

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO HOUSE AMENDMENT TO SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1586, EDUCATION JOBS AND MEDICAID ASSISTANCE ACT

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1606 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1606

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution, it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1586) to modernize the air traffic control system, improve the safety, reliability, and availability of transportation by air in the United States, provide for modernization of the air traffic control system, reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided among and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations, the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means, and the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion.

SEC. 2. The requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported through the legislative day of August 11, 2010.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. POLIS. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. POLIS. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this rule provides for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 1586 and makes in order a motion by the chair of the Appropriations Committee to concur in the Senate amendment. The rule waives all points of order against the motion. The rule provides that the motion shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by chairs and ranking minority members of the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Committee on Ways and Means. Finally, the resolution waives a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII, which requires a two-thirds vote to consider a resolution from the Rules Committee on the same day that it is reported. The waiver applies to any measure reported through the legislative day of Wednesday, August 11, 2010.

Most of my colleagues here today, Madam Speaker, have interrupted their important activities back home in their districts to be here for this unusual, but not unprecedented, August session. As we stand here today, Madam Speaker, debating assistance for States and school districts across the country, I can't think of a better reason for Members to rush back to the Capitol than to invest in our children and in our future.

We are here today to extend a lifeline to teachers in classrooms across the country to ensure that students and our future are not mortgaged by a weak economy that has forced States into drastic cutbacks. Despite the failure of the Senate to move this bill during many months of debate until it finally passed last week, the urgency is real. And the appeal and need is real as well.

This legislation saves or creates 310,000 American jobs, specifically for teachers, police officers, firefighters, and nurses. In Colorado, this bill will save the jobs of 2,600 teachers. Yes, Madam Speaker, absent the passage of this bill, class sizes will be larger for students across the State, and we will be mortgaging our future because of the current recession.

These funds will go immediately to States and prevent layoffs and in some cases rehire teachers that have already been given notice, as summer comes to an end, just in time as students go back to school. Students here in Washington, D.C. will be in school the week after next. Many districts in Colorado start in 2 or 3 weeks as well.

This legislation, Madam Speaker, is completely paid for, primarily by closing tax loopholes that encourage corporations to ship American jobs overseas. Not only is this bill paid for, Madam Speaker, but this bill cuts the deficit by \$1.4 billion.

It never fails to surprise me when some of my colleagues talk about the spending of Congress—this, that, or the other. Well, here today before us,

Madam Speaker, is a chance to cut the deficit. What an important and justifiable reason for us to return here to Washington in August: to cut the deficit.

□ 1100

These funds will assist States so they can keep qualified teachers in classrooms, pay firefighters and police officers to keep our neighborhoods safe. We need to do everything in our power to ensure that the American people are protected during this recession and that our children are educated. Widespread layoffs in these public security and education sectors wouldn't only hurt the schools and children but would further depress the economy. These men and women who work in these professions, Madam Speaker, are the backbone of our Nation and our economy.

Now that the measure is before us with bipartisan support from the Senate, I hope all of our colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation and quickly moving to a final vote so that we can expeditiously get the money out to those who need it. I encourage my colleagues to support the rule and the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I want to begin by expressing my appreciation to my very good friend on the Rules Committee for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

I would like to say, Madam Speaker, that this special emergency session called unexpectedly just after a week of the district work period to pass another \$26.1 billion in spending is, in fact, Washington, D.C. at its absolute worst. Everything that Americans have come to hate about their government, about the way their government works—the waste, the ineptitude, the cynicism, the lack of accountability, the utter disregard for the concerns of taxpayers—is all very vividly on display right here today.

Now, one must ask the question, how is it that we got here? How is it that we got here? Well, under the leadership of Speaker PELOSI, we've made history. For the first time we have failed to budget, we have failed to pass a budget for the first time in the modern era. In the absence of a budget roadmap, the leadership on the other side of the aisle has legislated recklessly and haphazardly, managing to consider a mere one-sixth, one-sixth, of the normal appropriations bills. And I am happy to see the chair of the Appropriations Committee here. They have passed a mere one-sixth of the appropriations bills while irresponsibly approving new emergency spending outside of regular order. Politico, the newspaper that we read every morning around here, described it as follows: They described this as a "fiscal-policy meltdown" and an "unprecedented failure."

Now, how is it possible, Madam Speaker, how is it possible that this Democratic majority could fail so miserably at its constitutional duty? Was it pure ineptitude or was it something more willful than that?

Ineptitude certainly goes a long way toward explaining the failings that have taken place under Speaker PELOSI. Their work has been so shoddy and riddled with oversights, mistakes, and loopholes that countless corrections over the last 3½ years have been necessary. Today's underlying bill doesn't even have a title. Madam Speaker, the bill doesn't even have a title, thanks to their haphazard way of doing business. In its mad rush, the Senate passed the blank act of blank. This bill has no title. They literally neglected to fill in the blanks. God only knows what other mistakes have been made here, Madam Speaker.

But ineptitude alone only goes so far in explaining the Democratic majority's shortcomings. As the Washington Post editorialized last week, "To govern is to choose, and nothing lays bare a government's true priorities like the choices it makes about spending taxpayers' money." Now, Madam Speaker, this gets to the heart of why the annual budget is so critically important. It lays out for the American people what the priorities of the majority of this institution are. Whatever gimmicks they may employ to shield themselves from accountability, the budget lays out in black and white the agenda that the majority has.

It also forces the majority to make choices, tough choices. Faced with a host of needs, a budget forces the majority to choose which are the most important items. And if times are tough, a budget forces the majority to cut wasteful and unnecessary spending. This presents quite a predicament for a majority that loves nothing more than to tax and to spend. Today's emergency bill is just another in a long line of unaccountable spending bills that have supplanted the regular budget and appropriations process simply because this majority, quite obviously, is not up to governing.

Some of the funding contained in this bill is, no doubt, very worthy. Our teachers, nurses, and cops deserve our full support, and I concur with my colleague's remarks on those priorities. Let me say our teachers, nurses, and cops deserve our full support. No one disputes that. These are precisely the kinds of top priorities that should be funded in the regular budget process.

Now, Madam Speaker, teachers, nurses, and cops should not be used as pawns in a cynical political game, held hostage by the Democratic majority's failure to govern responsibly. Contrary to the quote that I read in Politico at the end of last week from Speaker PELOSI, Republicans, Democrats, and independents alike all want to see

teachers in the classroom, nurses in the emergency room, and cops on the beat, not in the unemployment line, as the Speaker claimed Republicans wanted to see.

So let me repeat. Speaker PELOSI offered this quote: Republicans, Democrats, and independents want to make sure that teachers are in the classroom, that nurses are in the emergency room, and that cops are on the beat. If the Democratic majority, Madam Speaker, had done their job in an appropriate and timely way, our teachers, nurses, and cops would not be on the chopping block. Today's emergency vote is a function of the failures of this Democratic leadership.

But this bill is about more than teachers, nurses, and cops. Some of the spending in this bill is unjustifiable under any procedure. We're told by the Democratic majority that the Federal taxpayers must bail out struggling States. But let's take a look at why States are looking for a bailout in the first place.

One needs look no further than my State of California, the largest State in the union. I'm very sorry to say that it provides the perfect example of the fiscal disasters that are inevitable in the absence of transparency and accountability.

The people of southern California over the past few weeks have become outraged over astronomical salaries for certain officials. The most egregious example has been the city manager of Bell, California. Now, Bell, California, Madam Speaker, is a town of 36,000, just east of downtown Los Angeles. The city manager, Robert Rizzo, was receiving an annual compensation package of \$1.5 million. The city manager of a tiny, frankly, not very wealthy town just east of downtown Los Angeles, Robert Rizzo, was receiving a compensation package of \$1.5 million a year. He resigned in the wake of the scandal within the past week, and now he'll only collect an annual pension of almost \$1 million a year. And it's not just the taxpayers of this tiny town of 36,000, Bell, California, who are on the hook. Because of the way the pension structure was put into place in California, my constituents and the constituents of our other California colleagues will be forced to pay a significant portion of Robert Rizzo's lavish nearly \$1 million pension.

The problems in California go well beyond one wildly overpaid city manager and a broken pension system. The State legislature's failure to enact a budget is costing the State \$1.5 billion in deficit spending with every single month that goes by. They have created a fiscal nightmare, they've taxed the people of California to the brink, and now they have turned to the beleaguered Federal coffers once again.

Thanks to the Democratic majority's policy of never-ending bailouts, there's

not a taxpayer in this country who isn't on the hook for astonishingly reckless spending priorities just like these.

We have got to put a stop to these dangerous policies once and for all. We need to put an end to the never-ending cycle of bailouts, emergency spending, deficits, and debt. Instead, we need to return to regular order to pass a budget and fund our top priorities through the regular accountable process while doing everything that we can to ferret out and cut waste, fraud, and abuse.

□ 1110

Finally, Madam Speaker, we need to put an end to the practice of haphazard, unaccountable legislating.

Madam Speaker, arrogance and ineptitude are a lethal combo. We will be paying the consequences for generations to come if we don't change the course right now.

I urge a "no" vote on this rule.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, most teachers, firefighters, nurses don't earn \$1.4 million a year. I wish they did in our society. I wish we valued the teaching profession. There was a study recently that showed that a good kindergarten teacher is worth \$365,000 a year. Unfortunately, Madam Speaker, I don't think there are any kindergarten teachers in our country that earn it.

I'm grateful that of course, as the gentleman from California pointed out, that this gentleman's abuse of the public trust was exposed and corrected, and the residents of that town will hopefully compensate their new city manager more in line with the standards.

Finally, he talked about Republican, Independents and Democrats doing something and caring about teachers, caring about nurses. I have no doubt that in this Chamber and in our country Americans of all stripes ideologically and all parties care deeply about our nurses and teachers and keeping our streets safe, and Members of both parties here in the House today will have a chance to express that in a very tangible way, by keeping teachers in classrooms, nurses in hospitals, and officers on the beat by voting "yes" on the rule and the motion here today.

With that, Madam Speaker, I would like to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts, my esteemed colleague on the Rules Committee, Mr. MCGOVERN.

Mr. MCGOVERN. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I rise in support of the rule and the underlying bill.

Madam Speaker, our communities are struggling. Forty-seven States are facing budget shortfalls, and at least 34 States will cut both jobs and services in this fiscal year unless there's an additional 6-month extension of the FMAP program.

All of us are hearing from our Governors. In June, a bipartisan group of

Governors wrote to Congress pleading for an extension of FMAP money because they believe it is the most efficient way to avoid further layoffs and health care cuts that will slow the recovery. At a time when States like Massachusetts are starting to see unemployment rates decrease, now is not the time to pull the rug from under them.

If we were to fail our States and not enact this extension, 2,900 teaching, police, and firefighter jobs in Massachusetts would be at risk. What would that mean for classroom size, cops on the streets, and firefighter response? To put it mildly, it wouldn't be good.

This is exactly the type of Nation-building we should be focusing on here at home, and I wish that my friends on the other side of the aisle and the other Chamber could realize that.

It is important to note that this bill is not only essential; it is paid for. In fact, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office finds that this bill will cut the deficit by \$1.4 billion over the next decade. If only the Bush tax cuts for the rich, the Medicare prescription drug benefit, or the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were paid for we would not be facing the deficit issues we are today. So we don't need any lectures by Republicans about deficits. They created this mess that we're in, and Democrats once again have the responsibility of cleaning it up. They should be ashamed of what they did to this economy.

Madam Speaker, I would be remiss if I didn't express my deep concern with one of the offsets in this bill. Specifically, I think it is just plain awful that the Senate has sent us a bill that cuts future funding for the SNAP program, formerly known as food stamps.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act rightfully included significant funding for SNAP. Economists from the right and the left argue that SNAP is the most effective stimulus available today, and we rightfully included funding for increased SNAP benefits in the Recovery Act; yet, the Senate has included a cut in these SNAP benefits that will result in \$59 less per month for a family of four starting in 2014.

The choice then is to provide critical aid to the States and protect jobs for teachers, firefighters, and police officers today or protect future benefits for those hungry Americans who struggle to put food on their tables. It is not a choice that we should be forced to make.

It frustrates me to no end, and quite frankly, I'm outraged, that this is one of the offsets. I would ask my friends in the Senate: Why do the most vulnerable in our country always have to pay more than their fair share? This practice of robbing Peter to pay Paul must come to an end. Yet here we are.

Madam Speaker, I will support this bill because it will help the people of

Massachusetts and the people of this country. This bill will do good things, and it will do them immediately, but I'm casting this vote because we have time to fix the SNAP issue in the future. I continue to believe that we can properly fund the SNAP program, as well as other domestic anti-hunger programs and ensure that no person in America goes hungry. And by not dealing with the issue of hunger more aggressively, we are not saving money, Madam Speaker. We are costing the country much more in terms of everything from increased health care costs to lost productivity. I believe that in the richest, most powerful Nation in the world people shouldn't go hungry. Millions of our fellow citizens sadly don't have enough to eat, and that, quite frankly, is a national disgrace.

Let's approve this bill. Let's help keep teachers in the classrooms, cops on the streets, and more firefighters in our cities and towns, and then when we come back after recess, let's do what's right and restore the SNAP cuts. Let's find another offset that doesn't make a bad situation worse. For America's hungry and food insecure, let's for once make them a priority.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds to say that I appreciate the fact that my friend from Colorado pointed out that, contrary to what Speaker PELOSI said when she argued that Republicans would rather see in the unemployment line teachers, nurses, and cops rather than in the classroom, in the emergency room and on the line, on the beat, that, in fact, we do, Republicans and Democrats, alike care.

At this point, I am happy to yield, Madam Speaker, 2 minutes to a very hardworking member of the Financial Services Committee, my friend from Dallas, Mr. HENSARLING.

Mr. HENSARLING. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, we are here today because the Speaker of the House has declared us in emergency session. There's a national emergency. Apparently, Congress has not spent enough money, notwithstanding the fact that we passed the \$1.2 trillion stimulus bill, the \$410 billion '09 omnibus bill, the House-passed \$871 billion cap-and-trade bill, the \$2.6 trillion government takeover of health care bill, and the 2010 omnibus bill rang in at \$445 billion. But there's a national emergency. We're not spending enough money. Let's spend \$26.1 billion more.

Madam Speaker, the American people are asking: What part of broke doesn't this Congress understand? We are already looking at our second year of trillion-dollar deficits, the largest debt in the history of our Nation as a percentage of our economy, largest since World War II. What part of broke doesn't Congress understand?

Now, many of us have lost track here, Madam Speaker. I don't know if

this is stimulus bill part three or bailout bill part four. There's been so many of them, it's simply hard to keep track of.

What have all the stimulus bills brought us? Well, an additional loss of 3 million jobs, private sector jobs lost, since we passed this stimulus bill. Yet, my friends on the other side of the aisle call it a success. Madam Speaker, let's hope that this stimulus bill is not near as successful as the previous one.

And here we have yet another bailout bill. We've bailed out Chrysler, GM, Fannie, Freddie, the major banks, people who bought too much home and couldn't afford it, and now we're going to bail out the States. So, if California and New York can't live within their means, taxpayers in Kansas, Minnesota and Kentucky have to bail them out.

It's time to reject the rule and reject the bill.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my colleague on the Rules Committee, the gentlewoman from Maine (Ms. PINGREE).

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. I thank my colleague for yielding. I rise today in support of the underlying rule and to the bill itself.

Madam Speaker, the vote we will take today is a vote for preserving jobs in America and a vote against sending them overseas. It will be a vote for keeping jobs in our country by saving the jobs of over 140,000 teachers, 700 them in my home State of Maine.

□ 1120

Allowing for further cuts in teachers' jobs would be devastating, not only to our children but also to our local economies in Maine and across the country. The loss of 700 jobs in my State means 700 fewer paychecks being spent at a local grocery or hardware store on the goods and services that support our local economy.

Local property taxpayers are already carrying too much of the burden, and local school districts have already made too many drastic cuts. Taxpayers need some relief, and schools need a helping hand.

Madam Speaker, this bill is also fully paid for, in part by cracking down on corporations that have been claiming a tax credit for sending good-paying American jobs overseas. Large multinational corporations have been getting away with paying billions less than they owe in taxes. This bill will close the loopholes that have allowed this abuse to go on and allow American jobs to be shipped offshore.

It is outrageous that these companies have been getting a tax credit while companies doing business in America are struggling to hire and retain workers. It is time to put an end to this practice immediately.

I urge my colleagues to support the rule and the underlying bill.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds to simply say that

we keep hearing that this is fully paid for. It's paid for, Madam Speaker, by taxing companies that in difficult times are creating jobs and by hitting food stamps and renewable energy. Obviously, that ain't a way to pay for this, and we know that it's not fully paid for.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to a tireless member of the House Rules Committee, my friend from Dallas, Mr. SESSIONS.

Mr. SESSIONS. I appreciate the gentleman, Mr. DREIER, for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, last night at the Rules Committee, we had a very vigorous and spirited debate. It is continuing, although with less fervency, on the floor today about the insistence of the Democratic Party to blame corporations for the ills, blame George Bush for all the problems, when, in fact, it's been 15 straight months of unemployment, over 9.5 percent that the Democratic Party is personally responsible for.

The substance of this bill is not just about teachers. We already know it's about a lot of other issues. One of them is about the competitiveness of America as we do business overseas.

The U.S. Chamber says about this bill, it "would impose draconian tax increases on American worldwide companies that would hinder job creation, decrease the competitiveness of American businesses, and deter economic growth."

Madam Speaker, the Democratic Party is hung up on this issue, and yet they will blame George Bush for the bad legislation that they passed.

The facts of the case are simple. Americans invest in the stock market, American companies need to seek markets all around the world, and this bill will make it far, far more difficult for American companies to invest in their operations that make money. Making money is what keeps the stock market, 401(k)s, and lots of other retirement plans up to where they are able to receive the funds as a benefit of a worldwide economic opportunity.

Madam Speaker, the Democratic party is once again going to go and harm not just the stock market but employment and our ability to make a comeback.

The National Association of Manufacturers says, "Imposing \$9.6 billion in tax increases on these companies will jeopardize the jobs of American manufacturing employees." It is Americans who work here who produce goods and services that are sold overseas, and what we want to do is to take away the ability that companies have to sell overseas.

That is the legacy of this Democratic Party, higher taxes, more rules and regulations, debt, and record unemployment.

This is not how you give opportunities to people to build jobs. It is job de-

struction, and that's what the Democratic party is known for. This comes in line with the three largest political items of this Democrat majority that net lose America 10 million American jobs.

Don't blame somebody else, Madam Speaker. Please stand up and admit. You have been in office now, not just Ms. PELOSI, for 4 almost years now, but the President now for a year and a half.

Pin the tail on the donkey.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members will please heed the gavel.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS).

Mr. CUMMINGS. As I listen today, Madam Speaker, I ask the simple question, what about our children?

This legislation, which I fully support, and the rule, will ensure that the millions of children who are returning to school this fall have the same opportunity to learn and to thrive as their peers did before them. It will also keep first responders on duty and fund vital Medicaid services.

Economists have concluded that failure to pass this legislation will put a significant weight on our fragile economy. Nonetheless, my Republican friends continue to paint this legislation as an election season gimmick.

This legislation will save more than 130,000 teacher jobs and reduce the deficit by \$1.4 billion over the next 10 years. That's not a gimmick. Ensuring the education of our children and the safety of our communities is not a gimmick.

The greatest threat to our national and economic security is the failure to properly educate every single one of our children.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, at this time, I yield 3 minutes to my very good friend, who is the ranking member of the Education and Labor Committee, the gentleman from Lakeville, Minnesota (Mr. KLINE).

Mr. KLINE of Minnesota. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I rise in opposition to this rule and to the underlying measure.

Madam Speaker, 18 months ago, we gathered in this Chamber to debate economic stimulus. Republicans wanted to help job creators, but the majority said, "No, let's borrow and spend." And borrow and spend they did, to the tune of \$862 billion.

Back then, the Democrats sent nearly \$100 billion to States and districts to prop up school budgets. It would save 300,000 jobs, we were told, and improve public education. It was a one-time investment, we were told. They would not be back for more.

Yet here we stand. They are back for more.

I know my schools, I know there are challenges, and I understand the difficult budget decisions our governors,

superintendents, and school boards are being forced to make. And I know a Federal bailout is not the answer.

Spending another \$10 billion we do not have will not improve public education or protect the very best teachers. Earlier this year, Education Secretary Arne Duncan told us, "Today, the status quo clearly isn't good enough." Yet the status quo is exactly what this \$10 billion will perpetuate.

Schools will continue to operate on last-hired, first-fired policies that ignore student achievement when deciding which teachers to keep in the classroom. These dollars are not targeted based on jobs at risk or student needs. This is nothing more than an across-the-board inflation of State spending.

Spending another \$10 billion we do not have will not balance State budgets or bolster our economy. Because of major increases in the number of school personnel in recent years, States are operating education budgets they cannot afford.

At best, inflating State education spending for another year will kick the can down the road, merely postponing the tough decisions and allowing States to overextend themselves for another year.

At worst, another bailout will make States more dependent on the Federal Government and more susceptible to Washington's political whims.

Finally, spending another \$10 billion we do not have is not good for our children and grandchildren. This bill is not "paid for." We are looking at a Washington shell game of tax hikes and deficit spending gamesmanship. It dips into stimulus spending we could not afford 18 months ago to pay for even more stimulus spending we cannot afford today.

I oppose this legislation. I encourage my colleagues to vote against this rule and against the underlying legislation.

I give this whole effort an "F."

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, as has been noted, this legislation will reduce the Federal deficit by over a billion dollars.

With that, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut, a member of the Appropriations Committee, Ms. DELAURO.

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, let me be clear. I strongly support the \$16 billion of critical funding that this legislation provides for Medicaid assistance and the \$10 billion in education funding for teachers.

I will support it today, as I have several times in the past when this package has come for a vote to the floor of this House.

□ 1130

Yet I rise in support of this bill with a heavy heart, not because of what it provides, but because of what it takes away. I know, as many of my colleagues do, regardless of party, that

without these resources many States, including my State of Connecticut, will have to make Draconian cuts to essential services that they cannot afford to make without tearing apart the basic fabric of their communities. That is why this bill is so critical. Nothing could be more important than the education of our children and the access to health care services that families depend on, especially in this tough economy. And, finally, this bill ends tax breaks for exporting American jobs.

However, I cannot in good conscience condone the way we have paid for this package, what we have taken away in the process. At a time when we have seen the demand for food assistance skyrocket from 31 million people receiving food stamps in November 2008 to almost 41 million people now, we have chosen to pilfer \$12 billion from the food stamp program in the name of fiscal responsibility. In this instance, we have chosen to be fiscally responsible on the backs of those needy families who need our help to feed themselves and their children.

When so many families are struggling with unemployment, lower wages, lost benefits or homes, high prices, less income, cutting food assistance is unconscionable. The fact is education, health care, and food, these are things that bind us as a society, play formative roles in determining the course of this country. Yet the bill before us today shamefully pits these priorities against each other.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, at this time I am happy to yield 2 minutes to a Member who would like to see us go through the regular appropriations process, a member of the Appropriations Committee, my friend from Savannah, Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON).

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, who knew? Who knew that the States were running out of money? Who knew when we were bailing out General Motors, the big banks, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac? Apparently, the Speaker of the House had no idea there were some problems in the hinterlands. So here we are back in Washington, millions of dollars spent to bring everybody back.

This is governing by reaction, pandering to the political base. Blue State, big-city politics at its worst, taking care of the excesses of governing bodies who are unable or unwilling to make the tough decisions that smaller States, small businesses, and American families have to make every day.

And we hear over and over again this is paid for. I got news for you. If you have a huge debt on your American Express card and you transfer it to your Visa card, you haven't paid for anything. Forty-one cents on the dollar that we spend is borrowed money. The food stamps program, which the Democrats are cutting, the renewable energy program, which the Democrats are cut-

ting, and you could even argue the job-killing tax increase that they are about to pass, that's all on borrowed money. Forty-one cents on the dollar is borrowed in our country today under the Democrat leadership.

Now, we could be up here looking at Medicare and Social Security. The trustees report just came back and said that they are both going broke. And I would think that's what would be worth coming back to Washington for anytime. We should fight to fix Social Security and Medicare. But instead, it's another bailout and another promise of governmental utopia. If we just bail out this one last group, jobs will return, the deficit will be balanced, and there will be peace from sea to shining sea. It's just not going to work.

This is a bailout Congress. It's government by bailout, it's government by borrowed money, and our children's children will be paying for this.

Mr. POLIS. I yield myself 30 seconds.

Madam Speaker, when we are talking about cops and firefighters and teachers we have and we need, and we value cops and firefighters and teachers in the reddest of red States and the bluest of blue States across this great country, that's why, Madam Speaker, 16 Republican Governors have written to us, encouraging us to pass the money for Medicaid assistance here today, including, I might add, the Governor of the State of Georgia, as well as the Governor of the State of Alabama, calling on us to act because all of us know that we are in this together as a country. Regardless of where we live, we all need these basic services.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Listening to the concerns of parents, the hopes of students, and the needs of our local Texas school leaders, today we are responding with essential Federal aid to education, fully paid for by closing international corporate tax loopholes that should never have been there in the first place.

Because we believe in local control of education, we require that the State of Texas specifically forward the new Federal aid to our local school districts, not divert it or spend it on something else. The Texas Association of School Boards, Texas teachers, principals, and school administrators support this legislative approach. Now, those, who have never wanted Texas or any other place in this country to receive a dime of additional Federal aid to education, they complain because we are holding Texas Governor Rick Perry accountable for proper use of these taxpayer dollars. There is absolutely no constitutional limitation on doing right by our Texas schoolchildren. Instead of concocting phony legalistic arguments, Governor Perry and his cohorts here in Congress ought

to be joining us in supporting quality public education.

You can be sure that Texas is singled out by this legislation. It was singled out by a Governor who grabbed \$3.2 billion of Federal aid to education to bail out a mismanaged State government. That's the only bailout that occurred. It occurred last year in the State of Texas. We didn't send that Federal aid for education to Texas to plug a mismanaged State budget. We sent it to help our schoolchildren.

And so today, in order to avoid history repeating itself, we demand accountability, we demand support for quality public education and local control of education and not more mismanagement and interference from the State of Texas.

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

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE).

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, the students now are at the beach and at the swimming holes, and they're not thinking about their education. But we are. And we're seeing good things. I was at the Everett School District, where they're getting 90 percent graduation rates because they're doing some good things. But we're going to have almost 3,000 teachers laid off if we don't pass this bill, in the State of Washington. That is just flat wrong.

Now, what is the debate here? The debate is that one side of the aisle believes it is more important to preserve billions of dollars of tax loopholes so that corporations can hide their money in the Bahamas and other places. They think those billions of dollars for those corporate loopholes is simply more important than almost 3,000 teachers in classrooms in the State of Washington. We disagree. The kids aren't thinking about it, but we are.

And let's be clear what the decision is today. One side of the aisle's going to be giving billions of dollars for corporate loopholes, and one side of the aisle's going to be taking care of kids. They don't want to give a dime to kids, but billions for corporate loopholes. Pass this bill.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY).

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, as somebody who spent 14 years in local government before coming here to the United States Congress, I know how essential it is that our State and local governments get some relief. The cumulative deficit they are going to experience over the next 2 years is \$350 billion, which will have a profoundly contractionary effect on our economy.

This bill, which is fully paid for and actually reduces the deficit by \$1.4 billion over the next 10 years, is essential

to making sure State and local workers stay serving the public they serve. And I think that the time has come to provide that assistance, and I look forward to supporting H.R. 1586 as a proud former local government official.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute.

Madam Speaker, I am particularly pleased that this legislation does not include \$800 million in cuts to critical education reform programs, including Race to the Top, which has encouraged education reform initiatives and accountability across our country; including the Charter School Innovation Fund, which provides start-up money for new and innovative charter schools to help meet the educational needs of our most at-risk youth; and the Teacher Incentive Fund, finding new and better ways to compensate teachers for their hard work.

□ 1140

This bill before us today, Madam Speaker, recognizes that we need both funding and reform, investment and accountability. One without the other will not close the achievement gap. Together, Madam Speaker, teachers in the classroom and the education reform initiatives that President Obama is pursuing in a bipartisan way promise to help end the vicious cycle of poverty and ignorance in this country and replace it with the virtuous cycle of opportunity and hope.

With that, Madam Speaker, I would like to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the time.

It is amazing that we are even spending one second debating this bill. The American people all across this country, from the width and breadth of it, are hurting. And the number one reason they are hurting is because of a lack of jobs. And here we have a bill that means 319,000 jobs for the American people.

We ought not waste one additional minute debating this bill, but to go ahead and to pass this bill. 319,000 jobs. And jobs in the critical areas of teachers, of firefighters, of police officers, the very jobs that are at the core of educating our young people.

Without this bill passing, 161,000 teachers will no longer exist. Without this bill passing, 90,000-some first responders will no longer exist.

Pass this bill, for the sake of the American people.

Mr. DREIER. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I know that as my colleagues listen to the debate on the floor of the House, they don't have the full picture of Members returning from work recess, where we have been meeting with constituents, to come here today to take this important step. We are the People's House, and it certainly gives us no trouble to fly in to be able to make this important decision.

But this is out of the ordinary. And it is out of the ordinary because you are looking at people who really care about what is happening, the strangulation of our States and the losses and the pink slips that teachers are getting so that our children cannot learn and be part of the competitive edge in the world. I know it factually, having more than seven school districts in my community.

Today we are doing something that Chairman OBEY deserves credit for, for his vision and his tenacity, someone who knows what it is to be without. Today we are talking about helping people. And I am sorry that the other body took so long, and I am sorry they took it out of EITC, and I am sorry they did not handle this in the right way, but we have a crisis going on.

So these thousands of dollars that will help per teacher to save these teachers and firefighters and police officers, so that maybe the three little girls that were killed by a drunk driver in my district would not have faced such, with more law enforcement to tell people you can't drive while you are drunk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. POLIS. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. So I rise today to support this and ask anybody with good judgment, why would you vote against it? As I said, I don't like the pay-fors, but it is paid for. We will fix that.

But let me tell you what is happening in Texas. Texas is taking money out of the mouths of children and putting it somewhere else. So I am supporting it because we have language that says to the Governor of the State of Texas, don't fool with money for children and education. And we have 40 school districts saying we support the legislative language that members of the Texas delegation have proposed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has again expired.

Mr. POLIS. I yield the gentlewoman 15 additional seconds.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. That would guarantee these emergency Federal education funds are actually spent on education in Texas. As drafted, this Texas fix has no impact on anything else. I am standing here because it is about education and public safety. I believe we are doing the right thing, and

I ask my colleagues to vote on the underlying bill and the rule.

I rise in strong support of the rule for H.R. 1586, the Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act. I support this legislation because it will save and create 319,000 American jobs—many of them in the education and health sectors.

In less than a month, millions of American students will return to school eager to begin a new year of academic and personal growth. However, the quality of the schools they return to is a matter to be determined. Throughout the country, thousands of teachers have lost, or risk losing, their jobs. This is something our children and our educators can ill afford. As we work to regain economic ground, this legislation provides a total of \$10 billion in funding for education jobs to sustain thousands of schools educating millions of children. Moreover, this includes \$830.2 billion dollars for primary and secondary schools in the state of Texas.

I am pleased that this legislation includes a provision that requires Governor Perry to certify that these emergency appropriations for public education will be used solely to add new funds for public education and not misused for other purposes. We all recall what happened last year when Governor Perry misused the Economic Recovery Act State Stabilization funds. In that instance, Governor Perry used \$3.2 billion in similar aid last year as a substitute for, not an addition to, state aid to school districts. That was outrageous.

It ignored the intent of our legislation, and it denied our children the education that they deserved.

I want to stress that the provision will not create a compliance burden on the state of Texas. Rather, it says only that the state cannot take the federal aid and then use it as an excuse to make disproportionate cuts in state education aid to school districts, relative to other parts of the state budget that might also have to take a hit in the next budget cycle. This required assurance is no more onerous than assurances Governor Perry has given previously to receive billions of dollars in other federal funds. Texas cannot afford to be left out again, and I join the Texas Democratic Delegation and groups of teachers, principals and administrators from across the state of Texas who strongly support this provision.

Madam Speaker, I applaud you for reconvening this week to pass this crucial legislation. We have a bold vision for creating and sustaining an education system that prepares our children to excel. As President Obama said yesterday in Texas, "education is the economic issue of our time." I could not agree more. Today we have the opportunity to pass legislation that will impact education jobs today and our children's job prospects tomorrow. With schools forced to make difficult personnel decisions before the start of the school year, this legislation is the necessary action at the necessary time. According to updated estimates from the Department of Education, the \$10 billion education funding will save 161,000 teacher jobs.

In addition to education jobs funding, this legislation will also save and create jobs in the health sector. According to an analysis by the Economic Policy Institute, a non-partisan think

tank, the Medicaid funds will save and create 158,000 jobs, including preventing the layoff of police officers and firefighters. More than half these jobs will be in the private sector, including workers who contract for or supply services to state and local governments.

Under the Recovery Act, enacted in February 2009, the federal Medicaid matching rate was increased by 6.2 percentage points for all states and by additional percentage points for states with high unemployment. These temporary provisions were enacted in response to the state fiscal crisis—with the increased Medicaid caseloads and decreasing state revenues resulting from the deep recession. However, these provisions are scheduled to expire on December 31, 2010, with dire consequences for our economy.

As the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities found: "If Congress does not extend the enhanced Medicaid matching funds in last year's Recovery Act, most states will cut public services or raise taxes . . . without more federal aid, state budget-closing actions could cost the national economy 900,000 public- and private-sector jobs."

Due to the deep and enduring recession, states have lost tax revenue for the last two years and revenues are projected to remain at severely-reduced levels throughout fiscal year 2011. As a result, states have been forced to scale back spending and implement large service cuts to balance their budgets. While fiscal austerity is important, budget cuts impact more than a bottom line—the local health and emergency personnel need their jobs to make ends meet for themselves and their families. By extending the Medicare matching funds, we will help state and local governments save money and allow them to stay afloat while the economy improves. At least 34 states will cut jobs and services if this assistance is not enacted. This legislation will have a direct impact on Texas by providing an estimated \$858,000,000 for Medicaid fiscal relief which will, in turn, save and create thousands of jobs.

Madam Speaker, I thank you again for calling us back to session to save America's jobs.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, a week ago last Friday when we adjourned for the August district work period, I thought to myself, well, we are going to get a six-week reprieve from this pattern of constant increases in spending and more bailouts. And yet here we are one week into this August district work period, and we are back here with a \$26.1 billion spending measure.

Now, Madam Speaker, I was horrified when I read at the end of last week a quote that was put out of Speaker PELOSI's office. She said that Republican Members would rather see teachers, nurses, and cops on the unemployment line rather than having teachers in the classrooms, nurses in the emergency rooms, and cops on the beat.

And as I said in the opening, I am grateful that my friend from Colorado recognizes that Democrats, Republicans, Independents alike all want to make sure that teachers are in the

classroom, all want to make sure that nurses are in the emergency room, and all want to make sure that cops are on the beat. So let's disabuse ourselves of this notion that somehow if you are not supportive of this \$26.1 billion measure, that you somehow are opposed to teachers, nurses, and cops.

Why is it that we are here just one week into this break? We are here because of abject failure.

Madam Speaker, for the first time since the 1974 Budget and Impoundment Act was put into place, we have not had the House of Representatives pass a budget. Never before has it been done like this. Never before.

We have the chairman of the Appropriations Committee here. We are only one-sixth of our way through the appropriations process, and we have done it limiting the opportunity for Democrats and Republicans to represent their constituents with amendments here on the House floor.

So, what is it that has happened? No budget. Well, why is it so important to have a budget? The reason to have a budget is so that we can ensure that teachers are in the classrooms, that nurses are in the emergency rooms, and that cops are on the beat.

We have to establish priorities, and under Speaker PELOSI's leadership, that has not happened. So we have rushed back here to Washington for one day to debate and pass, I presume they are going to have the votes to pass it, a \$26.1 billion measure.

They continue to say that this is paid for. It is paid for. My friend from Houston said just a few moments ago she didn't like the way it was paid for, and we will fix it later.

Well, how is it they pay for this? They pay for it on the backs of those businesses that are out there today working very hard in difficult economic times to create jobs. They pay for it on the backs of the poor, with the food stamp program. And while we are all focused on improving our environment, they pay for it on the backs of those of us who want to continue to focus on improving our environment. Meaning that it is nothing more than smoke and mirrors to claim that this is somehow paid for.

The American people are hurting. My friend from Atlanta just pointed out that fact, and he is absolutely right.

Madam Speaker, it is critical that we focus on job creation and economic growth. And we know how that can be done. Over the last 18 months, we have seen an 84 percent increase in non-defense discretionary spending—an 84 percent increase in the last 18 months.

□ 1150

We have an unemployment rate that is 9.5 percent, fully 1.5 percentage points beyond what President Obama promised it would be if we passed his \$800 billion stimulus bill. So I think

that across the board we can recognize that the economic policies of tax and spend have not worked in turning the economy around since we still have a 9.5 percent unemployment rate.

My State of California has a 12.3 percent unemployment rate. And what is it we're doing? We're continuing down with this program of massive, massive multibillion-dollar spending.

So what is it we should be doing? I believe we should be taking, yes, a bipartisan approach.

I like to regularly hold up the John F. Kennedy model for job creation and economic growth. We all know that in the early 1960s John F. Kennedy stepped up to the plate and put into place marginal, across-the-board rate reduction. And what did that bring, Madam Speaker? It brought, during the decade of the 1960s, a 60 percent increase in the flow of revenues to the Federal Treasury, meaning that priorities could be established and that there was actually enhanced economic growth generating more revenues to the Federal Treasury.

Similarly, during the 1980s, Ronald Reagan inherited a slow-moving economy. And what did he do? President Reagan put into place a marginal across-the-board rate reduction, and it brought a 90 percent increase, nearly doubling the flow of revenues to the Federal Treasury.

So that is why this notion of dramatically increasing spending and at the same time increasing the tax burden on job creators is a prescription for failure. And that is exactly what we have found so far.

We want to put into place positive, pro-growth economic policies. And we believe that while we are in the midst of this August district work period we should now, because the American people want us very much to get the economy moving, we should be working here in the House passing those.

And so, Madam Speaker, I am going to urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the previous question. In voting "no" on the previous question, if we are successful at defeating it, I will offer an amendment that will prevent the House from leaving immediately, and I know everybody wants to do that, but if we can put into place pro-growth policies, I think it would certainly be well worth our staying.

If we defeat the previous question, my amendment will allow for the consideration of five measures:

First, H.R. 4746, to prevent pending tax increases; second, H.R. 3765, the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act; H.R. 5141, the Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act; H.R. 4110, the TARP Sunset Act of 2009; and H.R. 2842, rescinding all stimulus funds that remain unobligated.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the amendment appear in the

RECORD immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, if we defeat the previous question and allow those five measures to be debated here on the House floor, I believe that that goal would go a long way towards getting our economy back on track; and, yes, that kind of economic growth would ensure that we would have the resources to make sure that teachers remain in the classrooms and that nurses remain in the emergency rooms and that cops remain on the beat.

So Madam Speaker, I urge a “no” vote on the previous question. And if by chance we are not successful, I urge a “no” vote on the rule. Because I believe that we can do better.

With that, Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of the time.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the rule and the Senate amendment to H.R. 1586.

The new school year is just around the corner. Families across our Nation are preparing to send their kids back to school; and the experience that their children have this school year directly depends, Madam Speaker, on our actions here today in this Chamber.

The package before us today recognizes that we can't afford to stand idle while our schools are being hammered by budget crises across the country. In Colorado, districts are facing the deepest budget cuts in memory. Colorado school districts have cut more than \$288 million out of their budgets for next school year, so the \$160 million that Colorado will receive under this program provides much-needed funds.

Now I want to describe that that is typical of the experience of many States. In no way, shape, or form are we avoiding making the tough decisions or tough cuts during this recession. The States have made those. Districts have made those. We have the opportunity today to make sure that those cuts don't affect the kids going back to school.

What have districts done to balance their budget? They have reduced their staff size and salaries, they have increased furlough days, they have created larger class sizes, they have reduced instructional hours, cut after-school programs, established 4-day school weeks. We are undercutting the future of American competitiveness by getting in the way of the ability to educate kids today because we happen to be in a severe budget crisis. We each here today in this Chamber, Madam Speaker, have the opportunity to get these much-needed funds to States and school districts across the country.

In addition, the budget of Colorado and more than half the States in the

country assume that the FMAP increases will occur. If they don't, if this Chamber doesn't act here today, Colorado would have to come up with \$245 million more in cuts; and, in most States, including my home State, those cuts would generally hit education, law enforcement, and higher education. So the extension is critically important not only for the low-income families that rely on Medicaid for health services but also for all public services that are so essential for our communities.

Undermining public education during a recession is no way to build a world-class educational system, no way to create the economic engine of growth for our Nation for the next century when more than ever jobs will depend on what people know and their ability to think rather than what they can do with their hands.

By passing this here today, Madam Speaker, we can help ensure America's competitiveness in a global, knowledge-based economy. Inaction today in the face of today's crisis would simply mean further erosion of our Nation's human capital, our greatest asset.

Madam Speaker, this is not spending we are considering today. This is an investment. It's an investment in our most valuable asset, our children and our future.

I urge a “yes” vote on the previous question and the rule.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, many of my colleagues here today interrupted important activities back in their home districts in order to be here today for this unusual August session.

Some canceled important community events, put off important meetings with constituents or postponed time with their children to be here.

For me, today was the day that I was scheduled to present 11 military medals to Thomas Hetherington, a wonderful Niagara Falls man and decorated Naval officer.

Hetherington fought in both the Korean and Vietnam wars but struggled for years to convince the Pentagon to give him replacement medals; his originals were buried some years ago in the casket of his brother, who himself was a decorated Marine and Vietnam veteran.

This year, my staff was able to assist Mr. Hetherington with getting replacement medals to compensate for the ones he bequeathed to his brother. It was very important to his family and I was glad I could play some small role in navigating the bureaucracy for this constituent.

But last week we called Mr. Hetherington and said we had to postpone the service. Why? Because like my colleagues, I was summoned to Washington to vote on an absolutely critical package of legislation that the Senate approved late last week.

We're here today debating emergency assistance for states and school districts across the country, I can't think of a better reason for members to rush back to the Capitol.

We're here today to extend a lifeline to teachers and classrooms to ensure that students across this country are not hurt by a

weak economy that has forced some states into drastic cutbacks.

Despite the failure of the Senate to move this bill during many months of debate until it finally passed this week, the urgency is real. And the appeal is broad.

This legislation saves or creates 310,000 American jobs, specifically for teachers, police officers, firefighters and nurses.

The funds will go immediately to states to prevent layoffs and in some cases to rehire teachers as summer comes to an end and students to go back to school.

Students here in Washington DC will be at school the week after next.

In my home state of New York, this package is worth roughly \$2 billion in Medicaid savings.

Since New York faced a budget shortfall, this bill directs more than \$600 million to the state to retain and create teacher jobs over the coming school year. The U.S. Department of Education says the bill will fund 8,200 positions.

This legislation is completely paid for, primarily by closing tax loopholes that encourage corporations to ship American jobs overseas. In fact, this bill will help us cut the deficit by \$1.4 billion over the next 10 years.

Amazingly, some on the other side have argued that this legislation is nothing more than a deal for “special interests,” as they say.

These funds will assist states so that they can keep qualified teachers in classrooms and pay firefighters and police officers to keep our neighborhoods safe. Shouldn't we do everything in our power to protect those jobs?

Widespread layoffs in those sectors would hurt not only schools and children but would further depress the economy. Knocking Americans into the unemployment line does nothing for families—they deserve better. These people form the backbone of our economy.

Sadly, one of the reasons it took until the early part of August to pass this legislation is that Senate Republicans filibustered efforts to bring it forward for a vote.

Now that this measure is before us, I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation and quickly moving to a final vote this afternoon.

If protecting public safety and education means that I am helping “special interests,” then count me in.

The material previously referred to by Mr. DREIER is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 1606 OFFERED BY MR. DREIER OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 3. It shall not be in order for the Speaker to entertain a motion to adjourn pursuant to H. Con. Res. 308 until the House has considered the measures specified in section 4.

SEC. 4. The measures referred to in section 3 are as follows:

(1) H.R. 4746, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent pending tax increases, and for other purposes;

(2) H.R. 3765, a bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law;

(3) H.R. 5141, a bill to repeal the expansion of information reporting requirements for payments of \$600 or more to corporations, and for other purposes;

(4) H.R. 4110, a bill to repeal the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to extend the Troubled Asset Relief Program; and,

(5) H.R. 2842, a bill to rescind all stimulus funds that remain unobligated.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer the resolution previously noticed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Whereas the 111th Congress has failed in its promise to be the most open Congress in history, but has instead lost the public's trust by engaging in unprecedented political procedures to advance a partisan agenda;

Whereas on January 18, 2006, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi stated in prepared remarks, "Democrats are leading the effort to turn the most closed, corrupt Congress in history into the most open and honest Congress in history.";

Whereas on November 7, 2006, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi stated, "The American people voted to restore integrity and honesty in Washington, D.C., and the Democrats intend to lead the most honest, most open, and most ethical Congress in history.";

Whereas on November 16, 2006, incoming House Speaker Nancy Pelosi stated, "This leadership team will create the most honest, most open, and most ethical Congress in history.";

Whereas on December 6, 2006, incoming House Speaker Nancy Pelosi stated, "We promised the American people that we would have the most honest and open Government and we will.";

Whereas incoming Majority Whip Clyburn stated on December 8, 2006 that, "Democrats will exercise better leadership in the new Congress and work to raise the standard of ethics in this body";

Whereas Speaker Pelosi spoke of individual Member's ethics on January 31, 2007 when she stated, "These strong [ethics] rules are significant steps toward honest leadership; enforcing these rules is critical to ensuring every Member of Congress lives up to the highest ethical standard";

Whereas on January 5, 2010, while at a press conference during the health care debate, Speaker Pelosi stated, "There has never been a more open process for any legislation";

Whereas this statement was reiterated by the Speaker while at a press conference on February 26, 2010, when a reporter prefaced a

question about Rangel by noting that Speaker Pelosi had promised to run the "most ethical and honest Congress in history" she interrupted him to say: "And we are.";

Whereas more bills were considered under closed rules, 64 total, in the 110th Congress under Democrat control, than in the previous Congress, 49, under Republican control;

Whereas fewer bills were considered under open rules, 10 total, in the 110th Congress under Democrat control, than in the previous Congress, 22, under Republican control;

Whereas zero bills have been considered so far in the 111th Congress under an open rule;

Whereas 26 bills have been considered so far in the 111th Congress under a closed rule, under Democrat control;

Whereas this Congress is the highest spending Congress in United States history;

Whereas this Congress has presided over the two highest budget deficits in United States history at a time when the public debt is higher than at any other time in history;

Whereas this Congress began its mortgage of the Nation's future with a "stimulus" package costing \$1.1 trillion that failed to lower unemployment, spur economic growth, or actually address the needs of struggling American business and families;

Whereas this Congress continued its free-flowing spending with an increase of \$72.4 billion in nonemergency discretionary spending in fiscal year 2009 to reach a total spending level of \$1.01 trillion for the first time in United States history;

Whereas this Congress approved a budget resolution in 2009 that proposed the six largest nominal deficits in American history and included tax increases of \$423 billion during a period of sustained high unemployment;

Whereas this Congress disregarded the needs and opinions of everyday Americans by passing a national energy tax bill that would increase costs on nearly every aspect of American lives by up to \$3,000 per year, eliminate millions of jobs, reduce workers' income, and devastate economic growth;

Whereas this Congress disregarded the needs and opinions of everyday Americans by passing a massive Government takeover of health care that will force millions of Americans from their health insurance plans, increase premiums and costs for individuals and employers, raise taxes by \$569.2 billion, and fund abortions—at a cost of \$2.64 trillion over the first ten years of full implementation;

Whereas this Congress nationalized the student loan industry with a potential cost of 30,000 private sector jobs and \$50.1 billion over ten years;

Whereas this Congress passed the DISCLOSE Act in violation of the first amendment, hindering citizens associations' and corporations' free speech while leaving all unions exempt from many of the new requirements, in order to try and influence the outcome of 2010 elections;

Whereas in spite of House Budget Committee Chairman's 2006 statement that "if you can't budget, you can't govern", the Democrat leadership has failed to introduce a budget resolution in 2010 as mandated by law, but instead self-executed a "deeming resolution" that increases nonemergency discretionary spending in fiscal year 2011 by \$30 billion to \$1.121 trillion, setting another new record for the highest level in United States history;

Whereas this Congress has failed Main Street through passage of a financial system takeover that fails to end the moral hazard of too-big-to-fail, does not address the

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac behemoths, and creates numerous new boards, councils, and positions with unconstitutionally broad authorities that will interfere with the creation of wealth and jobs;

Whereas this Congress has wasted taxpayer funds on an unnecessary and unconstitutional auto industry bailout, a "cash for clunkers" program, a home remediation program ("cash for caulkers"), and countless other pork barrel projects while allowing the public debt to reach its highest level in United States history;

Whereas Democrats have recently insinuated that significant legislative matters would deliberately not be addressed during the 111th Congress until after the midterm elections in November 2010;

Whereas the New York Times reported on June 19, 2010 that, "For all the focus on the historic federal rescue of the banking industry, it is the government's decision to seize Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in September 2008 that is likely to cost taxpayers the most money. . . . Republicans want to sever ties with Fannie and Freddie once the crisis abates. The Obama administration and Congressional Democrats have insisted on postponing the argument until after the midterm elections.";

Whereas the Washington Times reported on June 22, 2010 that House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer stated, "a budget, which sets out binding one-year targets and a multiyear plan, is useless this year because Congress has shunted key questions about deficits to the independent debt commission created by President Obama, which is due to report back at the end of this year.";

Whereas the Hill reported on June 24, 2010 that Senator Tom Harkin, a Democrat from Iowa, suggested that Democrats "might attempt to move 'card-check' legislation this year, perhaps during a lame-duck session. . . . 'A lot of things can happen in a lame-duck session, too,' he said in reference to EFCA.";

Whereas the New York Times published an article on June 28, 2010 titled "Lame-Duck Session Emerges as Possibility for Climate Bill Conference" that declares "many expect the final energy or climate bill to be worked out during the lame-duck session between the November election and the start of the new Congress in January.";

Whereas the Hill reported on July 1, 2010 that "Democratic leaders are likely to punt the task of renewing Bush-era tax cuts until after the election. Voters in November's midterms will thus be left without a clear idea of their future tax rates when they go to the polls.";

Whereas the Wall Street Journal reported on July 13, 2010 that, "there have been signs in recent weeks that party leaders are planning an ambitious, lame-duck session to muscle through bills in December they don't want to defend before November. Retiring or defeated members of Congress would then be able to vote for sweeping legislation without any fear of voter retaliation.";

Whereas the Hill reported on July 27, 2010 that Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said, at the recent Netroots Nation conference of liberal bloggers, in reference to Democrats' unfinished priorities, "We're going to have to have a lame duck session, so we're not giving up.";

Whereas the Hill reported in the same piece on July 27, 2010 that the lame duck session will include priorities such as "comprehensive immigration reform, climate change legislation and a whole host of other issues";