

in healing more in trial lawyers than they do in physicians.

Mr. Speaker, it is incumbent upon this House to pass a bill that is a help to patients, rather than a boom to the trial lawyer's lobby. Let us opt for the plan of the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. FLETCHER) to truly help patients rather than trial lawyers.

AMERICAN FARMLAND STEWARDSHIP ACT

(Mr. PUTNAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce important legislation to assist American farmers and ranchers in achieving valuable conservation goals in the protection of our natural resources.

Today's farmers and ranchers are facing increasing challenges in protecting environmentally sensitive lands while ensuring an abundant, safe food supply. Greater access to conservation programs must be a part of our agricultural policy.

For this reason, Mr. Speaker, I am introducing the American Farmland Stewardship Act of 2001 which will help foster responsible care and stewardship of our natural resources by agricultural producers. The Act provides incentive-based initiatives aimed at assisting farmers in meeting environmental requirements and the protection of endangered habitat, wetlands, improved water quality and water access, treatment of discharge, deterrence of invasive species and other important environmental challenges.

The American Farmland Stewardship Act will ensure greater protection of natural resources by providing economic assistance to agricultural producers to improve and protect natural resources and assist farmers and ranchers in staying competitive in the world market.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in co-sponsoring the American Farmland Stewardship Act.

ENERGY SECURITY ACT

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, we are facing an energy shortage. While our demand is continually growing, our production is slowing. Take natural gas as an example. Our demand for natural gas is actually outstripping our demand for oil. By 2020, we will consume 62 percent more natural gas than we do today. We need to act responsibly, and we need to act quickly. We need to open some of our public lands to exploration for natural gas, and we need to build pipelines to deliver it.

Passing the legislation proposed by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), chairman of the Committee on Resources, last night was a step forward in the right direction.

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS ACT

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the well this morning in strong support of the Community Solutions Act that we will consider shortly today. As our President said just last week, we in Washington cannot make Americans love their neighbors, but we can make resources available to those who have a heart for service, but not a wallet. For too long official Washington has used strict legalism as their excuse for walking by on the other side of the road, denying recognition and assistance to the faith-based institutions who have been making a profound difference in the communities we serve for over 100 years.

Mr. Speaker, the Community Solutions Act will bring this era of discrimination to an end. It will empower Americans and institutions of faith by increasing charitable giving through tax deductions, expanding charitable choice to allow religious organizations funds on an equal footing with non-religious institutions and other reforms.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 7 and let a new era of cooperation between public and private organizations that battle poverty and social maladies to begin.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 372, nays 47, answered "present" 1, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 236]  
YEAS—372

Abercrombie  
Ackerman  
Akin

Allen  
Andrews  
Arney

Baca  
Bachus  
Baird

Baker  
Baldacci  
Baldwin  
Ballenger  
Barcia  
Barr  
Barrett  
Bartlett  
Barton  
Bass  
Becerra  
Bentsen  
Bereuter  
Berkley  
Berman  
Berry  
Biggert  
Bilirakis  
Bishop  
Blagojevich  
Blumenauer  
Blunt  
Boehler  
Boehner  
Bonilla  
Bonior  
Bono  
Boswell  
Boucher  
Boyd  
Brady (TX)  
Brown (FL)  
Brown (OH)  
Brown (SC)  
Bryant  
Burr  
Burton  
Buyer  
Callahan  
Calvert  
Camp  
Cannon  
Cantor  
Capito  
Capps  
Cardin  
Carson (IN)  
Carson (OK)  
Castle  
Chabot  
Chambliss  
Clay  
Clayton  
Clement  
Clyburn  
Coble  
Collins  
Combest  
Condit  
Conyers  
Cooksey  
Cox  
Coyne  
Cramer  
Crenshaw  
Crowley  
Cubin  
Cummings  
Cunningham  
Davis (CA)  
Davis (FL)  
Davis (IL)  
Davis, Jo Ann  
Davis, Tom  
Deal  
DeGette  
Delahunt  
DeLauro  
DeLay  
DeMint  
Deutsch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dicks  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Dooley  
Doolittle  
Doyle  
Dreier  
Duncan  
Dunn  
Edwards  
Ehlers  
Ehrlich  
Emerson  
Engel

Eshoo  
Etheridge  
Evans  
Everett  
Farr  
Fattah  
Ferguson  
Flake  
Fletcher  
Foley  
Forbes  
Ford  
Frank  
Frelinghuysen  
Frost  
Gallegly  
Ganske  
Gekas  
Gephardt  
Gilchrest  
Gillmor  
Gilman  
Gonzalez  
Goode  
Goodlatte  
Gordon  
Graham  
Granger  
Graves  
Green (TX)  
Green (WI)  
Greenwood  
Grucci  
Hall (OH)  
Hall (TX)  
Hansen  
Harman  
Hart  
Hastings (FL)  
Hastings (WA)  
Hayes  
Hayworth  
Herger  
Hill  
Hinchey  
Hinojosa  
Hobson  
Hoeffel  
Hoekstra  
Holden  
Holt  
Honda  
Hoolley  
Horn  
Hostettler  
Houghton  
Hoyer  
Hulshof  
Hunter  
Hyde  
Inslee  
Isakson  
Israel  
Issa  
Jackson (IL)  
Jackson-Lee  
(TX)  
Jefferson  
Jenkins  
John  
Johnson (CT)  
Johnson (IL)  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones (NC)  
Kanjorski  
Kaptur  
Keller  
Kelly  
Kennedy (RI)  
Kerns  
Kildee  
Kilpatrick  
Kind (WI)  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Kirk  
Kleczka  
Knollenberg  
Kolbe  
LaFalce  
LaHood  
Lampson  
Langevin  
Lantos  
Largent  
Larson (CT)

Latham  
LaTourette  
Leach  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Linder  
Lipinski  
Lofgren  
Lowey  
Lucas (KY)  
Lucas (OK)  
Luther  
Maloney (NY)  
Manzullo  
Marky  
Mascara  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (MO)  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCollum  
McCrery  
McHugh  
McInnis  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McKinney  
Meehan  
Meek (FL)  
Meeks (NY)  
Mica  
Millender-  
McDonald  
Miller (FL)  
Miller, Gary  
Miller, George  
Mink  
Mollohan  
Moore  
Moran (VA)  
Morella  
Nadler  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Nethercutt  
Ney  
Northup  
Norwood  
Nussle  
Obey  
Olver  
Ortiz  
Osborne  
Ose  
Otter  
Owens  
Pascrell  
Pastor  
Paul  
Payne  
Pelosi  
Pence  
Peterson (PA)  
Petri  
Phelps  
Pickering  
Pitts  
Platts  
Pomeroy  
Portman  
Price (NC)  
Pryce (OH)  
Putnam  
Quinn  
Radanovich  
Rahall  
Rangel  
Regula  
Rehberg  
Reyes  
Reynolds  
Rivers  
Rodriguez  
Roemer  
Rogers (KY)  
Rogers (MI)  
Rohrabacher  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Ross  
Rothman  
Roukema  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce

Rush	Skelton	Tierney
Ryan (WI)	Slaughter	Toomey
Ryun (KS)	Smith (MI)	Towns
Sanchez	Smith (NJ)	Traficant
Sanders	Smith (TX)	Turner
Sandlin	Smith (WA)	Upton
Sawyer	Snyder	Velázquez
Saxton	Solis	Vitter
Scarborough	Souder	Walden
Schakowsky	Spratt	Walsh
Schiff	Stark	Watkins (OK)
Schrock	Stearns	Watson (CA)
Sensenbrenner	Stenholm	Watt (NC)
Serrano	Stump	Watts (OK)
Sessions	Sununu	Waxman
Shadegg	Sweeney	Weiner
Shaw	Tanner	Weldon (FL)
Shays	Tauscher	Weldon (PA)
Sherman	Tauzin	Wexler
Sherwood	Taylor (NC)	Whitfield
Shimkus	Terry	Wilson
Shows	Thomas	Wolf
Shuster	Thornberry	Woolsey
Simmons	Thune	Wynn
Simpson	Thurman	Young (FL)
Skeen	Tiberi	

## NAYS—47

Aderholt	Kennedy (MN)	Scott
Borski	Kucinich	Strickland
Brady (PA)	Larsen (WA)	Stupak
Capuano	LoBiondo	Taylor (MS)
Costello	McDermott	Thompson (CA)
DeFazio	McGovern	Thompson (MS)
English	McNulty	Tiahrt
Filner	Menendez	Udall (CO)
Fossella	Moran (KS)	Udall (NM)
Gutierrez	Oberstar	Visclosky
Gutknecht	Pallone	Wamp
Hefley	Peterson (MN)	Waters
Hilleary	Pombo	Weller
Hilliard	Ramstad	Wicker
Johnson, E. B.	Sabo	Wu
Jones (OH)	Schaffer	

## ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Tancredo

## NOT VOTING—13

Crane	Istook	Riley
Culberson	Maloney (CT)	Spence
Gibbons	Murtha	Young (AK)
Goss	Myrick	
Hutchinson	Oxley	

□ 1048

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

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

#### APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 1, NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to rule XXII, and by direction of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I move to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1) to close the achievement gap with accountability, flexibility, and choice, so that no child is left behind, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), for him to control under this debate.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government has been involved in education

policy since 1965. Thirty-six years later we are finally getting serious about demanding results for our Nation's children.

As the Chicago Tribune noted recently, "Congress has spent the last four decades appropriating massive amounts of money to try to even out the educational experiences that disadvantaged children receive compared to their more fortunate peers. And in return for that long-term multi-billion dollar investment, we have gotten more disappointment. Most states show continuing gaps in achievement between poor and middle-class kids, and between white and minority students. Meanwhile, our students have fallen behind those of other countries."

Washington finally seems ready to put an end to this era of lost opportunity, thanks to President Bush and reform-minded legislators on both sides of the political aisle.

The No Child Left Behind Act, H.R. 1, passed this House on May 23 by a vote of 384 to 45, and reflects each of the four pillars of President Bush's education reform plan: accountability and testing, flexibility and local control, funding for what works, and expanded parental options.

H.R. 1 embodies President Bush's vision for education in America. That vision says a number of important things.

It says that when States use Federal education dollars, they should be accountable for getting results.

It says that parents should be empowered with data about the schools their children are attending, the qualifications of the teachers teaching their children, and their children's academic progress.

It says Federal education resources should be focused on helping students who are in the most need of help. We should increase for what works and ensure Federal education dollars are targeted to where they will make the biggest impact for our neediest children.

It says that to meet the tough new accountability standards, teachers and local school officials should have greater flexibility to decide how to address their students' unique needs.

And it says the parents want to choose the best education possible for their children, regardless of income level and/or their ethnic background.

The bills passed by the House and Senate have much in common, but there are some important differences that must be resolved.

We differ from our colleagues in the Senate on the issue of targeting resources to our most disadvantaged students, a goal that I think the House version embraces. We do believe that Federal education resources should be targeted to helping the most disadvantaged of our students and helping them to learn to read, to learn English, and to learn math skills. Accordingly, we

passed a bill that focuses funds toward our poorest students, streamlines bureaucracy and refocuses Federal education dollars towards students who need help the most.

The Senate bill, by contrast, actually expands the overall number of programs significantly. It creates many more new programs than does the House bill, and the overall number of programs is significantly higher. According to the Congressional Research Service, there are 55 currently funded elementary and secondary education programs, and the Senate bill would increase that number to 89.

Many new programs added by the Senate may have merit. But the more programs we create, the harder it becomes to target Federal resources to the very students that we are trying to help. The more programs we add, the more we force disadvantaged students to compete for available funds.

The fact of the matter is that these students already have enough to compete against. Life's circumstances are competition enough for most of them. They should not have to compete for the opportunity to learn to read, to learn English, or to learn to add and subtract and multiply.

There are other areas where we are going to need to address issues as well:

We must assist on real accountability. Parents should be empowered with data, and States should be required to demonstrate that they are using Federal resources to close the achievement gaps that exist between disadvantaged students and their peers.

We must give States and local school districts the flexibility they need to address their students' unique needs and meet the higher expectations that we are placing on them.

And we must ensure that there is an escape route for students trapped in dangerous, failing schools that just do not change. The House bill provides for immediate public and charter school choice to parents with children in failing public schools. We hope our Senate colleagues will join us in embracing this new option for parents.

We look forward to taking the final step in what has been a very long process this year. We are looking forward to sending to the President an education bill that reflects his principles and begins making an immediate impact for students in schools all across America.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the motion to go to conference. We have a historic opportunity to come out of this conference with an education reform bill that will benefit America's children. In May we passed an overwhelmingly bipartisan bill to ensure