

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

House bill

The House bill cites this Act as the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Consent Act.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment contains an identical provision.

Conference agreement

The Senate recedes.

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDING.

House bill

The House bill makes a finding that the low-level radioactive waste disposal Compact between the States of Texas, Maine, and Vermont is in furtherance of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment contains a similar provision.

Conference agreement

The Senate recedes.

SEC. 3. CONDITIONS OF CONSENT TO COMPACT

House bill

The House bill establishes the following conditions on the consent of the Congress to the Compact: (1) that the Compact shall become effective on the date of enactment of this Act; (2) that consent is granted under the authority provided by the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act; (3) that consent is conditioned by the Compact Commission's compliance with all requirements of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act; and (4) that consent is granted only for so long as no low-level radioactive waste is brought into Texas from any State other than Maine or Vermont.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment contains a similar provision. In addition, the amendment requires the party States and Commission to consent to civil suits by the Attorney General of the United States or by a member of an affected community if evidence is obtained that the party States or Commission have failed to comply with the conditions.

Conference agreement

The Senate recedes, with a modification. The conference agreement does not include the condition on consent which restricts the Compact from accepting low-level radioactive waste at the Texas facility from any State other than Maine or Vermont.

SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW

House bill

The House bill provides that the Congress may alter, amend, or repeal this Act after the expiration of the ten year period following the date of enactment of this Act, and at such intervals thereafter as provided in the Texas Compact.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment contains a similar provision.

Conference agreement

The Senate recedes.

SEC. 5. ADDITIONAL CONDITION ON CONSENT TO COMPACT

House bill

No provision.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment establishes a condition of Congressional consent that the compact not be implemented in any way that discriminates against any community (through disparate treatment or disparate impact) by reason of the composition of the community in terms of race, color, national origin or income level. In addition, the

amendment requires the party States and Commission to consent to civil suits by the Attorney General of the United States or by a member of an affected community if evidence is obtained that the party States or Commission have failed to comply with this condition.

Conference agreement

The Senate recedes.

SEC. 6. TEXAS LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL COMPACT

House bill

The House bill provides the consent of the Congress to the Texas Compact and contains the text of the law passed by the States of Texas, Maine, and Vermont establishing the Compact.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment contains a similar provision.

Conference agreement

The House recedes.

For consideration of the House bill and Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

TOM BLILEY,
DAN SCHAEFER,
JOE BARTON,
JOHN D. DINGELL,
RALPH M. HALL,

Managers on the Part of the House.

STROM THURMOND,
ORRIN HATCH,
PATRICK LEAHY,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

HOMEOWNERS PROTECTION ACT
OF 1997

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 318) to require automatic cancellation and notice of cancellation rights with respect to private mortgage insurance which is required as a condition for entering into a residential mortgage transaction, to abolish the Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments to the House amendments thereto, and concur in the Senate amendments to the House amendments.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendments to the House amendments, as follows:

Senate amendments to House amendments:
Page 5, after line 4, of the House engrossed amendment, insert:

SEC. 12. AMENDMENT TO HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965.

Section 481(a)(4) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1088(a)(4)) is amended by—

(1) inserting the subparagraph designation "(A)" immediately after the paragraph designation "(4)";

(2) redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively; and

(3) adding at the end thereof the following new subparagraph:

"(B) Subparagraph (A)(i) shall not apply to a nonprofit institution whose primary function is to provide health care educational services (or an affiliate of such an institution that has the power, by contract or ownership interest, to direct or cause the direction of the institution's management or poli-

cies) that files for bankruptcy under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code between July 1, and December 31, 1998."

Page 28, line 1, of the Senate engrossed bill, strike out "SEC. 12" and insert "SEC. 13".

Page 28, line 2, of the Senate engrossed bill, strike out "13" and insert "14".

Page 28, line 4, of the Senate engrossed bill, strike out "SEC. 13" and insert "SEC. 14".

Mr. LEACH (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate amendments to the House amendments be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 2230

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CONYERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

RETINAL DEGENERATIVE DISEASES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address an issue of great importance to so many Americans. These are Americans that are suffering with retinal degenerative diseases. They number over 6 million and come from all ages and all ethnic groups. An additional 9 million Americans have presymptomatic signs that may lead to loss of sight. It is a problem that affects an epidemic number of people across this country, and one that certainly merits our attention, and, indeed, our support.

Several weeks ago I held a briefing where several of my colleagues and I had an opportunity to hear from a panel of experts and research scientists about all of the wonderful progress that organizations like the Foundation Fighting Blindness have made in the fight to find a treatment and to cure this debilitating disease.

We also had a chance to hear from several young people who have been affected. One of these young people we