

Menendez Regula Strickland
 Metcalf Reyes Stump
 Mica Reynolds Stupak
 Millender Riley Sununu
 McDonald Rivers Sweeney
 Miller (FL) Rodriguez Talent
 Miller, Gary Roemer Tancredo
 Miller, George Rogan Tanner
 Minge Rogers Tauscher
 Mink Rohrabacher Tauzin
 Moakley Ros-Lehtinen Taylor (MS)
 Mollohan Rothman Taylor (NC)
 Moore Roukema Terry
 Moran (KS) Roybal-Allard Thomas
 Moran (VA) Royce Thompson (CA)
 Morella Rush Thompson (MS)
 Murtha Ryan (WI) Thornberry
 Myrick Ryan (KS) Thune
 Nadler Sabo Thurman
 Napolitano Salmon Tiahrt
 Neal Sanchez Tierney
 Nethercutt Sanders Toomey
 Ney Sanford Towns
 Northup Sawyer Traficant
 Norwood Saxton Turner
 Nussle Scarborough Udall (CO)
 Oberstar Schaffer Udall (NM)
 Obey Schakowsky Upton
 Olver Scott Velazquez
 Ortiz Sensenbrenner Visclosky
 Ose Serrano Vitter
 Owens Sessions Walden
 Oxley Shadegg Walsh
 Packard Shaw Wamp
 Pallone Shays Waters
 Pascrell Sherman Watkins
 Pastor Sherwood Watt (NC)
 Payne Shimkus Watts (OK)
 Pease Shows Waxman
 Pelosi Shuster Weiner
 Peterson (MN) Simpson Weldon (FL)
 Peterson (PA) Siskis Weldon (PA)
 Petri Skeen Weller
 Phelps Skelton Wexler
 Pickering Slaughter Weygand
 Pickett Smith (MI) Whitfield
 Pitts Smith (NJ) Wicker
 Pombo Smith (TX) Wilson
 Pomeroy Smith (WA) Wise
 Porter Snyder Wolf
 Portman Souder Woolsey
 Price (NC) Spence Wu
 Pryce (OH) Spratt Wynn
 Quinn Stabenow Young (AK)
 Radanovich Stark Young (FL)
 Rahall Stearns
 Ramstad Stenholm

NOT VOTING—13

Campbell Jones (OH) Paul
 Ewing Klink Rangel
 Gutknecht Lazo Sandlin
 Jackson-Lee McCollum Vento
 (TX) McIntosh

1407

So (three-fifths having voted in favor thereof) the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present earlier today for rollcall Vote No. 498 due to a previously scheduled radio debate with my challenger in the upcoming election. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye".

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which a vote by electronic device may be taken on the motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO INCREASE CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS, TREATMENT, AND RESEARCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, House Resolution 576.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 576, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 0, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 499]
 YEAS—415

Abercrombie Coble Gilchrist
 Ackerman Gillmor Gillmor
 Aderholt Collins Gilman
 Allen Combest Gonzalez
 Andrews Condit Goode
 Archer Conyers Goodlatte
 Armev Cook Goodling
 Baca Cooksey Goss
 Bachus Costello Graham
 Baird Cox Granger
 Baker Coyne Green (TX)
 Baldacci Cramer Green (WI)
 Baldwin Crane Greenwood
 Ballenger Crowley Gutierrez
 Barcia Cubin Gutknecht
 Barr Cummings Hall (OH)
 Barrett (NE) Cunningham Hall (TX)
 Barrett (WI) Danner Hansen
 Bartlett Davis (FL) Hastings (WA)
 Barton Davis (IL) Hayes
 Bass Davis (VA) Hayworth
 Becerra Deal Hefley
 Bentsen DeFazio Herger
 Bereuter DeGette Hill (IN)
 Berkley Delahunt Hill (MT)
 Berman DeLauro Hillery
 Berry DeLay Hilliard
 Biggart DeMint Hinchey
 Bilbray Deutsch Hinojosa
 Bilirakis Diaz-Balart Hobson
 Bishop Dickey Hoeffel
 Blagojevich Dicks Hoekstra
 Bliley Dingell Holden
 Blumenauer Dixon Holt
 Blunt Doggett Hooley
 Boehlert Dooley Horn
 Boehner Doolittle Hostettler
 Bonilla Doyle Houghton
 Bonior Dreier Hoyer
 Bono Duncan Hulshof
 Borski Dunn Hutchinson
 Boswell Edwards Hyde
 Boucher Ehlers Inslee
 Boyd Ehrlich Isakson
 Brady (PA) Emerson Istook
 Brady (TX) Engel Jackson (IL)
 Brown (FL) English Jefferson
 Brown (OH) Eshoo Jenkins
 Bryant Etheridge John
 Burr Evans Johnson (CT)
 Burton Everett Johnson, E. B.
 Buyer Farr Johnson, Sam
 Callahan Fattah Jones (NC)
 Calvert Filner Kanjorski
 Camp Fletcher Kaptur
 Canady Foley Kasich
 Cannon Forbes Kelly
 Capps Ford Kennedy
 Capuano Fossella Kildee
 Cardin Fowler Kilpatrick
 Carson Frank (MA) Kind (WI)
 Castle Franks (NJ) King (NY)
 Chabot Frelinghuysen Kleczka
 Chambliss Frost Knollenberg
 Chenoweth-Hage Gallegly Kolbe
 Clay Gejdenson Kucinich
 Clayton Gekas Kuykendall
 Clement Gephardt LaFalce
 Clyburn Gibbons LaHood

Lampson Ortiz Skelton
 Lantos Ose Slaughter
 Largent Owens Smith (MI)
 Larson Oxley Smith (NJ)
 Latham Packard Smith (TX)
 LaTourette Pallone Smith (WA)
 Leach Pascrell Snyder
 Lee Pastor Souder
 Levin Payne Spence
 Lewis (CA) Pease Spratt
 Lewis (GA) Pelosi Stabenow
 Lewis (KY) Peterson (MN) Stark
 Linder Peterson (PA) Stearns
 Lipinski Petri Stenholm
 LoBiondo Phelps Strickland
 Lofgren Pickering Stump
 Lowey Pitts Stupak
 Lucas (KY) Pombo Sununu
 Lucas (OK) Pomeroy Sweeney
 Luther Porter Talent
 Maloney (CT) Portman Tancredo
 Maloney (NY) Price (NC) Tanner
 Manzullo Pryce (OH) Tauscher
 Markey Quinn Tauzin
 Martinez Radanovich Taylor (MS)
 Mascara Rahall Taylor (NC)
 Matsui Ramstad Terry
 McCarthy (MO) Regula Thomas
 McCarthy (NY) Reyes Thompson (CA)
 McCrery Reynolds Thompson (MS)
 McDermott Riley Thornberry
 McGovern Rivers Thune
 McHugh Rodriguez Thurman
 McInnis Roemer Tiahrt
 McIntyre Rogan Tierney
 McKeon Rogers Toomey
 McKinney Rohrabacher Towns
 McNulty Ros-Lehtinen Traficant
 Meehan Rothman Turner
 Meek (FL) Roukema Udall (CO)
 Meeks (NY) Roybal-Allard Udall (NM)
 Menendez Royce Upton
 Metcalf Rush Velazquez
 Mica Ryan (WI) Visclosky
 Millender- Ryun (KS) Vitter
 McDonald Sabo Walden
 Miller (FL) Salmon Walsh
 Miller, Gary Sanchez Wamp
 Miller, George Sanders Waters
 Minge Sanford Watkins
 Mink Sawyer Watt (NC)
 Moakley Saxton Watts (OK)
 Mollohan Scarborough Waxman
 Moore Schaffer Weiner
 Moran (KS) Schakowsky Weldon (FL)
 Moran (VA) Scott Weldon (PA)
 Morella Sensenbrenner Weller
 Murtha Serrano Wexler
 Myrick Sessions Weygand
 Nadler Shadegg Whitfield
 Napolitano Shaw Wicker
 Neal Shays Wilson
 Nethercutt Sherman Wise
 Ney Sherwood Wolf
 Northup Shimkus Woolsey
 Norwood Shows Wu
 Nussle Shuster Wynn
 Oberstar Simpson Young (AK)
 Obey Siskis Young (FL)
 Olver Skeen

NOT VOTING—18

Campbell Jackson-Lee McIntosh
 Ewing (TX) Paul
 Ganske Jones (OH) Pickett
 Gordon Kingston Rangel
 Hastings (FL) Klink Sandlin
 Hunter Lazo Sandlin
 McCollum Vento

1418

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, 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 Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise once again to focus attention on the topic of prescription drugs. The topic of affordable prescription drugs for seniors is a critical one for families in Michigan and across the nation. Last summer I set up a hot line in Michigan asking those who had stories to tell to call and share them with me, and also for individuals to write me letters and send me copies of their prescription drug bills.

I have received hundreds from across the state, and I have heard heartbreaking stories from seniors about their struggles—about having to choose between putting food on the table and paying the utility bill or being able to get their medications. Because this is such a pervasive problem, it is critical that we pass prescription drug coverage under Medicare, that modernizes the Medicare program to cover the way health care is provided today.

On April 12 of this year, I led an hour of debate on the topic of prescription drug coverage for senior citizens, I read three letters from around the state from seniors who shared their personal stories. At that time, I made a

commitment to continue to read a different letter every week until the House enacts reform. This week I will read a letter from Paul and Lois Van Valkenburgh of Buckley, Michigan:

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN STABENOW: You say three out of four Americans do not have adequate prescription drug coverage. My wife and I have no prescription drug coverage; how is that for not having adequate coverage? We have never found prescription drug insurance we could afford.

Attached to this letter are copies of our prescription drug bills. They cost us over \$2,200 per year, which we really cannot afford. If we had prescription drug coverage like people [who are not retired] (and make much more money than we), then we could afford to pay the premium on insurance coverage for prescription drugs. But the premium has got to be affordable and the deductible reasonable. . . .

Anything you can do to either lower the prices or get retired people a prescription drug insurance that's affordable will be appreciated.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to talk to someone about this awful situation.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL AND LOIS VAN VALKENBURGH.

The Van Valkenburghs have a combined income of \$13,500 a year. Under the Democratic prescription drug plan which I have co-sponsored they would be entitled to significant help with their drug costs. I would like to thank the Van Valkenburghs for sharing their story, and on their behalf and the others that need this assistance, I will continue to work to pass an affordable, voluntary prescription drug benefit for all of our seniors during the 106th Congress.

THE MESSAGE MATTERS: WORDS THAT WORK

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, as we enter the final stretch of legislative business for this Congress and as we prepare to engage in the campaigns back home, as a member of Florida and a member of the Committee on Ways and Means of Congress, I wanted to assure residents in Florida that, in fact, Republicans have initiated prescription drug coverage for seniors in our community.

Back in 1994, then Governor Lawton Chiles was running for reelection to the governorship and was being challenged by Jeb Bush. Governor Chiles ran negative ads saying, if Jeb Bush was elected the governor, he would take away Social Security.

Now, everyone knows the governor of a State does not control Social Security. But the scam worked and, in fact, Jeb lost. The governor went on later to apologize after a thorough investigation found that the campaign did, in fact, make those spurious claims that were false and misleading.

Now we are being told that if we do not elect a majority to the other side of the aisle that we will not see prescription drug coverage for senior citizens.

Let us put people before politics; and let us make certain that, at the end of

the day, we come together in a bipartisan fashion to bring about prescription coverage for our seniors.

In town hall meetings in Florida, I meet with seniors all the time of every political stripe, not just Republicans, but Democrats and Independents. Their first thought to me is, we do not want something free, but we certainly do not want to be forced into a government-run HMO-style system that makes everyone in the same system one size fits all. They would like access to prescription drugs. Yes, they would like lower pricing of prescription drugs.

In this House, we are trying to do that. We recognize the cost is becoming a big burden on many seniors in our community. But we want to make certain that we only cover the poorest and the sickest.

When the President's drug plan first came to our Committee on Ways and Means, there was no provision for catastrophic coverage. We are most concerned in our bill of finding a way for the sickest Americans who may have diabetes, who may have hypertension, who may have suffered from cancer, who may have to depend daily on a multiple dose of medications that they, in fact, have some safeguard against financial ruin.

Our bill does that. But our bill also provides a voluntary system in which they can decide whether they want to enroll in a new drug plan.

Senator EDWARD KENNEDY of Massachusetts stated that two-thirds of Americans currently have prescription drug coverage who are 65 and older. So it begs the question, why are we going to upturn, if you will, or turn over the entire prescription drug benefit to those two-thirds when it is really the one-third we should be seeking to remedy.

Those may again be the poorest. And we can help through our plan to provide for prescription drug coverage both through the States and the Medicaid system and through our innovative care.

Again, people before politics.

We want to put families back in charge of the decisions they make relative to their prescription coverage and their health care and what policies they may or may not want to join, not a forced plan by the Federal Government.

But we also have to recognize some of the other things that we have to consider, long-term care insurance, another serious issue facing Americans. We should not just be talking, Mr. Speaker, about prescription drugs. We have to face reality that our community and our country is growing older and that the need for long-term health care insurance or coverage will become even more profound in the years ahead.

Now, fortunately this Congress is on its way to paying down with surplus dollars, 90 percent of that surplus, to pay down the Federal debt. When we first came to Congress, many of us prescribed a bill that would in fact use