

Paul	Ryun (KS)	Taylor (NC)
Pence	Saxton	Terry
Peterson (MN)	Scarborough	Thomas
Peterson (PA)	Schaffer	Thornberry
Petri	Schrock	Thune
Pickering	Sensenbrenner	Tiahrt
Pitts	Sessions	Tiberi
Platts	Shadegg	Toomey
Pombo	Shaw	Trafficant
Portman	Shays	Upton
Pryce (OH)	Sherwood	Vitter
Putnam	Shimkus	Walden
Quinn	Simmons	Walsh
Radanovich	Simpson	Wamp
Ramstad	Skeen	Watkins
Regula	Smith (MI)	Watts (OK)
Rehberg	Smith (NJ)	Weldon (FL)
Reynolds	Smith (TX)	Weldon (PA)
Riley	Souder	Weller
Rogers (KY)	Spence	Whitfield
Rogers (MI)	Stearns	Wicker
Rohrabacher	Stump	Wilson
Ros-Lehtinen	Sununu	Wolf
Roukema	Sweeney	Young (AK)
Royce	Tancredo	Young (FL)
Ryan (WI)	Tauzin	

□ 1754

So the bill was passed.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of H.R. 3, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) for the purpose of apprising us of next week's schedule.

Mr. PORTMAN. I thank my friend from Maryland for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that the House has now completed its legislative business for this week.

The House will next meet for legislative business on Tuesday, March 13, at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. The House will consider a number of measures under suspension of the rules, a list of which will be distributed to the Members' offices tomorrow, Friday. On Tuesday, no recorded votes are expected before 6 p.m.

On Wednesday, March 14, and Thursday, March 15, the House will consider at least the following measures:

H.R. 223, the Clear Creek County Land Disposal Act,

H.R. 880, the Washington County Land Acquisition Act, and

H.R. 725, the Made in America Information Act.

Mr. Speaker, again I thank the gentleman for yielding. Of course many of us will be together at the bipartisan retreat this weekend. I hope I will see the gentleman there.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman. We are all looking forward to that opportunity, or at least some few of us are looking forward to that opportunity, hopefully more than the last.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, if I can ask the gentleman from Ohio another question. Ergonomics came up this week. As he knows, we were somewhat concerned because that had not been on the calendar and we expressed that concern.

Does the gentleman know of any possible items like that that might come up next week that are not noticed at this point in time that may or may not be up?

Mr. PORTMAN. We would expect no such major or what some might con-

sider controversial provisions. That, of course, was waiting for the Senate to act. Once the Senate acted, we acted. There may be, it is my understanding, some other legislative activity that committees are still working to see whether some other things might come to the floor next week, but we would expect nothing along those lines.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman. One additional question. As he knows, we have been talking for some period of time now about the creation of a select committee on election reform.

Does the gentleman have any idea whether we might have a proposal on the floor for an equally balanced committee being appointed for the purposes of considering election reform?

Mr. PORTMAN. I am not aware of any legislation that would be on the floor next week in that regard, although I suppose it is possible. I know that the Speaker and the minority leader are in discussions with regard to the select committee on election reform, but I do not know that there will be anything on the floor next week nor do I think anyone on our side knows at this point.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his response. I would simply say that clearly this is a critical issue which I do not think is a partisan issue. I think there is not a Member on the House floor of either side of the aisle or our two Independents who do not believe that citizens ought to be encouraged to vote, facilitated in casting their vote and to having the technology available that will make sure that they count their votes. We focused on Florida, but as we have learned, this problem exists in many jurisdictions. It is not a partisan problem, it is in some respects a technological problem and in some respects election officials are not trained as well as they ought to be, not through any fault of their own but just we have not had the mechanisms to do that, to reach out and to make sure that citizens have access to the polling places.

I know the Speaker is focused on it. I know the minority leader is focused on it. I hope that we could accomplish this in the short term so that we might effect reforms prior to the next election. That is our concern about timing.

I would be glad to yield to the gentleman for any comments he might want to make.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly agree with what the gentleman said with regard to the need to take a look at our election systems. I know that the leadership on this side concurs with that. The hope is that we can soon move forward with a select commission in that regard.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comments.

NAYS—198

Abercrombie	Hastings (FL)	Nadler
Allen	Hill	Napolitano
Andrews	Hilliard	Neal
Baca	Hinchee	Oberstar
Baird	Hinojosa	Obey
Baldacci	Hoefel	Olver
Baldwin	Holden	Ortiz
Barcia	Holt	Owens
Barrett	Honda	Pallone
Becerra	Hooley	Pascrell
Bentsen	Hoyer	Pastor
Berkley	Inslee	Payne
Berman	Israel	Pelosi
Berry	Jackson (IL)	Phelps
Blagojevich	Jackson-Lee	Pomeroy
Blumenauer	(TX)	Price (NC)
Bonior	Jefferson	Rahall
Borski	John	Rangel
Boswell	Johnson, E. B.	Reyes
Boucher	Jones (OH)	Rivers
Boyd	Kanjorski	Rodriguez
Brady (PA)	Kaptur	Roemer
Brown (FL)	Kennedy (RI)	Ross
Brown (OH)	Kildee	Rothman
Capps	Kilpatrick	Roybal-Allard
Capuano	Kind (WI)	Rush
Cardin	Kleczka	Sabo
Carson (IN)	Kucinich	Sanchez
Carson (OK)	LaFalce	Sanders
Clay	Lampson	Sandlin
Clayton	Langevin	Sawyer
Clyburn	Lantos	Schakowsky
Conyers	Larsen (WA)	Schiff
Costello	Larson (CT)	Scott
Coyne	Lee	Serrano
Crowley	Levin	Sherman
Cummings	Lewis (GA)	Sisisky
Davis (CA)	Lipinski	Slaughter
Davis (FL)	Lofgren	Smith (WA)
Davis (IL)	Lowey	Snyder
DeFazio	Luther	Solis
DeGette	Maloney (CT)	Spratt
Delahunt	Maloney (NY)	Stark
DeLauro	Markey	Stenholm
Deutsch	Mascara	Strickland
Dicks	Matheson	Tanner
Dingell	Matsui	Tauscher
Doggett	McCarthy (MO)	Taylor (MS)
Dooley	McCarthy (NY)	Thompson (CA)
Doyle	McCollum	Thompson (MS)
Edwards	McDermott	Thurman
Engel	McGovern	Tierney
Eshoo	McKinney	Towns
Etheridge	McNulty	Turner
Evans	Meehan	Udall (CO)
Farr	Meek (FL)	Udall (NM)
Fattah	Meeks (NY)	Velazquez
Filner	Menendez	Visclosky
Ford	Millender-	Waters
Frank	McDonald	Watt (NC)
Frost	Miller, George	Waxman
Gephardt	Mink	Weiner
Gonzalez	Moakley	Wexler
Green (TX)	Mollohan	Woolsey
Gutierrez	Moore	Wu
Hall (OH)	Moran (VA)	Wynn
Harman	Murtha	

NOT VOTING—5

Ackerman	Shows	Stupak
Ballenger	Skelton	

□ 1800

RANKING OF MEMBER ON COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 85), and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 85

Resolved, That on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Mr. Pombo shall rank immediately after Mr. Moran of Kansas.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY,
MARCH 12, 2001

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next.

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

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY,
MARCH 13, 2001

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, March 12, 2001, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, for morning hour debates.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON
WEDNESDAY NEXT

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

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

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO
JAMES MADISON COMMEMORATION
COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to section 5(a) of the James Madison Commemoration Commission Act (P.L. 106-550), the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the James Madison Commemoration Commission:

Mr. GOODLATTE of Virginia;
Mr. CANTOR of Virginia.
There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PENCE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

AMERICA'S VETERANS ARE ENTITLED TO THEIR DAY OF CELEBRATION AND REMEMBRANCE

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

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of over 1.3 million veterans in Pennsylvania and to express my strong opposition to legislation which I consider an affront to the heroic service to our Nation.

As introduced, H.R. 62 would move Veterans' Day to election day in Presidential election years. The intended purpose of this legislation is to increase voter turnout by establishing election day as a national holiday in conjunction with Veterans' Day.

Although I agree action needs to be taken to help convince our Nation's citizens to take a more active role in the political process, this particular solution troubles me. I believe we need to take necessary steps to increase voter awareness and participation, but depriving our veterans of the day set aside historically to honor their sacrifice is not the way to do it.

By designating November 11 of each year as Veterans' Day, we give thanks and pay tribute to the soldiers who fought and gave their lives to preserve the freedoms we know today.

In 1918, at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month, the Treaty of Versailles was signed between the Allies and Central powers to end the fighting of World War I, the war to end all wars. In the years immediately following 1918, memorial gestures were made on that day worldwide. In 1926, Congress passed legislation to commemorate this date with, quote, "thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through goodwill and mutual understanding between nations."

In 1938, Congress officially designated November 11 as Armistice Day. It was a day to honor the bravery of our veterans and celebrate the cause of world peace.

In 1954, one of our greatest veterans, President Dwight Eisenhower, declared Armistice Day as Veterans' Day so that all Americans would, quote, "solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly to preserve our heritage of freedom."

Mr. Speaker, I give this brief history of Veterans' Day because it serves as proof that November 11 was not ran-

domly selected as a day on which to honor veterans. Moving Veterans' Day, even if it is only once every 4 years, does a great disservice to our veterans and the freedoms for which they fought so hard to secure and defend.

Congress learned its lesson on moving Veterans' Day once already. In the 1970s, Congress moved Veterans' Day to the Monday closest to November 11 to allow for a 3-day holiday weekend. The movement of Veterans' Day was met with so much outrage that President Ford returned the observation of Veterans' Day to November 11.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard from countless individuals in my district that are outraged that legislation is once again pending before Congress to move Veterans' Day. These citizens, veterans and nonveterans alike, do not understand why their government wants to diminish the opportunity of this Nation to remember the sacrifices of our veterans. Veterans and the families of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice certainly do not understand why Congress would even consider legislation that would lessen the tribute paid to our brave sons and daughters who have served in all branches of our armed services.

In my opinion, we should not diminish the observance of Veterans' Day. On the contrary, we should be promoting the reason we mark this day. There are over 26 million veterans in this country, including nearly a half million who are permanently disabled. The Veterans Administration estimates that we are losing approximately 1,100 veterans a day. It is extremely important that we not only remember their service but honor it as well.

The best way to do that is to pass meaningful legislation which will improve benefits and ensure that every veteran has access to the best health care possible. It is imperative that we demonstrate our commitment to those who served us with dedication and valor.

Mr. Speaker, let me reiterate that I stand ready and willing to work with my colleagues to find ways to get more of our citizens to the polls, not just in Presidential elections but in all elections.

However, we must not attempt to solve the problem of voter apathy by showing disrespect to our fellow citizens who have gone into harm's way on behalf of our great Nation. Our veterans have fought courageously to secure and preserve the freedoms we enjoy today. Without the efforts of our heroic veterans, our citizens would not have the right to vote.

Our veterans have fought, and many have died, so we can live in a country with free and fair elections, a country where even in an election as close as the last Presidential contest, the winner is decided by the rule of law, and not with violence.

Mr. Speaker, our veterans have fearlessly put their lives on the line for