

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 42, H. Con. Res. 190, I was en route from my Congressional District on official business. Had I been present, I would have vote "yea."

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the consideration of H.R. 4939, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

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

There was no objection.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 725 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 4939.

□ 1212

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, with Mr. GILLMOR in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, today we turn our attention to the fiscal year 2006 emergency supplemental, addressing the global war on terror and the gulf coast disaster assistance.

The committee-recommended funding levels is \$91.833 billion, which is \$400 million below the President's request.

The bill provides for \$67.6 billion in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. The supplemental fully funds the administration's request of \$4.85 billion to train and equip security forces in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The bill earmarks, I repeat, Mr. Chairman, the bill earmarks \$850 billion over the President's request to up-

grade Abrams tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles. The committee is also earmarking, I repeat, Mr. Chairman, earmarking an additional \$480 million over the request for newer, self-up-armored Humvees, for a total of \$890 million of earmarks.

The committee has fully funded the President's request to procure and develop countermeasures to prevent IED attacks on our troops. The bill also includes the enhanced \$400,000 life insurance benefit for servicemembers and \$100,000 death gratuity for combat-related fatalities.

The committee did not fund \$1 billion of the request for various construction projects related to security training activities in the region because they were poorly defined and not well justified.

The committee did provide a five-fold increase for the Department of Defense Inspector General to monitor war expenditures.

Under title II, the supplemental provides \$19.1 billion for hurricane-related disaster assistance, including \$9.55 billion for FEMA's disaster relief fund. The bill also provides \$4.2 billion for HUD community development block grants to address long-term recovery and restoration of devastated areas.

□ 1215

The bill also provides the requested amount of \$1.46 billion for various flood control projects and levee repairs by the U.S. Corps of Engineers.

This legislation also requires FEMA to provide better reporting on the expenditure of disaster funds and provides funding for the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice to investigate and prosecute fraud cases.

Like most Members of the House, I have heard from many of my constituents expressing strong concerns about the possibility of foreign-owned companies managing U.S. ports. As a result of those concerns, the House Appropriations Committee overwhelmingly, and in a bipartisan fashion, adopted an amendment that prohibits the company, Dubai Ports World, owned by one of the governing bodies of the United Arab Emirates, from taking over the operation of any port facility in the United States.

It was not my intention, Mr. Chairman, to have the committee rewrite the Defense Production Act or change the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, the CFIUS process. Those are very complex policy decisions which rest primarily with the Financial Services Committee. Additionally, the Homeland Security Committee, the Armed Services Committee, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Committee on International Relations have a great deal of interest in this matter.

The straightforward amendment adopted in our committee was crafted to block only the Dubai Ports World deal. This is a national security issue.

This is a national security bill. Our goal is to ensure that security of our ports is in America's hands.

During our debate, Mr. Chairman, on the supplemental, I fully expect an amendment to strike this language from the bill. This striking amendment, which will likely fail on a broad bipartisan basis, gives our Members the opportunity to voice their strong opposition to the port deal. It will also send a strong and unmistakable message that the Congress and the American people stand united on the critical national security issue that involves the ports.

Mr. Chairman, I urge an aye vote on the passage of this legislation.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), the ranking member of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this bill, and I am pleased to have worked with Chairman KOLBE to develop the foreign assistance portion of this measure. The bill cuts the amount requested for international assistance by about \$140 million from the administration's request, and rescinds an additional \$17 million in previously appropriated funds that are no longer needed.

However, I do have concerns about what we have included and what we have not included. I am particularly concerned about the lack of funding in this bill for Afghanistan. During the chairman's recent visit to Afghanistan, the ambassador and USAID staff outlined a need for \$600 million in FY 2006 supplemental funding to help address the power and infrastructure needs in Afghanistan.

Our ambassador, the Afghan government, and provincial leaders all agreed that progress on reconstruction and development was critical to help consolidate the rule of law, curtail the influence of the Taliban and al Qaeda operatives and combat opium poppy cultivation.

Yet, the President's request does not contain the \$600 million that Ambassador Neumann requested. It does not even contain the \$407 million that Secretary Rice requested in her submission to OMB. The President requested just \$62 million for assistance to Afghanistan in the supplemental, one-tenth of what is needed. The committee further cut this amount providing only \$8 million for Afghanistan.

Now, I do understand that Chairman KOLBE and Chairman LEWIS are frustrated with the lack of response from the State Department on the counter-narcotics program in Afghanistan, and I share that frustration. However, in this instance, I fear that we are cutting off our nose to spite the State Department's face. I do not think this is a responsible strategy. And before this bill is enacted, I hope we can find the means to restore or even increase the