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

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

Mr. Speaker, I found in the years that I have served in office that the American people have a willingness to become involved in the energetic give-and-take of public debate, and that public debate on behalf of the people of the country is made in the committees. The committees are the heart of what this institution is about.

This is a proposal, a resolution we can be proud of. It is fiscally responsible. It is, I believe, a good day for not only the House, but for the American people, because the institution of the House works.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this resolution.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Omnibus Committee Funding Resolution. While the resolution does not include the full request of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, which the Minority supported, it does recognize the increased workload facing our Committee. Each of the six subcommittees has more than a full plate, with issues such as patient protections, prescription drugs for seniors, and national energy policies, even before consideration of Administration proposals that will presumably be forthcoming.

I note that the proposed budget is a significant improvement in its treatment of the minority. Although my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have previously spoken of a goal of a two-thirds/thirds split between the minority and majority in funding and staff positions, the Minority on the Committee on Energy and Commerce has never received even that modest allocation. Under this resolution, however, the minority members, who constitute 49 percent of the House and 45 percent of the Energy and Commerce Committee, will finally be allocated one-third of the funding and staff raised by the majority party. More importantly, it is my understanding that an accommodation of the needs of the Minority has also been reached on the other Committees as well.

Because of these improvements, I support this resolution and urge my colleagues to support it. I would note that this resolution is just a first step in the process; the House will need to allocate sufficient funds to make good on its promises. This resolution represents a good beginning, and I hope it carries over into more mundane matters, like office space, as well as into legislation on important policy questions.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the previous question is ordered on the resolution, as amended.

The question is on the resolution, as amended.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.