

that point demanded that the administration support a higher level of funding for embassy security. The administration requested an additional \$314 million in this bill, and the House committee approved \$314 million. But then when it got to the Senate, the Senate cut back that number to \$110 million.

In my view, the House number is correct. The purpose of this motion is to send a clear signal that the House would prefer to fund the highest level possible given what the spread of the difference is between the House and the Senate on this issue.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I will be brief. This is a motion that we can agree to. It is not controversial, at least on this side of the Capitol. It may be when we reach the other body.

But the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) is correct. After the embassy bombings in Africa, the administration made announcements that they were going to pursue embassy security around the world in a much more vigorous way, something that we agree with here in this subcommittee and I think the full Congress.

□ 1715

But then when the administration sent their budget to the Hill, we looked very quickly to the section dealing with embassy security and maintenance of U.S. missions abroad, and found that there was an absolutely inadequate request. When the Secretary came to testify before the subcommittee, the request, I think, was for \$36 million. We told the Secretary that the request was absolutely inadequate, that we had to pay attention to the problems that were being presented to us around the world in the way of threats to our personnel, and we asked her to go back to the White House and to come up with an amended request.

In due course of time, they did just that. And so the request, then, from the administration was amended. They requested an additional \$264 million, for a total of \$300 million for a security capital construction program. And that is exactly the dollar figure that the subcommittee, the full committee and now the full House included in this appropriation bill. The Senate bill is at \$36 million for this program. That is the original request level. The Crowe Commission, named for Admiral Crowe who headed it up, dealing with embassy security, had called for a major investment in new secure embassy facilities. That followed on the heels of many other requests by various commissions down through the years. And so we stand ready to pursue the full House figure. We hope we can convince our colleagues across the Capitol that this level of funding is necessary.

I commend the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) for bringing the matter to the attention of the body, and it is a matter that we can fully agree upon. I urge the adoption of the motion.

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

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

I would simply say in closing that I think this is one point on which there is no difference of opinion between the administration and the House on either side of the aisle in the House. I do think if I were the administration, I would be hard-pressed to follow the conflicting instructions that seem to be coming from the two congressional bodies, with the Senate going in one direction and the House in another, but I think they are going in the right direction on this item with their amended request. I think the House agrees with that. I think this motion to instruct will make it clear to the Senate that we believe they ought to back off and accept the higher number now contained in the administration request.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY).

The motion was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees: Messrs. ROGERS, KOLBE, TAYLOR of North Carolina, REGULA, LATHAM, MILLER of Florida, WAMP, YOUNG of Florida, SERRANO, DIXON, MOLLOHAN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. OBEY.

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 1906, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees on the bill (H.R. 1906) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes: Messrs. SKEEN, WALSH, DICKEY, KINGSTON, NETHERCUTT, BONILLA, LATHAM, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. DELAURO, and Messrs. HINCHEY, FARR, BOYD and OBEY.

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

□ 1802

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS) at 6 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

MOTION TO CLOSE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON H.R. 2561, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000, WHEN CLASSIFIED NATIONAL SECURITY IS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. LEWIS of California moves, pursuant to rule XXII, clause 12 of the House rules, that the conference meetings between the House and the Senate on the bill H.R. 2561, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, be closed to the public at such times as classified national security information is under consideration; provided, however, that any sitting Member of Congress shall have a right to attend any closed or open meeting.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, this motion is nondebatable and must be taken by the yeas and nays.

Members are advised that this vote will be followed by a 15-minute vote and a 5-minute vote on suspensions considered earlier today.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 7, not voting 38, as follows:

[Roll No. 405]

YEAS—388

Abercrombie	Bereuter	Brady (TX)
Ackerman	Berkley	Brown (OH)
Aderholt	Berman	Bryant
Allen	Berry	Burr
Andrews	Biggert	Burton
Archer	Bilbray	Callahan
Armey	Bilirakis	Calvert
Bachus	Bishop	Camp
Baird	Blagojevich	Campbell
Baker	Bliley	Canady
Baldacci	Blumenauer	Cannon
Baldwin	Blunt	Capps
Ballenger	Boehert	Capuano
Barr	Boehner	Cardin
Barrett (NE)	Bonilla	Castle
Barrett (WI)	Bonior	Chabot
Bartlett	Bono	Chambliss
Barton	Borski	Chenoweth
Bass	Boswell	Clayton
Bateman	Boucher	Clement
Becerra	Boyd	Clyburn
Bentsen	Brady (PA)	Coble