

1 incredible centralization of decision-making in the
2 hands of staff in the House leadership offices means
3 that for most Members representing their districts in
4 this body is diminishing every day in terms of their
5 ability to have a say in what goes on around here.”

6 (3) On July 8, 2009, the House adopted a rule
7 governing consideration of this bill making appro-
8 priations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food
9 and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies pro-
10 grams for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010
11 that deviated from the regular order by making in
12 order no more than 13 amendments and by specifi-
13 cally preventing 39 Members from offering amend-
14 ments that they had publicly indicated a desire to
15 have debated.

16 (4) The following Members were specifically de-
17 nied the right to participate in the deliberations on
18 this bill by having one or more of their amendments
19 denied the right to be debated:

20 The gentlewoman from Illinois, Ms. Bean;

21 The gentlewoman from Tennessee, Ms.

22 Blackburn;

23 The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Brady;

24 The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Broun;

1 The gentleman from North Carolina, Mr.
2 Butterfield;

3 The gentleman from California, Mr. Camp-
4 bell;

5 The gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr.
6 Carney;

7 The gentleman from Louisiana, Mr. Cas-
8 sidy;

9 The gentleman from Utah, Mr. Chaffetz;

10 The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Conaway;

11 The gentleman from Connecticut, Mr.
12 Courtney;

13 The gentleman from Oregon, Mr. DeFazio;

14 The gentleman from Arizona, Mr. Flake;

15 The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Gingrey;

16 The gentleman from New York, Mr. Hall;

17 The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Hen-
18 sarling;

19 The gentleman from New York, Mr. Hig-
20 gins;

21 The gentleman from New Hampshire, Mr.
22 Hodes;

23 The gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Jordan;

24 The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. King-
25 ston;

1 The gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Kucinich;
2 The gentleman from New York, Mr. Lee;
3 The gentleman from Oklahoma, Mr.
4 Lucas;
5 The gentlewoman from Wyoming, Ms.
6 Lummis;
7 The gentleman from Florida, Mr. Mack;
8 The gentleman from Texas, Mr. McCaul;
9 The gentlewoman from Washington, Ms.
10 McMorris Rodgers;
11 The gentleman from Florida, Mr. Mica;
12 The gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr.
13 Murphy;
14 The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Price;
15 The gentleman from Florida, Mr. Putnam;
16 The gentlewoman from New Hampshire,
17 Ms. Shea-Porter;
18 The gentleman from Florida, Mr. Stearns;
19 The gentleman from Michigan, Mr. Stu-
20 pak;
21 The gentleman from Kansas, Mr. Tiahrt;
22 The gentleman from New York, Mr.
23 Tonko;
24 The gentleman from New York, Mr. Wei-
25 ner;

1 The gentleman from Vermont, Mr. Welch;
2 and,

3 The gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Witt-
4 man.

5 (5) As each of these Members represents ap-
6 proximately 650,000 Americans, approximately
7 25,350,000 Americans were denied their right to be
8 represented because the restrictive rule supported by
9 the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. Obey, failed to
10 follow the precedents and procedures of the House;

11 (6) The gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. Obey,
12 was correct that a true representative democracy is
13 impossible when 25,350,000 Americans have their
14 representative to Congress shut-out of the legislative
15 process;

16 (7) As a result of the restrictive rule imple-
17 mented by the Democratic majority, the House was
18 not allowed to vote or even debate pertinent issues
19 such as:

20 An amendment that would reduce spending
21 by 1 percent savings taxpayers \$229,000,000;

22 An amendment to prohibit ineligible indi-
23 vidual from receiving food stamps;

24 An amendment that would reduce the cost
25 of construction projects in rural areas;

1 An amendment to end taxpayer subsidies
2 for mohair producers;

3 An amendment to prevent Federal employ-
4 ees from being paid to do union activities dur-
5 ing their official work hours;

6 An amendment to permit Federal agencies
7 to purchase alternative fuels;

8 An amendment to terminate taxpayer
9 funded marketing programs for private compa-
10 nies;

11 An amendment to reduce this bill and the
12 deficit by \$4,800,000,000;

13 An amendment to ensure that Federal con-
14 tractors only hire legal workers;

15 An amendment to prohibit the provision of
16 taxpayer funded rental housing to illegal aliens;

17 An amendment to support our dairy farm-
18 ers in the northeast;

19 An amendment to assist farmers in Florida
20 hit by a natural disaster;

21 An amendment to prohibit funds in the bill
22 from being spent on projects named after sit-
23 ting Members of Congress;

1 An amendment to ensure that the Federal
2 government works with state agencies on food
3 safety issues;

4 An amendment to protect whistleblower
5 employees from retaliation for providing Con-
6 gress or the public with information; and,

7 An amendment to terminate taxpayer sub-
8 sidies for wool producers.

9 (8) The gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. Obey,
10 was correct that the House loses the right to be
11 called the “greatest deliberative body left in the
12 world” if it refuses to even debate, let alone vote, on
13 these issues.

14 (b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the U.S. House of
15 Representatives that this bill should be reopened for
16 amendment under the regular order procedures advocated
17 by the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. Obey, on October
18 6, 2000.

