June 27, 2001

but I know the value of an education because I did not have one. Therefore, we must continue working to make sure that all of America’s children receive the very best education imaginable.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me today in supporting the establishment of a commission to encourage and provide for the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Brown versus Board of Education Supreme Court decision.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2133, as amended.

The question was taken. Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us is an open rule providing for the consideration of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair’s prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The PROVISIONS FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2133, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 180 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 180

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the Bill (H.R. 2311) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Appropriations accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted by the Committee of the Whole. Points of order against provisions in the bill are waived except section 308. During consideration of the bill for further amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition to Members who have preprinted their amendments in the Congressional Record.

The rule waives points of orders against provisions in the bill as amended for failure to comply with the time limit. Amendments so printed shall be considered as adopted. The rule waives points of order against consideration of the bill.

The bill shall be considered for amendment by paragraph, and the Chair is authorized to accord priority in recognition to Members who have preprinted their amendments in the Congressional Record.

Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us is an open rule providing for the consideration of H. Res. 2311, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for 2002. This legislation provides for funding for a wide array of Federal Government programs which address matters such as national security, environmental cleanup, flood control, alternative energy sources, and advanced scientific research.

The bill provides for a total of $23.7 billion in new discretionary spending authority for civil works projects of the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Reclamation, the Department of Energy, and several other independent agencies. The bill is $147.7 million above the fiscal year 2001 funding levels and an increase of $1.18 billion above the President’s request.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to highlight some provisions in this bill. Included in this legislation is approximately $4.47 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers, which has been involved in such vital missions as flood control, shore line prevention, and navigation.

In addition, the Bureau of Reclamation, under the Department of the Interior, is funded at $842.9 million, an increase of $26.3 million over last year. Most of the large dams and water developments in the West were built or with the assistance of the Bureau of Reclamation. The Bureau is the largest supplier of water in the 17 western States and the second largest hydroelectric power producer in the Nation.

Also, this bill provides $18.7 billion for the Department of Energy, an increase of $44.2 million above the fiscal year 2001 level. Funding for the Department of Energy was based on the President’s request primarily in the areas of renewable energy technologies, environmental cleanup, and nuclear nonproliferation.

In March of 2001 this year, the Bush administration issued an outline for this budget. In this it states that solar and renewable energy cannot replace fossil fuels in the near term but will be an important part of this Nation’s long-term energy supply. I am pleased that this bill includes $59.8 million for renewable energy programs, an increase of $1 million from last year.

Additionally, biological and environmental research is funded at $45.9 million. I am particularly pleased that the funding in this bill continues the strong record of conservation and preservation by the Republican Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to commend the chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development of the Committee on Appropriations, the gentleman from the First District of Alabama (Mr. CALAHAN), and the Democrat ranking member, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCOLOSKY), for their hard work in bringing this bill to the floor. Their staffs have done a great job in the crafting of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is considered noncontroversial. This rule, like the underlying legislation, deserves strong bipartisan support.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding me the time. It is a pleasure to serve on the Committee on Rules, as if I were an ordinary member of the Committee. I would like to welcome me as the newest member of the Committee on Rules.
Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2002 and in support of the rule. I also would associate myself with the remarks made by the gentleman from Texas about the many particulars that are set forth in the bill that are meritorious, in my view, for the entire body.

I want to congratulate the chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CALLAHAN), and the ranking member, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY), for their work on this bill and for their understanding of the importance to the entire country of the necessary public works projects it funds.

I am especially pleased, from a parochial point of view, that this bill contains nearly $20 million for the continued restoration of the Florida Everglades. Congress and the State of Florida made a historic agreement last year to save this international treasure, and I am thrilled that Congress continues its commitment through this bill.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, this bill contains a number of significant projects important to my south Florida district, as well as those that are my colleagues that are in that area; and I would like to highlight a few of them for just a moment.

In my home of Broward County this bill funds beach erosion and renourishment projects to the tune of $2.5 million. These funds are critical to protecting and enhancing Florida’s pristine beaches and the businesses that thrive because of them.

In northeast Dade County this bill contains funding for a study of flood patterns in the county and remediation of flooding that continually occurs in some of the poorest neighborhoods of this area.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that this bill contains projects that would greatly benefit the constituents of myself and those of my colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY), in Ft. Pierce, in St. Lucie County, and a number of projects that greatly improve conditions in Palm Beach County that are relevant to my other colleagues, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW), the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEXLER), and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY), as well as myself.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill; and the rule is fine as far as it goes. As the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) noted, it relates to transportation of high-level nuclear waste. This is most unfortunate, in my view, as I believe the Berkley amendment would have made the bill better.

Also, Mr. Speaker, let me add my support for the amendment which will be offered by my friend and colleague, the gentleman from (Mr. DAVIS), which will allow construction of the Gulf Stream pipeline to continue unabated.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and ranking member for bringing this excellent bill to the House. This is a bipartisan bill that helps millions of Americans from coast to coast, and I urge passage of the bill and adoption of the rule.

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS), a member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend and colleague on the Committee on Rules, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS), for yielding me this time; and I want to congratulate my friend, the newest member of the Committee on Rules, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), on his first rule.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this rule and this underlying legislation. I would like to begin by commending the chairman, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CALLAHAN), and the ranking member, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY), as well as the chairman of the full Committee on Appropriations, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG), and the ranking member, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), on their leadership in bringing this excellent piece of legislation to the floor. This is the first bill of the gentleman from Alabama as chair of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and I commend him on his openness and his support. They have carefully balanced the priorities in a very tight budget year to ensure that the cleanup of former nuclear sites stays on schedule.

As chairman of the Nuclear Cleanup Caucus here in the House, I have been privileged to work closely with the committee this year to ensure that cleanup sites throughout the Nation continue their significant progress, ensuring that the legacy of World War II and the Cold War is cleaned up. While I have been supportive of the President’s goal to cap the overall spending increase at 4 percent, I have to admit that I was deeply troubled by the administration’s initial request on cleaning up the Nation’s former nuclear weapons sites.

Earlier this year, the committee on the Budget responded to that by including in the congressional budget resolution language directing up to an additional $1 billion in the Environmental Management Account. I am pleased that the Committee on Appropriations has, in the past 2 weeks, included an additional $880 million for cleanup in the supplemental and the fiscal year 2002 budget. This will allow for the Federal Government to keep its legal and moral commitments to the communities that surround these sites.

The Department of Energy has negotiated innovative contracts that mirror commercial practices to transform the cleanup program and ensure that more dollars are spent on cleanup. These negotiated contracts ensure that the American taxpayer receives more cleanup dollars for less by requiring efficiencies to do more with less. Without this additional funding for the Environmental Management program, these aggressive contracts would have had to be re-negotiated, thus eliminating the benefits accruing.

This legislation will increase funding by nearly $700 million over the administration’s request. This will reverse the proposed reductions at the major sites throughout the country. Specifically at Hanford the additional dollars provided in this legislation will provide full funding for the construction of the Waste Treatment Project. This is the home of over 60 percent of the radioactive waste of this country; and yet it is the only facility, Hanford, that lacks a treatment capability. It is essential that this project be fully funded in fiscal year 2002 in order to ensure maximum benefit to the taxpayer and the safety of the Pacific Northwest.

Further, the legislation allows for the River Corridor Initiative to begin at the Richland Operations Office. This innovative approach will allow for the acceleration of cleanup along the River Corridor and will shrink the Hanford site from 560 square miles to 75 square miles by the year 2012.

This is an aggressive schedule which will save American taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars over this time period.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation provides the first step to what I hope will be the full transformation of this project to a closure contract in fiscal year 2003. Further, the legislation will allow for congressional efforts to remove spent nuclear fuel which has been standing 100 yards from the Columbia River for 25 years, and to move it away from the river into safe storage.

I would like to commend the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CALLAHAN) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) for their excellent work. I would also like to thank my colleagues on the Nuclear Cleanup Caucus, the contractors and the stakeholders that came together in a unified manner to ensure that these increases became a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I support the rule and the underlying legislation.
Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY).

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) on having been appointed to the prestigious and important Committee on Rules. Florida is proud of his service in the Congress, and we are proud that 3 of 13 Members who serve on the Committee on Rules are from Florida, two Republicans the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Diaz-balart). And now the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) joins the Committee on Rules, and my great State is going to benefit by the gentleman's leadership.

Let me also commend this bill of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) clearly laid out some of the very important projects that are occurring in our districts, such as Port St. Lucie, the inlet maintenance project, some shoreline protection that will occur throughout our counties; but also I also want to call attention to an amendment that will be offered by one of our colleagues that will seek to reduce the Federal allocations towards beach renourishment. I believe that has been made in order. What that basically says is that we will reduce the Federal share of beach renourishment projects in places like Florida.

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) and I clearly want to underscore the need for Federal involvement, and we also want to give a little education here, because some people assume that beach renourishment projects are folly, that they are a waste of tax dollars, that they are something that the local jurisdictions should do, and we need not concern ourselves with these issues in Congress.

As the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) and I know, many of the areas where the most severe beach erosion is occurring are just south of inlets that were designed and constructed by the Corps of Engineers for some commerce at times, and some were national security issues. So in Palm Beach County, for instance, at the south end of our inlet, we are constantly vigilant because of shoreline that is eroding because of that unnatural cut that occurred.

Mr. Speaker, there lies the nexus by which we ask and continue to urge Congress to fund these shoreline protection agreements. They are vital to tourism. We are parochial in our approach, and we are concerned about tourism; but it has more to do with ecological factors, such as nesting turtles, reef renourishments. All of these are impacted by a degradation of our beaches.

Mr. Speaker, we stand opposing an amendment that will be offered later, although supporting the fine work in this bill. There are some phenomenal projects that I will call Members' attention to again, whether it is the Department of Energy or other related accounts, the President's initiative on energy security, or on strategically positioning ourselves to be more self-reliant on energy needs.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. Callahan) has done a masterful job of meeting not only the needs of 50 States, but also the concerns of Members.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member from the Florida delegation, I want to apologize to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. Callahan) because we were unaware during debate last week on a very contentious issue that the gentleman was out of the Capitol with the President attending some business with the President of the United States in Alabama. We would not have excluded him, but we were unaware of that. We meant no disrespect. As a delegation, we are absolutely opposed to the drilling question, but never would we have done it as an attempted embarrassment of the fine job he has done.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the rule. I urge Members to support its adoption, the underlying bill; and again, I would ask my colleagues to pay special attention to an amendment that would cut the government's responsibility on shoreline protection and urge the defeat of that same amendment.

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

Mr. Speaker, thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Foley) for his kind comments regarding my ascension to the Committee on Rules. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. Udall).

Mr. Udall of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule and in general support of the bill. I want to in particular touch on three issues briefly. I want to thank the committee, thank this House for continuing to fund the nuclear facilities closure projects across the country, but in particular the one in my district at Rocky Flats. Rocky Flats is close to the center of my congressional district. It is just a few miles from population centers that exceed 2 million people. This is a very important project to clean up and close this facility.

I also thank the committee for the inclusion in the bill of initial funding for a small flood control project in Arvada, Colorado. There has been an important partnership there along Van Biber Creek, and these are important moneys that will begin to put this capital project in place.

Finally, I want to emphasize my support for the committee's work in increasing the levels of funding for DOE's renewable energy programs. Initially the administration slashed these important budget items by $138 million, almost 36 percent, and I think this was shortsighted; but we have worked hard over the last 2 years to boost funding for these programs, and I want to acknowledge the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Wamp) on the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus for the good work the gentleman has done.

In general, Mr. Speaker, although no bill is perfect, this one is awful close, and I very much appreciate the opportunity to speak today in support of it.

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself a much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, just as it is the first rule for the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) to manage in the Committee on Rules, and 9 years serving on the Hill, who will be leaving the Hill for opportunities down at the Department of Justice. She served as professional staff and legal counsel, and is a good friend of all of ours. It is a time to say hello; and a time to say goodbye.

Mr. Speaker, this is a fair and open rule supported by my colleagues, and I would ask my colleagues to support this rule.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Summink) presided for the resumption of the debate.

The Speaker pro tempore said the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. 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.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, following this 15-minute vote on House Resolution 180, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on the two motions to suspend the rules on which the Chair promised further proceedings earlier today.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 425, nays 1, not voting 7, as follows:
Mr. THUNE changed his vote from "yea" to "nay." So the result was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid upon the table.