PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, June 25, 2009, due to a medical situation involving a member of my family, I was not present for rollcall votes 453 through 460. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

"Aye" on rollcall vote 453; "Aye" on rollcall vote 454; "No" on rollcall vote 455; "No" on rollcall vote 456; "Aye" on rollcall vote 457; "No" on rollcall vote 458; "No" on rollcall vote 459; "Aye" on rollcall vote 460.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I was meeting President Obama at the White House on immigration reform earlier today and missed rollcall votes 453–460. If present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 453, 454, 457, 458 and 460 and "nay" on rollcall votes 455, 456, and 459.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I ask unanimous consent to place in the RECORD how I would have voted because I was unavoidably detained and would have voted "yes" on the Franks-Cantor amendment, "yes" on the Holt amendment, "no" on the Akin amendment, "no" on the Republican motion to recommit.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to be recognized to note that I also was at a meeting for the last 2 hours, with the President at the White House, on immigration and unavoidably missed the votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on the McGovern-Jones amendment, "yes" on the McGovern-Sestak amendment, "no" on the Akin amendment, "yes" on the Holt amendment, "no" on the Republican motion to recommit.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. TAUSCHER. The gentleman from Colorado, Mr. POLIS, Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 578 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. Res. 578

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2996) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under unanimous consent. Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI are waived. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, except as provided in section 2, no amendment shall be in order except: (1) the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution; (2) the amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules; (3) not to exceed three of the amendments printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules if offered by Representative Flake of Arizona or his designee; (4) not to exceed one of the amendments printed in part D of the report of the Committee on Rules if offered by Representative Campbell of California or his designee; and (5) not to exceed one of the amendments printed in part E of the report of the Committee on Rules if offered by Representative Hensarling of Texas or his designee. Each such amendment shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such an amendment are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI and except that an amendment printed in part B, C, D, or E of the report of the Committee on Rules may be offered only at the appropriate point in the reading. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. In case of unsound amendments reported from the Committee, the question of their adoption shall be decided in the House without intervening demand for division of the question. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without amendment except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SUC. 2. After consideration of the bill for amendment, the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees each may offer one pro forma amendment to the bill for the purpose of debate, which shall be controlled by the proponent.

SUC. 3. The Chair may entertain a motion that the Committee rise only if offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee. The Chair may not entertain a motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill (as described in clause 9 of rule XVIII).

SUC. 4. During consideration of H.R. 2996, the Chair may reduce the minimum time for electronic voting under clause 6 of rule XVIII and clauses 8 and 9 of rule XX.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER). The gentleman from Colorado is recognized.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlelady...