OISS FORM 52 (12/80)

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD
PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 97TH CONGRESS

HOUSE

BILL	DATE	PAGE(S)
H.R. 6444	Sept. 15, 1982	H6983

ACTION
Remarks by Mr. Sawyer

PASS H.R. 6444, PATENT TERM RESTORATION BILL

(Mr. SAWYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, I join the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KASTENMEIER) in urging support of the so-called patent restoration bill that is going to be voted on here today.

This bill, in effect, puts pharmaceuticals back on a par as far as patent term is concerned with toys and every other invention. All patents have 17 years and historically by the Constitution and statute have had.

Since the advent of the Food and Drug Administration and extensive premarketing testing requirements, that amount of actual effective life of the patent on pharmaceuticals has dropped to 6.8 years in 1981.

As a result, we have seen a dramatic drop in investment in pharmaceutical research. This will not have any effect on pharmaceutical pricing until the year 2000—if ever—but will have an immediate effect in inducing more investment in R&D by the pharmaceutical companies.