important that the broadcasts of Voice of America and Radio Free Asia are heard loud and clear. While the government of China can stifle their own press and attempt to jam our broadcasts, by increasing the number of hours on the air as well as the variety of dialects, a message of hope and freedom will be heard by countless millions.

My colleague, Congressman FRANK WOLF, recently came back from a trip to Tibet and he reported that the broadcasts of Radio Free Asia were a great source of encouragement to the Tibetan population. The least that we can do is to ensure that these broadcasts continue by providing the necessary funds to sustain and increase these broadcasts.

I urge my colleagues to join me in passing the Radio Free Asia Act.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Pursuant to House Resolution 302, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5(b) of rule I, further proceedings on this matter are postponed.

DESIGNATION OF THE HONORABLE CONSTANCE A. MORELLA TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS FOR REMAINDER OF FIRST SESSION OF 105TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

November 9, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable CONSTANCE A. MORELLA to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions for the remainder of the first session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress.

NEWT GINGRICH,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the designation is agreed to. There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

Washington, DC, November 4, 1997.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,

*Speaker, United States House of Representatives, Capitol Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER GINGRICH: On Wednesday, October 29, 1997, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 606, approved fifteen resolutions authorizing appropriations for federal buildings and leased space. Please find enclosed copies of these resolutions.

With warm regards, I remain,

Sincerely,

BUD SHUSTER,

*Chairman.*

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that she will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken later today.

VETERANS' BENEFITS ACT OF 1997

Mr. STUMP. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 714) to extend and improve the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Pilot Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to extend certain authorities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to services for homeless veterans, to extend certain other authorities of the Secretary, and for other purposes, as amended.