trade determination that is adverse to their interests. Already, WTO decisions are gutting the effective laws of U.S. trading partners in ways that the Administration and Congress expressedly rejected during the negotiations on the agreement establishing the WTO.

In the UK Bar case, the WTO tribunal actually usurped the role assigned to the U.S. Commerce Department by refusing to accept the agency’s reasonable interpretations of WTO agreements. The WTO Antidumping Agreement contains a special standard of review which recognizes that national authorities (e.g., the U.S. Commerce Department) should have the primary role in interpreting the complicated and technical WTO rules. A 1994 WTO Ministerial Declaration provides that subsidies cases (like UK Bar) should also be subject to this deferential standard of review. Despite this fact, the WTO tribunals disregarded the WTO Members’ intent and said the standard of review was “non-binding.”

The simple fact is that the WTO dispute settlement process is structurally biased against the U.S. Panels are staffed by the WTO Secretariat that over the years has demonstrated a bias against U.S. fair trade laws, WTO documents, including the WTO Annual Report, reveal a hostility to anti-dumping laws. In addition, the actual members of the panels are selected from a cadre of foreign diplomats, economists, and academics, many of whom have no judicial training and have very negative opinions of U.S. trade laws.

The U.S. must take steps to increase its participation in the WTO dispute settlement process. Without even changing WTO rules, the U.S. could “deputize” counsel for domestic industries so they can hear the presentations to the panelists. We should also increase federal support by assigning Commerce Department personnel to our country’s WTO mission in Geneva. The WTO process must also become more transparent by permitting panels to consider written submissions from interested private parties and by giving private counsels, under appropriate protective order, access to all materials in cases considered by panels.

Mr. Speaker, the WTO dispute settlement process needs thorough reform. It is to these reforms that we must now direct our efforts, not to the abandonment of the world trading system. I urge my colleagues to vote “No” on H.J. Res. 90.

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this resolution withdrawing approval of the United States in the World Trade Organization. Although I have some concerns, the United States must be actively engaged in global trade and we need to be forceful, perhaps more forceful than we have been, in advocating a rules-based, transparent trading system.

My main concerns stem from the potential for manipulation of the WTO by some of our trading partners to challenge our domestic laws to ensure fair trading practices. These are legitimate tools to ensure fairness to American industries and American workers.

We need a viable dispute resolution process that permits a full, open airing of grievances. In a rules-based trading system, the rule need to be transparent—everybody needs to know what the rules are. It also must address any non-tariff barriers that are erected to inhibit free and fair trade.

The United States must be vigilant to seek openness, access, and transparency in international trade. We must also be able to preserve our ability to ensure fairness when American producers and workers are placed at risk from unfair trading practices.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). All time for debate has expired. Pursuant to House Resolution 528, the joint resolution is considered read for amendment and the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the joint resolution.

The question was taken; and the SPEAKER pro tempore announced that the yeas and nays be opened.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 525 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4635.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Tuesday, January 20, 2000, the bill was open for amendment from page 57, line 22, to page 58 line 14.

Pursuant to the order of the House of that day, no further amendment shall be in order, except pro forma amendments offered by the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees and the following further amendments, which may be offered only by the Member designated in the order of the House or a designee, or the Member who caused it to be printed or a designee, shall be considered read, shall be debatable for the time specified, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question.

The following additional amendments, debatable for 10 minutes:

An amendment by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) regarding VA mental illness research;

An amendment by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) regarding EPA estuary funding;

An amendment by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER) regarding the space station;

The amendments printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD numbered 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 17, 33, 41 and 43.

The following additional amendments debatable for 20 minutes:

An amendment by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) regarding VA health and research;

The amendments printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD numbered 23, 34, and 35; and,

The following additional amendments debatable for 30 minutes:

An amendment by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) regarding NSF;

An amendment by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) regarding clean air;

An amendment by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BOTTD) regarding FEMA;

An amendment by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLIVER) regarding the Kyoto Protocol;

And the amendments printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD numbered 3, 4, 24, and 25 on Tuesday, January 20, 2000.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

For environmental programs and management, including necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for personnel and related expenses, including uniforms, or allowances therefore, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; services as authorized...