in the Senate did not pass it, and we were talking about oranges and apples and we could not get the appropriation process done until February. We need to pass a budget; the Senate needs to pass a budget; we need to get the appropriation process done. We need to talk about education. We need to talk about health care. We cannot do it unless we pass this budget.

So I say to my colleagues, it is late. We have had a lot of debate. It is time to get to work. I will make a prediction: We will have a lot of people vote against it, and we will have a few more vote for it. Let us get to it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Without objection, the previous question is ordered.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the conference report.

Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS). The Members get to make the speeches and to cast the votes, but the staff do the hard work in getting us here. In both the House and the other body, we have had a great working relationship with those professional staffs. We want to thank them and congratulate them for a job well done.

I would also like to thank the members of my committee who worked hard on this, as well as the members of my committee on the opposite side of the aisle.

I have no better competitor in this process and no one that I respect more than the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRAT), and while we have to differ so on substance tonight, we do share a love for the process and enjoy working together. I want to congratulate the gentleman for his work. As I say, there is no one who knows this process and this budget issue better than my friend and colleague, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRAT).

Mr. SPRAT. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?