

this bill specifically speaks of driver ed, its importance, and its importance to this legislation.

Another point I wanted to make is the Chambers of Commerce have supported this legislation. They are the organizations where small businesses and medium-size businesses have said this legislation will help us make sure we are at full employment, that we reach that goal.

I think it was very important to point out, Mr. Speaker, that this legislation is bipartisan. It has a great number of sponsors, almost 100, and it has been bipartisan. That is the whole mark of making this house work; Republicans, Democrats, Independents working together to have positive legislation for our youth, for our employment, for our economy. That is what this bill, H.R. 2327, represents.

I would ask that this vote be unanimous, and I hope that others in the chamber who have not yet been involved in the legislation join us in this quest to help our young people and to help the economy.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time my time.

Mr. FAWELL. Mr. Speaker, I also have no further requests for time, and I yield back the remainder of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOEHLERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FAWELL) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 2327.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment to H.R. 2327 was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FAWELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2327.

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

There was no objection.

#### RECOGNIZING IMPORTANCE OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSIC

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 27) recognizing the importance of African-American music to global culture and calling on the people of the United States to study, reflect on, and celebrate African-American music.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 27

Whereas artists, songwriters, producers, engineers, educators, executives, and other professionals in the music industry provide inspiration and leadership through their creation of music, dissemination of educational

information, and financial contributions to charitable and community-based organizations;

Whereas African-American music is indigenous to the United States and originates from African genres of music;

Whereas African-American genres of music such as gospel, blues, jazz, rhythm and blues, rap, and hip-hop have their roots in the African-American experience;

Whereas African-American music has a pervasive influence on dance, fashion, language, art, literature, cinema, media, advertisements, and other aspects of culture;

Whereas the prominence of African-American music in the 20th century has reawakened interest in the legacy and heritage of the art form of African-American music;

Whereas African-American music embodies the strong presence of, and significant contributions made by, African-Americans in the music industry and society as a whole;

Whereas the multibillion dollar African-American music industry contributes greatly to the domestic and worldwide economy; and

Whereas African-American music has a positive impact on and broad appeal to diverse groups, both nationally and internationally: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—*

(1) recognizes the importance of the contributions of African-American music to global culture and the positive impact of African-American music on global commerce; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to take the opportunity to study, reflect on, and celebrate the majesty, vitality, and importance of African-American music.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MARTINEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 27.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 27 offered by my colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH). H. Con. Res. 27 recognizes the unique contributions and importance of African-American music to American culture and calls on the people of the United States to study and celebrate our African-American music heritage.

I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), for introducing this resolution. African Americans have had a profound influence on American music. In fact, in my hometown, Augusta, Georgia, we can lay claim to more than its great share of African-American musicians. Both the renowned opera and gospel singer, Jessye Norman and the godfather of soul himself, James Brown hail from the Augusta area.

Finally, I would also like to point out that the resolution states that African-American musicians have not only influenced American music but also have had a profound impact on American culture. This influence can be seen in dance, language, fashion, and literature.

This resolution rightly recognizes the contributions of African-American music and its larger effect in shaping much of the social and cultural and political fabric of our Nation. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor of H. Con. Res. 27, I rise in strong support of this resolution. This measure formally recognizes the importance of African-American music to our culture here in the United States as well as the global culture.

Through jazz, blues, gospel, rock, rhythm and blues, and hip-hop, African-American musicians have influenced art, literature, fashion, dance, and the media. African-American music has contributed internationally to international commerce as well as adding billions of dollars each year to the world economy.

Perhaps the greatest impact of African-American music is right here at home where the expression of beliefs and hopes and struggles and of triumphs have been woven into the social, cultural, economic, and political fabric of the United States and has made our Nation unique.

□ 1745

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) for his leadership in authoring this legislation, and I yield him such time as he may consume.

(Mr. FATTAH asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I thank both the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD) for his kind remarks and his assistance in bringing this resolution to the floor and also my colleague who serves with me from the great State of California. I think it is true that almost everything that needs to be said about this has been said so I will not belabor the point.

I do want to thank all of my colleagues, many of whom have cosponsored this legislation who are on both sides of the aisle, for this Congress to pause and to reflect on the importance of the contributions of African-American music to not only this Nation's culture but to the world as we have on other occasions paused and reflected on the contributions of country or other types of music. I think that it is appropriate. I want to thank the leadership of the House for bringing this resolution to the floor.

I would just say to my colleague from Georgia who talked about Augusta, Philadelphia has its own history

and legacy of people who have contributed to our music in this country. I will not go through that long list because then all of us would take to the floor and talk about those who may have contributed, but I do appreciate the pride of which he speaks for those who come from his great State and from his hometown.

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FOX).

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 27 and thank the gentleman from Georgia for yielding me the time so I can speak in support.

I congratulate the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) on this outstanding resolution. This is a resolution that certainly is timely. Here we are going to recognize through this resolution the importance of African-American music to global culture. Whereas African-American music has in fact been a positive influence, Mr. Speaker, on dance, fashion, language, art, literature, cinema, media and other aspects of culture, and the prominence of African-American music in the 20th century has reawakened interest in the legacy and heritage of the art form of African-American music. Moreover, it has embodied the strong presence and significant contributions made by African-Americans in the music industry and society as a sole. Moreover, the industry contributes greatly to the domestic and worldwide economy, and as well those great African-American musicians such as Ray Charles and Ella Fitzgerald to my hometown area of greater Philadelphia where the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) hails from. We have had our share of great African-American musicians who have gone on to not only entertain us here in the United States but across the world. It is to them that we salute tonight each of these individuals for their joint and collective contributions.

I hope that those who will hear about this resolution will in fact find inspiration in the works and will become in fact the new heroes and heroines of tomorrow in providing for our entire culture the expansion of entertainment and of musical contribution that makes the rich culture that we call the United States.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Let me just conclude by saying that our list may be a little short of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), but we will put Ms. Norman up against anybody that wants to sing.

I want to just simply urge Members of this body and my colleagues to vote for this resolution but maybe even more importantly, if they have never spent a Wednesday night or a Sunday night in an African-American church and listened to the fabulous gospel music, I urge them to do that.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOEHLERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 27.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order: H.R. 4805 de novo; H.Res. 562 de novo; H.Res. 518 de novo; concurring in Senate amendment to H.R. 1274 de novo; S. 1754 de novo; conference report on S. 1260 de novo; and S. 1722, by the yeas and nays.

#### EXECUTIVE BRANCH TRAVEL REPORTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 4805.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4805.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CONCERNING PROPERTIES WRONGFULLY EXPROPRIATED BY FORMERLY TOTALITARIAN GOVERNMENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, House Resolution 562.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 562.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CALLING FOR FREE AND TRANSPARENT ELECTIONS IN GABON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, House Resolution 518, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 518, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION ACT OF 1998

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and concurring in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 1274.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 1274.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS ACT OF 1998

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the Senate bill, S. 1754, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BLILEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1754, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. CAMPBELL. 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 the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which a vote by electronic device may be taken on each additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.