Mr. Speaker, the last person in the world I will take

lectures from on the appropriations process is the gentleman from

California. The fact is that when he was the chairman of the

Appropriations Committee last year, they never bothered to send any

veterans health care legislation to the President at all. They simply,

after the election, shut down the Congress and went home without

sending one dime to veterans.

No, I will not. You've had your time.

Mr. Speaker, I would appreciate not being interrupted. It's a

technique which they use on that side of the aisle time after time. I

hope it comes out of their time, not mine.

The fact is that they never bothered to send a dime to the needy

veterans of the country. And so it was only after the Democrats took

control of the House that we added $3.4 billion to the veterans health

care budget and sent it to the President, and then later in the year in

the regular bill, we have added $3.6 billion more. So I will be happy

to compare the record of this party with his party any time on the

issue of veterans health care.