

Moran (VA)	Rogers	Sununu
Morella	Rohrabacher	Sweeney
Murtha	Ros-Lehtinen	Talent
Myrick	Rothman	Tanner
Napolitano	Roukema	Tauscher
Neal	Roybal-Allard	Tauzin
Nethercutt	Royce	Taylor (MS)
Ney	Rush	Taylor (NC)
Northup	Ryan (WI)	Terry
Norwood	Ryun (KS)	Thompson (CA)
Nussle	Salmon	Thompson (MS)
Oberstar	Sanchez	Thornberry
Olver	Sanders	Thune
Ortiz	Sandlin	Thurman
Ose	Sanford	Tiahrt
Owens	Sawyer	Tierney
Oxley	Saxton	Toomey
Packard	Schaffer	Towns
Pallone	Scott	Traficant
Pascrell	Sensenbrenner	Turner
Pastor	Serrano	Udall (CO)
Paul	Sessions	Udall (NM)
Payne	Shadegg	Upton
Pease	Shaw	Velazquez
Pelosi	Shays	Vento
Peterson (MN)	Sherman	Visclosky
Peterson (PA)	Sherwood	Vitter
Petri	Shimkus	Walden
Phelps	Shows	Walsh
Pickering	Shuster	Wamp
Pickett	Simpson	Waters
Pitts	Sisisky	Watkins
Pombo	Skeen	Watts (OK)
Pomeroy	Skelton	Waxman
Porter	Slaughter	Weiner
Portman	Smith (MI)	Weldon (FL)
Price (NC)	Smith (NJ)	Weldon (PA)
Pryce (OH)	Smith (TX)	Weller
Quinn	Smith (WA)	Wexler
Radanovich	Snyder	Weygand
Rahall	Souder	Whitfield
Ramstad	Spence	Wicker
Rangel	Spratt	Wilson
Regula	Stabenow	Wise
Reyes	Stark	Wolf
Reynolds	Stearns	Woolsey
Rivers	Stenholm	Wynn
Rodriguez	Strickland	Young (AK)
Roemer	Stump	Young (FL)
Rogan	Stupak	

NAYS—2

Nadler Sabo

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—6

Blumenauer	Frank (MA)	Schakowsky
Capuano	Houghton	Watt (NC)

NOT VOTING—8

Gutierrez	Riley	Thomas
Hoyer	Scarborough	Wu
Obey	Tancredo	

□ 1442

Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. HOUGHTON changed their vote from "yea" to "present."

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 455 and 456, I was emavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea."

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

HEALTH RESEARCH AND QUALITY ACT OF 1999

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 299 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 299

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. 2506) to amend title IX of the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Commerce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Commerce now printed in the bill. Each section of the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII and except pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. Each amendment so printed may be offered only by the Member who caused it to be printed or his designee and shall be considered as read. The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes. 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. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommend with or without instructions.

□ 1445

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Rochester, NY (Ms. SLAUGHTER) pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, Mr. Speaker, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, this is a fair and appropriate rule for this particular legisla-

tion. In fact, had it not been for the amount of money H.R. 2506 authorizes, doubling the current authorization level to \$900 million, the bill would have been considered under the suspension process. The bill was voted out of the Committee on Commerce by a voice vote and the Committee on Rules reported a modified open rule to ensure that no extraneous amendments to the Public Health Service Act would be considered. The rule allows any Member who has preprinted an amendment in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to offer that amendment. This will ensure a full and open, yet targeted debate on the merits of this particular agency covered by this legislation.

When the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, AHCPR as it is known in its acronym, was created in 1989, the health care universe looked far different than it does today. Traditional fee for service plans still dominated the market and managed care was still very much in its infancy period. Utilization review, peer review, these were largely unknown concepts, at least fully tried or tested. H.R. 2506 modernizes the agency to reflect these and other changes and provides resources to enable more effective collection of data.

Many Americans sitting at home watching may be wondering why we need yet another Federal agency involved in health care quality. Well, health care quality is a critical issue these days. As someone who has always believed that Congress too often stands in the way of true health care quality, I share concern with the people at home who are worried about this. To the extent that this "reformed" agency can promote better research and encourage successful partnerships between the public and private sectors with limited Federal red tape, it can be a worthy investment. And, of course, that is the goal. But we must retain vigorous oversight and maintain high expectations to ensure that these precious taxpayer dollars are indeed put to good use. Again, we think that is the reason for this legislation and we congratulate its authors for this effort.

As I stated before, this is an eminently fair rule that should engender no controversy as far as I know.

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my distinguished colleague from Florida for yielding me the 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this is an "almost open" rule, for the majority has again relied on a preprinting requirement for amendments which may affect some Members of the House. But I rise in support of the rule and in support of H.R. 2506, the Health Research and Quality Act of 1999. The bill is being brought to the floor by the gentleman