



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 154

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008

No. 13

## House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
January 28, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable G.K. BUTTERFIELD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, author of life and source of eternal love, You have revealed Yourself in human terms so that we may sense Your presence and in our minds hold onto Your commands.

Help us in Congress and as a nation to respect one another as You respect all and endow each human life with inalienable rights.

According to Your provident ways each age is blessed with unique personalities and particular persons who are given significant positions and great responsibilities.

Because the President of the United States of America has constitutional duties, overwhelming demands, powerful decisions to make, and enormous influence upon world history, he is always in need of our prayers.

As this Chamber and this body is readied to welcome President George W. Bush for his State of the Union Address, we ask Your blessing upon him, his Cabinet, all his advisers, and especially his family. Guide him, protect him. Grant him health and Your saving grace; that Your people may be united and strengthened in truth, goodness,

and peace. This we ask calling upon Your holy name. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### MODERNIZING FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT

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

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, later this week Congress will return to the issue of how best to modernize the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. In November in this House of Representatives, we passed a very good bill. We would do well to observe the principles established in that bill.

Any final review of domestic surveillance passed by Congress should include court review of executive branch actions. The reason for this requirement is quite simple. Having a legal standard of review provides us both better intelligence and better civil liberty protections for our people. It is simple. It has been demonstrated that when officials must establish before an independent court that they know

what they are doing, that they have reason to intercept communications, we get better intelligence. And, of course, that's the point, to have the intelligence to protect the American people from indiscriminate collection and fishing expeditions. Those are not productive.

In November, we passed a bill that would do this, the RESTORE Act. That bill guarantees court review of executive branch actions related to surveillance activities. I would commend that bill to this House.

### BONUS DEPRECIATION

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the bipartisan leadership and the White House for including a bonus depreciation provision in the proposed economic stimulus package.

Currently, the package we plan to vote on tomorrow will include a 50 percent bonus depreciation for the first year for certain machinery and equipment purchases. This increase in bonus depreciation was included in the Jobs Tax Relief Act of 2003 and contributed to the productivity of small businesses, a boost in job creation, and a steady rise in the growth of the economy over the last 5 years. This incentive for small businesses enables them to compete with foreign competitors. The best way to weather this current economic storm is to build on the principles that have made our economy the envy of the world. That means lower taxes, less government regulation, and economic incentives for American businesses. We should promote the concept that the people should keep their own money which they know how to spend best as explained by editor Jerry Bellune of the Lexington County Chronicle.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H459

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

#### JOBS TRAINING PROGRAM

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I know we are going to be looking at economic stimulus packages, and we are going to be trying to jump-start and help our economy. It is my belief that one way that we can do that is to make sure that we provide a jobs training program for the 1 million young people across the country who don't have any money, no job, no employment, many of them are out of school.

Let's consider a job training program for our young people as a part of the economic stimulus package.

#### UNCLE SAM'S BIG BAILOUT

(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, the gloom, doom, and depressed say the economy is in trouble. The naysayer's solution is a big government bailout.

Since Uncle Sam has apparently spent the money brought in by income taxpayers, he will just borrow \$150 billion and give it away to Americans, many of whom don't even pay income tax.

The idea is that Americans will rush out and spend the free money and that will allegedly help the economy. But the last time the Feds gave away money, 75 percent of the recipients paid off personal debt rather than go shopping at the mall.

And where is Uncle Sam going to borrow \$150 billion? Probably from Communist China, who already owns much of our debt. You know, the country that sells toys to America that contain lead.

How does borrowing billions with interest expecting our kids to pay off our debt make us better off? The big spending gimmick has all of the earmarks of vote pandering.

No individual or country can spend money it doesn't have and then blissfully claim economic victory.

And that's just the way it is.

#### WORKING TOGETHER

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, tonight we expect to hear President Bush's last State of the Union address to this Congress. I hope that the recent days working together with this Congress on a bipartisan economic stimulus package can be a good model for

the rest of this year and the rest of this President's term.

We want to extend a hand to work with him when we can, and this is a good example of how we can do it. But if we see continued roadblocks to progress in this country, we must work to break those roadblocks down and continue to work restoring fiscal responsibility in our government, changing course in Iraq, preparing to address global climate change, addressing the military readiness crisis in this country, and restoring America's moral leadership in the world.

I believe we can and we must continue to work together for the great needs of this country. I hope we can continue to do that for the rest of this session.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, January 24, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 24, 2008, at 10:08 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 63.  
With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,  
Clerk of the House.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, January 25, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 25, 2008, at 9:55 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 282.  
With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,  
Clerk of the House.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by the Speaker on Thursday, January 24, 2008:

H.R. 3432, to establish the Commission on the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

H.R. 4986, to provide for the enactment of the National Defense Author-

ization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, as previously enrolled, with certain modifications to address the foreign sovereign immunities provisions of title 28, United States Code, with respect to the attachment of property in certain judgments against Iraq, the lapse of statutory authorities for the payment of bonuses, special pays, and similar benefits for members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 5 p.m. today.

#### FELIX SPARKS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4240) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10799 West Alameda Avenue in Lakewood, Colorado, as the "Felix Sparks Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4240

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. FELIX SPARKS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10799 West Alameda Avenue in Lakewood, Colorado, shall be known and designated as the "Felix Sparks Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Felix Sparks Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. PERLMUTTER).

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois.

I rise today to pay tribute and say thank you to a Colorado icon and an American hero, Felix Sparks, with H.R. 4240.

Sparks, who recently passed away at the age of 90, lived an extraordinary life that exemplified public service and devotion to one's country.

A Texas native raised in Arizona, Felix Sparks was a part of our "Greatest Generation" who answered our Nation's call to duty during the Second World War.

Described as a "soldier's soldier," he would endure over 500 days of combat and partake in three of the most important events that would define modern history.

The Battle of Reipertswiller, the Battle at the Caves of Anzio, and the liberation of the Dachau concentration camp.

One story in particular that I would like to call to your attention which attests to the character of Felix Sparks occurred during the Battle of Reipertswiller, a battle in which 158 enlisted soldiers were killed, 300 men were wounded, and another 426 were captured over a course of only 3 days.

After finding his unit under siege and trapped in enemy territory, Sparks, then a lieutenant colonel, refused to leave behind three of his men who lay incapacitated in the open battlefield.

Facing near-certain death, he courageously left his tank and raced, on foot, directly into the close-range crosshairs of the German gunners to rescue those soldiers.

□ 1415

With only a holstered pistol in tow, he would drag each of his wounded comrades, one by one, to safety.

A personal account of this series of events was uncovered in the memoirs of a German SS officer who had commanded his gunner not to fire on Sparks. The memoir read: "Those of us witnessing the scene, whether nearby or more distant, instinctively felt there was no honor to be won by firing on this death-defying act of comradeship."

Sparks also cheated death a year earlier at the Battle of the Caves of Anzio in Italy, where he would be only one of two men in his company to survive. Sparks was part of the first Allied force to witness the horrors and atrocities of the Dachau concentration camp on the discovery of 39 rail cars packed with some 2,000 Holocaust victims. In all, 30,000 prisoners were liberated from Dachau by the Allied Forces; and for the rest of his life, Sparks would continue to speak out at Holocaust remembrance ceremonies.

Based on his experiences at Dachau, Felix was tireless in his efforts to refute those shameless individuals who try to rewrite history and claim the Holocaust and Dachau never occurred. He'd say: "Tell that to my face" in a shout and in a voice that indicated he'd been there and saw it personally.

For his service during World War II, he was awarded a Silver Star and two

Purple Hearts after being severely wounded on the battlefield. He would continue his military service with the National Guard until his retirement as a brigadier general in 1977.

And upon his return from the war, enamored with stories from his men about their hometowns in the Rocky Mountains, Felix and his wife settled in Colorado. There, the Sparks family would grow to include four children, six grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

He would earn his law degree from the University of Colorado and become a Colorado district attorney. Renowned for his commanding speaking ability, Felix would then go on to become the youngest supreme court justice in Colorado's history at just 38 years of age. He would preside over several of the most prolific and high profile cases in our State's history.

After his service on our State's highest court, Sparks, an expert in water law, would serve for over two decades as the director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board. He would write some of the most influential and important groundwater laws that have continued to serve our State for decades thereafter.

I came to know Felix during my days in the Colorado senate after he had testified in my committee with regard to an anti-gun violence measure following the tragic death of his grandchild from a drive-by shooting. His passion and his words live with me to this day. And he was so well respected for his honesty and straightforward testimony.

It is also important to note, after returning home from the war, Felix would continue to personally reach out to console the families of his men and promise them he would never forget.

Mr. Speaker, one of the main reasons I bring this bill to the floor today is so this promise that Felix Sparks made to the families of his men can live on for generations. This bill pays tribute to Felix's men in the 157th Infantry Regiment of the 45th Infantry Division of the United States Army, whose motto since the Spanish-American War has been "Eager for Duty."

Our Nation can never adequately repay and give thanks to these individuals for their sacrifices in the battles against tyranny, in the battles for our Nation's freedom. It is my hope the renaming of the Lakewood post office for Felix Sparks will inspire future generations to find a calling in public service.

This bill also pays tribute to Mary Sparks and the Sparks family, who meant so much to Felix and to our community.

In closing, I wish to thank each of my colleagues in the Colorado delegation for joining me in bidding a fond farewell to a man who meant so much to our State and to our Nation.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 4240 to rename the Lakewood post office in Felix Sparks' honor.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today to honor the memory of a great American, Felix Sparks, who recently passed away at the age of 90. Mr. Sparks' commitment to our country began in 1940 when he joined the 157th Infantry Regiment of the 45th Division. He would go on to fight bravely in World War II, earning a Silver Star and two Purple Hearts. During the war, he even helped liberate 30,000 people from the infamous Dachau concentration camp.

Upon returning to the States, Felix and his wife, Mary, settled in Colorado. Still wanting to continue his service to our country, he then joined the National Guard. He would remain active in the Guard until 1970, when he retired as a brigadier general.

Besides his exemplary military service record, Mr. Sparks also excelled as a civilian. He had a brilliant legal mind. This was reflected in his appointment to the supreme court of Colorado at the age of 38, making him the youngest justice in the State's history.

His expertise was water law, which he applied as director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board for over two decades.

Considering his years of selfless public service to his State and to his country, I believe it is a fitting tribute to name a post office in Colorado in his honor. Hopefully, his life will serve as an example to others to follow.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I'm pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 4240, which names a postal facility in Lakewood, Colorado, after Felix Sparks.

H.R. 4240, which was introduced by Representative PERLMUTTER on November 15, 2007, was reported from the Oversight Committee on December 12, 2007, by voice vote. The measure has the support of the entire Colorado congressional delegation and provides us with yet another opportunity to pay tribute to an extraordinary American citizen.

Felix Sparks served his country proudly as a World War II Army brigadier and served his community diligently as a member of the Colorado supreme court. For his service in World War II, Mr. Sparks was awarded a Silver Star and two Purple Hearts after being wounded on the battlefield.

Additionally, for over 20 years, Mr. Sparks worked to protect and improve the environment in the great State of Colorado by serving as director of Colorado's Water Conservation Board.

Mr. Speaker, given Mr. Sparks' contribution to Colorado, and to America in general, he deserves to be commended. Therefore, I would urge swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I don't have any other speakers, but I want to urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 4240, the naming of this post office for this great American hero.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers and would urge passage.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4240.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### LARRY S. PIERCE POST OFFICE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2110) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 427 North Street in Taft, California, as the "Larry S. Pierce Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 2110

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. LARRY S. PIERCE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 427 North Street in Taft, California, shall be known and designated as the "Larry S. Pierce Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Larry S. Pierce Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I now yield myself such time as I might consume.

As a member of the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, I'm pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of S. 2110, which names the postal facility in the town of Taft, California, after Larry S. Pierce.

S. 2110, which was introduced in the Senate by Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN of California on September 27, 2007, and passed by the Chamber with unanimous consent on November 16, 2007, was considered and reported out of the Oversight Committee by voice vote on December 12, 2007.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us seeks to pay tribute to a great American serviceman by requesting that the postal facility in Taft, California, be renamed in honor of Staff Sergeant Larry Pierce, who lost his life at the young age of 24 while fighting for our country in the Vietnam War. A recipient of the Medal of Honor, Staff Sergeant Pierce stands as a reminder to us all of the great sacrifice our men and women in uniform are making on a daily basis to protect America.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues from California in recognizing the contributions of Staff Sergeant Larry S. Pierce and urge swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume. I rise today to honor the memory of Army Staff Sergeant Larry Pierce, a true American hero.

Larry Pierce was raised in Taft, California. He would have graduated from Taft Union High School in 1959, but he chose to enlist in the Army in 1958. Seven years later, having achieved the rank of staff sergeant, Larry found himself in Vietnam as the squad leader of a reconnaissance platoon. On September 20, 1965, his squad was on patrol when it was ambushed by hostile forces. Thanks to Staff Sergeant Pierce's leadership and courage, the squad successfully repelled the attack, driving the enemy away. While in pursuit of the enemy, Pierce's squad came across a dirt road. It was on this road Sergeant Pierce discovered an anti-personnel mine. Knowing it would destroy the majority of his squad who was not aware of its presence, Sergeant Pierce threw himself completely on top of the mine. In this act of unbelievable bravery, Sergeant Pierce saved the lives of all his squad, while sacrificing his own. For his actions he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. He left behind a wife and three children.

Sergeant Pierce represents the very best in the tradition of service and selflessness of our Armed Forces. It is fitting that we name this post office in his hometown of Taft, California, in his honor. Surely, his story can live as an example of what it truly means to be a hero.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would continue to reserve.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to recognize the author of the companion bill that was dropped here in the House, the distinguished colleague of mine from California (Mr. MCCARTHY) for as much time as he may consume.

□ 1430

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the legislation, S. 2110, to designate the United States Post Office located at 427 North Street in Taft, California, as the Larry S. Pierce Post Office, the true hometown hero.

U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Pierce was born in Oklahoma in 1941. As a young child, his family moved to Taft, California, which I represent today. Sergeant Pierce attended Taft city schools and would have graduated from Taft Union High School with the class of 1959 but decided to serve his country by joining the U.S. Army in 1958.

Sergeant Pierce served in the 1st Battalion Airborne, 503rd Infantry and the 173rd Airborne Brigade in the Vietnam War.

On September 20, 1965, near Ben Cat in Vietnam, Sergeant Pierce was leading his reconnaissance platoon, was ambushed by hostile forces. Sergeant Pierce and his squad successfully routed the hostile forces from their location. During pursuit of this enemy, Sergeant Pierce heroically sacrificed his own life to save his men. He came upon a road where they found a mine. He threw himself upon it knowing that if this mine went off, it would destroy many and take many lives of his own men.

Upon hearing of this and upon his death, in February of 1966 President Lyndon B. Johnson awarded Sergeant Pierce the Medal of Honor. In this award, he went on to say for his "inspiring leadership and personal courage," and his "profound concern for his fellow soldiers," acting with "extraordinary heroism, at the cost of his life" and to "great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country."

Sergeant Pierce would have been 66 years old this year. He is survived by his wife, Verlin, who currently lives in Bakersfield, California; his children, Teresa, Kelley and Gregory.

This legislation is a fitting honor for a Vietnam War veteran who sacrificed his life to save the lives of fellow soldiers by naming the post office in his hometown of Taft in his memory.

I do want to thank Senator FEINSTEIN for introducing this legislation and for working with me. Taft is a place where Senator FEINSTEIN's own father worked. She knows of the work of Sergeant Larry Pierce, the hometown hero, as many have gone on to say.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD a copy of Staff Sergeant Larry Pierce's Medal of Honor and a copy of the Taft City Council letter of support and resolution requesting the post office in his name.

U.S. ARMY—MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION  
PIERCE, LARRY S.

Rank and organization: Sergeant, U.S. Army, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry, 173d Airborne Brigade. Place and date: Near Ben Cat, Republic of Vietnam, 20 September 1965. Entered service at: Fresno, Calif. Born:

6 July 1941, Wewoka, Okla. G.O. No.: 7, 24 February 1966. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. Sgt. Pierce was serving as squad leader in a reconnaissance platoon when his patrol was ambushed by hostile forces. Through his inspiring leadership and personal courage, the squad succeeded in eliminating an enemy machinegun and routing the opposing force. While pursuing the fleeing enemy, the squad came upon a dirt road and, as the main body of his men entered the road, Sgt. Pierce discovered an antipersonnel mine emplaced in the road bed. Realizing that the mine could destroy the majority of his squad, Sgt. Pierce saved the lives of his men at the sacrifice of his life by throwing himself directly onto the mine as it exploded. Through his indomitable courage, complete disregard for his safety, and profound concern for his fellow soldiers, he averted loss of life and injury to the members of his squad. Sgt. Pierce's extraordinary heroism, at the cost of his life, are in the highest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country.

CITY OF TAFT,  
Taft, CA, September 10, 2007.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

SIR: The City Council of the City of Taft, at their regular meeting on September 4, 2007, unanimously passed Resolution No. 2986-07, which requests that The Congress of the United States of America name the Taft Post Office "The Larry S. Pierce Post Office".

Enclosed is a certified copy of the Resolution and a brief biography of SSG Pierce, and the City Council of the City of Taft urges you to introduce legislation in the United States House of Representatives to implement this name change. SSG Pierce is an honored son of Taft and the citizens of Taft wish to remember him in this manner.

A similar request is being sent to California State Senator Dianne Feinstein for introduction of legislation in the Senate. If you need any additional information about SSG Pierce or the City of Taft, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

LOUISE HUDGENS,  
City Clerk.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT REQUESTING CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO NAME THE TAFT POST OFFICE "THE LARRY S. PIERCE POST OFFICE"

Whereas, Larry S. Pierce was born July 6, 1941, in Wewoka, Oklahoma, and as a young child moved with his family to Taft, California and attended Taft City Schools and Taft Union High School; and

Whereas, Larry S. Pierce would have graduated with the Taft Union High School class of 1959; however, he chose instead to serve his country and joined the United States Army in 1958 and attained the rank of Staff Sergeant in the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade; and

Whereas, on September 20, 1965, near Ben Cat in the Republic of Vietnam, Larry S. Pierce, while serving as a squad leader, gave the ultimate sacrifice by smothering the blast of an anti-personnel mine with his body to protect his fellow soldiers; and

Whereas, on February 24, 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th President of the United States, posthumously awarded Staff Sergeant Pierce the Medal of Honor, which was accepted by Pierce's wife, Verlin, daughter Teresa, and sons Kelley and Gregory; and

Whereas, a portion of the Medal of Honor citation reads, "Through his indomitable courage, complete disregard for his safety, and profound concern for his fellow soldiers, he averted loss of life and injury to the members of his squad. Sgt. Pierce's extraordinary heroism, at the cost of his life, are in the highest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country"; and

Whereas, Taft has faithfully supported its sons and daughters who have served in the military, particularly those who have gone in harm's way; and it is fitting and appropriate that a community with such values should conspicuously honor its heroes; and

Whereas, specifically the citizens of Taft, California, wish to honor the memory of Larry S. Pierce by naming the Taft Post Office, 427 North Street, Taft, California 93268 after him. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, The City Council of the City of Taft does hereby request The Congress of the United States of America to name the Taft Post Office, "The Larry S. Pierce Post Office".

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, at this time I have no further speakers, and I urge all Members to support the passage of S. 2110.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time and urge the passage of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2110. The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. 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 question will be postponed.

#### RICHARD B. ANDERSON FEDERAL BUILDING

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4140) to designate the Port Angeles Federal Building in Port Angeles, Washington, as the "Richard B. Anderson Federal Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4140

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. RICHARD B. ANDERSON FEDERAL BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Federal building located at 138 West First Street, Port Angeles, Washington, shall be known and designated as the "Richard B. Anderson Federal Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal

building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Richard B. Anderson Federal Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 4140.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4140 is a bill to designate the Federal building located at 138 West First Street, Port Angeles, Washington, as the Richard B. Anderson Federal Building.

Private First Class Richard Anderson was born in 1921 in Tacoma, Washington. He joined the Marine Corps on July 6, 1942, and received his Marine Corps training in San Diego, California.

He died at the young age of 22 during World War II and on Roi Island, part of the Marshall Islands in the Pacific. He was awarded the Purple Heart and the Medal of Honor. His heroism is marked by his actions on Roi Island when he hurled himself on a live grenade in a shell hole to save the lives of many people. He was severely injured and died of his injuries on February 1, 1944. He was buried at sea with full military honors.

In 1945, the U.S. Navy destroyer USS *Richard B. Anderson* was named in honor of Medal of Honor recipient Anderson.

It is both fitting and proper to honor the life and courageous actions of Richard B. Anderson in this designation. I support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The bill before us designates what is a Federal building in Port Angeles, Washington, as the Richard B. Anderson Federal Building.

Richard Beatty Anderson served in the United States Marines during World War II in the Marshall Islands. He sacrificed his life to save three other marines by throwing his body on a live grenade and taking the full impact of the explosion. Private First Class Anderson was evacuated to a ship where he died of his wounds on February 1, 1944.

His heroism and loyalty in the face of certain death earned him the Medal of Honor. The United States Navy destroyer USS *Richard B. Anderson* was

named in his honor in 1945 and went on to serve in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars, earning 15 battle stars.

This bill is a fitting tribute to Private First Class Anderson's sacrifice and service to his country. I support this measure and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4140, a bill to designate the Port Angeles Federal Building in Port Angeles, Washington, as the "Richard B. Anderson Federal Building."

Private First Class Richard B. Anderson was born in Tacoma, Washington on June 26, 1921 and graduated from Sequim High School in Sequim, Washington. Private Anderson entered the Marine Corps in 1942 and eventually joined his last unit, Company E, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marines in San Diego, California. He departed for Roi-Namur, an island in the northern part of the Kwajalein atoll in the Marshall Islands, with his unit in January 1944.

While hunting enemy snipers on Roi-Namur, PFC Anderson, a member of the invasion force, hurled himself on a live grenade in a shell hole to save the lives of three Marines. Anderson was evacuated to a ship, where he died of his wounds on February 1, 1944. For his heroic actions, PFC Anderson was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and the Purple Heart.

Mr. Speaker, the House is now considering legislation that will honor PFC Anderson for his heroic efforts on Roi Island. Specifically, this legislation would rename the Federal Building in Port Angeles, Washington after Richard B. Anderson. I urge the House to adopt this important legislation.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4140 designates the Port Angeles Federal Building located at 138 West First Street, Port Angeles, Washington, as the "Richard B. Anderson Federal Building."

Private First Class, PFC, Richard B. Anderson was born on June 26, 1921, in Tacoma, Washington. Anderson grew up in Port Angeles, Washington, and attended Sequim High School.

On July 6, 1942, Anderson joined the United States Marine Corps. He received his basic and infantry training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California, and was promoted to the rank of Private First Class on April 12, 1943.

Following his promotion, PFC Anderson was assigned to the East Company, 2nd Battalion, of the 23rd Marines. PFC Anderson's unit was deployed to the Marshall Islands in January 1944. On February 1, 1944, his company was part of an invasion force fighting to take control of Roi Island from the Japanese.

During the assault, Anderson and three other Marines jumped into a shell crater to escape enemy fire. As Anderson prepared to throw a grenade from inside the crater, the grenade slipped from his hands and began to roll toward the other three marines in the crater. In an act of selfless heroism, Anderson lunged on top of the live grenade and absorbed the full impact of the blast, saving the lives of his fellow soldiers. Anderson died from his wounds shortly thereafter.

After his death, PFC Anderson was awarded the Purple Heart and the Medal of Honor for his acts of bravery and service to his country.

On October 26, 1945, the United States Navy commissioned a DD-786 destroyer bat-

tle ship as the USS *Richard B. Anderson* in honor of the fallen hero. The ship began active service in January 1947, and was used in combat for the Vietnam and Korean wars. The ship remained in active service until December 20, 1975.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4140.

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

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no requests for time, and I yield back my time and urge passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4140.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. 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.

#### AMENDMENT TO THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER ACT

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3913) to amend the International Center Act to authorize the lease or sublease of certain property described in such Act to an entity other than a foreign government or international organization if certain conditions are met.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3913

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER ACT.

The first section of the International Center Act (Public Law 90-553; 82 Stat. 958) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: "Notwithstanding the foregoing limitations, the property identified by the District of Columbia as tax lots 803, 804, 805, and 806 within the area described in this section may be leased or subleased to an entity other than a foreign government or international organization, so long as the Secretary maintains the right to approve the occupant and the intended use of the property."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5

legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3913.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I'm pleased to support H.R. 3913, a bill to make a needed technical amendment to the International Center Act, P.L. 90-553.

H.R. 3913 authorizes the Department of State to lease land to Intelsat at the International Center, which is located on Connecticut Avenue at Van Ness Street in northwest Washington.

The amendment clarifies and ensures that Intelsat's long-term lease of the land, on which its headquarters is located, is consistent with the International Center Act.

Intelsat was originally established in the early 1900s as an international organization. In 2000, Congress passed legislation which essentially required Intelsat to become a private company.

Unfortunately, at that time, Congress overlooked a change in the ICA that would be necessary when Intelsat completed its transition to a private company, and this bill corrects that omission.

I support this bill.

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

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The bill before us amends the International Center Act to allow the State Department to lease a Federal property in northwest Washington to non-governmental entities. Currently, the International Center Act only permits the State Department, as has been said, to lease the property to foreign governments or international organizations.

The site is occupied by the international satellite service provider Intelsat, which was privatized by an act of Congress in the year 2000. Prior to its privatization, Intelsat was created as an international organization in the 1960s to establish the world's first global satellite system.

As an international organization, Intelsat leased the property for 99 years from the State Department in accordance with the International Center Act. The bill before us corrects an apparent oversight when Intelsat was privatized by this Congress.

The underlying statute requires a foreign government or international organization to occupy the property, and that was no longer consistent with the lease between the government and Intelsat after Intelsat was privatized. This bill would make the International Center Act consistent with the lease.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3913 amends a provision of the International Center Act ("ICA"), which established the authority for the U.S. Department of State to lease property in the District of Columbia to foreign governments or international organizations.

The ICA (P.L. 90–553), passed by Congress in 1968, authorizes the Secretary of State “to sell or lease to foreign governments and international organizations” Federal property located in Northwest Washington, DC, off of Connecticut Avenue. The 47-acre parcel of land authorized by the bill offers space for new embassies, consulates, and international organizations and is commonly referred to as the International Center.

Intelsat was formed in the 1960s as an international commercial cooperative of 142 countries that provided global telecommunications including television, telephone, and data transmission. Intelsat’s headquarters are located in the International Center.

In 2000, an act of Congress privatized Intelsat (P.L. 106–180). Since the ICA does not permit the U.S. State Department to lease space within the International Center to a private entity, Intelsat’s lease no longer meets the requirements of the ICA. H.R. 3913 makes technical amendments to the ICA to permit Intelsat to continue its tenancy.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3913.

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

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back my time and urge passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3913.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HONORING THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 832) honoring the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as a recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency’s 2007 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Performance and Innovation Award, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 832

Whereas the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) was honored as a 2007 recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency’s Performance and Innovation in the SRF Creating Environmental Success (PISCES) Award on November 5, 2007;

Whereas the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program in Texas has been a front-runner and a precedent-setting program in wastewater management for many years, and its CWSRF leveraging practices as well as other established management practices are used by many other States as examples to enhance the management of their funds;

Whereas the CWSRF program in Texas has successfully awarded communities approxi-

mately \$4,300,000,000 in low-interest loans to finance 472 water infrastructure projects across Texas;

Whereas these projects, which serve approximately one-half of the population of Texas and treat about 2,100,000,000 gallons per day of wastewater, provide direct environmental and public health benefits;

Whereas the TWDB is proposing to increase the marketability and demand for the CWSRF program by pursuing the use of extended loan terms beyond the authorized 20-year term to a 30-year term;

Whereas the TWDB developed a State Revolving Fund Information Management System to satisfy the need for more timely and accurate information on the status of water and wastewater loan projects as those projects move through the phases of the preapplication process and beyond;

Whereas the TWDB has actively encouraged asset management as evidenced by its creation of a Best Management Practices Guide for water conservation;

Whereas the TWDB established direct authority and responsibility for the coordination of the CWSRF program by creating State Revolving Fund Coordinator positions;

Whereas the TWDB’s Intended Use Plan Post-Mortem Review was lauded for identifying various activities that will be used in improving future CWSRF Intended Use Plan development processes;

Whereas the TWDB holds interoffice planning meetings that serve as monthly forums to provide for interoffice discussion on State Revolving Fund policies, procedures and processes, and deadlines;

Whereas the TWDB assigned cross-functional, multidisciplinary teams to manage project performance review from application phase through construction, and these teams are responsible for identifying and developing solutions to project circumstances that may cause a project to fall behind its schedule; and

Whereas the TWDB was also noted for its outstanding regional water planning activities, best management practices in the areas of nonpoint source pollution funding, instream flow program, work with the United States Army Corps of Engineers to amend the Federal water resources development legislation to further enhance its watershed approach, funding of water reuse projects, agricultural and municipal water conservation projects, and water conservation education activities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors the Texas Water Development Board on its selection by the Environmental Protection Agency as a 2007 Performance and Innovation in the SRF Creating Environmental Success (PISCES) Award recipient; and

(2) recognizes the importance of adequate investment and management of water resources in sustainable development, including environmental integrity and human health and overall quality of life in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

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GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5

legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H. Res. 832.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Texas Water Development Board was created in 1957 with the mission “to provide leadership, planning, financial assistance, information and education for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas.” Additionally, the Texas Water Development Board provides water planning, data collection and dissemination, financial assistance, and technical assistance services to the citizens of the State.

The Texas Water Development Board was selected this past November as a recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency’s 2007 Performance and Innovation in the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Creating Environmental Success Award at the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities annual conference in Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, this is extraordinary for Texas because normally we get on the other end of things of this sort. But the Texas Water Development Board provides loans and grants to local governments and entities for various projects.

The financial assistance programs are funded through State-backed bonds, a combination of State bond proceeds and Federal grant funds, or limited appropriated funds.

To date, the Texas Water Development Board has successfully awarded communities approximately \$4.3 billion in low-interest loans to finance 472 water infrastructure projects across the State of Texas.

The State of Texas currently administers the second largest Clean Water State Revolving Fund in the Nation, second only to New York. In 2007 alone, the Texas Water Development Board made 32 loan commitments through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, for a total of \$692 million.

Of the 32 total commitments made out of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund in 2007, approximately 8 percent of the funds were committed to disadvantaged communities, and 10 percent were committed to small communities with populations consisting of less than 10,000 residents.

The Texas Water Development Board is working with the EPA to strengthen the program, including the ability to offer extended term financing up to 30 years to help communities that may need more time to repay the loan. Additionally, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program is being proactively marketed to ensure that all Texas communities are aware of the benefits offered by this program. And, Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to be able to honor such a vital organization in the State of Texas. It’s sometimes a rare occasion.

The Texas Water Development Board is recognized as a leader in the State water planning and water-related infrastructure financing. I would like to thank my colleagues from the Texas delegation for joining me in this resolution.

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

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us, House Resolution 832, recognizes the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as the 2007 recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's Performance and Innovation in the State Revolving Fund Creating Environmental Success Award. This award is given to one State in each of the 10 different EPA regions and highlights successfully designed projects that further the goal of clean water.

The Texas Water Development Board was created in 1957 to provide leadership, planning, financial assistance, information and education for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas. Its mission is a vital part of Texas' overall vision, mission, and goals related to maintaining the State's natural resources, health, and its economic development.

To accomplish its goals for the State's water resources and for providing the portable water and wastewater services, the Texas Water Development Board provides water planning, data collection and dissemination, financial assistance, and technical assistance services to the citizens of the State of Texas.

The tremendous population growth that the State has had and will continue to experience and the continual threat of severe drought only intensify the need for the Texas Water Development Board to accomplish its goals in an effective and efficient manner.

The Clean Water Act State Revolving Loan Fund in Texas has awarded communities more than \$4 billion in low-interest loans to finance 472 water infrastructure projects across the State of Texas. These projects serve approximately one-half of the population of that State, treat about 2 billion gallons per day of wastewater, and provide direct environmental and public health benefits to Texans at large.

In Texas, the Northwest Water Reuse Initiative consists of a \$10.7 million project in El Paso County to deliver treated wastewater for reuse to agricultural, commercial, industrial and residential users from El Paso's Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Texas also financed a wastewater reclamation initiative to deliver reclaimed water from the city of Austin's Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, the first step in the city's development of a transmission and distribution service, serving customers with reclaimed water.

This resolution recognizes the importance of Federal-State partnerships in addressing water resources needs in the

United States, and specifically the effective and efficient manner in which the State of Texas is managing its State Revolving Loan Fund program.

I encourage all Members to support this project.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 832 recognizes the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as a 2007 recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's Performance and Innovation in the State Revolving Fund Creating Environmental Success Award. (PISCES)

This award is given to one State in each of the ten different EPA regions and highlights successfully designed projects that further the goal of clean water.

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) was created in 1957 to provide leadership, planning, financial assistance, information, and education for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas. Its mission is a vital part of Texas' overall vision, mission, and goals related to maintaining the State's natural resources, health and economic development.

To accomplish its goals for the State's water resources and for providing affordable water and wastewater services, the Texas Water Development Board provides water planning, data collection and dissemination, financial assistance and technical assistance services to the citizens of Texas.

The tremendous population growth that the State of Texas has and will continue to experience, and the continual threat of severe drought, only intensify the need for the Texas Water Development Board to accomplish its goals in an effective and efficient manner.

The Clean Water Act State Revolving Loan Fund in Texas has awarded communities more than \$4 billion in low-interest loans to finance 472 water infrastructure projects across the State of Texas.

These projects serve approximately one-half of the population of Texas, treat about 2 billion gallons per day of wastewater, and provide direct environmental and public health benefits to Texans at large.

In Texas, the Northwest Water Reuse Initiative consisted of a \$10.7 million project in El Paso County to deliver treated wastewater for reuse to agricultural, commercial, industrial, and residential users from El Paso's Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Texas also financed a wastewater reclamation initiative to deliver reclaimed water from the City of Austin's Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, the first step in the city's development of a transmission and distribution system serving customers with reclaimed water.

This resolution recognizes the importance of Federal-State partnerships in addressing water resources needs in the United States and specifically the effective and efficient manner in which the State of Texas is managing its State Revolving Loan Fund Program.

I encourage all Members to support the legislation.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 832, honoring the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as a 2007 recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's Performance and Innovation in the State Revolving Fund ("SRF") Creating Environmental Success Award. This resolution was introduced by my colleague from Texas (Ms.

JOHNSON), who is Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

In 2005, to recognize outstanding successes of the States' Clean Water State Revolving Fund programs, the Performance and Innovation in the SRF Creating Environmental Success Awards, or the "PISCES" awards, were created. The Awards recognize successfully designed projects or organizations that utilize exceptional planning, management, and financing to further the goals of clean and safe water for our citizens.

The PISCES award, which is biennially bestowed on one State entity per region, is an attempt to reward innovation and stewardship in meeting the Clean Water and wastewater needs of the Nation.

In 2007, the Region 6 recipient of this award was the Texas Water Development Board.

However, I would be remiss if I failed to also recognize the Region 5 award winner—Minnesota's Agricultural Best Management Practices Loan Program, operated by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture through the Minnesota Public Finance Authority.

The Texas Water Development Board has managed its funds exceptionally, awarding communities more than \$4 billion in loans to finance more than 450 water infrastructure projects across the state. These projects help Texas treat more than two billion gallons of wastewater per day, resulting in significant environmental and health benefits.

The Board has also been an active partner with the Committee and Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment—twice testifying before the Committee on issues ranging from the enormous nationwide need for wastewater infrastructure investment to the long-term stewardship of water resource measures through thoughtful, statewide watershed planning.

I support this resolution honoring Texas' water and environmental management, and urge my colleagues to agree to the resolution.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I simply want to ask everyone to support the resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 832, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The title of the resolution was amended so as to read:

"Honoring the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as a 2007 recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's Performance and Innovation in the SRF Creating Environmental Success Award".

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMENDING LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY TIGERS FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING 2007 BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 933) commending the Louisiana State University Tigers football team for winning the 2007 Bowl Championship Series national championship game, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 933

Whereas the Louisiana State University Tigers football team won the 2007 Bowl Championship Series national championship game, defeating the Ohio State University by a score of 38 to 24 at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, Louisiana, on January 7, 2008;

Whereas the Louisiana State University football team won the Southeastern Conference Championship, on December 1, 2007, defeating the University of Tennessee by a score of 21 to 14 in the Southeastern Conference championship game at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Georgia;

Whereas the Louisiana State University football team won 12 games during the 2007 season;

Whereas the Louisiana State University football team won 7 games against nationally ranked opponents during the 2007 season;

Whereas the Louisiana State University football team set a total of 12 offensive school records during the 2007 season including 541 points scored, averaging 38.6 points per game and 6,152 yards in total offense;

Whereas Craig Steltz was named first-team All-American and led the Southeastern Conference in interceptions;

Whereas defensive tackle Glenn Dorsey was awarded the Bronko Nagurski Trophy, the Rotary Lombardi Trophy, the Outland Trophy, and the Ronnie Lott Trophy making him the most honored defensive player in Louisiana State University history;

Whereas quarterback Matt Flynn threw 21 touchdown passes during the 2007 season, including a career-high record of four touchdowns in the Bowl Championship Series national championship game;

Whereas running back Jacob Hester rushed for 1,103 yards during the 2007 season, scoring 12 touchdowns, and completed his collegiate football career of 363 carries without fumbling or turning over the football;

Whereas Louisiana State University head coach Les Miles has led the Tiger football program to 34 wins, 20 Southeastern Conference victories, 15 wins over nationally ranked opponents, and three double-digit win seasons as head coach; and

Whereas Louisiana State University is the first team to win two Bowl Championship Series national championship titles, having won two titles in 5 years: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the Louisiana State University Tigers football team for winning the 2007 Bowl Championship Series national championship game;

(2) recognizes the achievements of all the players, coaches, and support staff who were instrumental in helping the Louisiana State University football team during the 2007 football season;

(3) congratulates the citizens of Louisiana, the Louisiana State University community and fans of Tiger football; and

(4) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make available enrolled copies of this resolution to Louisiana State University for appropriate display and distribution to the coaches and members of the 2007 Louisiana State University football team.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ALTMIRE) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert additional material relevant to H. Res. 933 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ALTMIRE. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. ALTMIRE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Louisiana State University Tigers football team on winning the 2007 Bowl Championship Series national championship game, and to congratulate the players, coaches, and LSU fans on a tremendous 2007 football season.

On January 7, 2008, the LSU Tigers took on the Ohio State University Buckeyes in a newly reopened Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans. The 2007 BCS national championship game was a treat for fans all over the Nation, and a celebratory moment for New Orleans as the Superdome observed its return to hosting big events after the destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina. And it was quite a celebration as the Tigers defeated the Buckeyes 38-24.

Ohio State got off to a 10-0 start, but LSU never backed down and went on to score 31 unanswered points. Led by game captains quarterback Matt Flynn, safety Craig Steltz, fullback Jacob Hester, punter Patrick Fisher and defensive tackle Glen Dorsey, the Tigers proved that they deserved to play in the championship game.

This Tigers team played with extraordinary heart all season. In 2007, LSU beat seven nationally ranked teams, and their only two losses each came in triple overtime games. A very talented senior class created a sense of urgency throughout their leadership, and the rest of the team never stopped playing with heart throughout this record-setting season.

Defensive tackle Glen Dorsey won four prestigious awards, including the Lombardi Trophy, and has been a model player off the field as well by encouraging young people to “dream big” this year. Quarterback Matt Flynn threw 21 touchdown passes this season and had a career high of four touch-

down passes during the championship game. Finally, Jacob Hester rushed for 1,103 yards and scored 12 touchdowns during the 2007 season. This was truly a multi-talented team.

I want to extend my congratulations to Coach Les Miles and the rest of the LSU coaching staff. The players and staff have come together to create a preeminent football program with a record two BCS titles in just the past 5 years.

In his tenure as head coach at LSU, Miles has led his team to three bowl victories and an impressive 34-6 record. Congratulations are also in order for the dedicated State and university community. The avid Tiger fans have supported their team all season and helped to set a Superdome record of 79,651 people in attendance for the BCS championship game.

In the words of former Governor Kathleen Blanco, the Tigers “embodied Louisiana’s fighting spirit.” The entire State deserves to celebrate this title and begin to look forward to the 2008 season.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I congratulate the Louisiana State University Tigers football team, and I urge my colleagues to pass this resolution.

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

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 933, commending the Louisiana State University Fighting Tigers football team for winning the Bowl Champion Series national title game.

I would like to first thank my good friend, the dean of our Louisiana delegation, RICHARD BAKER, for sponsoring the resolution, as well as Chairman MILLER and Ranking Member MCKEON of the Education and Labor Committee for bringing it to the floor.

On January 7, the LSU Tigers overcame an early first-half deficit of 10-0 to defeat the Ohio State University Buckeyes by a score of 38-24 in New Orleans. This was the second time the Tigers have won a BCS title in the Louisiana Superdome. The Tigers were led by the game’s offensive MVP, senior quarterback Matt Flynn, who threw four touchdown passes, and defensive MVP, sophomore defensive end Ricky Jean-Francois, who blocked a field goal and had six total tackles and a half sack. This is the second year in a row that a Southeastern Conference team, arguably the most dominant conference in college football today, has beaten Ohio State to win the BCS national title.

Since the birth of the Bowl Championship Series in 1998, LSU is the first team to win two BCS national championship titles.

□ 1500

Led by seniors Matt Flynn, Jacob Hester, Ali Highsmith, Chevis Jackson, Jonathan Zenon, Craig Steltz, and Glenn Dorsey, the Tigers won 12 games

during the 2007 season. Seven games were won against nationally ranked opponents, as well as seven games against conference opponents, including the University of Tennessee Volunteers in the Southeastern Conference championship game by a score of 21–14.

Since his first season as LSU head coach in 2005, Les Miles has fearlessly led the Tiger football program to 34 overall wins, 20 SEC victories, and 14 wins over nationally ranked opponents. He has brought the Tigers to two SEC championship games, three consecutive bowl wins, two of which were BCS games, and one BCS national championship. Coach Miles has also had three consecutive double-digit win seasons, a school record. And he's clearly well known for the fourth and short conversions. He's fearless as a leader.

We must not also forget that, foremost, these student athletes perform just as hard in the classroom as they do on the football field. Coach Miles insists that his first goal for his team is a 100 percent graduation rate. And I'm proud to say that 14 members of this national championship football team were placed on the 2007 SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll.

The 2007 Tigers fought through great adversity, thanks to a grueling schedule, injuries, and conference losses, to secure their place in the national championship game against Ohio State. This championship is very special to the LSU system and to my great State of Louisiana. And it's my honor to recognize Coach Les Miles and the 2007 LSU Tiger football team for all its great accomplishments this season and for bringing home the BCS crystal ball.

Geaux Tigers.

I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, there is no greater fan of the LSU Tigers than Mr. MELANCON from Louisiana, and I yield him such time as he may consume to speak about this championship for the LSU football team.

Mr. MELANCON. I thank my colleague very much for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to associate myself with Mr. BOUSTANY's remarks. Of course most people from most States are very proud when their colleges become the national champion, and particularly in this past year I have had conversations over the last several days with friends about the Presidential election and the analogy is it's almost the same as the NCAA season of who's going to be first and second in any given week.

But at the end of the day, LSU rose to the occasion. They had a very successful year, a very successful and accomplished coach in Les Miles to take them where they did go, having beat No. 9 ranked Virginia Tech. Then, unfortunately, in overtime, losing to 17th ranked Kentucky and then the unranked Arkansas Razorbacks, which

I caught a little grief from those guys that are from the Arkansas delegation. But in the end, it was worth all that occurred.

My wife went to a small university where when the coach makes the team a winning team and gets into the national rankings, somebody usually steals them, pays them more money and moves them on. Fortunately, for us at LSU, I think we have the stature and a nature that we can keep our coach and continue to bring the talent to the university to go forward over the next couple of years, or into the future, for that matter.

But I would like to commend LSU for the great win in the BCS bowl, for being number one. I would like to commend the SEC. I believe that the SEC is probably the number one conference in the country. Maybe some of our colleagues would disagree with us, but at the same time, until they prove that they can win two BCS games in the short history of the BCS bowl, then we will take that gauntlet and we will run forward.

And as Mr. BOUSTANY said, Geaux Tigers.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my colleague from Louisiana's remarks and associate myself with them as well.

As an alumni of the LSU Medical School, I want to thank two members of my staff, both of whom were LSU graduates, Ryan Evans and Michael Hare, who helped me prepare my remarks for today. And I want to thank them and congratulate them on their work.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my friend from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it may seem a little unusual for a Member from Texas to stand in tribute to Louisiana State University, but I do. I take off my hat and hair in tribute to the Louisiana State University Tigers and also to the relationship that Texas and Louisiana have shared. Through the years, Louisiana has helped Texas. After Katrina, Texans were proud to assist Louisiana. When we heard that Louisiana State University needed a quarterback, then my hometown, Tyler, Texas, was proud to yield one of its best, Matt Flynn, to LSU to help them in their time of need.

I watched Matt Flynn play high school football 4 years there at Robert E. Lee High School in Tyler, and we are so proud of Matt. He comes from good lineage. His dad, Alvin Flynn, played quarterback for Baylor University. His mother was the director for many years of the Tyler Junior College Apache Belles and took them to national fame. And Alvin did take a lot of Flak because his son didn't follow his footsteps and play quarterback at Baylor University, but such is the nature of Texans and East Texans. When they see someone in need, as they saw LSU, it was their heart-rending desire to help them and to send them our best, Matt Flynn.

So congratulations to LSU. We're proud of Matt Flynn, and we're proud of what the Tigers did in making actually the whole Nation proud.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank my colleague from Texas for his remarks and thank him for sending Matt Flynn over to LSU. But I want to remind him that Jim Bowie shed blood at the Alamo for Texas. He's a very famous Louisianian from my district, my neck of the woods, and since he sacrificed so much, I would ask my colleague to keep sending plenty more quarterbacks over to Louisiana. We'll take them.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ALTMIRE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 933, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ALTMIRE. 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.

#### COMMENDING THE WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEER FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2008 TOSTITOS FIESTA BOWL

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 938) commending the West Virginia University Mountaineer football team for exemplifying the pride, determination, and spirit of the Mountain State and overcoming adversity with skill, commitment, and teamwork to win the 2008 Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 938

Whereas the West Virginia University Mountaineer football team won the 2008 Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, defeating the University of Oklahoma Sooners by a score of 48 to 28 in Glendale, Arizona, on January 2, 2008;

Whereas the Mountaineer football team has been a source of great pride for West Virginians throughout the years;

Whereas the people of West Virginia take their team's triumphs and setbacks as their own, in times of hardship and prosperity;

Whereas the Mountaineers displayed uncommon intensity and determination in preparing for the challenge of meeting one of the best teams in the country in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl;

Whereas the Mountaineers executed an almost flawless game;

Whereas then-assistant coach Bill Stewart demonstrated true leadership and coaching

skill by filling an unexpected coaching void, instilling confidence in his team, and leading them to victory, earning the admiration and gratitude of his fellow West Virginians;

Whereas the Fiesta Bowl Most Valuable Player on offense, Mountaineer quarterback Pat White, gave a brilliant running and passing performance that inspired his teammates, delighted his fans, and frustrated his opponents;

Whereas the Fiesta Bowl Most Valuable Player on defense, Mountaineer linebacker and native West Virginian Reed Williams, led his teammates in an outstanding defensive performance;

Whereas Mountaineer senior fullback Owen Schmitt, through his steady play and gracious post-game words of victory, displayed the best qualities of team play and sportsmanship;

Whereas Mountaineer receiver Tito Gonzales demonstrated outstanding play with a 79-yard touchdown pass and showed a national television audience how important Mountaineer success was to his team and his State;

Whereas Mountaineer freshman tailback Noel Devine gave a spirited and skillful performance worthy of his injured teammate and mentor, record-breaking tailback Steve Slaton;

Whereas the Mountaineers' offensive line dominated the battle in the trenches, making possible the outstanding performances of White, Devine, Schmitt, receiver Darius Reynaud, kicker Pat McAfee, and the other offensive stars of the day;

Whereas the Mountaineers' attacking defense forced the Sooner offense to yield the field time and again;

Whereas the Mountaineers finished among the top 10 in college football rankings for 3 years in a row;

Whereas Mountaineer athletic director Ed Pastilong has instilled in the athletic department of West Virginia University the highest standards of ethics and performance throughout his many years of leadership; and

Whereas the Mountaineers and their new head coach Bill Stewart have brought great honor to themselves, their university, and the State of West Virginia: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the West Virginia University Mountaineer football team for winning the 2008 Tostitos Fiesta Bowl; and

(2) commends the team for demonstrating throughout the season the best qualities of teamwork, dedication, and sportsmanship.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ALTMIRE) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to H. Res. 938 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. ALTMIRE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALTMIRE. Today I rise to congratulate the West Virginia University Mountaineers for their amazing win in the 2008 Fiesta Bowl.

Four short weeks ago, West Virginia University captured its third consecutive bowl victory and cemented their third consecutive top 10 finish. They defeated the University of Oklahoma Sooners 48-28. College football fans throughout the Nation were treated to an exceptional college football game.

I want to extend my congratulations to West Virginia head coach Bill Stewart, athletic director Ed Pastilong, West Virginia University president Mike Garrison, and West Virginia's student athletes for winning the Fiesta Bowl.

I also want to extend my congratulations to the Oklahoma Sooners and their student athletes for a great season. Oklahoma won the Big 12 championship game and had an 11-2 regular season record.

The WVU Mountaineers were pregame underdogs against No. 3 ranked Oklahoma, whose defense had previously allowed only 92 yards a game. The exceptional play of Mountaineer quarterback Pat White, the Fiesta Bowl offensive MVP, helped the Mountaineers produce 525 yards of total offense. Reed Williams, the Mountaineer linebacker and Fiesta Bowl defensive MVP, helped his teammates hold the Sooners to only six points in the first half and a total of 28 points for the game.

Mr. Speaker, once again I congratulate the West Virginia Mountaineers for their success.

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

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 938, commending the West Virginia University Mountaineer football team for exemplifying the pride, determination, and spirit of the Mountain State and overcoming adversity with skill, commitment, and teamwork to win the 2008 Tostitos Fiesta Bowl.

Throughout the years, the Mountaineer football team has been a source of great pride for West Virginians, and this past year proved no different. On January 2, 2008, the West Virginia University Mountaineer football team won the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, defeating the University of Oklahoma Sooners by a score of 48-28 in Glendale, Arizona.

After what could have been a team demoralizing loss of head coach Rich Rodriguez, then assistant coach Bill Stewart stepped up to demonstrate true leadership and coaching skill by instilling confidence in his team and leading them to victory, earning the admiration and gratitude of his fellow West Virginians.

Mountaineer quarterback Pat White gave a dazzling running and passing performance that inspired his teammates, delighted WVU fans, frustrated his opponents, and earned him offensive MVP honors. Defensive honors

went to Mountaineer linebacker and native West Virginian Reed Williams, who led his team in an outstanding defensive performance.

With the conclusion of an impressive 11-2 season, the Mountaineers finished among the top 10 in college football rankings for a third consecutive year, and with their new head coach Bill Stewart, brought great honor to themselves, their university, and the State of West Virginia.

High marks should also be given to athletic director Ed Pastilong, who, over his 19-year career, has instilled the athletic department of West Virginia University with the highest standards of ethics and performance. We should also recognize WVU president Mike Garrison for his leadership. WVU is committed to changing lives and providing opportunities to all through education, building knowledge through research, and serving the people of West Virginia through economic development and health care.

I extend my congratulations to head coach Bill Stewart and all the hard-working players, the fans, and to West Virginia University. I'm happy to join my good friend and colleague Representative MOLLOHAN in honoring this exceptional team and all of its accomplishments and wish all involved continued success. And I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, we have a colleague who represents Morgantown, West Virginia, with us, Mr. MOLLOHAN, and I know there is no greater fan of the West Virginia Mountaineers than he. I am sure he is justifiably proud; so I will yield him such time as he may consume.

Mr. MOLLOHAN. I want to thank both my colleagues for their very kind, gracious remarks about West Virginia University and the game that we speak of today, particularly the Fiesta Bowl game.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 938, congratulating the West Virginia University Mountaineer football team for its recent outstanding Fiesta Bowl victory.

The Mountaineers' regular season closed with an unexpected and a bit demoralizing loss that ended the team's bid for a national championship. As a further complication, as has been pointed out by my colleagues, the team began preparation for the Fiesta Bowl without its head coach, who left suddenly for another opportunity. WVU consequently was branded the underdog for the Fiesta Bowl appearance.

But these young men and the able interim head coach, who is now the permanent head coach, who stepped into the void were steady, they were confident, and they were prepared to pursue a game plan unaffected by the swirling controversies and the many media pundits who predicted defeat.

□ 1515

Mr. Speaker, seeing that team demonstrate grit, skill, and determination,

as described by my colleagues, to silence its critics, while overcoming challenges, reminds us of the potential for accomplishment that resides in us all. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting H. Res. 938, as it offers a "well done" to a team that set a high bar for accomplishment, focus, and determination.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as she may consume to my colleague, the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO).

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank the gentleman for yielding me time. I would like to thank my colleague from West Virginia (Mr. MOLLOHAN) for offering this resolution and including me as one of the cosponsors.

We are very prideful Mountaineers. As we have heard, our West Virginia Mountaineers football team is something that everyone in the State takes great pride. The Tostitos Fiesta Bowl win was not only an athletic win, but it was a morale-lifting win for everybody in the State of West Virginia. The Oklahoma Sooners are a powerful team, and I congratulate them for their effort. But when mind and body of a Mountaineer gets together, there's hardly any stopping us. I think that is what we found at the game. The team always tries to embody the spirit of the Mountain State, and it is a shining light for the people of West Virginia. The fans, the coaches, the university, the president, the athletic director, and I have to mention the pride of West Virginia, our Mountaineers marching band, are something that I know took our teammates into a very difficult athletic and emotional situation at the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl.

I also want to congratulate the MVPs, Pat White and Reed Williams. Reed Williams is a native West Virginian. He's from Moorefield, West Virginia. He was valedictorian of his high school class. He is the true embodiment of a student athlete.

We have a saying in West Virginia that we like to say whenever we have a great victory, and that is, as we say in West Virginia, "It's a great day to be a Mountaineer." It certainly was on the day that West Virginia won the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl in Arizona.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, just to tie this whole thing together, we have just celebrated the LSU Tigers' national championship and West Virginia's championship in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl. As a Member from western Pennsylvania, I would like to take a brief moment and remind my colleagues of the role the University of Pittsburgh played in this whole scenario, because were it not for the improbable upset that the University of Pittsburgh was able to pull off on the last game of the regular season, we may have been doing these in a little bit different order than we were today. So I congratulate West Virginia and

LSU. But I did want to put in that plug as well.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ALTMIRE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 938, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1700

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) at 5 p.m.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1528, NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL DESIGNATION ACT

Ms. SLAUGHTER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-519) on the resolution (H. Res. 940) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1528) to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the New England National Scenic Trail, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Ms. SLAUGHTER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-520) on the resolution (H. Res. 941) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

S. 2110, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 4140, by the yeas and nays.

The vote on H. Res. 938 will be taken tomorrow.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

#### LARRY S. PIERCE POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2110, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2110.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 0, not voting 42, as follows:

[Roll No. 23]

YEAS—388

Abercrombie	Carter	Foxx
Ackerman	Castle	Franks (AZ)
Aderholt	Castor	Frelinghuysen
Akin	Chabot	Galleghy
Alexander	Chandler	Garrett (NJ)
Allen	Clarke	Gerlach
Altmire	Clay	Giffords
Andrews	Cleaver	Gilchrest
Arcuri	Clyburn	Gillibrand
Baca	Coble	Gingrey
Bachmann	Cohen	Gohmert
Bachus	Cole (OK)	Gonzalez
Baird	Conaway	Goode
Baldwin	Conyers	Goodlatte
Barrett (SC)	Cooper	Gordon
Barrow	Costello	Granger
Bartlett (MD)	Courtney	Graves
Barton (TX)	Cramer	Green, Al
Bean	Crenshaw	Green, Gene
Becerra	Crowley	Hall (NY)
Berry	Cubin	Hall (TX)
Biggart	Cuellar	Hare
Bilbray	Culberson	Harman
Bilirakis	Cummings	Hastings (WA)
Bishop (GA)	Davis (AL)	Hayes
Bishop (NY)	Davis (CA)	Heller
Bishop (UT)	Davis (IL)	Hensarling
Blackburn	Davis (KY)	Herger
Blumenauer	Davis, David	Herseth Sandlin
Blunt	Davis, Lincoln	Higgins
Boehner	Davis, Tom	Hill
Bonner	Deal (GA)	Hinojosa
Bono Mack	DeGette	Hirono
Boozman	Delahunt	Hobson
Boren	DeLauro	Hodes
Boswell	Dent	Hoekstra
Boustany	Diaz-Balart, M.	Holden
Boyd (FL)	Dicks	Holt
Boyd (KS)	Dingell	Honda
Brady (PA)	Doggett	Hooley
Brady (TX)	Donnelly	Hoyer
Braleigh (IA)	Doyle	Hunter
Broun (GA)	Drake	Inglis (SC)
Brown (SC)	Dreier	Inslee
Brown, Corrine	Duncan	Israel
Brown-Waite,	Ehlers	Issa
Ginny	Ellison	Jackson (IL)
Buchanan	Ellsworth	Jackson-Lee
Burgess	Emanuel	(TX)
Burton (IN)	Emerson	Jefferson
Butterfield	Engel	Johnson (GA)
Buyer	English (PA)	Johnson (IL)
Calvert	Eshoo	Johnson, E. B.
Camp (MI)	Etheridge	Johnson, Sam
Campbell (CA)	Everett	Jones (NC)
Cannon	Fallin	Jordan
Cantor	Fattah	Kagen
Capito	Ferguson	Kanjorski
Capps	Flake	Kaptur
Capuano	Forbes	Keller
Carnahan	Fortenberry	Kennedy
Carney	Fossella	Kildee

Kilpatrick  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Klein (FL)  
Kline (MN)  
Knollenberg  
Kucinich  
Kuhl (NY)  
LaHood  
Lamborn  
Lampson  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Latta  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Linder  
Lipinski  
LoBiondo  
Loeb sack  
Lofgren, Zoe  
Lowey  
Lucas  
Lungren, Daniel E.  
Lynch  
Mack  
Mahoney (FL)  
Maloney (NY)  
Manzullo  
Marchant  
Markey  
Marshall  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (CA)  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCaul (TX)  
McCollum (MN)  
McCotter  
McCrery  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McHugh  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
McNerney  
McNulty  
Melancon  
Mica  
Michaud  
Miller (FL)  
Miller (MI)  
Miller (NC)  
Mitchell  
Mollohan  
Moore (KS)  
Moore (WI)  
Moran (KS)

NOT VOTING—42

Baker  
Berkley  
Berman  
Boucher  
Cardoza  
Costa  
DeFazio  
Diaz-Balart, L.  
Doolittle  
Edwards  
Farr  
Feeney  
Filner  
Frank (MA)

□ 1728

Ms. SHEA-PORTER changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

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. 23, I was away due to a family emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

RICHARD B. ANDERSON FEDERAL BUILDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4140, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4140.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 0, not voting 42, as follows:

[Roll No. 24]

YEAS—388

Abercrombie  
Ackerman  
Aderholt  
Akin  
Alexander  
Allen  
Altmire  
Andrews  
Arcuri  
Baca  
Bachmann  
Bachus  
Baird  
Baldwin  
Barrett (SC)  
Barrow  
Bartlett (MD)  
Barton (TX)  
Bean  
Beceerra  
Berry  
Biggert  
Bibray  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (NY)  
Bishop (UT)  
Blackburn  
Blumenauer  
Blunt  
Boehner  
Bonner  
Bono Mack  
Boozman  
Boren  
Boswell  
Boustany  
Boyd (FL)  
Boyd (KS)  
Brady (PA)  
Brady (TX)  
Brady (IA)  
Broun (GA)  
Brown (SC)  
Brown, Corrine  
Brown-Waite, Ginny  
Buchanan  
Burton (IN)  
Butterfield  
Buyer  
Calvert  
Camp (MI)  
Campbell (CA)  
Cannon  
Cantor  
Capito  
Capps  
Capuano  
Carnahan  
Carney  
Carter  
Castle  
Castor  
Chabot

LaHood  
Lamborn  
Lampson  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Latta  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Linder  
Lipinski  
LoBiondo  
Loeb sack  
Lofgren, Zoe  
Lowey  
Lucas  
Lungren, Daniel E.  
Lynch  
Mack  
Mahoney (FL)  
Maloney (NY)  
Manzullo  
Marchant  
Markey  
Marshall  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (CA)  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCaul (TX)  
McCollum (MN)  
McCotter  
McCrery  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McHugh  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
McNerney  
McNulty  
Melancon  
Mica  
Michaud  
Miller (FL)  
Miller (MI)  
Miller (NC)  
Mitchell  
Mollohan  
Moore (KS)  
Moore (WI)  
Moran (KS)  
Moran (VA)  
Murphy (CT)  
Murphy, Patrick  
Murphy, Tim  
Murtha  
Musgrave  
Myrick

NOT VOTING—42

Baker  
Berkley  
Berman  
Boucher  
Burgess  
Cardoza  
Costa  
DeFazio  
Delahunt  
Diaz-Balart, L.  
Doolittle  
Edwards  
Farr  
Feeney

□ 1737

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE  
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain on this vote.

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) 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.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 24, I was away due to a family emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER  
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. After consultation among the Speaker and the majority and minority leaders, and with their consent, the Chair announces that, when the two Houses meet tonight in joint session to hear an address by the President of the United States, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those immediately to her left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House. Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly enforced. Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor. The cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of reserving seats prior to the joint session by placard will not be allowed. Members may reserve their seats only by physical presence following the security sweep of the Chamber.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 8:35 p.m. for the purpose of receiving in joint session the President of the United States.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 8:35 p.m.

□ 2037

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 8 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.

JOINT SESSION OF THE HOUSE  
AND SENATE HELD PURSUANT  
TO THE PROVISIONS OF HOUSE  
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 282  
TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY THE  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
STATES

The Speaker of the House presided.

The Majority Floor Services Chief, Mr. Barry Sullivan, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER);

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN);

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL);

The gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON);

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN);

The gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA);

The gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO);

The gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER);

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER);

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT);

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. PUTNAM);

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER);

The gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER);

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE); and

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber:

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID);

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN);

The Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER);

The Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY);

The Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN);

The Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW);

The Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN);

The Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD);

The Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL);

The Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL);

The Senator from Tennessee (Mr. AL-EXANDER);

The Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON);

The Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN);

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN); and

The Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN).

The Majority Floor Services Chief announced the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, His Excellency Roble Olhaye, Ambassador from the Republic of Djibouti.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him.

The Majority Floor Services Chief announced the Chief Justice of the

United States and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court.

The Chief Justice of the United States and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

The Majority Floor Services Chief announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 9 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m., the Majority Floor Services Chief and the Sergeant at Arms, the Honorable Wilson Livingood, announced the President of the United States.

The President of the United States, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and stood at the Clerk's desk.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of the Congress, I have the high privilege and the distinct honor of presenting to you the President of the United States.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

THE STATE OF THE UNION AD-  
DRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE UNITED STATES

The PRESIDENT. Madam Speaker, Vice President CHENEY, Members of Congress, distinguished guests, and fellow citizens:

Seven years have passed since I first stood before you at this rostrum. In that time, our country has been tested in ways none of us could have imagined. We have faced hard decisions about peace and war, rising competition in the world economy, and the health and welfare of our citizens. These issues call for vigorous debate, and I think it's fair to say we've answered that call. Yet history will record that amid our differences, we acted with purpose. And together we showed the world the power and resilience of American self-government.

All of us were sent to Washington to carry out the people's business. That is the purpose of this body. It is the meaning of our oath. And it remains our charge to keep.

The actions of the 110th Congress will affect the security and prosperity of our Nation long after this session has ended. In this election year, let us show our fellow Americans that we recognize our responsibilities and are determined to meet them. And let us show them that Republicans and Democrats can compete for votes and cooperate for results at the same time.

From expanding opportunity to protecting our country, we have made good progress. Yet we have unfinished business before us, and the American people expect us to get it done.

In the work ahead, we must be guided by the philosophy that made our Nation great. As Americans, we believe in

the power of individuals to determine their destiny and shape the course of history. We believe that the most reliable guide for our country is the collective wisdom of ordinary citizens. So in all we do, we must trust in the ability of free people to make wise decisions, and empower them to improve their lives and their futures.

To build a prosperous future, we must trust people with their own money and empower them to grow our economy. As we meet tonight, our economy is undergoing a period of uncertainty. America has added jobs for a record 52 straight months, but jobs are now growing at a slower pace. Wages are up, but so are prices for food and gas. Exports are rising, but the housing market has declined. And at kitchen tables across our country, there is concern about our economic future.

In the long run, Americans can be confident about our economic growth. But in the short run, we can all see that that growth is slowing. So last week, my administration reached agreement with Speaker PELOSI and Republican Leader BOEHNER on a robust growth package that includes tax relief for individuals and families and incentives for business investment. The temptation will be to load up the bill. That would delay it or derail it, and neither option is acceptable. This is a good agreement that will keep our economy growing and our people working. And this Congress must pass it as soon as possible.

We have other work to do on taxes. Unless the Congress acts, most of the tax relief we have delivered over the past 7 years will be taken away. Some in Washington argue that letting tax relief expire is not a tax increase. Try explaining that to 116 million American taxpayers who would see their taxes rise by an average of \$1,800. Others have said they would personally be happy to pay higher taxes. I welcome their enthusiasm, and I am pleased to report that the IRS accepts both checks and money orders.

Most Americans think their taxes are high enough. With all the other pressures on their finances, American families should not have to worry about the Federal Government taking a bigger bite out of their paychecks. There is only one way to eliminate this uncertainty: make the tax relief permanent. And Members of Congress should know: If any bill raising taxes reaches my desk, I will veto it.

Just as we trust Americans with their own money, we need to earn their trust by spending their tax dollars wisely. Next week, I will send you a budget that terminates or substantially reduces 151 wasteful or bloated programs totaling more than \$18 billion. The budget that I will submit will keep America on track for a surplus in 2012. American families have to balance their budgets, and so should their government.

The people's trust in their government is undermined by congressional

earmarks, special interest projects that are often snuck in at the last minute, without discussion or debate. Last year, I asked you to voluntarily cut the number and cost of earmarks in half. I also asked you to stop slipping earmarks into committee reports that never even come to a vote. Unfortunately, neither goal was met. So this time, if you send me an appropriations bill that does not cut the number and cost of earmarks in half, I will send it back to you with my veto. And tomorrow, I will issue an executive order that directs Federal agencies to ignore any future earmark that is not voted on by the Congress. If these items are truly worth funding, the Congress should debate them in the open and hold a public vote.

Our shared responsibilities extend beyond matters of taxes and spending.

On housing, we must trust Americans with the responsibility of homeownership and empower them to weather turbulent times in the housing market. My administration brought together the HOPE NOW alliance, which is helping many struggling homeowners avoid foreclosure. The Congress can help even more. Tonight I ask you to pass legislation to reform Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, modernize the Federal Housing Administration, and allow State housing agencies to issue tax-free bonds to help homeowners refinance their mortgages. These are difficult times for many American families, and by taking these steps, we can help more of them keep their homes.

To build a future of quality health care, we must trust patients and doctors to make medical decisions and empower them with better information and better options. We share a common goal: making health care more affordable and accessible for all Americans. The best way to achieve that goal is by expanding consumer choice, not government control. So I have proposed ending the bias in the Tax Code against those who do not get their health insurance through their employer. This one reform would put private coverage within reach for millions, and I call on the Congress to pass it this year. The Congress must also expand health savings accounts, create association health plans for small businesses, promote health information technology, and confront the epidemic of junk medical lawsuits. With all these steps, we will help ensure that decisions about your medical care are made in the privacy of your doctor's office, not in the Halls of Congress.

On education, we must trust students to learn if given the chance and empower parents to demand results from our schools. In neighborhoods across our country, there are boys and girls with dreams, and a decent education is their only hope of achieving them. Six years ago, we came together to pass the No Child Left Behind Act, and today no one can deny its results. Last year, fourth and eighth graders achieved the highest math scores on

record. Reading scores are on the rise. And African American and Hispanic students posted all-time highs. Now we must work together to increase accountability, add flexibility for States and districts, reduce the number of high school dropouts, and provide extra help for struggling schools. Members of Congress, the No Child Left Behind Act is a bipartisan achievement. It is succeeding. And we owe it to America's children, their parents, and their teachers to strengthen this good law.

We must also do more to help children when their schools do not measure up. Thanks to the D.C. Opportunity Scholarships you approved, more than 2,600 of the poorest children in our Nation's capital have found new hope at a faith-based or other nonpublic school. Sadly, these schools are disappearing at an alarming rate in many of America's inner cities. So I will convene a White House summit aimed at strengthening these lifelines of learning. And to open the doors of these schools to more children, I ask you to support a new \$300 million program called Pell Grants for Kids. We have seen how Pell Grants help low-income college students realize their full potential. Together, we have expanded the size and reach of these grants. Now let's apply that same spirit to help liberate poor children trapped in failing public schools.

On trade, we must trust American workers to compete with anyone in the world and empower them by opening up new markets overseas. Today, our economic growth increasingly depends on our ability to sell American goods, crops, and services all over the world. So we are working to break down barriers to trade and investment wherever we can. We are working for a successful Doha round of trade talks, and we must complete a good agreement this year. At the same time, we are pursuing opportunities to open up new markets by passing free trade agreements.

I thank the Congress for approving a good agreement with Peru. Now I ask you to approve agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea. Many products from these nations now enter America duty-free, yet many of our products face steep tariffs in their markets. These agreements will level the playing field. They will give us better access to nearly 100 million customers. And they will support good jobs for the finest workers in the world, those whose products say "Made in the USA."

These agreements also promote America's strategic interests. The first agreement that will come before you is with Colombia, a friend of America that is confronting violence and terror and fighting drug traffickers. If we fail to pass this agreement, we will embolden the purveyors of false populism in our hemisphere. So we must come together, pass this agreement, and show our neighbors in the region that democracy leads to a better life.

Trade brings better jobs, better choices, and better prices. Yet for some

Americans, trade can mean losing a job, and the Federal Government has a responsibility to help. I ask the Congress to reauthorize and reform trade adjustment assistance, so we can help these displaced workers learn new skills and find new jobs.

To build a future of energy security, we must trust in the creative genius of American researchers and entrepreneurs and empower them to pioneer a new generation of clean energy technology. Our security, our prosperity, and our environment all require reducing our dependence on oil. Last year, I asked you to pass legislation to reduce oil consumption over the next decade, and you responded. Together we should take the next steps: Let us fund new technologies that can generate coal power while capturing carbon emissions. Let us increase the use of renewable power and emissions-free nuclear power. Let us continue investing in advanced battery technology and renewable fuels to power the cars and trucks of the future. Let us create a new international clean technology fund, which will help developing nations like India and China make greater use of clean energy sources. And let us complete an international agreement that has the potential to slow, stop, and eventually reverse the growth of greenhouse gases. This agreement will be effective only if it includes commitments by every major economy and gives none a free ride. The United States is committed to strengthening our energy security and confronting global climate change. And the best way to meet these goals is for America to continue leading the way toward the development of cleaner and more energy-efficient technology.

To keep America competitive into the future, we must trust in the skill of our scientists and engineers and empower them to pursue the breakthroughs of tomorrow. Last year, the Congress passed legislation supporting the American Competitiveness Initiative, but never followed through with the funding. This funding is essential to keeping our scientific edge. So I ask the Congress to double Federal support for critical basic research in the physical sciences and ensure America remains the most dynamic Nation on Earth.

On matters of science and life, we must trust in the innovative spirit of medical researchers and empower them to discover new treatments while respecting moral boundaries. In November, we witnessed a landmark achievement when scientists discovered a way to reprogram adult skin cells to act like embryonic stem cells. This breakthrough has the potential to move us beyond the divisive debates of the past by extending the frontiers of medicine without the destruction of human life. So we are expanding funding for this type of ethical medical research. And as we explore promising avenues of research, we must also ensure that all life is treated with the dignity it de-

serves. And so I call on the Congress to pass legislation that bans unethical practices, such as the buying, selling, patenting, or cloning of human life.

On matters of justice, we must trust in the wisdom of our Founders and empower judges who understand that the Constitution means what it says. I have submitted judicial nominees who will rule by the letter of the law, not the whim of the gavel. Many of these nominees are being unfairly delayed. They are worthy of confirmation, and the Senate should give each of them a prompt up-or-down vote.

In communities across our land, we must trust in the good heart of the American people and empower them to serve their neighbors in need. Over the past 7 years, more of our fellow citizens have discovered that the pursuit of happiness leads to the path of service. Americans have volunteered in record numbers. Charitable donations are higher than ever. Faith-based groups are bringing hope to pockets of despair, with newfound support from the Federal Government. And to help guarantee equal treatment for faith-based organizations when they compete for Federal funds, I ask you to permanently extend Charitable Choice.

Tonight the armies of compassion continue the march to a new day in the gulf coast. America honors the strength and resilience of the people of this region. We reaffirm our pledge to help them build stronger and better than before. And tonight I am pleased to announce that in April we will host this year's North American Summit of Canada, Mexico, and the United States in the great City of New Orleans.

There are two other pressing challenges that I have raised repeatedly before this body, and that this body has failed to address: entitlement spending and immigration.

Every Member in this Chamber knows that spending on entitlement programs like Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid is growing faster than we can afford. And we all know the painful choices ahead if America stays on this path: massive tax increases, sudden and drastic cuts in benefits, or crippling deficits. I have laid out proposals to reform these programs. Now I ask Members of Congress to offer your proposals and come up with a bipartisan solution to save these vital programs for our children and our grandchildren.

The other pressing challenge is immigration. America needs to secure our borders, and with your help, my administration is taking steps to do so. We are increasing worksite enforcement, we are deploying fences and advanced technologies to stop illegal crossings, we have effectively ended the policy of "catch and release" at the border, and by the end of this year, we will have doubled the number of border patrol agents. Yet we also need to acknowledge that we will never fully secure our border until we create a lawful way for foreign workers to come here and sup-

port our economy. This will take pressure off the border and allow law enforcement to concentrate on those who mean us harm. We must also find a sensible and humane way to deal with people here illegally. Illegal immigration is complicated, but it can be resolved. And it must be resolved in a way that upholds both our laws and our highest ideals.

This is the business of our Nation here at home. Yet building a prosperous future for our citizens also depends on confronting enemies abroad, and advancing liberty in troubled regions of the world.

Our foreign policy is based on a clear premise: We trust that people, when given the chance, will choose a future of freedom and peace. In the last 7 years, we have witnessed stirring moments in the history of liberty. We have seen citizens in Georgia and Ukraine stand up for their right to free and fair elections. We have seen people in Lebanon take to the streets to demand their independence. We have seen Afghans emerge from the tyranny of the Taliban to choose a new president and a new parliament. We have seen jubilant Iraqis holding up ink-stained fingers and celebrating their freedom. And these images of liberty have inspired us.

In the past 7 years, we have also seen images that have sobered us. We have watched throngs of mourners in Lebanon and Pakistan carrying the caskets of beloved leaders taken by the assassin's hand. We have seen wedding guests in blood-soaked finery staggering from a hotel in Jordan, Afghans and Iraqis blown up in mosques and markets, and trains in London and Madrid ripped apart by bombs. And on a clear September day, we saw thousands of our fellow citizens taken from us in an instant. These horrific images serve as a grim reminder: The advance of liberty is opposed by terrorists and extremists, evil men who despise freedom, despise America, and aim to subject millions to their violent rule.

Since September 11, we have taken the fight to these terrorists and extremists. We will stay on the offense, we will keep up the pressure, and we will deliver justice to our enemies.

We are engaged in the defining ideological struggle of the 21st century. The terrorists oppose every principle of humanity and decency that we hold dear. Yet in this war on terror, there is one thing we and our enemies agree on: In the long run, men and women who are free to determine their own destinies will reject terror and refuse to live in tyranny. That is why the terrorists are fighting to deny this choice to the people in Lebanon, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the Palestinian territories. And that is why, for the security of America and the peace of the world, we are spreading the hope of freedom.

In Afghanistan, America, our 25 NATO allies, and 15 partner nations are helping the Afghan people defend their

freedom and rebuild their country. Thanks to the courage of these military and civilian personnel, a nation that was once a safe haven for al Qaeda is now a young democracy where boys and girls are going to school, new roads and hospitals are being built, and people are looking to the future with new hope. These successes must continue, so we are adding 3,200 marines to our forces in Afghanistan, where they will fight the terrorists and train the Afghan army and police. Defeating the Taliban and al Qaeda is critical to our security, and I thank the Congress for supporting America's vital mission in Afghanistan.

In Iraq, the terrorists and extremists are fighting to deny a proud people their liberty and fighting to establish safe havens for attacks across the world. One year ago, our enemies were succeeding in their efforts to plunge Iraq into chaos. So we reviewed our strategy and changed course. We launched a surge of American forces into Iraq. And we gave our troops a new mission: Work with Iraqi forces to protect the Iraqi people, pursue the enemy in its strongholds, and deny the terrorists sanctuary anywhere in the country.

The Iraqi people quickly realized that something dramatic had happened. Those who had worried that America was preparing to abandon them instead saw tens of thousands of American forces flowing into their country. They saw our forces moving into neighborhoods, clearing out the terrorists and staying behind to ensure the enemy did not return. And they saw our troops, along with Provincial Reconstruction Teams that include Foreign Service officers, and other skilled public servants, coming in to ensure that improved security was followed by improvements in daily life. Our military and civilians in Iraq are performing with courage and distinction, and they have the gratitude of our whole Nation.

The Iraqis launched a surge of their own. In the fall of 2006, Sunni tribal leaders grew tired of al Qaeda's brutality and started a popular uprising called "The Anbar Awakening." Over the past year, similar movements have spread across the country. And today, this grassroots surge includes more than 80,000 Iraqi citizens who are fighting the terrorists. The government in Baghdad has stepped forward as well, adding more than 100,000 new Iraqi soldiers and police during the past year.

While the enemy is still dangerous and more work remains, the American and Iraqi surges have achieved results few of us could have imagined just 1 year ago:

When we met last year, many said that containing the violence was impossible. A year later, high-profile terrorist attacks are down, civilian deaths are down, and sectarian killings are down.

When we met last year, militia extremists, some armed and trained by

Iran, were wreaking havoc in large areas of Iraq. A year later, coalition and Iraqi forces have killed or captured hundreds of militia fighters. And Iraqis of all backgrounds increasingly realize that defeating these militia fighters is critical to the future of their country.

When we met last year, al Qaeda had sanctuaries in many areas of Iraq, and their leaders had just offered American forces safe passage out of the country. Today, it is al Qaeda that is searching for safe passage. They have been driven from many of the strongholds they once held, and over the past year, we have captured or killed thousands of extremists in Iraq, including hundreds of key al Qaeda leaders and operatives. Last month, Osama bin Laden released a tape in which he railed against Iraqi tribal leaders who have turned on al Qaeda and admitted that coalition forces are growing stronger in Iraq. Ladies and gentlemen, some may deny the surge is working, but among the terrorists, there is no doubt. Al Qaeda is on the run in Iraq, and this enemy will be defeated.

When we met last year, our troop levels in Iraq were on the rise. Today, because of the progress just described, we are implementing a policy of "return on success," and the surge forces we sent to Iraq are beginning to come home.

This progress is a credit to the valor of our troops and the brilliance of their commanders. This evening, I want to speak directly to our men and women on the front lines. Soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and coast guardsmen: In the past year, you have done everything we have asked of you, and more. Our Nation is grateful for your courage. We are proud of your accomplishments. And tonight in this hallowed Chamber, with the American people as our witness, we make you a solemn pledge: In the fight ahead, you will have all you need to protect our Nation. And I ask the Congress to meet its responsibilities to these brave men and women by fully funding our troops.

Our enemies in Iraq have been hit hard. They are not yet defeated, and we can still expect tough fighting ahead. Our objective in the coming year is to sustain and build on the gains we made in 2007, while transitioning to the next phase of our strategy. American troops are shifting from leading operations, to partnering with Iraqi forces, and, eventually, to a protective overwatch mission. As part of this transition, one Army brigade combat team and one Marine Expeditionary Unit have already come home and will not be replaced. In the coming months, four additional brigades and two Marine battalions will follow suit. Taken together, this means more than 20,000 of our troops are coming home.

Any further drawdown of U.S. troops will be based on conditions in Iraq and the recommendations of our commanders. General Petraeus has warned that too fast a drawdown could result in the "disintegration of the Iraqi secu-

rity forces, al Qaeda-Iraq regaining lost ground, and a marked increase in violence." Members of Congress, having come so far and achieved so much, we must not allow this to happen.

In the coming year, we will work with Iraqi leaders as they build on the progress they are making toward political reconciliation. At the local level, Sunnis, Shia, and Kurds are beginning to come together to reclaim their communities and rebuild their lives. Progress in the provinces must be matched by progress in Baghdad. And we are seeing some encouraging signs. The national government is sharing oil revenues with the provinces. The parliament recently passed both a pension law and de-Ba'athification reform. Now they are debating a provincial powers law. The Iraqis still have a distance to travel. But after decades of dictatorship and the pain of sectarian violence, reconciliation is taking place, and the Iraqi people are taking control of their future.

The mission in Iraq has been difficult and trying for our Nation. But it is in the vital interest of the United States that we succeed. A free Iraq will deny al Qaeda a safe haven. A free Iraq will show millions across the Middle East that a future of liberty is possible. And a free Iraq will be a friend of America, a partner in fighting terror, and a source of stability in a dangerous part of the world.

By contrast, a failed Iraq would embolden extremists, strengthen Iran, and give terrorists a base from which to launch new attacks on our friends, our allies, and our homeland. The enemy has made its intentions clear. At a time when the momentum seemed to favor them, al Qaeda's top commander in Iraq declared that they will not rest until they have attacked us here in Washington. My fellow Americans, we will not rest, either. We will not rest until this enemy has been defeated. We must do the difficult work today, so that years from now people will look back and say that this generation rose to the moment, prevailed in a tough fight, and left behind a more hopeful region and a safer America.

We are also standing against the forces of extremism in the Holy Land, where we have new cause for hope. Palestinians have elected a president who recognizes that confronting terror is essential to achieving a state where his people can live in dignity and at peace with Israel. Israelis have leaders who recognize that a peaceful, democratic Palestinian state will be a source of lasting security. This month in Ramallah and Jerusalem, I assured leaders from both sides that America will do, and I will do, everything we can to help them achieve a peace agreement that defines a Palestinian state by the end of this year. The time has come for a Holy Land where a democratic Israel and a democratic Palestine live side by side in peace.

We are also standing against the forces of extremism embodied by the

regime in Tehran. Iran's rulers oppress a good and talented people. And wherever freedom advances in the Middle East, it seems the Iranian regime is there to oppose it. Iran is funding and training militia groups in Iraq, supporting Hezbollah terrorists in Lebanon, and backing Hamas' efforts to undermine peace in the Holy Land. Tehran is also developing ballistic missiles of increasing range and continues to develop its capability to enrich uranium, which could be used to create a nuclear weapon. Our message to the people of Iran is clear: We have no quarrel with you, we respect your traditions and your history, and we look forward to the day when you have your freedom. Our message to the leaders of Iran is also clear: Verifiably suspend your nuclear enrichment, so negotiations can begin. And to rejoin the community of nations, come clean about your nuclear intention and past actions, stop your oppression at home, and cease your support for terror abroad. But above all, know this: America will confront those who threaten our troops, we will stand by our allies, and we will defend our vital interests in the Persian Gulf.

On the homefront, we will continue to take every lawful and effective measure to protect our country. This is our most solemn duty. We are grateful that there has not been another attack on our soil since 9/11. This is not for a lack of desire or effort on the part of the enemy. In the past 6 years, we have stopped numerous attacks, including a plot to fly a plane into the tallest building in Los Angeles, and another to blow up passenger jets bound for America over the Atlantic. Dedicated men and women in our government toil day and night to stop the terrorists from carrying out their plans. These good citizens are saving American lives, and everyone in this Chamber owes them our thanks. And we owe them something more: We owe them the tools they need to keep our people safe.

One of the most important tools we can give them is the ability to monitor terrorist communications. To protect America, we need to know who the terrorists are talking to, what they are saying, and what they are planning. Last year, the Congress passed legislation to help us do that. Unfortunately, the Congress set the legislation to expire on February 1. This means that if you don't act by Friday, our ability to track terrorists' threats would be weakened and our citizens will be in greater danger. The Congress must ensure the flow of vital intelligence is not disrupted. The Congress must pass liability protection for companies believed to have assisted in the efforts to defend America. We have had ample time for debate. The time to act is now.

Protecting our Nation from the dangers of a new century requires more than good intelligence and a strong military. It also requires changing the conditions that breed resentment and

allow extremists to prey on despair. So America is using its influence to build a freer, more hopeful, and more compassionate world. This is a reflection of our national interest and the calling of our conscience.

America opposes genocide in Sudan. We support freedom in countries from Cuba and Zimbabwe to Belarus and Burma. America is leading the fight against global poverty, with strong education initiatives and humanitarian assistance. We have also changed the way we deliver aid by launching the Millennium Challenge Account. This program strengthens democracy, transparency, and the rule of law in developing nations, and I ask you to fully fund this important initiative.

America is leading the fight against global hunger. Today, more than half the world's food aid comes from the United States. And tonight, I ask the Congress to support an innovative proposal to provide food assistance by purchasing crops directly from farmers in the developing world, so we can build up local agriculture and help break the cycle of famine.

America is leading the fight against disease. With your help, we are working to cut by half the number of malaria-related deaths in 15 African nations. And our emergency plan for AIDS relief is treating 1.4 million people. We can bring healing and hope to many more. So I ask you to maintain the principles that have changed behavior and made this program a success. And I call on you to double our initial commitment to fighting HIV/AIDS by approving an additional \$30 billion over the next 5 years.

America is a force for hope in the world because we are a compassionate people, and some of the most compassionate Americans are those who have stepped forward to protect us. We must keep faith with all who have risked life and limb so that we might live in freedom and peace. Over the past 7 years, we have increased funding for veterans by more than 95 percent. And as we increase funding, we must also reform our veterans' system to meet the needs of a new war and a new generation. I call on the Congress to enact the reforms recommended by Senator Bob Dole and Secretary Donna Shalala, so we can improve the system of care for our wounded warriors and help them build lives of hope, promise, and dignity.

Our military families also sacrifice for America. They endure sleepless nights and the daily struggle of providing for children while a loved one is serving far from home. We have a responsibility to provide for them. So I ask you to join me in expanding their access to child care, creating new hiring preferences for military spouses across the Federal Government, and allowing our troops to transfer their unused education benefits to their spouses or children. Our military families serve our Nation, they inspire our Nation, and tonight our Nation honors them.

The secret of our strength, the miracle of America, is that our greatness lies not in our government, but in the spirit and determination of our people. When the Federal Convention met in Philadelphia in 1787, our Nation was bound by the Articles of Confederation, which began with the words, "We the undersigned delegates." When Gouverneur Morris was asked to draft the preamble to our new Constitution, he offered an important revision and opened with words that changed the course of our Nation and the history of the world: "We the people."

By trusting the people, our Founders wagered that a great and noble Nation could be built on the liberty that resides in the hearts of all men and women. By trusting the people, succeeding generations transformed our fragile young democracy into the most powerful Nation on Earth and a beacon of hope for millions. And so long as we continue to trust the people, our Nation will prosper, our liberty will be secure, and the state of our Union will remain strong. So tonight, with confidence in freedom's power, and trust in the people, let us set forth to do their business.

God bless America.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 10 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m., the President of the United States, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Majority Floor Services Chief escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet; Chief Justice of the United States and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court; the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

#### JOINT SESSION DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint session of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 10 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m., the joint session of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

#### MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I move that the message of the President be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

The motion was agreed to.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. COSTA (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of a death in the family.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of illness.

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Ms. Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 3432. An act to establish the Commission on the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

H.R. 4986. An act to provide for the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, as previously enrolled, with certain modifications to address the foreign sovereign immunities provisions of title 28, United States Code, with respect to the attachment of property in certain judgments against Iraq, the lapse of statutory authorities for the payment of bonuses, special pays, and similar benefits for members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes.

#### BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on January 24, 2008 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 3432. To establish the Commission on the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

H.R. 4986. To provide for the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, as previously enrolled, with certain modifications to address the foreign sovereign immunities provisions of title 28, United States Code, with respect to the attachment of property in certain judgments against Iraq, the lapse of statutory authorities for the payment of bonuses, special pays, and similar benefits for members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, January 29, 2008, at 10:30 a.m., for morning-hour debate.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5120. A letter from the Administrator, Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Potato Provisions (RIN: 0563-AC05) received January 4, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5121. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental

Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Aspergillus Flavus* AF36 on Corn; Temporary Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2007-0545; FRL-8342-1] received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5122. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Etoxazole; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2007-0309; FRL-8342-8] received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5123. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's response to the Government Accountability Office Review of the Loan Guarantee Program under Title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; to the Committee on Appropriations.

5124. A letter from the Administrator Rural Housing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Thermal Standards (RIN: 0575-AC65) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5125. A letter from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of Mark-to-Market Program Revisions [Docket No. FR-4751-F-02] (RIN: 2502-AH86) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5126. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to China pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

5127. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Peru pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

5128. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the annual report of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity for Fiscal Year 2007, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1145(e); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

5129. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the twenty-seventh annual report on the implementation of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 by departments and agencies which administer programs of Federal financial assistance, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 6106a(b); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

5130. A letter from the Under Secretary Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC); Revisions in the WIC Food Packages [FNS-2006-0037] (RIN: 0584-AD77) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

5131. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Measuring Educational Gains in the National Reporting System for Adult Education (RIN:1830-ZA06) received January 15, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

5132. A letter from the Deputy Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Em-

ployer Plans; Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits — received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

5133. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator Office of Diversion Control, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Issuance of Multiple Prescriptions for Schedule II Controlled Substances [Docket No. DEA-287F] (RIN: 1117-AB01) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5134. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Clean Air Interstate Rule Budget Trading Programs [EPA-R03-OAR-2007-0381; FRL-8510-3] received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5135. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; North Carolina; Redesignation of the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area to Attainment for Ozone [EPA-R04-OAR-2007-0601-200747; FRL-8510-4] received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5136. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; Iowa; Clean Air Mercury Rule [EPA-R07-OAR-2007-0655; FRL-8510-6] received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5137. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Partial Removal of Direct Final Rule and Revision of the Nonroad Diesel Technical Amendments and Tier 3 Technical Relief Provision [EPA-HQ-OAR-2007-0652; FRL-8509-9] (RIN: 2060-A037) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5138. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Extension of Global Laboratory and Analytical Use Exemption for Essential Class I Ozone-Depleting Substances [EPA-HQ-OAR-2007-0384; FRL-8510-9] (RIN: 2060-A028) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5139. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: The 2008 Critical Use Exemption From the Phaseout of Methyl Bromide [EPA-HQ-OAR-2006-1016; FRL-8510-8] (RIN: 2060-A030) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5140. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District and San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District [EPA-R09-OAR-2007-1074, FRL-8509-8]

received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5141. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the Continuous Emissions Monitoring Rule for the Acid Rain Program, NOx Budget Training Program, Clean Air Interstate Rule, and the Clean Air Mercury Rule. [EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0132; FRL-8511-1] (RIN: 2060-AN16) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5142. A letter from the Chief Acquisition Officer, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2006-007, Contractor Code of Business Ethics and Conduct [FAC 2005-22; FAR Case 2006-007; Item II; Docket 2007-0001; Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AK67) received January 4, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5143. A letter from the Chief Acquisition Officer, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2006-008, Implementation of Section 104 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 [FAC 2005-22; FAR Case 2006-008; Item I; Docket 2006-020; Sequence 12] (RIN: 9000-AK63) received January 4, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5144. A letter from the Chief Acquisition Officer, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-22; Introduction [Docket FAR-2007-0002, Sequence 7] received January 4, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5145. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5146. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5147. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5148. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5149. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5150. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5151. A letter from the Director, National Gallery of Art, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Gallery's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2007 and 2008; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5152. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5153. A letter from the Commissioner, Social Security Commission, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5154. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator For Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Recreational Management Measures for the Summer Flounder Fishery; Fishing Year 2008 [Docket No. 070827484-7581-02] (RIN: 0648-AV99) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5155. A letter from the Acting Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Spiny Dogfish Fishery; Commercial Period 2 Quota Harvested [Docket No. 060418103-6181-02] (RIN: 0648-XD92) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5156. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Commercial Shark Management Measures [Docket No. 070803437-7666-02] (RIN: 0648-AV93) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5157. A letter from the Acting Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Halibut in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No. 070213032-7032-01] (RIN: 0648-XE05) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5158. A letter from the Deputy Director, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — United States Army Restricted Area, Kuluk Bay, Adak, AK — received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5159. A letter from the Deputy Director of Civil Works, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Department of the Navy, Chesapeake Bay, in Vicinity of Bloodsworth Island, MD — received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5160. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Optional Method of Filing Form FMC-18, Application for a License as an Ocean Transportation Intermediary (RIN: 3072-AC32) received January 4, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5161. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting an extension of the Department's Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Mali Concerning the Imposition of Import Restrictions on Certain Categories of Archaeological Material from the Region of the Niger River Valley and the Bandiagara Escarpment and the Department's Memorandum of Understanding between the United States and the Government of the Re-

public of Guatemala concerning the imposition of import restrictions on archaeological objects and material from the pre-Columbian Cultures of Guatemala, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2602(g)(1); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5162. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's update on the details of projects that will be conducted under the Medicare Hospital Gainsharing Demonstration, pursuant to Section 5007 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5163. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revisit User Fee Program for Medicare Survey and Certification Activities [CMS-2278-IFC2] (RIN: 0938-AP22) received December 20, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 4140. A bill to designate the Port Angeles Federal Building in Port Angeles, Washington, as the "Richard B. Anderson Federal Building" (Rept. 110-515). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. House Resolution 845. Resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of Everglades National Park; with an amendment (Rept. 110-516 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. House Resolution 832. Resolution honoring the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as a recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's 2007 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Performance and Innovation Award (Rept. 110-517). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 3913. A bill to amend the International Center Act to authorize the lease or sublease of certain property described in such Act to an entity other than a foreign government or international organization if certain conditions are met (Rept. 110-518). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. CARDOZA: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 940. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1528) to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the New England National Scenic Trail, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-519). Referred to the House Calendar.

Ms. SLAUGHTER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 941. Resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (Rept. 110-520). Referred to the House Calendar.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. RAHALL:  
H.R. 5137. A bill to ensure that hunting remains a purpose of the New River Gorge National River; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. SHEA-PORTER:

H.R. 5138. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to provide protection for medical debt homeowners, to restore bankruptcy protections for individuals experiencing economic distress as caregivers to ill or disabled family members, and to exempt from means testing debtors whose financial problems were caused by serious medical problems; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BERKLEY:

H.R. 5139. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a theme study to identify sites and resources to commemorate and interpret the Cold War; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. PELOSI (for herself, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. HOYER, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. OBEY, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. GRANGER, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mr. BECERRA):

H.R. 5140. A bill to provide economic stimulus through recovery rebates to individuals, incentives for business investment, and an increase in conforming and FHA loan limits; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 5141. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage investment in high productivity property, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 5142. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an economic stimulus for individuals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HINOJOSA (for himself, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. CLAY, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. CASTLE):

H.R. 5143. A bill to encourage model programs to support veteran student success in postsecondary education by coordinating services to address the academic, financial, physical, and social needs of veteran students; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 5144. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on lightweight digital camera lenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 5145. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on digital zoom camera lenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LAMPSON (for himself and Mr. EDWARDS):

H.R. 5146. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to acquire petroleum in quantities sufficient to fill the available capacity of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, subject to certain limitations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. McDERMOTT:

H.R. 5147. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on gaiters of textile materials; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NEUGEBAUER:

H.R. 5148. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from collecting certain

debts owed to the United States by members of the Armed Forces and veterans who die as a result of an injury incurred or aggravated on active duty in a combat zone, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 5149. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on dry adhesive copolyamide pellets; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. YARMUTH:

H.R. 5150. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the child tax credit for taxable years beginning in 2008 and provide for the advance payment thereof; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. REYES, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. HONDA, Mr. BECERRA, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. WYNN, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. LEE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MALONEY of New York, Mr. WU, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. WATERS, Mr. BACHUS, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. WATT):

H. Res. 942. A resolution recognizing the significance of Black History Month; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. HODES (for himself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MAHONEY of Florida, Ms. BEAN, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. NADLER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SHULER, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. CLAY, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. ARCURI, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. SIREN, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. WU, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. HILL, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. WYNN, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. DONNELLY, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. GORDON, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, and Mr. KUCINICH):

H. Res. 943. A resolution remembering the space shuttle Challenger disaster and honoring its crew members, who lost their lives on January 28, 1986; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

By Mr. SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. BARROW, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. KING

of New York, Mr. LINDER, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. HODES, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. KILPATRICK, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. LEE, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLYBURN, Ms. WATSON, Ms. CLARKE, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. WELLER, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H. Res. 944. A resolution honoring the service and accomplishments of Lieutenant General Russell L. Honore, United States Army, for his 37 years of service on behalf of the United States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. POE (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Mr. HOLDEN, and Mr. MOORE of Kansas):

H. Res. 945. A resolution raising awareness and promoting education on the criminal justice system by establishing March 2008 as "National Criminal Justice Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS TO PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 21: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
 H.R. 192: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.  
 H.R. 380: Mr. ELLISON and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.  
 H.R. 549: Mr. ALEXANDER and Ms. ESHOO.  
 H.R. 690: Mr. ANDREWS.  
 H.R. 769: Mr. RAMSTAD.  
 H.R. 784: Mrs. LOWEY.  
 H.R. 827: Mr. PAUL.  
 H.R. 897: Mr. BLUMENAUER.  
 H.R. 962: Mr. KUCINICH.  
 H.R. 977: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.  
 H.R. 992: Ms. LEE.  
 H.R. 1043: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.  
 H.R. 1070: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.  
 H.R. 1076: Mr. WEXLER and Ms. ESHOO.  
 H.R. 1078: Mr. ARCURI.  
 H.R. 1110: Mr. COLE of Oklahoma.  
 H.R. 1188: Mr. SMITH of Washington.  
 H.R. 1198: Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia.  
 H.R. 1279: Ms. SOLIS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GERLACH, and Mr. ISRAEL.  
 H.R. 1293: Mr. HELLER.  
 H.R. 1295: Mr. WALBERG.  
 H.R. 1386: Ms. DELAURO.  
 H.R. 1554: Mr. MARSHALL.  
 H.R. 1621: Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.  
 H.R. 1742: Mr. TIBERI.  
 H.R. 1783: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas and Mr. VAN HOLLEN.  
 H.R. 1791: Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.  
 H.R. 1809: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.  
 H.R. 1843: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina and Mr. HINCHEY.  
 H.R. 1889: Mr. MOORE of Kansas.  
 H.R. 1921: Ms. KILPATRICK.  
 H.R. 1926: Mr. GOODLATTE and Mr. VAN HOLLEN.  
 H.R. 1964: Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.  
 H.R. 2159: Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.  
 H.R. 2167: Mr. BAIRD.  
 H.R. 2266: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.  
 H.R. 2303: Mr. LATTA.  
 H.R. 2329: Mr. DUNCAN and Mr. PORTER.  
 H.R. 2391: Mr. SESTAK.  
 H.R. 2469: Mr. CULBERSON.

- H.R. 2488: Mr. REYNOLDS.  
 H.R. 2552: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.  
 H.R. 2708: Mr. WYNN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mr. BISHOP of New York.  
 H.R. 2712: Mrs. DRAKE and Mr. HENSARLING.  
 H.R. 2796: Mr. McCOTTER.  
 H.R. 2914: Mr. KUHLMAN of New York.  
 H.R. 2915: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.  
 H.R. 2928: Mr. ROTHMAN and Mr. SESTAK.  
 H.R. 2933: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.  
 H.R. 2994: Mr. WEXLER.  
 H.R. 3080: Mr. KLINE of Minnesota.  
 H.R. 3107: Mr. ALLEN.  
 H.R. 3109: Mr. LATTA.  
 H.R. 3229: Mr. SESTAK, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. LAMPSON.  
 H.R. 3282: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York and Mr. MCDERMOTT.  
 H.R. 3471: Mr. WALBERG and Mr. LOBIONDO.  
 H.R. 3548: Mr. HODES.  
 H.R. 3559: Mr. EVERETT and Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas.  
 H.R. 3652: Mr. WEXLER and Mr. DAVIS of Alabama.  
 H.R. 3694: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.  
 H.R. 3698: Mr. BERMAN.  
 H.R. 3723: Mr. HINOJOSA.  
 H.R. 3774: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.  
 H.R. 3810: Mr. HIGGINS.  
 H.R. 3819: Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Ms. SUTTON, and Mr. CARNEY.  
 H.R. 3899: Ms. FALLIN.  
 H.R. 3934: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York and Ms. SLAUGHTER.  
 H.R. 3979: Mr. BLUMENAUER.  
 H.R. 3995: Mr. MILLER of North Carolina and Mr. PLATTS.  
 H.R. 4008: Mr. MCCREERY and Mrs. BIGGERT.  
 H.R. 4061: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas and Mr. PAUL.  
 H.R. 4066: Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. PASCARELL, and Mr. ROTHMAN.  
 H.R. 4102: Mr. OBERSTAR.  
 H.R. 4105: Mr. ROSS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BISHOP of New York, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.  
 H.R. 4139: Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois.  
 H.R. 4247: Mr. HILL.  
 H.R. 4264: Mr. CRENSHAW and Mr. WEXLER.  
 H.R. 4296: Mr. WEXLER and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.  
 H.R. 4297: Mrs. CAPITO.  
 H.R. 4328: Mr. HONDA.  
 H.R. 4332: Mr. WEXLER.  
 H.R. 4461: Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas.  
 H.R. 4540: Mr. GONZALEZ.  
 H.R. 4691: Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina.  
 H.R. 4838: Mr. PASTOR, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. MOORE of Kansas.  
 H.R. 4841: Mr. KILDEE.  
 H.R. 4845: Mr. FEENEY.  
 H.R. 4900: Mr. SMITH of Texas and Mr. BOOZMAN.  
 H.R. 4915: Mr. LATTA and Mr. MILLER of North Carolina.  
 H.R. 4930: Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. WAMP, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. ROTHMAN.  
 H.R. 4934: Mr. DINGELL, Mr. WYNN, and Ms. SUTTON.  
 H.R. 4936: Mr. CASTLE, Mr. WOLF, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. WEXLER, and Mr. MOORE of Kansas.  
 H.R. 4959: Mr. DEFazio, Ms. LEE, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mrs. CAPPAS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. WEXLER.  
 H.R. 5035: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.  
 H.R. 5038: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.  
 H.R. 5058: Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN.  
 H.R. 5069: Mr. HARE.  
 H.R. 5087: Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Ms. GIFFORDS.  
 H.R. 5109: Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. BONNER, Mr. HELLER, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. POE, Mr. SALLI, and Mr. WELDON of Florida.  
 H.J. Res. 76: Mr. DOGGETT.  
 H. Con. Res. 32: Mr. REYES, Mr. BOYD of Florida, and Mr. CONAWAY.  
 H. Con. Res. 218: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.  
 H. Con. Res. 263: Mr. BACHUS, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. COBLE, Mr. CAMP of Michigan, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, and Mr. KELLER.  
 H. Res. 76: Mr. MURTHA, Mr. KUCINICH, and Ms. MATSUI.  
 H. Res. 102: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. COSTELLO.  
 H. Res. 111: Mrs. CAPITO.  
 H. Res. 185: Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. RAMSTAD, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN.  
 H. Res. 278: Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. WATSON, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. BERMAN.  
 H. Res. 351: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.  
 H. Res. 543: Mr. KAGEN.  
 H. Res. 795: Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. HIGGINS, and Ms. CLARKE.  
 H. Res. 820: Ms. BORDALLO and Mr. INSLEE.  
 H. Res. 858: Mr. DINGELL.  
 H. Res. 883: Mrs. MALONEY of New York and Mr. WEXLER.  
 H. Res. 886: Mr. CONAWAY and Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina.  
 H. Res. 897: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina and Mr. PORTER.  
 H. Res. 901: Mr. WEXLER.  
 H. Res. 919: Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. PORTER, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, and Mr. GORDON.  
 H. Res. 929: Mr. HAYES.  
 H. Res. 930: Mr. INSLEE, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ OF CALIFORNIA, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, and Ms. SUTTON.  
 H. Res. 931: Mr. MACK, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CONAWAY, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. CANNON, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. HELLER, Mr. COBLE, Mr. CAMPBELL of California, Mr. CARTER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CASTLE, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. TERRY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Ms. FOX, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, and Mr. WALBERG.  
 H. Res. 939: Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. HENSARLING, and Mr. POE.

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#### CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendments to be offered by Representative Bishop of Utah or a designee to H.R. 1528, the New England National Scenic Trail Designation Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of rule XXI.