

Schakowsky	Stark	Turner
Scott	Stearns	Udall (CO)
Sensenbrenner	Stenholm	Udall (NM)
Sessions	Strickland	Upton
Shadegg	Stump	Visclosky
Shaw	Stupak	Vitter
Shays	Sununu	Walden
Sherman	Talent	Walsh
Sherwood	Taneredo	Wamp
Shimkus	Tanner	Waters
Shows	Tauscher	Watt (NC)
Shuster	Tauzin	Watts (OK)
Simpson	Taylor (MS)	Waxman
Sisisky	Taylor (NC)	Weldon (PA)
Skeen	Terry	Weller
Skelton	Thomas	Wexler
Slaughter	Thompson (CA)	Whitfield
Smith (MI)	Thompson (MS)	Wicker
Smith (NJ)	Thornberry	Wilson
Smith (TX)	Thune	Wolf
Smith (WA)	Thurman	Woolsey
Snyder	Tiahrt	Wu
Spence	Tierney	Wynn
Spratt	Toomey	Young (AK)
Stabenow	Trafficant	Young (FL)

## NOT VOTING—33

Ackerman	Franks (NJ)	Serrano
Becerra	Gutierrez	Souder
Boehlert	Johnson, E. B.	Sweeney
Bonilla	Klink	Towns
Borski	Lazio	Velazquez
Campbell	Lofgren	Vento
Chambliss	McCollum	Watkins
Clay	McIntosh	Weiner
Engel	Meeks (NY)	Weldon (FL)
Eshoo	Owens	Weygand
Filner	Roukema	Wise

□ 1921

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4205, FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001**

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 7c of rule XXII, I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4205 tomorrow. The form of the motion is as follows:

I move that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4205 be instructed to agree to the provisions contained in title 15 of the Senate amendment.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISAKSON). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on the remaining motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken tomorrow.

**RECOGNITION FOR SLAVE LABORERS WHO WORKED ON CONSTRUCTION OF UNITED STATES CAPITOL**

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 368) establishing a special task force to recommend an appropriate recognition for the slave laborers who worked on the construction of the United States Capitol.

The Clerk read as follows:

**H. CON. RES. 368**

Whereas the United States Capitol stands as a symbol of democracy, equality, and freedom to the entire world;

Whereas the year 2000 marks the 200th anniversary of the opening of this historic structure for the first session of Congress to be held in the new Capital City;

Whereas slavery was not prohibited throughout the United States until the ratification of the 13th amendment to the Constitution in 1865;

Whereas previous to that date, African American slave labor was both legal and common in the District of Columbia and the adjoining States of Maryland and Virginia;

Whereas public records attest to the fact that African American slave labor was used in the construction of the United States Capitol;

Whereas public records further attest to the fact that the five-dollar-per-month payment for that African American slave labor was made directly to slave owners and not to the laborer; and

Whereas African Americans made significant contributions and fought bravely for freedom during the American Revolutionary War: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That—*

(1) the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall establish a special task force to study the history and contributions of these slave laborers in the construction of the United States Capitol; and

(2) such special task force shall recommend to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate an appropriate recognition for these slave laborers which could be displayed in a prominent location in the United States Capitol.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS).

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

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to compliment and congratulate the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS), my friend and my conference chairman; and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), my friend and colleague on the Committee on Ways and Means; one, for the way in which this legislation has been put together; and, two, the time in which we have moved.

It has now become better known that several months ago a local television reporter unearthed some United States

Treasury Department pay slips that, strange as it may seem, allows us to have a better understanding of what went on in the early stages of the building of our Capitol. One would think that we would have as complete a documentation as any people could have.

And yet what we found out was that those pay slips showed that there were slave owners who were paid for work in the building of the United States Capitol. Pretty obviously, the labor was not done by the slave owners. In fact, it was slaves that did the work, more than 400, which gives us an even more appropriate reason for recognizing the importance of this particular building, and a continued understanding of the true and honest history of the United States.

The resolution would create a task force to study the history and contributions of those slave laborers. There has been some concern that the legislation is not real specific about the way in which this task force would be appointed, other than, according to the resolution, to have the Speaker of the House and the President pro tempore of the Senate make the appointments. I would hope everyone understands that this is not to be a political task force. It is not to be some kind of political endeavor to make sure one is politically correct.

The reason we wanted to have the task force was to reach out to those very appropriate professionals who would have knowledge and understanding to assist us in creating whatever the appropriate recognition might be, and we do not want to prejudice what will be presented to us, so that in a prominent location in the Capitol we can, one, give proper credit; two, recognize the fact that it occurred but, more importantly, understand better this particular building and the very human involvement in now yet another dimension not fully appreciated in the creation of our country.

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

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

It is an appropriate and, at the same time, regrettable fact that I rise today in support of this resolution. It is appropriate because I am proud to join my colleagues in an attempt to recognize a terrible wrong, to shed light on a dark chapter in our Nation's history. Sad, because it is a shame that this resolution is even necessary. However, it is necessary; and I commend the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS), my colleagues, for their hard work in bringing this resolution to the floor.

This resolution, as the chairman has pointed out, will establish a task force to recommend an appropriate recognition of the slave laborers who built the