

NOT VOTING—31

Ackerman Conyers Reynolds
 Aderholt DeFazio Richardson
 Bachus Filner Rush
 Baird Gutierrez Sullivan
 Barton (TX) Jefferson Tancredo
 Braley (IA) Matheson Tanner
 Brown (SC) McKeon Walden (OR)
 Calvert Miller, Gary Waters
 Campbell (CA) Musgrave Wu
 Cannon Nunes
 Cohen Renzi

Linder Petri Shimkus
 Lucas Pitts Shuster
 Lungren, Daniel Platts Smith (NE)
 E. Poe Smith (TX)
 Mack Souder
 Marchant Price (GA)
 McCarthy (CA) Pryce (OH)
 McCaul (TX) Putnam
 McCotter Radanovich
 McCreery Ramstad
 McHenry Regula
 McHugh Rogers (KY)
 McMorris Rogers (MI)
 Rodgers Rohrabacher
 Mica Roskam
 Miller (FL) Moore (WI)
 Moore (WI) Royce
 Moran (KS) Ryan (WI)
 Murphy, Tim Sali
 Myrick Saxton
 Neugebauer Scalise
 Obey Schmidt
 Pearce Sensenbrenner
 Pence Sessions
 Peterson (PA) Sherman

Weiner Weller Woolsey
 Welch (VT) Wexler Wynn
 Weldon (FL) Wilson (OH) Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—42

Ackerman Filner Pickering
 Aderholt Gutierrez Renzi
 Bachus Jefferson Reynolds
 Baird Kaptur Richardson
 Barton (TX) Manzullo Rush
 Braley (IA) Matheson Shadegg
 Brown (SC) McKeon Shuler
 Calvert Miller, Gary Sullivan
 Campbell (CA) Musgrave Tancredo
 Cannon Nadler Tanner
 Capuano Nunes Walden (OR)
 Cohen Pascrell Waters
 Davis, Lincoln Paul Waxman
 DeFazio Payne Wu

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised that 1 minute remains in this vote.

□ 1639

Mr. LEVIN changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the motion to instruct was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 304, I was unable to vote because of pressing business with my constituents in my home district. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2419, FOOD AND ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to instruct on H.R. 2419 offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR) on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 169, nays 222, not voting 42, as follows:

[Roll No. 305]

YEAS—169

Akin Crenshaw Goodlatte
 Alexander Cubin Granger
 Bachmann Culberson Graves
 Baldwin Davis (KY) Hall (TX)
 Barrett (SC) Davis, David Hastings (WA)
 Bartlett (MD) Davis, Tom Hayes
 Biggert Deal (GA) Heller
 Bilbray Dent Hensarling
 Bilirakis Diaz-Balart, L. Herger
 Bishop (UT) Diaz-Balart, M. Hobson
 Blackburn Doggett Hoekstra
 Blunt Doolittle Hulshof
 Boehner Drake Hunter
 Bonner Dreier Inglis (SC)
 Bono Mack Duncan Issa
 Boozman Ehlers Johnson, Sam
 Boustany Emerson Jones (NC)
 Brady (TX) English (PA) Jordan
 Broun (GA) Everrett Keller
 Brown-Waite, Feeney Kind
 Ginny Ferguson King (IA)
 Buchanan Flake King (NY)
 Burgess Forbes Kingston
 Burton (IN) Fortenberry Kline (MN)
 Buyer Fossella Knollenberg
 Cantor Foxx Kuhl (NY)
 Capito Franks (AZ) Lamborn
 Carter Gallegly Larson (CT)
 Castle Garrett (NJ) Latham
 Chabot Gerlach LaTourette
 Coble Gingrey Latta
 Cole (OK) Gohmert Lewis (CA)
 Conaway Goode Lewis (KY)

Abercrombie Gordon
 Allen Green, Al
 Altmiere Green, Gene
 Andrews Grijalva
 Arcuri Hall (NY)
 Baca Hare
 Barrow Harman
 Bean Hastings (FL)
 Becerra Herseht Sandlin
 Berkley Higgins
 Berman Hill
 Berry Hinchey
 Bishop (GA) Hinojosa
 Bishop (NY) Hiroo
 Blumenauer Hodes
 Boren Holden
 Boswell Holt
 Boucher Honda
 Boyd (FL) Hooley
 Boyd (KS) Hoyer
 Brady (PA) Inslee
 Brown, Corrine Israel
 Butterfield Jackson (IL)
 Camp (MD) Jackson-Lee
 Capps (TX)
 Cardoza Johnson (GA)
 Carnahan Johnson (IL)
 Carney Johnson, E. B.
 Carson Jones (OH)
 Castor Kagen
 Cazayoux Kanjorski
 Chandler Kennedy
 Clarke Kildee
 Clay Kilpatrick
 Cleaver Kirk
 Clyburn Klein (FL)
 Conyers Kucinich
 Cooper LaHood
 Costa Lampson
 Costello Langevin
 Courtney Larsen (WA)
 Cramer Lee
 Crowley Levin
 Cuellar Lewis (GA)
 Cummings Lipinski
 Davis (AL) LoBiondo
 Davis (CA) Loeb sack
 Davis (IL) Lofgren, Zoe
 DeGette Lowey
 Delahunt Lynch
 DeLauro Mahoney (FL)
 Dicks Maloney (NY)
 Dingell Markey
 Donnelly Marshall
 Doyle Matsui
 Edwards McCarthy (NY)
 Ellison McCollum (MN)
 Elsworth McDermott
 Emanuel McGovern
 Engel McIntyre
 Eshoo McNerney
 Etheridge McNulty
 Fallin Meek (FL)
 Farr Meeke (NY)
 Fattah Melancon
 Foster Michaud
 Frank (MA) Miller (MI)
 Frelinghuysen Miller (NC)
 Giffords Giffords
 Gilchrest Gilchrest
 Gillibrand Gillibrand
 Gonzalez Moore (KS)

NAYS—222

Moran (VA)
 Murphy (CT)
 Murphy, Patrick
 Murtha
 Napolitano
 Neal (MA)
 Oberstar
 Olver
 Ortiz
 Pallone
 Pastor
 Perlmutter
 Peterson (MN)
 Pomeroy
 Price (NC)
 Rahall
 Rangel
 Rehberg
 Reichert
 Reyes
 Rodriguez
 Rogers (AL)
 Ross
 Rothman
 Roybal-Allard
 Rumpersberger
 Ryan (OH)
 Salazar
 Sanchez, Linda
 T.
 Sanchez, Loretta
 Sarbanes
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schwartz
 Scott (GA)
 Scott (VA)
 Serrano
 Sestak
 Shays
 Shea-Porter
 Simpson
 Sires
 Skelton
 Slaughter
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Snyder
 Solis
 Space
 Speier
 Spratt
 Stupak
 Sutton
 Tauscher
 Taylor
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Tierney
 Towns
 Tsongas
 Udall (CO)
 Udall (NM)
 Van Hollen
 Velázquez
 Visclosky
 Walsh (NY)
 Walz (MN)
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Watson
 Watt

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1646

Mr. SHERMAN changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 305, I was unable to vote because of pressing business with my constituents in my home district. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this Chamber today. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall votes 299, 300, 301, 302 and 303 and “no” on rollcall votes 298, 304 and 305.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE JOHN A. BOEHNER, REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLEIN of Florida) laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable John A. Boehner, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
 Washington, DC, May 8, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI
 Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
 Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to Section 1853(a) of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9–11 Commission Act of 2007 (P.L. 110–53), I am pleased to appoint Mr. Henry Sokolski of Arlington, Virginia and Mr. Stephen Rademaker of McLean, Virginia to the Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism.

Both Mr. Sokolski and Mr. Rademaker have expressed interest in serving in this capacity and I am pleased to fulfill their requests.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
 Republican Leader.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend from Maryland, the majority leader, to tell us about next week's scheduled bills.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the Republican whip for yielding.

On Monday the House will meet in pro forma session at 2 p.m. On Tuesday the House will meet at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and at 2 p.m. for legislative business, with votes postponed until 6:30 p.m. On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for legislative business. On Friday no votes are expected at this time.

We will consider several bills under suspension of the rules. A final list of suspension bills will be announced, as is the custom, by the close of business tomorrow. We expect to consider the Iraq/Afghanistan supplemental appropriations bill. In addition, we also hope to consider the farm bill conference report. And it is possible, if the budget conference were completed, that we might consider that as well.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my friend for that information.

Is it likely on the two conference reports you mentioned that the farm bill conference report will come before the budget conference report?

Mr. HOYER. It's likely that that will happen. I can't assert that, but I think it's likely.

As you know, the farm bill has been up to agreement and then back. I understand it is now agreed to and that Mr. PETERSON would like to bring it to the floor, assuming that the agreement holds, on Wednesday. So I think it's likely.

Mr. BLUNT. I am told if we went to the new budget, there might be some additional PAYGO items, but the current budget makes that farm bill more workable. So I think that might be the case.

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman will yield, I see the chairman on the floor. The chairman and I have discussed that issue, and that's why I indicate that it is likely. Mr. PETERSON has worked extraordinarily hard, along with a lot of others. But because he's on the floor, I want to commend Chairman PETERSON for the work that he has put in on this. It's been a very rough conference and a very rough agreement. But he and Mr. LATOURETTE have worked closely together, and I congratulate them both.

Mr. BLUNT. That's right. Mr. GOODLATTE and Mr. PETERSON have talked to both of us a lot about this bill, and I think it's coming to some conclusion now.

Mr. HOYER. I said Mr. LATOURETTE. I'm sure he's worked hard, too, but Mr. GOODLATTE is the ranking member.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. LATOURETTE was probably working on the Coast Guard issues in the farm bill.

I would like to ask the gentleman on the supplemental, I noticed in a number of printed reports that one of the reasons we didn't get to the supplemental was that the Blue Dogs were

claiming some credit that the PAYGO issue, which you and I actually discussed last week, was a problem. At that time you thought that we might be able to waive PAYGO for both the GI portion of the supplemental and the unemployment insurance portion of the supplemental. I wonder where we are on that topic of PAYGO as it relates to those two issues.

Is that a decided issue yet, and how would you expect that it may be decided?

Mr. HOYER. First, let me say that I don't believe that the PAYGO, under the proposal that has been made, applies to the GI Bill, to the Webb bill, or to whatever bill there might be. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN has a bill as well. Mr. MITCHELL has worked very hard on his bill. But however that might be considered, we believe that technically it does not need a waiver of PAYGO. But, clearly, the unemployment insurance, which would be considered as an emergency, as was the stimulus for stimulating the economy, would be dealt with as an emergency.

Mr. BLUNT. I was fortunate enough to have a meeting with Secretary Gates this week, and he, of course, encourages us to get this supplemental done quickly because, otherwise, they immediately get into trying to transfer funds around and things that may be available but do create huge management problems. I do hope we can get this done before the Memorial Day break, as you suggested we would.

Mr. HOYER. Will my friend yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield.

Mr. HOYER. We were trying to get it done quickly this week. There were some delays, as I recall, in the process. That was not the only reason, as the gentleman has observed. But we hope to get it done quickly.

Mr. BLUNT. You mentioned the other alternatives to the so-called Webb bill, and the Herseth Sandlin bill that is cosponsored by Mr. BOOZMAN on this side, I'm told by our Members and frankly some people from the Pentagon that it has some real merit over the other bill. Since we don't have any options in that bill, at least the bill we were talking about this week, no options to bring alternatives to the floor, I would hope that we could look at all of the alternatives in that part that benefit our servicemen and women and be sure we're bringing the best alternative the House has available to it to the floor next week.

Mr. HOYER. I appreciate the gentleman's comments.

I will say that Congresswoman HERSETH SANDLIN has worked very hard on that. I'm sure Mr. BOOZMAN has as well. The committee has addressed that bill. It's a good bill. It's not as extensive, as you know, as the Webb bill, which has also been worked on pretty hard by former Secretary of the Navy WEBB, JIM WEBB, the Senator from Virginia. Both bills obviously seek to make sure that our warriors who come back, those who have defended freedom

in Iraq and Afghanistan, that when they come back, we invest in their education so they, in turn, can grow our economy and our country and do what the veterans of World War II did. But we're looking at those and they're under discussion.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for that.

When you look at the anticipated spending and the scoring on those bills, both of them add so many new things to the benefit area that there's very little money spent in the first year. And since it takes that long to really get the new system up and running, I would just suggest again that the closer we are to a system that the military can be supportive of, both individuals in the military and the institutions, I think all of us want to take a step forward on those things that relate to servicemen and women and particularly those servicemen and women that may have been left out of past benefits for those who served. That would relate most directly to the National Guard and the reserves who are called up maybe for multiple periods of time but never for a long enough period of time at one consecutive time of full-time service to qualify for past benefits. We want to do that, but certainly we want to do that in the very best way, particularly when you look at how long it takes to retool the way that these benefits are made available for that to happen. Since it appears at this point that we'd have no alternative to bring, in this case, a better House alternative to the floor, I hope we are putting the right set of building blocks together to really build a better future for those who serve and are willing to put their lives at risk and their other activities on hold for us.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I would.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding and certainly agree with the sentiments he has just expressed, which is why, of course, we want to see this move forward quickly in the supplemental. But the alternatives that the gentleman has expressed are being looked at.

Mr. BLUNT. I'm also wondering, as we approach the Memorial Day recess and we have had this series now of days of the highest gasoline prices ever, will there be any legislation on the floor to reduce the price of gasoline as we go into Memorial Day and the other summer driving seasons?

Mr. HOYER. We certainly, as you know, passed a number of pieces of legislation which have attempted to look at a number of different issues. One, of course, was the manipulation by the OPEC nations to artificially inflate prices. The other thing we have looked at is price gouging at the pump. We passed that. The other item we looked at, of course, was the energy bill itself. And the other was we asked the FTC to look at manipulation. We wrote to the FTC about 3 weeks ago. The FTC gave

attention to our letter and is now exercising, as I understand, its jurisdiction under the legislation that we passed to look at prices.

In addition, we have numerous hearings scheduled. We've had some this week, next week, and the week after looking at various different aspects of this. Clearly, our consuming public, whether they be commercial, which are probably having the most critical problem because that's their livelihood, as well as those of us who are not driving for commercial sake but for important sake, to get to school, to get to work, to get to hospitals, to do all those things, we are very cognizant, as I know all of us are, of the strain that is being put on the consumers of our country.

□ 1700

Not only are they seeing an economic downturn, but at the same time that they are having reduced capacity to purchase things critical to them, gasoline and home heating oil are going up almost every week 5 to 10 cents. And so we are addressing that. We met with all the chairmen who reported out the energy bill last year and asked them to address this issue short term, medium term and long term.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for that.

I would like to find something to do that would have this impact as we get into this driving season. I know that Mr. RYAN introduced a bill today that would take the money that otherwise would have been used for earmarks on both sides of the aisle and use that to offset the loss of revenue to the highway trust fund of a gas tax holiday. That would be one of the things that we could do in the next 2 weeks that should have immediate impact at the pump by Memorial Day if we did it before that Memorial Day break. But if we could do something to reduce gas prices, that would be a major thing.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield on that?

Mr. BLUNT. I would yield.

Mr. HOYER. One of the things I know I am personally for, and I think the Speaker is for that, as well, and we have urged the administration to take action, is not purchase additional oil for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve at this time. I would be opposed to taking oil out of the reserve. But if we stop purchasing oil for a period of time, reduce our demand as we fill the SPR, not only will we reduce demand, economists tell us that would have an effect on price, perhaps about the same as the gasoline tax holiday that you refer to.

There are a number of pieces of legislation. Mr. WELCH has a bill. Mr. LAMPSON has a bill. And many, many other Members have a bill. The administration, we believe, can do this on its own. We think that would be good policy while we have this crisis to stop filling up, not reducing, but to stop filling up our own reserve and reduce demand. Economists tell us that would

have a positive effect on bringing prices down as well.

Mr. BLUNT. Based on the increase in prices, if in fact that would have the same impact as a gas tax holiday, maybe we should do both. I suspect there would be substantial support on the floor to do both.

The only other item I am going to mention today is the Colombia Free Trade Agreement. It was 1 year ago tomorrow that the House, the Senate and the administration made an agreement on trade. That was about a year after the Colombia Free Trade Agreement had been negotiated. We have not passed that agreement yet and don't have any schedule on the floor. I would hope that we will continue work to get the Colombia Free Trade Agreement and the other trade agreements but particularly the Colombia agreement to the floor and do that in the spirit of the agreement that the Speaker and administration and Senate negotiators announced a year ago.

I would yield.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I want to say that both the Speaker and I believe that the administration, in reaching an agreement that you refer to, made a positive step in terms of incorporating within trade agreements a consideration of workers' rights and environmental concerns so that our manufacturers and our job producers in the United States had a fair, more level playing field in which to compete and that our workers were competing with workers who had the right to organize and were getting decent wages.

The Colombia agreement, as you know, was not sent down here after agreement between the administration and the House leadership. The response was to simply not take it off the agenda but take the time limit during which we might consider that. That was an interim step which did not, as the Speaker has pointed out, take Colombia off the agenda. It simply didn't put it on the agenda for immediate consideration. But that is still on the agenda. It is still available, a force, and it is still under discussion.

Mr. BLUNT. I hope we can get it done.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MAY 12, 2008

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next, and further, that when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 13, for morning-hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN EN- GROSSMENT OF H.R. 5818, NEIGH- BORHOOD STABILIZATION ACT OF 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Clerk be authorized to make technical corrections in the engrossment of H.R. 5818 and amendments to H.R. 3221, to include corrections in spelling, punctuation, section numbering and cross-referencing, and the insertion of appropriate headings.

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

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2419, FOOD AND ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2007

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Upton moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 2419 (an Act to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012) be instructed to recede to the provisions proposed to be added to Section 9001 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 in the form of a definition of "Renewable Biomass."

Mr. UPTON (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the motion be considered as read.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOLDEN) will be recognized for 30 minutes each.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I will say I know that the hour is late. Many of us are trying to get home for the weekend, and there is business after me. So I don't at all intend to take too much of my 30 minutes that I have. But let me yield myself as much time as I may consume now.

Mr. Speaker, we are woefully unprepared to meet our energy needs for the next 30 years. Some estimates say that our needs in this country are going to increase as much as 50 percent by the year 2030. So we are going to have to do a much better job on not only looking at alternative forms of energy, we are also going to need to do much more on conservation, nuclear and a whole host of things. And as the majority leader indicated a short time ago, we are looking for some long-term strategies.

What this instruction to the conferees does is it takes, in essence, a piece of legislation, a bipartisan piece