

The proposed legislation provides the first major benefit improvements in railroad retirement in more than 25 years. The primary benefit improvement are:

(1) The age at which employees can retire with full benefits is reduced from 62 years to 60 years with 30 years of service as it was before changes made in 1983.

(2) The number of years required for vesting in the Railroad Retirement System is reduced from ten years to five years similar to most other pension plans.

(3) The benefits of widows and widowers are improved so that a surviving spouse's annuity would be guaranteed to be no less than the amount the retiree was receiving in the month before his or her death, and

(4) If the retirement plan becomes overfunded, benefits are automatically improved.

H.R. 4844 also reduces significantly the payroll taxes paid by the railroads. By the third year following passage of this bill, the railroads stand to gain nearly \$400 million annually for lower payroll taxes. All of these savings go directly to the railroads' bottom lines and can be used to make investments needed in the railroad infrastructure and to improve the wages and working conditions of railway workers.

It is important to note that nothing in this legislation alters the fundamental nature of the program. Railroad retirement benefits will continue to be guaranteed, in the final analysis, by the United States Government.

Last year, the House passed this bill overwhelmingly, but the Senate failed to act before the 106th Congress ended. This year the House, once again passed this important measure by an overwhelming margin—and this time the Senate has acted. Only the bill number is different from what the House has already passed.

This is a good bill. It is good for workers, it is good for retirees and their survivors, it is good for the railroads, and it is good for the country. I urge all Members to support it today so we can get it to the President before the holiday seasons.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the House will finally have the opportunity to send the "Railroad Retirement and Survivors' Improvement Act of 2001" to the White House to be enacted into law. We will send this bill to President Bush for his signature shortly.

In the Third District of West Virginia, I represent 8,300 citizens who will benefit from this bill. This ranks southern West Virginia seventh in the nation. The bill will double benefits for widows of railroad retirees, reduce the retirement age from 62 to 60 years of age with 30 years of service, and allow a person to be vested in the system after five years of service, rather than 10 years, as currently required.

I constantly hear from anxious constituents asking when the bill will be enacted. Projections suggest benefits, which are modest to begin with, will nearly double after this bill passes. This bill means a lot to railroad retirees. It is an example of the type of legislation in which people can see direct benefits to improve their daily lives and quality of life.

We have endured a long, rough road getting to this day. This bill includes the exact provisions of H.R. 4844, which I helped to write in the 106th Congress, and which passed the House by an overwhelming bi-partisan vote of 391–25 on September 7, 2000.

My constituents were disappointed and frustrated last year when the bill was not enacted into law, especially since it is a product of two years of negotiation between railroad workers and management of the railroad industry.

Now, in the 107th Congress, we have done our job in the House. We passed the House version of Railroad Retirement bill H.R. 1140, on July 31st by another overwhelming bi-partisan vote of 384–33.

Finally, the Senate passed the bill last week, on December 5, 2001, by a vote of 90–9.

When this bill becomes law, it will enable railroad retirees and widows to enjoy a better quality of life, by receiving the increased benefits they greatly deserve, and which they have worked so long to earn. They spent their working lives paying into their retirement, and they deserve decent, adequate benefits to live comfortably in their retirement years.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 10. The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Con. Res. 281, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 3282, by the yeas and nays; and H.R. 10, concur in Senate amendments, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

#### HONORING JOHNNY MICHEAL SPANN, FIRST AMERICAN KILLED IN COMBAT IN WAR AGAINST TERRORISM IN AFGHANISTAN, AND PLEDGING CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 281.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 281, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 0, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 483]

YEAS—401

Abercrombie	DeGette	Israel
Aderholt	DeLauro	Issa
Akin	DeLay	Istook
Allen	DeMint	Jackson (IL)
Andrews	Deutsch	Jackson-Lee
Armey	Diaz-Balart	(TX)
Baca	Dicks	Jenkins
Bachus	Dingell	John
Baird	Doggett	Johnson (CT)
Baker	Doolittle	Johnson (IL)
Baldacci	Doyle	Johnson, E. B.
Baldwin	Dreier	Johnson, Sam
Balleger	Duncan	Jones (NC)
Barcia	Dunn	Jones (OH)
Barrett	Edwards	Kanjorski
Bartlett	Ehlers	Kaptur
Bass	Emerson	Keller
Becerra	Engel	Kelly
Bentsen	Eshoo	Kennedy (MN)
Bereuter	Etheridge	Kennedy (RI)
Berkley	Evans	Kerns
Berry	Everett	Kildee
Biggart	Farr	Kilpatrick
Bilirakis	Fattah	Kind (WI)
Bishop	Ferguson	King (NY)
Blumenauer	Filner	Kingston
Blunt	Flake	Kirk
Boehlert	Fletcher	Klecza
Boehner	Foley	Knollenberg
Bonilla	Forbes	Knollenberg
Bonior	Ford	Kucinich
Bono	Frank	LaFalce
Boozman	Frelinghuysen	LaHood
Borski	Frost	Lampson
Boswell	Gallegly	Langevin
Boucher	Ganske	Lantos
Boyd	Gekas	Largent
Brady (PA)	Gibbons	Larsen (WA)
Brady (TX)	Gilchrest	Larson (CT)
Brown (FL)	Gillmor	Latham
Brown (OH)	Gilman	LaTourette
Brown (SC)	Goode	Leach
Bryant	Goodlatte	Lee
Burr	Gordon	Levin
Burton	Goss	Lewis (CA)
Buyer	Graham	Lewis (GA)
Callahan	Graves	Lewis (KY)
Calvert	Green (TX)	Linder
Camp	Green (WI)	Lipinski
Cannon	Greenwood	LoBiondo
Cantor	Grucci	Lofgren
Capito	Gutierrez	Lowe
Capps	Gutknecht	Lucas (KY)
Cardin	Hall (OH)	Lucas (OK)
Carson (IN)	Hall (TX)	Lynch
Carson (OK)	Hansen	Manoney (NY)
Castle	Harman	Manzullo
Chabot	Hart	Markey
Chambliss	Hastings (FL)	Masara
Clay	Hastings (WA)	Matheson
Clayton	Hayes	McCarthy (MO)
Clement	Hayworth	McCarthy (NY)
Clyburn	Hefley	McCollum
Coble	Hergert	McCreery
Collins	Hill	McDermott
Combest	Hilleary	McGovern
Condit	Hilliard	McHugh
Conyers	Hinchee	McInnis
Cooksey	Hinojosa	McIntyre
Costello	Hobson	McKeon
Cox	Hoefel	McKinney
Coyne	Hoekstra	McNulty
Cramer	Holden	Meehan
Crane	Holt	Meek (FL)
Crenshaw	Honda	Meeks (NY)
Cummings	Horn	Menendez
Cunningham	Houghton	Mica
Davis (CA)	Hoyer	Millender-
Davis (FL)	Hulshof	McDonald
Davis (IL)	Hunter	Miller, Dan
Davis, Jo Ann	Hyde	Miller, Gary
Davis, Tom	Inslee	Miller, George
DeFazio	Isakson	Miller, Jeff

Mink Reynolds Strickland  
 Mollohan Rivers Stump  
 Moore Rodriguez Stupak  
 Moran (KS) Roemer Sununu  
 Moran (VA) Rogers (KY) Sweeney  
 Morella Rogers (MI) Tancredo  
 Murtha Rohrabacher Tanner  
 Myrick Ros-Lehtinen Tauscher  
 Nadler Ross Tauzin  
 Napolitano Rothman Taylor (MS)  
 Neal Roukema Taylor (NC)  
 Nethercutt Roybal-Allard Terry  
 Ney Royce Thomas  
 Northup Rush Thompson (CA)  
 Norwood Ryan (WI) Thompson (MS)  
 Nussle Ryan (KS) Thornberry  
 Oberstar Sabo Thune  
 Obey Sanchez Thurman  
 Olver Sanders Tierney  
 Ortiz Sandlin Toomey  
 Osborne Sawyer Towns  
 Ose Saxton Traficant  
 Otter Schaffer Turner  
 Owens Schakowsky Udall (CO)  
 Oxley Schiff Udall (NM)  
 Pallone Schrock Upton  
 Pascrell Scott Velazquez  
 Pastor Sensenbrenner Visclosky  
 Paul Serrano Vitter  
 Payne Shadegg Walden  
 Pelosi Shaw Walsh  
 Pence Shays Waters  
 Peterson (MN) Sherman Watkins (OK)  
 Peterson (PA) Sherwood Watson (CA)  
 Petri Shimkus Watt (NC)  
 Phelps Shuster Watts (OK)  
 Pickering Shuster Waxman  
 Pitts Simmons Weiner  
 Platts Simpson Weldon (FL)  
 Pomo Skelton Weldon (PA)  
 Pomeroy Skelton Weller  
 Portman Slaughter Wexler  
 Price (NC) Smith (MI) Whitfield  
 Pryce (OH) Smith (NJ) Wicker  
 Putnam Smith (TX) Wilson  
 Quinn Smith (WA) Wolf  
 Rahall Snyder Woolsey  
 Ramstad Solis Wu  
 Rangel Spratt Wynn  
 Regula Stark Young (FL)  
 Rehberg Stearns  
 Reyes Stenholm

**MIKE MANSFIELD FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 3282.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3282, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 0, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 484]  
 YEAS—401

Abercrombie Cramer Hayworth  
 Aderholt Crane Hefley  
 Akin Crenshaw Heger  
 Allen Cummings Hill  
 Andrews Cunningham Hilleary  
 Arney Davis (CA) Hilliard  
 Baca Davis (FL) Hinchey  
 Bachus Hinojosa Hironaka  
 Baird Davis, Jo Ann Hobson  
 Baker Davis, Tom Hoeffel  
 Baldacci DeFazio Hoekstra  
 Baldwin DeGette Holden  
 Ballenger DeLauro Holt  
 Barcia DeLay Honda  
 Barrett DeMint Hooley  
 Bartlett Deutsch Horn  
 Bass Diaz-Balart Houghton  
 Becerra Dicks Hoyer  
 Bentsen Dingell Hulshof  
 Bereuter Doggett Hunter  
 Berkeley Doolittle Hyde  
 Berry Doyle Inslee  
 Biggert Dreier Isakson  
 Bilirakis Duncan Israel  
 Blunt Dunn Issa  
 Blumenauer Edwards Istook  
 Blunt Ehlers Jackson (IL)  
 Boehlert Emerson Jackson-Lee  
 Boehner Engel (TX)  
 Bonilla English Jenkins  
 Bonior Eshoo John  
 Bono Etheridge Johnson (CT)  
 Boozman Evans Johnson (IL)  
 Borski Everett Johnson, E. B.  
 Boswell Farr Johnson, Sam  
 Boucher Fattah Jones (NC)  
 Boyd Ferguson Jones (OH)  
 Brady (PA) Filner Kanjorski  
 Brady (TX) Flake Kaptur  
 Brown (FL) Fletcher Keller  
 Brown (OH) Foley Kelly  
 Brown (SC) Forbes Kennedy (MN)  
 Bryant Ford Kennedy (RI)  
 Burr Frank Kerns  
 Burton Frelinghuysen Kildee  
 Buyer Kilpatrick Kilpatrick  
 Callahan Gallegly Kind (WI)  
 Calvert Ganske King (NY)  
 Camp Gekas Kingston  
 Cannon Gibbons Kirk  
 Cantor Gilchrist Kleczka  
 Capito Gillmor Knollenberg  
 Capps Gilman Kolbe  
 Cardin Goode Kucinich  
 Carson (IN) Goodlatte LaFalce  
 Carson (OK) Gordon LaHood  
 Castle Goss Lampson  
 Chabot Graham Langevin  
 Chambliss Graves Lantos  
 Clay Green (TX) Largent  
 Clayton Green (WI) Larsen (WA)  
 Clement Greenwood Larson (CT)  
 Clyburn Grucci Latham  
 Coble Gutierrez LaTourette  
 Collins Hall (OH) Leach  
 Combust Hall (TX) Lee  
 Condit Hansen Levin  
 Conyers Harman Lewis (CA)  
 Cooksey Hart Lewis (GA)  
 Costello Hastings (FL) Lewis (KY)  
 Cox Hastings (WA) Linder  
 Coyne Hayes Lipinski

LoBiondo Pelosi Slaughter  
 Lofgren Pence Smith (MI)  
 Lowey Peterson (MN) Smith (NJ)  
 Lucas (KY) Peterson (PA) Smith (TX)  
 Lucas (OK) Petri Smith (WA)  
 Lynch Phelps Snyder  
 Maloney (NY) Pickering Solis  
 Manzullo Pitts Spratt  
 Markey Platts Stark  
 Mascara Pombo Stearns  
 Matheson Pomeroy Stenholm  
 McCarthy (MO) Portman Strickland  
 McCarthy (NY) Price (NC) Stump  
 McCollum Pryce (OH) Stupak  
 McCrery Putnam Sununu  
 McDermott Quinn Sweeney  
 McGovern Rahall Tancredo  
 McHugh Ramstad Tanner  
 McInnis Rangel Tauscher  
 McIntyre Regula Tauzin  
 McKeon Rehberg Taylor (MS)  
 McKinney Reyes Taylor (NC)  
 McNulty Reynolds Terry  
 Meehan Rivers Thomas  
 Meek (FL) Rodriguez Thompson (CA)  
 Meeks (NY) Roemer Thompson (MS)  
 Menendez Rogers (KY) Thornberry  
 Mica Rogers (MI) Thune  
 Millender Rohrabacher Thurman  
 McDonald Ros-Lehtinen Tierney  
 Miller, Dan Ross Toomey  
 Miller, Gary Rothman Towns  
 Miller, George Roukema Traficant  
 Miller, Jeff Roybal-Allard Turner  
 Mink Royce Udall (CO)  
 Mollohan Rush Udall (NM)  
 Moran (KS) Ryan (WI) Upton  
 Moran (VA) Ryan (KS) Velazquez  
 Morella Sabo Visclosky  
 Murtha Sanchez Vitter  
 Myrick Sanders Walden  
 Nadler Sandlin Walsh  
 Napolitano Sawyer Waters  
 Neal Saxton Watkins (OK)  
 Nethercutt Schaffer Watson (CA)  
 Ney Schakowsky Watt (NC)  
 Northup Schiff Watts (OK)  
 Norwood Norwood Waxman  
 Nussle Nussle Scott Weiner  
 Oberstar Oberstar Sensenbrenner Weldon (FL)  
 Obey Obey Serrano Weldon (PA)  
 Olver Olver Shadegg Weller  
 Ortiz Ortiz Shaw Wexler  
 Osborne Osborne Shays Whitfield  
 Ose Ose Sherman Wicker  
 Otter Otter Sherwood Wilson  
 Owens Owens Shimkus Wolf  
 Oxley Oxley Shows Woolsey  
 Pallone Pallone Shuster Wu  
 Pascrell Pascrell Simmons Wynn  
 Pastor Pastor Simpson Young (FL)  
 Paul Paul Skelton  
 Payne Skelton

NOT VOTING—32

Ackerman Dooley Matsui  
 Barr Ehrlich Moore  
 Barton English Radanovich  
 Berman Fossella Riley  
 Blagojevich Gephardt Sessions  
 Capuano Gonzalez Souder  
 Crowley Granger Tiahrt  
 Cubin Hooley Tiberi  
 Culberson Hostettler Wamp  
 Deal Deal Luther Young (AK)  
 Delahunt Delahunt Maloney (CT)

□ 1922

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**RAILROAD RETIREMENT AND SURVIVORS' IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and concurring in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 10.

NOT VOTING—32

Ackerman Dooley Maloney (CT)  
 Barr Ehrlich Matsui  
 Barton English Radanovich  
 Berman Fossella Riley  
 Blagojevich Gephardt Sessions  
 Capuano Gonzalez Souder  
 Crowley Granger Tiahrt  
 Cubin Hooley Tiberi  
 Culberson Hostettler Wamp  
 Deal Deal Jefferson Young (AK)  
 Delahunt Luther

□ 1913

Mr. EHLERS changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on each additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.