Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from

California.

Mr. Speaker, this bill takes the cake. Let me tell you why this bill

takes the cake. For all the talk about fiscal discipline we have

received from the new majority, this bill represents an egregious

violation of the budget rules that the Democrat majority set for itself

just recently.

Last year in the 109th Congress, we decided to put in place a new

tool of fiscal discipline, one that said if it is really an emergency,

then it should be an emergency, but don't put pork and unrelated

programs into emergency spending bills. So we set up a procedure, a

procedure that set aside $6.45 billion to be reserved for domestic

emergencies. If we had more money needed above that, the Budget

Committee would meet, the Budget Committee would determine whether or

not a particular program met the definition of a legitimate emergency,

and then it would raise the corresponding amount, which then the

Appropriations Committee could use.

Last night we met in the Budget Committee. We could have easily added

a discussion or a vote on whether or not this extra $22 billion fit the

definition of a legitimate emergency and raised the amount, but what

did this new majority do, after putting in place these rules that we

had from the 109th Congress to this 110th Congress? They waived them.

They are gone. All of this talk about fiscal discipline, all this talk

of PAYGO, of paying for things, what happened? Gone. Waived.

We added an amendment last night in the Budget Committee during the

resolution markup to continue these rules next year so that we can't

pork up emergency spending bills. Both parties have been guilty of

this. Please note that I say that. What happened? They voted it down.

So not only are we not living by the rules put in place just in

January, we canceled the rules for next year.

So what happens? This bill puts $22 billion in unrelated, unrequested

spending, having nothing to do with the war, in here. And the idea that

we police emergencies, that we make sure that when you do an emergency

spending bill with no offsets, that it really is an emergency, and that

we police it and we look at it in the Budget Committee, gone.

The days of fiscal discipline have left. Last night in this budget,

the

Democrat majority passed the largest tax increase in American history.

The reason they passed the largest tax increase in American history is

because that is the only way they can balance the budget to also

accommodate all the new spending they called for, because this budget

had zero savings, no controls on spending, nothing but tax increases.

And now they are waiving the rules so that they can bring any emergency

spending bill they want without checking as to whether or not it truly

is a legitimate emergency.

Mr. Speaker, for this, and many, many, many other reasons, fiscal

discipline, using the rules and obeying the rules and not handcuffing

our generals, I ask for a ``no'' vote on this rule and a ``no'' vote on

the underlying bill.