

Kind
MeeksNeal
Ryan (WI)Sanchez, Loretta
Young (FL)

□ 1411

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently voted "yes" on rollcall votes 226 and 227. It was my intention to vote "no" on both votes.

RESIGNATIONS AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY AND COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 5, 2011.

Speaker JOHN BOEHNER,
The United States Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: I write to inform you that effective immediately I am resigning from the House Judiciary Committee and will be taking a leave of absence from the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to join the House Committee on Rules. If you have any questions please contact me directly or your staff can contact Steve Pfrang, my Legislative Director.

Sincerely,

TOM REED,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignations are accepted.

There was no objection.

ELECTING A MEMBER TO A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 202

Resolved, That the following named Member be and is hereby elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON RULES.—Mr. Reed.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HUNGER-FAST COALITION: GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY IS A NATIONAL PRIORITY

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, last week USAID Administrator Raj Shah

testified before the House Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. In his testimony he stated, and I quote, "We estimate, and I believe these are very conservative estimates, that H.R. 1 would lead to 70,000 kids dying." This means, conservatively speaking, that the GOP budget cuts could result in the deaths of 70,000 children around the world from disease, from hunger, from lack of basic immunizations, mosquito nets, and food.

These callous and brutal cuts are not only a stain on the moral conscience of this House; they directly undermine our national security and our economic future. Over 23,000 people from faith groups and other organizations are fasting in protest of these draconian cuts. Join them at www.hungerfast.org. I urge my colleagues to restore funding for these humanitarian and development programs. The lives of 70,000 children are at stake.

SHAH: GOP BUDGET WOULD KILL 70,000 CHILDREN

(Posted by Josh Rogin, March 31, 2011)

As Congress struggles to negotiate a budget deal to keep the government running, the head of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) told lawmakers Wednesday that the GOP version of the budget bill would result in the deaths of at least 70,000 children who depend on American food and health assistance around the world.

"We estimate, and I believe these are very conservative estimates, that H.R. 1 would lead to 70,000 kids dying," USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah testified before the House Appropriations State and Foreign Ops subcommittee.

"Of that 70,000, 30,000 would come from malaria control programs that would have to be scaled back specifically. The other 40,000 is broken out as 24,000 would die because of a lack of support for immunizations and other investments and 16,000 would be because of a lack of skilled attendants at birth," he said.

The Republican bill, known as H.R. 1, was passed by the House, and would fund the government for the rest of fiscal 2011. It would effectively cut 16 percent from the Obama administration's original fiscal 2011 request for the international affairs account.

Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-IL) pointed out that H.R. 1 would provide \$430 million for the International Disaster Assistance (IDA) account, which is 50 percent below the president's fiscal 2011 request and 67 percent below fiscal 2010 levels.

Shah said that such a cut "would be, really, the most dramatic stepping back away from our humanitarian responsibilities around the world in decades." The IDA account supports 1.6 million people in Darfur, so halving the account would place 800,000 people at risk, he said.

"[T]his would lead to a significant amount of reduction in feeding programs, medical programs and food and water programs for people who are incredibly vulnerable," he added.

Shah was also testifying in defense of the administration's fiscal 2012 budget request, which also faces the axe on Capitol Hill. Subcommittee Chairwoman Kay Granger (R-TX) opened the hearing by announcing that the administration's fiscal 2012 request was dead on arrival.

"While I understand the value of many of these important programs, the funding request for next year is—is truly unrealistic in today's budget environment," she said. "We simply cannot fund everything that has been

funded in the past. And we certainly cannot continue to fund programs that are duplicative and wasteful."

Granger said she would support USAID programs that have national security implications or contribute to the ongoing missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. Her Democratic counterpart, Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY), said that national security is threatened by instability in other parts of the world as well.

"Drastic cuts to USAID would risk a great deal in stability and security around the world which could spawn the kinds of threats that cost this country the lives of men and women in uniform and billions in treasure," she said.

Shah argued that foreign assistance is crucial to the long term economic recovery because it helps develop markets for American goods.

"USAID's work also strengthens America's economic security. By establishing links to consumers at the bottom of the pyramid, we effectively position American countries to enter more markets and sell more goods in the economies of the future, promoting exports and creating American jobs," he said.

FAREWELL TO MARK GAGE

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation to Mark Gage of our Foreign Affairs Committee staff for his guidance, his insight, and his counsel throughout the years.

After a distinguished career in the House, which started with Congressman Solomon's office in 1981 as an intern and 5 years as a political appointee at the Department of State, Mark has decided to retire from government service.

Our committee will be losing an immense talent and a dedicated public servant, someone driven by an unwavering commitment to doing what is right for our Nation and by the Members that he has served throughout the last three decades. Mark's expertise and sharp wit will be sorely missed.

I wish Mark a wonderful retirement with his lovely wife, Linda, and their three terrific dogs.

UCONN HUSKIES: 2011 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Coach Jim Calhoun and the UConn men's basketball team for their win last night. That is the third national championship under Coach Calhoun, who hails from the Second Congressional District of eastern Connecticut.

This was a remarkable year. When the season started, they weren't even on the top 68 by Sports Illustrated. But under the leadership of Kemba Walker, three freshmen and a sophomore, they defied the odds, won 11 consecutive single-elimination games over the last 20-some-odd days, and prevailed last night