

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

JAMES L. OBERSTAR,
EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,
ELLEN O. TAUSCHER,
BRIAN BAIRD,
BRIAN HIGGINS,
HARRY E. MITCHELL,
STEVE KAGEN,
JERRY MCNERNEY,
JOHN L. MICA,
JOHN J. DUNCAN, Jr.,
VERNON J. EHLERS,
R.H. BAKER,
HENRY E. BROWN, Jr.,
JOHN BOOZMAN,

From the Committee on Natural Resources, for consideration of secs. 2014, 2023, and 6009 of the House bill, and secs. 3023, 5008, and 5016 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

NICK RAHALL,
GRACE F. NAPOLITANO,
CATHY MCMORRIS
RODGERS,

Managers on the Part of the House.

BARBARA BOXER,
MAX BAUCUS,
JOE LIEBERMAN,
TOM CARPER,
HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
JAMES M. INHOFE,
JOHN WARNER,
GEORGE V. VOINOVICH,
JOHNNY ISAKSON,
DAVID VITTER,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

DEMOCRATIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS CONGRES- SIONAL SESSION

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, over the last 7 months, the new Democratic Congress has amassed an impressive record of accomplishment, making real progress on issues important to the American people.

Last week, thanks to our efforts, the minimum wage was increased for the first time in a decade. We also sent to the President's desk one of the most important bills of the new Congress, legislation that will make America safer by finally enacting the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission.

Last week, the House also passed a farm bill that reforms our Nation's farm policy by committing more resources to nutrition and conservation programs, while also addressing the needs of our Nation's family farmers.

And our efforts continue this week. Today, we will live up to our promise to change the way business is done here in Washington when we pass the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act. Tomorrow, we will strengthen the health care safety net programs essential to our children and seniors. And then on Thursday we will pass a comprehensive energy bill that reduces our dependence on foreign oil and fights global warming.

Democrats are delivering results and doing it in a new way.

□ 1015

THE LIGHT BULB ENERGY POLICY

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, oh, how we talk and pontificate about making the United States independent from foreign energy. But still little has been done. The new energy bill does not promote energy, but punishes energy use. For example, new energy legislation regulates the type of light bulbs Americans use.

Some in the House want to go after the U.S. oil companies and punish them by taxing them more. Of course, more taxes will simply be passed on to us, the consumers, and will not increase energy, but decrease it.

You see, when you tax something, you get less of it. More taxes will encourage U.S. oil companies and refiners just to move someplace else where there are fewer taxes and regulations. Some want to mandate and subsidize corn-based ethanol, which not only drives gasoline prices up, but raises the price of food at the same time.

A real energy bill would allow safe drilling for oil and natural gas off our shores and in ANWR. A real energy bill would advance nuclear power. A real energy bill would work with all types of U.S. energy companies and not make them out to be the enemies.

A real energy bill would do more than require us to use certain light bulbs that, by the way, are only made in China.

And that's just the way it is.

A STRATEGY DESERVING OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S SUPPORT

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, our intelligence agencies have confirmed that America is more vulnerable now than it was 6 years ago before the 9/11 attacks. That is because Osama bin Laden has gained strength, gained recruits and gained experience in the meantime.

It didn't have to be that way. We had him cornered and crippled in Tora Bora, but then we outsourced the job of capturing him. Then, to make matters worse, we poured our military and financial resources into Iraq, where al Qaeda was nonexistent, thereby giving Osama bin Laden his most effective recruiting tool.

The President keeps referring to al Qaeda in Iraq. It is not the Iraqis who are planning on how to attack America. It is al Qaeda in Waziristan. We need an intelligence strategy to go after bin Laden in Waziristan with our Special Operations working with the tribal chiefs who want to rid themselves of this pest. That is what we need to do.

Mr. Speaker, that is the only strategy that is deserving of the sacrifice of our military families. We need leadership that is deserving of the American public's support.

THE BROADCASTER FREEDOM ACT

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, despite the fact that the so-called Fairness Doctrine was rescinded by the FCC nearly 20 years ago, some of the most powerful voices in Congress are calling for a return of this outright censorship of the broadcast airwaves of America. In response, we introduced the Broadcaster Freedom Act, legislation that would ensure that no future President could return to the Fairness Doctrine without an act of Congress.

I am pleased to report, Mr. Speaker, that more than 140 Members of Congress have cosponsored this legislation to date. Last week, the current chairman of the FCC wrote to say that there was "no compelling reason to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine." Its predecessor from 20 years hence said that reimposing the Fairness Doctrine would be a "colossal mistake."

Mr. Speaker, let's say yes to the freedom of the press. Let's say yes to the freedom of the American people to choose when and how and where they get their information on government. I urge all of my colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, to join me in cosponsoring the Broadcaster Freedom Act this week.

HOUSE DEMOCRATS ARE STRENGTHENING THE CHIP AND CHAMP PROGRAM

(Mr. WILSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will vote on the CHAMP Act, a bill that reauthorizes our Children's Health Insurance Program. This program will provide millions of children new health coverage and, through this program, protects Medicare for America's seniors.

Passing the CHAMP Act will reauthorize the vital CHIP program, which is set to expire September 30 of this year. Currently 6 million vulnerable American children receive health care benefits through the CHIP. If CHIP did not exist, these millions of children would not have access to quality health care. The CHAMP Act also provides protection for our seniors. It ensures that they continue to have access to the doctors of their choice by stopping a 10 percent payment cut to the doctors and encourages them to seek preventative health care benefits by eliminating copayments and deductibles.