

Weller	Wilson	Wynn
Wexler	Wise	Young (AK)
Weygand	Wolf	Young (FL)
Whitfield	Woolsey	
Wicker	Wu	

## NOES—25

Becerra	Hinchey	Rangel
Bonior	Jackson (IL)	Roybal-Allard
Brown (OH)	Kennedy	Sabo
Clay	Lee	Sanders
Conyers	Markey	Serrano
Filner	Matsui	Stark
Frank (MA)	McDermott	Visclosky
Gephardt	Neal	
Gutknecht	Oliver	

## NOT VOTING—9

Baca	Campbell	McIntosh
Barton	Klink	Smith (WA)
Boswell	Martinez	Vento

□ 1359

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1102, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4576, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 554 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

## H. RES. 554

*Resolved*, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 4576) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Yesterday, the Committee on Rules met and granted a normal conference report rule for H.R. 4576, the Fiscal

Year 2001 Department of Defense Appropriations Act. The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration. The rule also provides that the conference report shall be considered as read.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 554 is a non-controversial rule for a strong bipartisan bill. In fact, the Committee on Appropriations approved this bill in late May by voice vote and without an amendment.

I have always admired the patriotism and dedication of our military personnel, especially given the poor quality of military life for our enlisted men and women. But today, we are doing something to improve military pay, housing and benefits.

Mr. Speaker, we are helping to take some of our enlisted men off food stamps by giving them a 3.7 percent pay raise and we are boosting their enlistment and re-enlistment bonuses. To follow through on our health care promises to our servicemen and women, we are increasing funding for the Department of Defense Health Program by \$963 million this year. A good portion of these funds will go to improving care for our military retirees who have never been given the treatment that they deserve.

At the same time, we are increasing the basic allowance for housing so that our military families do not have to pay as much out of their own pockets. Along with personnel, we have to take care of our military readiness. We live in a dangerous world and Congress is working to protect our friends and families back home from our enemies abroad.

We are providing for our national missile defense system so that we can stop a warhead from places like China or North Korea, if that day ever comes; and we are boosting the military's budget for weapons and ammunition. We are providing \$41 billion for research and development so that our forces will have top of the line equipment to do their job.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this rule and to support the underlying bill because now, more than ever, we must improve our national security.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this rule and the conference report to accompany fiscal year 2001 Department of Defense Appropriations. This important appropriations bill provides the funding for the security and defense of the United States and ensures that our military strength remain second to none. This conference agreement will provide \$288 billion for the programs of the Defense Department, and includes a 3.7 percent pay raise for our military

personnel, an increase of nearly \$1 billion over fiscal year 2000 for military health care.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill and deserves the support of this House. This rule is the standard rule for the consideration of conference reports in the House, and it waives all points of order against the consideration of the conference report. This rule is non-controversial, and I urge Members to support it.

I also urge Members to support this conference report. The pay raise provided to our Armed Forces is of great importance, especially for younger military members with families, and for those mid-career personnel who are considering abandoning the military for the civilian world. The bill also addresses an important need for those who have served and are now retired by funding the Expanded Pharmacy Access Program that was part of the National Defense Authorization Act.

These are important benefits for active duty and retired personnel, and I urge Members to support them.

I am particularly pleased that the conference agreement contains \$3.9 billion for overseas contingency operations in Bosnia, Kosovo, and southwest Asia. While many Members may disagree with these operations, it would be irresponsible for the Congress to withhold the funds necessary to maintain them, unless and until the Congress decides to end them in an orderly fashion. The conference report also provides \$1.1 billion for the acquisition of 16 V-22 tiltrotor aircraft and \$122 million for the acquisition of four F-16s. These are important procurements for the Marine Corps and the Air Force.

In addition, the conference report fully funds the F-22 Raptor jet fighter program with \$2.1 billion for 10 aircraft, \$396 million for advanced procurement, and \$1.4 billion for research and development. Fully funding this stage of the procurement of this important addition to our Nation's arsenal is key to ensuring our continued air superiority well into this new century.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very good conference agreement, and I urge Members to support it.

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

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their