

Otter	Rush	Tauscher
Owens	Ryan (WI)	Tauzin
Oxley	Ryun (KS)	Taylor (NC)
Pascrell	Sandin	Terry
Paul	Sawyer	Thomas
Payne	Saxton	Thornberry
Pelosi	Scarborough	Thune
Pence	Schakowsky	Tiahrt
Peterson (PA)	Schiff	Tiberi
Petri	Schrock	Tierney
Phelps	Scott	Toomey
Pickering	Sensenbrenner	Toombs
Pitts	Serrano	Traficant
Platts	Sessions	Turner
Pombo	Shadegg	Udall (CO)
Portman	Shaw	Upton
Price (NC)	Shays	Velázquez
Pryce (OH)	Sherman	Vitter
Putnam	Sherwood	Walden
Quinn	Shimkus	Walsh
Radanovich	Shows	Wamp
Rahall	Simmons	Watkins
Regula	Simpson	Watt (NC)
Rehberg	Skeen	Watts (OK)
Reyes	Skelton	Waxman
Reynolds	Smith (MI)	Weiner
Riley	Smith (NJ)	Weldon (FL)
Rivers	Smith (TX)	Weldon (PA)
Rodriguez	Smith (WA)	Wexler
Roemer	Snyder	Whitfield
Rogers (KY)	Solis	Wilson
Rogers (MI)	Souder	Wolf
Rohrabacher	Spence	Woolsey
Ros-Lehtinen	Spratt	Wynn
Ross	Stearns	Young (FL)
Roukema	Stump	
Royce	Sununu	

NAYS—68

Aderholt	Hutchinson	Pastor
Baird	Jackson-Lee	Peterson (MN)
Bonior	(TX)	Pomeroy
Brown (FL)	Johnson, E. B.	Ramstad
Capuano	Jones (OH)	Rothman
Condit	Kaptur	Sabo
Costello	Kennedy (MN)	Sanchez
Crane	Kucinich	Schaffer
Crowley	LaFalce	Slaughter
Cummings	LaHood	Stark
DeFazio	Larsen (WA)	Stenholm
DeLauro	Lee	Strickland
Evans	LoBiondo	Stupak
Filner	McDermott	Sweeney
Frost	McGovern	Tanner
Gutierrez	McNulty	Taylor (MS)
Gutknecht	Menendez	Thompson (CA)
Hall (OH)	Miller, George	Thompson (MS)
Hastings (FL)	Moore	Thurman
Hefley	Oberstar	Udall (NM)
Hilliard	Obey	Vislosky
Hinchev	Olver	Waters
Holt	Pallone	Wu

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Tancredo

NOT VOTING—26

Borski	Hayworth	McKinney
Boucher	Heger	Moakley
Brady (PA)	Hunter	Rangel
Cubin	Jefferson	Roybal-Allard
Doyle	Johnson (CT)	Sanders
English	Kilpatrick	Weller
Ganske	Kleczka	Wicker
Gilman	Leach	Young (AK)
Gordon	Lucas (OK)	

□ 1027

So the Journal was approved.
 The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.
 Stated for:
 Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 122 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
 Washington, DC, May 17, 2001.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of the unofficial results received from Dick Filling, Commissioner, Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, indicating that, according to the unofficial results of the Special Election held on May 15, 2001, the Honorable Bill Shuster was elected to the Office of Representative in Congress, from the Ninth Congressional District, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

With best wishes, I am,
 Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk.

Attachment.

SPECIAL ELECTION, REPRESENTATIVE IN THE U.S. CONGRESS, 9TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, COUNTIES OF BEDFORD, BLAIR, CENTRE, CLEARFIELD, FRANKLIN, FULTON, HUNTINGDON, JUNIATA, MIFFLIN, PERRY AND SNYDER, MAY 15, 2001

Unofficial Results

Republican—Bill Shuster	Vote Totals
Democratic—H. Scott Conklin	55,549
Green—Alanna K. Hartzok	47,049
	4,420

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE BILL SHUSTER OF PENNSYLVANIA AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BILL SHUSTER) be permitted to take the oath of office today.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the Members of the Pennsylvania delegation present themselves in the well of the House and take the oath of office.

Mr. SHUSTER appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solely swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you will take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter. So help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations. You are now a Member of the 107th Congress of the United States.

□ 1030

INTRODUCTION OF BILL SHUSTER, NEW MEMBER FROM PENNSYLVANIA

(Mr. GEKAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and extreme privilege to introduce the newest Member of the House to its Members here. He succeeds an individual who has become anonymous and who is little known in this Chamber but, despite that, we will present him with the distinction that he carries a name that has been a part of our traditions for many, many years. He is, of course, the son of Bud Shuster.

Beyond that, he, as an individual, was elected in the heart of Pennsylvania, was born and raised in that area, in Hollidaysburg, where he went to school and became a star athlete in three varsity sports, and who then went to Dickinson College. And by the way, what that does is double the number of Dickinson College graduates of this body in the Dickinson College Caucus, which I chair. Then he went and received a master's degree from American University. All the way up, he worked as a farm laborer, as a construction worker, in various businesses, until, at the time of his election, he was an entrepreneur in the automobile business.

His two children, who are with him, Ali, age 13, and Garrett, who is nine, are with him, as is the mother of the children, Rebecca, and a whole host of Shuster family and supporters. He is ready to tackle the job. He has talked about nothing except his future service in the House of Representatives. He is eager to take his place among us. We are ready to hear him and to help him and to help him become a great Member of the House of Representatives. BILL SHUSTER.

READY TO REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF THE NINTH DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

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

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania very much for the introduction.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to stand here today as the newest Representative from the Ninth District from Pennsylvania. I want to thank the voters of central Pennsylvania for this incredible privilege. The faith and trust the people of Pennsylvania have placed in me is indeed an awesome responsibility.

Over the past 4½ months, I have traveled throughout the 11 counties that make up the ninth district, from DuBois to Chambersburg. I have listened closely to the concerns of the people: teachers, factory workers, senior citizens, business owners, young people and farmers. And I come here today ready to represent their values and bring their voices and concerns to Washington.

Job creation, tax relief for our families and businesses, strengthening and securing Social Security and Medicare for this generation and the next are among my top priorities. I am particularly honored to be sworn in today and cast my first vote for H.R. 1, the President's education plan. As the father of two young children in public schools and the husband of a schoolteacher, I can tell my colleagues that reforming and improving our education system is one of the most important areas that Congress can act on.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to the days and months ahead working with my colleagues, and especially those in the Pennsylvania delegation, in accomplishing the people's business.

Finally, I want to thank my family and friends, many of whom have traveled down here to be with me today. Without their continued love and support, I would not be here. I would especially like to thank my mother, Pat; and my father, Bud; my wife, Becky; and my two children, Ali and Garrett. Again, none of this would be possible without their love and support.

HOPE FOR CHILDREN ACT

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 141 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 141

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 622) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the adoption credit, and for other purposes. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. The amendment recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate on the bill, as amended, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The gentlewoman from Ohio is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL); pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of the resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 141 makes in order the bill H.R. 622, the Hope for Children Act, under a closed rule. The rule provides for 1 hour of debate to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking

minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

While this is a closed rule, it is important for my colleagues to understand that this bill represents a bipartisan effort that has the support of 289 Members of this body and could be passed under suspension. However, this rule will provide extra time for my colleagues to debate and discuss the importance of the adoption tax credit.

Mr. Speaker, adoption is an issue that holds a special place in my heart. It blesses a loving couple with the joy of parenthood and provides wanting children the chance to find permanency in their lives and love in their hearts. As an adoptive parent, I know firsthand this joy, but I also understand the financial burdens that it places on a family. Tragically, this burden can be so high that it prevents a couple from becoming a family and sadly leaves a needing child without a home.

Mr. Speaker, as an original cosponsor of the legislation that created this tax credit 5 years ago, and an original cosponsor of this, the Hope for Children Act, I am proud to be here today discussing these important changes that serve to update the adoption credit. Since the passage of the original credit 5 years ago, Congress has been working hard to strengthen adoption laws in the United States.

In the 1996 legislation, we included a provision that prohibited discrimination in adoption or foster care placements, helping to assure that the cultural, ethnic or racial background of a child would not hinder the placement into a loving home. Then, in 1997, Congress passed one of the most important child welfare laws in 20 years, the Adoption and Safe Families Act. This legislation helped to ensure that consideration of a child's safety is paramount in placement decisions.

June of 2000 saw the introduction of the adoption stamp, which many in Congress supported as a way to bring awareness to the 122,000 children waiting to be adopted in this country alone. In October of 2000, with passage of the Intercountry Adoption Act, the United States became the 39th country to ratify the Hague Convention, a cooperative framework between countries which ensures that a child's best interests are safeguarded during intercountry adoption processes.

That same month, Congress passed the Child Citizenship Act, a bill that grants automatic citizenship to foreign-born children adopted by American parents. And then came the Strengthening Abuse and Neglect Courts, which bolsters the efficiency and effectiveness of courts so that children in our child welfare system are not kept from permanent homes due to delays in the court system.

Now, in 2001, this House will consider the Hope for Children Act, legislation designed to help foster and facilitate adoptions; legislation that will strengthen families across the Nation; and legislation that will help to provide loving homes to children who desperately need them.

Current law provides a \$5,000 tax credit to families for qualifying adoption expenses when adopting a child and \$6,000 for a child with special needs. This is set to expire. Over 289 Members of the House have cosponsored the Hope for Children Act to show their support for extending and updating these sections of the code. H.R. 622 would begin by making the current tax credits a permanent part of the Tax Code. It would also raise the credit limitations to better reflect the costs of adoptions, allowing families to claim up to \$10,000 in qualifying expenses upon adoption.

Statistics from the National Adoption Information Clearinghouse show that the cost of adoptions range from \$4,000 on the low end to sometimes over \$30,000 on the high end, depending on such factors as the cost of birth-parent counseling, adoptive-parent home study and preparation, the child's birth expenses and post-placement supervision until the adoption is finalized. This bill will update the credit to better reflect the costs associated with adoption today. This increase will provide an additional \$4,000 to the tax credit for special needs adoptions.

Mr. Speaker, 63 percent of the children waiting in foster care are between the ages of 6 and 18. With this increased age comes an increased likelihood that these children will be classified by the State as special-needs children due to histories of emotional, physical, and sexual abuse. We have children waiting to be adopted that bring with them physical handicaps, and entire sibling groups that need to be placed in a home together. These children, more than any others, need a loving, permanent home; and families that will open their hearts should be given the utmost support. All of these important changes will be available to families beginning with expenses incurred in the 2002 tax year.

Mr. Speaker, we have to reduce the financial burden that adoption can place on families so that couples can become families and more children can sleep peacefully under the roof of loving parents. The Hope for Children Act will continue the hard work and dedication this Congress has devoted to adoption by reducing this huge financial barrier. It will help more children find the love of a family.

I urge all my colleagues to support both the rule and this important legislation.

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