

line systems to be compatible and interoperable. However, that day is rapidly approaching.

In the short term, it is my hope that the Congress will have the opportunity to work toward a national standard for Smart Cards as other States like Ohio and Wyoming begin to consider their own Smart Card projects for domestic feeding programs, unemployment compensation, health care, and other benefits. It is my view that there is much to learn from Ohio's leadership and experience in this area.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I want to thank the chairman for his comments.

As I understand his comments, Ohio would not, then, be required to change its off-line system to an on-line system under this proposal?

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will continue to yield, he is correct; Ohio, as well as Wyoming, would not be required to make any changes. And for that matter, those States currently using an on-line system that does not achieve the national interoperability standard would not be required to meet this standard until their current contracts expire.

Finally, I should point out that in the case of Ohio and Wyoming's Smart Card programs, the bill's waiver language and Smart Card provisions provide a clear exemption with no time limit imposed as to when changes would have to be made.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I appreciate these very important clarifications with regard to how legislation relates to Smart Card changes, especially my home State of Ohio.

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time on this side. I would just conclude by thanking the gentleman from Virginia (Chairman GOODLATTE) and the gentleman from Texas (Chairman COMBEST) for their work on this piece of legislation, and I urge our colleagues to support it.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I rise to support this important bill that amends the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to provide for a national standard of interoperability and portability applicable to electronic food stamp benefit transactions.

This measure ensures that our citizens can use their food stamp cards in any state. Currently, citizens in my home State of Texas cannot use their cards in any other states—a situation that hinders their ability to obtain vital necessities while traveling to other states. Clearly, we do not want our citizens burdened when they cross state lines to visit friends and families.

By amending the Food Stamp Act of 1977 with this bill, we can provide for a national standard of interoperability and portability applicable to electronic food stamp benefit transactions enhance food stamp interstate commerce. This measure would bring the food stamp process into a new age of technology by requiring systems that provide for the elec-

tronic issuance, use, and redemption of coupons in the form of electronic benefit transfer cards to be interoperable, and food stamp benefits to be made portable, among all States not later than October 1, 2002.

I appreciate that this bill works in conjunction with the Secretary of Agriculture. The measure appropriately directs the Secretary of Agriculture to promulgate regulations that adopt a national standard based upon a standard used by the majority of States and require any electronic benefit transfer contract (as defined by this Act) entered into 30 days or more after promulgation of such regulations be in accordance with the national standard.

The bill also includes language to rectify potential technological difficulties. This piece of legislation authorizes the Secretary to provide a requesting State with a temporary deadline waiver based upon unusual technological barriers.

It is also vitally important that we provide for an interim system until the electronic standard is completed. This bill directs the Secretary to allow a State using a smart card food stamp delivery system to continue such system until a technological method is available for electronic benefit transfer card interoperability. Sets forth the conditions for full Federal payment of State switching costs, including annual fiscal year caps.

In an effort to provide a thorough analysis of this undertaking, this measure directs the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study of alternatives for handling food stamp benefit electronic transactions, including use of a single switching hub.

I am aware that this measure passed the Senate, and I appreciate the bipartisan effort to enact this bill. I support this fine piece of legislation.

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1733, the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Interoperability and Portability Act. I'd like to thank Chairman LARRY COMBEST and Chairman BOB GOODLATTE for bringing this bill to the floor today and for their strong leadership on this important issue.

Interoperability of food stamp EBT systems makes sense both for recipients and retailers. As USDA moves from paper food coupons to EBT cards, interoperability ensures that recipients will retain the same portability as before. Recipients will be able to access stores nearest to their homes and retailers will be able to serve their customers regardless of state boundaries. In areas of the country near state lines, such as in my Congressional District in Southern Missouri, incompatible EBT systems have been a significant problem for both groups. I am very pleased that the bill before us today will resolve this problem and bring the best technology to the food stamp program.

The government and the taxpayer, too, are well served by S. 1733, because it establishes a new mechanism for tracking and policing fraud and abuse in the food stamp program. In my home state of Missouri, the Department of Social Services estimates that an interoperable EBT system would save the federal government as much as \$1 million annually in reduced fraud in Missouri alone.

One aspect of S. 1733 that I would like to highlight is that it provides 100% federal fund-

ing of the costs associated with switching and settling interstate transactions. These costs will not be imposed on other entities, such as retail food stores, states, and food stamp households. This is entirely appropriate because these costs are directly related to administering the program on a nationwide basis, not within a particular state.

Again, I would like to reiterate to my colleagues that this is a very sensible piece of legislation that deserves the support of this House. I urge a strong "Yes" vote.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. COMBEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1733.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 1733.

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

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 2 o'clock and 52 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

□ 1800

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS) at 6 p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Concurrent Resolution 244, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 2130, concurring in Senate amendment, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

**PERMITTING USE OF CAPITOL ROTUNDA FOR CEREMONY COMMEMORATING VICTIMS OF HOLOCAUST**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 244.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 244, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 339, nays 0, not voting 95, as follows:

[Roll No. 2]  
YEAS—339

Ackerman	Combest	Goodlatte
Aderholt	Condit	Gordon
Allen	Conyers	Goss
Archer	Cook	Granger
Armey	Costello	Green (TX)
Baca	Coyne	Green (WI)
Bachus	Cramer	Greenwood
Baird	Crane	Gutierrez
Baker	Crowley	Gutknecht
Baldacci	Cubin	Hall (OH)
Baldwin	Cummings	Hall (TX)
Ballenger	Cunningham	Hastings (FL)
Barr	Danner	Hastings (WA)
Barrett (WI)	Davis (FL)	Hayes
Bartlett	Davis (VA)	Hayworth
Barton	DeFazio	Herger
Bentsen	DeLauro	Hill (IN)
Bereuter	DeLay	Hill (MT)
Berkley	Deutsch	Hilliary
Berry	Dickey	Hilliary
Biggert	Dicks	Hinchev
Bilbray	Dixon	Hobson
Bilirakis	Doggett	Hoeffel
Bishop	Dooley	Hoekstra
Blagojevich	Doolittle	Holden
Bliley	Doyle	Holt
Blumenauer	Dreier	Hooley
Blunt	Duncan	Horn
Boehlert	Dunn	Hostettler
Boehner	Edwards	Houghton
Bonilla	Ehlers	Hoyer
Bonior	Emerson	Hutchinson
Bono	Engel	Hyde
Borski	English	Inslee
Boswell	Eshoo	Jackson (IL)
Boyd	Etheridge	Jackson-Lee
Brady (PA)	Evans	(TX)
Brady (TX)	Ewing	Jenkins
Burr	Farr	John
Buyer	Filner	Johnson, E.B.
Callahan	Fletcher	Johnson, Sam
Calvert	Foley	Jones (NC)
Camp	Forbes	Jones (OH)
Canady	Ford	Kanjorski
Cannon	Fossella	Kasich
Capps	Frank (MA)	Kelly
Capuano	Frelinghuysen	Kildee
Cardin	Frost	Kind (WI)
Castle	Galleghy	King (NY)
Chabot	Ganske	Kleczka
Chenoweth-Hage	Gekas	Klink
Clay	Gibbons	Knollenberg
Clayton	Gilchrest	Kolbe
Clement	Gillmor	Kucinich
Clyburn	Gilman	Kuykendall
Coble	Gonzalez	LaFalce
Collins	Goode	LaHood

Lampson	Ose	Skelton
Lantos	Oxley	Smith (MI)
Latham	Packard	Smith (NJ)
LaTourette	Pallone	Smith (TX)
Lazio	Pascrell	Smith (WA)
Leach	Pastor	Snyder
Lee	Paul	Souder
Levin	Pease	Spratt
Lewis (GA)	Pelosi	Stabenow
Lewis (KY)	Peterson (MN)	Stark
Linder	Petri	Stearns
Lipinski	Phelps	Stenholm
LoBiondo	Pickering	Strickland
Lofgren	Pickett	Stump
Lucas (KY)	Pitts	Stupak
Luther	Pomeroy	Sununu
Maloney (CT)	Porter	Talent
Maloney (NY)	Portman	Tancredo
Manzullo	Pryce (OH)	Tanner
Martinez	Quinn	Tauscher
Mascara	Radanovich	Tauzin
McCarthy (MO)	Rahall	Taylor (MS)
McCarthy (NY)	Ramstad	Terry
McDermott	Rangel	Thomas
McGovern	Regula	Thompson (CA)
McHugh	Reyes	Thompson (MS)
McInnis	Reynolds	Thornberry
McIntyre	Riley	Thune
McKeon	Roemer	Thurman
McKinney	Rogan	Tierney
McNulty	Rogers	Toomey
Meek (FL)	Rohrabacher	Towns
Meeke (NY)	Ros-Lehtinen	Trafficant
Menendez	Rothman	Udall (CO)
Metcalfe	Roybal-Allard	Udall (NM)
Mica	Royce	Upton
Millender-McDonald	Rush	Velázquez
Miller, Gary	Ryan (WI)	Visclosky
Minge	Ryun (KS)	Vitter
Moakley	Sabo	Walden
Mollohan	Salmon	Walsh
Moore	Sandlin	Wamp
Moran (KS)	Sawyer	Waters
Moran (VA)	Saxton	Watt (NC)
Morella	Schakowsky	Waxman
Murtha	Sensenbrenner	Weiner
Nadler	Serrano	Weldon (PA)
Napolitano	Sessions	Weller
Ney	Shaw	Weygand
Northup	Shays	Whitfield
Norwood	Sherman	Wicker
Nussle	Sherwood	Wise
Oberstar	Shimkus	Wolf
Obey	Shows	Woolsey
Olver	Simpson	Wu
Ortiz	Sisisky	Wynn
	Skeen	

**NOT VOTING—95**

Abercrombie	Gephardt	Nethercutt
Andrews	Goodling	Owens
Barcia	Graham	Payne
Barrett (NE)	Hansen	Peterson (PA)
Bass	Hefley	Pombo
Bateman	Hinojosa	Price (NC)
Becerra	Hulshof	Rivers
Berman	Hunter	Rodriguez
Boucher	Isakson	Roukema
Brown (FL)	Istook	Sánchez
Brown (OH)	Jefferson	Sanders
Bryant	Johnson (CT)	Sanford
Burton	Kaptur	Scarborough
Campbell	Kennedy	Schaffer
Carson	Kilpatrick	Scott
Chambliss	Kingston	Shadegg
Coburn	Largent	Shuster
Cooksey	Larson	Slaughter
Cox	Lewis (CA)	Spence
Davis (IL)	Lowey	Sweeney
Deal	Lucas (OK)	Taylor (NC)
DeGette	Markey	Tiahrt
Delahunt	Matsui	Turner
DeMint	McCollum	Vento
Diaz-Balart	McCrery	Watkins
Dingell	McIntosh	Watts (OK)
Ehrlich	Meehan	Weldon (FL)
Everett	Miller (FL)	Wexler
Fattah	Miller, George	Wilson
Fowler	Mink	Young (AK)
Franks (NJ)	Myrick	Young (FL)
Gejdenson	Neal	

□ 1825

Mr. PITTS changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 2, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." on rollcall No. 2.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 2, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 2 on January 31, 2000 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote No. 2. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 2.

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, on H. Con. Res. 244, due to travel restrictions, I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

**HILLORY J. FARIAS AND SAMANTHA REID DATE-RAPE PREVENTION DRUG ACT OF 1999**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and concurring in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 2130.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 2130, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5 minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 339, nays 2, not voting 93, as follows:

[Roll No. 3]  
YEAS—339

Ackerman	Bliley	Clement
Aderholt	Blumenauer	Clyburn
Allen	Blunt	Coble
Andrews	Boehlert	Collins
Archer	Boehner	Combust
Armey	Bonilla	Condit
Baca	Bonior	Conyers
Bachus	Bono	Cook
Baird	Borski	Costello
Baker	Boswell	Coyne
Baldacci	Boyd	Cramer
Baldwin	Brady (PA)	Crane
Ballenger	Brady (TX)	Crowley
Barr	Burr	Cubin
Barrett (WI)	Buyer	Cummings
Bartlett	Callahan	Cunningham
Barton	Calvert	Danner
Bentsen	Camp	Davis (FL)
Bereuter	Canady	Davis (VA)
Berkley	Capps	DeFazio
Berry	Capuano	Delahunt
Biggert	Cardin	DeLauro
Bilbray	Castle	DeLay
Bilirakis	Chabot	Deutsch
Bishop	Clay	Dickey
Blagojevich	Clayton	Dicks