

rural areas of the country, there is no requirement that any of the savings a company garners through lessened regulatory obligations be spent or invested in deployment of new, or advanced services to rural areas. The legislation has no advanced services build-out requirement, no blueprint or timetable for deployment to rural areas for such services. It appears that the savings a company enjoys through this bill can go directly to profits and to shareholders.

As we proceed further on this bill I would encourage Members to further review suggestions made by NARUC and its membership and work again on these issues so that consumers and the public interest are fully protected.

Again, I want to thank Mrs. CUBIN for the adjustments in the bill that she has been willing to make thus far. I enjoy working with her and want to continue our discussions on this bill. I believe that working together, along with Chairman UPTON, Chairman TAUZIN, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. GORDON, Mr. BARRETT, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. LARGENT and other supporters of the bill, that we can ultimately reach a resolution with the Senate that works for everybody. In addition I want to commend and thank Mrs. CUBIN's staff, Bryan Jacobs, and the Energy and Commerce Committee Republican staff, Howard Waltzman, for their efforts in fashioning compromises in many sections of the bill.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, today this Member received a letter from the chief executive officer of one of the many rural telephone companies in Nebraska. Great Plains Communications is based in Blair, Nebraska.

Great Plains serves 33,600 lines across 13,600 square miles of rural Nebraska. The company's service area includes 76 communities and 63 exchanges. That amounts to about two and one-half customers per square mile. Fifty of those exchanges have 6 or fewer customers per square mile and 20 of the exchanges have 2 or fewer subscribers per square mile.

At a recent telecommunications conference at Creighton University in Omaha, Great Plains CEO Mick Jensen noted that most rural telephone companies are experiencing flat growth, that flat growth makes investment difficult, that costs continue to rise, and that these rural telephone companies lack economies of scale and are serving many customers with limited income.

Across the United States more than 1,000 small, local telephone companies are facing similar problems as they work to provide good service to rural residents. These telephone companies have more limited financial resources and relatively higher expenses than large telephone companies. Yet, these small companies must function under FCC regulations intended for large carriers.

Mr. Speaker, the Independent Telecommunications Consumer Enhancement Act will help to end "one-size-fits-all" regulation of small and rural telecommunications carriers. It will protect these carriers and their customers from unfair and unnecessary regulatory burdens. And, in doing so, it will free resources that can be used to provide advanced telecommunications services to residents of rural areas.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 496, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to section 2(a) of the National Cultural Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76h(a)), the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts:

- Mr. HASTERT of Illinois;
 - Mr. KOLBE of Arizona; and
 - Mr. GEPHARDT of Missouri.
- There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today, and then on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

- House Concurrent Resolution 43, by the yeas and nays;
 - H.R. 1042, by the yeas and nays;
 - H.R. 1098, by the yeas and nays; and
 - Approval of the Journal, de novo.
- The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 43.

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. NEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 43, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 414, nays 1, not voting 17, as follows:

	[Roll No. 53]	
	YEAS—414	
Abercrombie	Deutsch	Jefferson
Ackerman	Diaz-Balart	Jenkins
Aderholt	Dicks	John
Akin	Dingell	Johnson (CT)
Allen	Doggett	Johnson (IL)
Andrews	Dooley	Johnson, E. B.
Armey	Doolittle	Johnson, Sam
Baca	Doyle	Jones (NC)
Bachus	Dreier	Jones (OH)
Baird	Duncan	Kanjorski
Baker	Dunn	Kaptur
Baldacci	Edwards	Kelly
Baldwin	Ehlers	Kennedy (MN)
Ballenger	Ehrlich	Kennedy (RI)
Barcia	Emerson	Kerns
Barr	Engel	Kildee
Barrett	English	Kilpatrick
Bartlett	Eshoo	Kind (WI)
Barton	Etheridge	King (NY)
Bass	Evans	Kingston
Bentsen	Everett	Kirk
Bereuter	Farr	Klecicka
Berkley	Fattah	Knollenberg
Berman	Ferguson	Kolbe
Berry	Filner	Kucinich
Biggert	Flake	LaFalce
Bilirakis	Fletcher	LaHood
Bishop	Foley	Lampson
Blagojevich	Ford	Langevin
Blumenauer	Fossella	Lantos
Blunt	Frank	Largent
Boehlert	Frelinghuysen	Larsen (WA)
Boehner	Frost	Larson (CT)
Bonilla	Gallegly	Latham
Bonior	Ganske	LaTourette
Bono	Gekas	Leach
Borski	Gephardt	Lee
Boswell	Gibbons	Levin
Boucher	Gilchrest	Lewis (CA)
Boyd	Gillmor	Lewis (GA)
Brady (PA)	Gilman	Lewis (KY)
Brady (TX)	Gonzalez	Linder
Brown (OH)	Goode	Lipinski
Brown (SC)	Goodlatte	LoBiondo
Bryant	Goss	Lofgren
Burr	Graham	Lowe
Burton	Granger	Lucas (KY)
Buyer	Graves	Lucas (OK)
Callahan	Green (TX)	Luther
Calvert	Green (WI)	Maloney (CT)
Camp	Greenwood	Maloney (NY)
Cantor	Grucci	Manzullo
Capito	Gutierrez	Markey
Capps	Gutknecht	Mascara
Capuano	Hall (OH)	Matheson
Cardin	Hall (TX)	Matsui
Carson (IN)	Hansen	McCarthy (MO)
Carson (OK)	Harman	McCarthy (NY)
Castle	Hart	McCollum
Chabot	Hastings (FL)	McCreery
Chambliss	Hastings (WA)	McDermott
Clay	Hayes	McGovern
Clayton	Hayworth	McInnis
Clement	Hefley	McIntyre
Clyburn	Herger	McKeon
Coble	Hill	McKinney
Combest	Hilleary	McNulty
Condit	Hilliard	Meehan
Conyers	Hinchey	Meek (FL)
Cooksey	Hinojosa	Meeks (NY)
Costello	Hobson	Menendez
Cox	Hoefel	Millender-
Coyne	Hoekstra	McDonald
Cramer	Holden	Miller (FL)
Crane	Holt	Miller, Gary
Crenshaw	Honda	Miller, George
Crowley	Hooley	Mink
Cubin	Horn	Mollohan
Culberson	Hostettler	Moore
Cummings	Houghton	Moran (KS)
Cunningham	Hoyer	Moran (VA)
Davis (CA)	Hulshof	Morella
Davis (FL)	Hunter	Murtha
Davis (IL)	Hutchinson	Myrick
Davis, Jo Ann	Hyde	Nadler
Davis, Tom	Inslee	Napolitano
Deal	Isakson	Neal
DeFazio	Israel	Nethercutt
DeGette	Issa	Ney
Delahunt	Istook	Northup
DeLauro	Jackson (IL)	Norwood
DeLay	Jackson-Lee	Nussle
DeMint	(TX)	Oberstar