

resolution, and I thank him for managing the resolutions this afternoon on the floor. Again, I urge my colleagues to support this very important resolution.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the H. Res. 795. The legacy of the events of September 11, 2001 still resonates today. We will never forget the harrowing experience of the loss of more than 3,000 lives that marked this national tragedy. We will never forget the events of that day, nor those who paid the ultimate price. We will forever remember how the country suffered profound sadness, the likes of which we as a nation hope to never experience again.

Madam Speaker, I recall vividly the intense emotions evoked as the attacks unfolded. The Nation watched in horror as two airliners crashed into the Twin Towers and brought down the World Trade Center. That horror intensified as we witnessed an attack on the Pentagon—and a crashed airplane in Pennsylvania. Horror turned to anger as it came to light that the attacks were the actions of hate-filled cowards who had no respect for human life. I remember too, that in the aftermath of these senseless attacks, we came together as a nation and with friends from around the world united in grief and sadness. That moment transformed our country and the world, as the resolve of our Nation strengthened and our principles hardened.

We remember the heroes from that day; those who ran into the danger, sacrificing themselves to save strangers. We remember the heroes from United Flight 93 who overpowered the terrorists and gave their own lives to prevent the deaths of countless others. We hope that their families can take some small measure of comfort knowing that Americans have made a permanent place for those heroes in our hearts.

As a Senior Member of the Foreign Affairs and Homeland Security Committees, I believe that we must continue to honor the fallen by working to prevent needless deaths. In the years since September 11, 2001, Congress has worked hard to make sure that such a tragedy will never happen again. In large part, we have taken heed of the advice of the 9/11 Commission and built a strong system to prevent future attacks.

Madam Speaker, I rise before this body to say that our work is not yet done. Our Nation's rail and mass transit lines continue to be vulnerable. Millions of Americans rely on our rail and mass transit for transportation. Terrorist attacks in Madrid in 2004 and London in 2006 indicate that transportation routes continue to be potential security threats. We must not let another tragedy occur.

Preventing terrorism at home begins with addressing terrorism abroad. We must engage nations that are susceptible to the influence of extremists and arm them with the tools to fight radicalism. That means not only providing weapons of war but also increasing education, improving living conditions, and increasing the capacity to govern. The struggle against terrorism will be won in the hearts and minds of people around the world.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members to join me in supporting H. Res. 722. Let us remember this day and the tragedy that befell the Nation by properly honoring the victims with our renewed commitment to America's security.

Ms. BORDALLO. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 795.

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. BORDALLO. Madam 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.

#### 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 29 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1730

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SERRANO) at 5 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

#### MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2647, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Armed Services, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2647) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, to provide special pays and allowances to certain members of the Armed Forces, expand concurrent receipt of military retirement and VA disability benefits to disabled military retirees, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Forbes 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. 2647 be instructed to not recede to the Senate on division E of the Senate amendment (regarding the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XXII, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. FORBES) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is truly a sad day as we come before the House today to have to even bring this motion to instruct conferees. But essentially what the motion to instruct conferees does is to simply make sure, when we're dealing with something as important as the Defense authorization bill, that we're dealing with the Defense authorization bill—that we're not saddling it with the hate crimes legislation which, sadly, is what we are now doing.

Mr. Speaker, across America, people are becoming more and more disillusioned by the processes that they see taking place here in the House of Representatives and down the hall in the Senate. And this is a perfect example of what that process has come to be, when we take a hate crimes legislation that should stand on its own accord, that has nothing to do with the Defense authorization bill, but we marry them together and saddle them and bring them to the House floor with the take-it-or-leave-it approach.

Mr. Speaker, we need to watch what's happening from this administration and unfortunately from the leadership in both the House and the Senate to destroy any even pretense of transparency anymore in the country.

I watched this year as we saw a sea change where so many of the policies have now led us to a point where our budget is driving defense posture instead of defense posture driving the budget. For the first time in my lifetime that I know of, this administration came down and literally issued a gag order to individuals in the Pentagon where they couldn't even talk to Members of Congress to tell us where they were cutting programs, where they were spending money, and to give us the reports that we needed, or even testify. In fact, the Army had to even cancel a hearing that it had before the Armed Services Committee because of that gag order.

In addition to that, Mr. Speaker, we have a situation where the law requires the administration to tell us a plan. How are you going to build ships? That just makes sense. Americans should know: How are you going to build ships? What's the plan? The law requires that they do it and certify that the budget meets that plan. They just refuse to do it because the law doesn't apply to them.

And then they came down with an aviation—they were supposed to give us an aviation plan. The law mandates