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No. 142

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 20, 2016.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ADRIAN SMITH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 5, 2016, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SUMNER W. MEAD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sumner Wright Mead of Kenilworth, Illinois, who, unfortunately, passed away on September 6 at the age of 92. I will always remember Mr. Mead as a most colorful character who never hesitated to let you know how he felt.

For Mr. Mead, his family always came first. He was a beloved husband to Nancy; a father to Sumner, Laura,

and Melinda; and a grandfather to Elisabeth, Sumner, Katie, Grace, Brooke, Price, Steele, Will, Paige, and Tyler.

Mr. Mead was known for greeting everyone with his welcoming smile. When he wasn't relaxing in Martha's Vineyard or Florida, you could catch him with his family volunteering at the Kenilworth Union Church or sailing on Lake Michigan.

Mr. Mead also served our country during World War II. His service to our Nation, I believe, exemplifies how he lived his life, putting others ahead of himself on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, I will forever remember Mr. Mead for his integrity, his loyalty, and most importantly, his friendship. He will be dearly missed.

HONORING THE U.S. NAVY

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United States Navy, which is celebrating its 241st birthday this year.

Since October 13, 1775, the Navy has tirelessly protected our shores and our seas. The Navy will always hold a special place in my heart as, 51 years ago, Lieutenant Commander Robert Shumaker was shot down over Vietnam. I know him as my Uncle Bob. He became the second naval aviator captured during the Vietnam war. For the next 8 years and one day, he was held as a POW, much of that time in what was the Hoa Lo prison, which we know as the Hanoi Hilton.

To me, his story is a reminder of the darkness and cruelty of war, but much more importantly, a reminder of faith and strength of the Navy brotherhood and the honor of serving our country that nobody could take away from him or his fellow sailors.

I am also proud to recognize the Great Lakes Naval Station located in Illinois' 10th Congressional District. Every sailor who serves our country in the Navy has, at one time or another, traveled through the Great Lakes.

Since World War I, Great Lakes Naval Station has trained more than 2 million sailors.

I offer my most sincere thanks to all the men and women who have continued to make the sacrifices to protect our rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Feeding America and to recognize nationwide Hunger Action Month.

Everyone knows that feeling of an empty stomach, but for 48 million people in the United States, including 15 million children, that feeling is a daily reality. Without nutrition, people—and especially children—don't have the energy to learn, grow, and achieve success.

The Feeding America network is the Nation's largest domestic hunger relief organization and is headquartered in my home State of Illinois. Their network includes more than 200 food banks that provide 4 billion meals to feed virtually every community in the United States through food pantries, shelters, and soup kitchens. This September is a time to advocate, raise awareness, and take action to eliminate hunger in our communities.

Over the past year, I have had the honor to work with numerous local organizations fighting hunger, including the Northern Illinois Food Bank and the Greater Chicago Food Depository. There are also tons of local park districts in the 10th District that help provide food and support before and after school, as well as during the summer months, such as the Waukegan Park District summer feeding program.

Moving forward, I remain committed to working with these groups to fight hunger in the 10th Congressional District of Illinois, and I hope my colleagues will use this month to find organizations in their districts that are doing similar lifesaving work.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs annually from September 15 to October 15. During this month, we celebrate the culture and heritage of Hispanic Americans and their many historic contributions to our Nation.

In the 10th Congressional District of Illinois, we are fortunate to have many community and business leaders with Hispanic roots. Take, for example, Luis Fuentes, a community leader who helps families in Mundelein, and Esteban Montes de Oca, the owner of multiple bakeries in my district.

Mr. Speaker, I also had the amazing opportunity not long ago to bring Erika Martinez, a DREAMer from Round Lake, to the State of the Union Address. Mr. Speaker, until we pass immigration reform, families like Erika's are forced to continue to live in fear of being torn apart. We need to act now.

So, this month, please join me in recognizing the important contributions that Hispanic Americans have made to our country, and let's redouble our efforts to uphold our long and proud history as a nation of immigrants.

OVERTIME RULE WILL STIFLE
WORKPLACE FLEXIBILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, in May, the Department of Labor released its final overtime rule, which is another egregious example of the burdensome regulations that continue to hamper our economic recovery and hold North Carolina families back.

By stifling workplace flexibility, threatening upward mobility, and burdening small businesses, unelected Washington bureaucrats are harming the employees they claim they want to help.

The Congressional Review Act of 1996 established a process through which Congress can overturn regulations issued by Federal agencies, and I have introduced a joint resolution of disapproval to block this controversial rule.

Our Nation's overtime rules need to be modernized, but the Department of Labor's extreme and partisan approach will lead to damaging consequences that the American people simply cannot afford. I will continue to fight for a more balanced and responsible approach to updating Federal overtime rules.

STOP ISIS' GROWING EMPIRE OF
EVIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stress the importance of supporting our allies in the region buck-

ling under the weight of radicalization and a refugee crisis.

The current surge of Syrian refugees sweeping across Europe is challenging the European Union to decisively manage and absorb hundreds of thousands of people fleeing hostilities in the Middle East. Within the United States, we have also begun to feel its effect on our borders.

In an effort to further address the continued challenges associated with relocation and placement, members of the United Nations gathered yesterday for a summit to address the mass movement of refugees, with the goal of unifying member countries behind a more coordinated, humane response.

Sadly, with reports of violence related to this crisis and an emboldened enemy that has vowed to take advantage of this vulnerable population through means of infiltration and radicalization, we must remain vigilant, and the safety and security of the United States must be our paramount concern.

As political and religious minorities are forced to flee their homes to find safe haven, we must work with our allies to ensure that those who prey on these individuals and sow fear internationally reap only swift justice in return. We can ill afford for ISIS and its network of radicalized lone wolves to gain a critical foothold in Europe from which to stage and broadcast its horrifying brand of terrorism.

One of these vulnerable allies currently in the crosshairs of the refugee crisis is Greece. In fact, just yesterday, one of Greece's largest refugee camps went up in flames, forcing thousands to flee. With civil wars in both Libya and Syria, Greece is strategically situated to respond, or fall, to foreign threats posed by ISIS.

Souda Bay, located in the northwest corner of the Greek island of Crete, extends our security response capabilities by providing, operating, and sustaining superior facilities and services dedicated to combat readiness and security of ships, aircraft, detachments, and personnel.

Souda Bay has and continues to play a key role in providing security to a region under continual assault from threats to humanity. Along with our strategic partner, Cyprus, which houses airbases used in the fight against ISIS, Greece is a key forward base for the Western alliance.

While Greece's location allows Western forces a convenient base from which to confront ISIS, it also makes the country the front line of the refugee crisis. Because of its numerous Aegean islands, Greece is one of the largest countries in the world by coastline. As we witnessed during the height of the refugee crisis, that coastline provides many landing spots for refugees crossing the Aegean from Turkey.

Just as Greece stands with us in the fight against ISIS, we must stand with Greece, providing technical assistance, surveillance and intelligence, and

equipment, as it faces increased flows of refugees. Greece represents the easternmost borders of the West, and we must ensure that this border is protected.

I agree, Mr. Speaker, there is a better way with regard to our national security. Moving forward, it is paramount that we work with regional allies like Greece in order to mitigate the rising death toll, provide a safe area for moderate opposition to form governing structures and rebuild civil society, and allow for the introduction of humanitarian aid.

This issue should not be a partisan one, Mr. Speaker. Our national security is a priority we can all agree on. America has always been at its safest when we lead from the front and not from behind. We must not be afraid to stare down evil and take action with our allies around the globe, especially in the Mediterranean. Together, we must stop ISIS' growing empire of evil before more innocent lives are destroyed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless the Members who are laboring through these challenging days with wisdom, magnanimity, and a shared desire to serve our Nation at a pivotal time for us all.

May their efforts bring results that rise above any sense of victory for one side or the other but, rather, mutual benefit.

In the end, may we continue to trust that You would not abandon those who put their trust in You.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KILDEE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SPACE EXPLORATION

(Mr. MCCARTHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, the exploration of space has long united this country. Every American, rich or poor, living in the cities or in the great rural areas that make up our country, can look to the moon knowing that American astronauts planted our flag there. Every time we look up into space, we have something to be proud of, but we know our journey has only just begun.

Mr. Speaker, not too long ago, commercial spaceflight was disregarded as some distant pipedream of the future. But today, thanks to innovation in places like Mojave, California, commercial spaceflights and the spaceports they take off from are the epicenter of space exploration.

These are the places leading in our journey to the great unknown. But as commercial space has ventured into the future, government policy has not kept up. We need to ensure government allows commercial spaceflight to succeed by updating laws to reflect changing circumstances.

Similar to airports, for our spaceports to function, we need to prioritize safety and minimize the risk of structures interfering with the flight path of spacecraft on launch or reentry. The legislation I introduced today that we are voting on gives the FAA the authority they now lack to examine whether structures being built near spaceports will obstruct spaceflight.

With this, those leading our journey into space can remain confident that nothing back on Earth will be slowing them down.

MICHIGAN IS DISENFRANCHISING THE CITIZENS OF FLINT

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, it was reported that, instead of doing what is necessary to fix the Flint water crisis, State of Michigan officials are, instead, focusing on disenfranchising further the people of my hometown.

Through sleight of hand and bureaucratic maneuvers, they are effectively preventing the people of Flint from suing the State government for the harm that has been caused by the State government in my hometown.

Just as when the State installed emergency managers to take over the city of Flint, they are now using obscure legal wrangling to silence the

voices of the people in my community and the people that they elected from representing them in a court of law, from going to court to seek justice, to seek solutions.

So, instead of fixing the problem, not only have they denied the people in Flint the resources necessary to solve the problem that they created but they are denying those very same people access to the judicial process to seek redress. This is outrageous; it is wrong; and it has to stop.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S CLAIM IS INACCURATE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, Politico revealed that past wire payments to Iran directly contradict the President's inaccurate claim that the \$1.7 billion ransom payment had to be in cash.

"The United States made at least two separate payments to the Iranian Government via wire transfer within the last 14 months, a Treasury Department official confirmed Saturday, contradicting explanations from President Barack Obama that such payments were impossible. . . .

"In July 2015 . . . the U.S. Government paid the Islamic Republic approximately \$848,000. . . . Then, in April of 2016, the U.S. wired Iran approximately \$9 million. . . ."

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Being in New York City yesterday, I saw firsthand the failed legacy of the President. American families are at greater risk of murderous attack today than ever. I am grateful for first responders and the National Guard being everywhere across the city.

GUN SAFETY LAWS IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I have an important announcement to make. We are in the Nation's Capital where there are not only 700,000 residents but also every major Federal official, and many of the planet's most controversial figures frequent our streets, restaurants, and other public places. Yet, today, D.C. lawyers must defend its rule requiring permits to carry guns in public for good reason.

In today's big cities, illegal guns of all kinds are brought in because Congress has failed to pass a background check law.

D.C. did the right thing; so say four courts of appeals that have already upheld gun safety laws like D.C.'s, requiring a good reason to carry a gun in public.

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL RICE MONTH

(Mr. ABRAHAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, the month of September is National Rice Month, a time when we honor the more than 100,000 Americans involved in the rice industry, from the thousands of family farms spread mostly across eight States, to the men and women working in the mills and food processing plants across the country.

The reason September is National Rice Month is because, traditionally, this is when we harvest our rice. Right now, American family rice farmers are harvesting what will end up being about 18 billion pounds of rice off 3 million acres spread across sustainably managed farmland. My district alone, in Louisiana, produces an annual crop worth over \$119 million from over 110,000 planted acres across 11 parishes.

Much of the United States' annual rice production will be exported to more than 120 countries around the globe, and much of that will be distributed as humanitarian aid.

This complex carbohydrate of rice is an excellent source of protein, fiber, energy, and antioxidants. Here in the U.S., white rice is enriched with more than 15 vitamins and minerals and is fortified with folic acid which, by the way, has been proven to dramatically reduce birth defects.

The U.S. rice industry, while it may seem small, provides 125,000 jobs and a whopping \$34 billion impact on the U.S. economy.

CONGRATULATING THE CORPUS CHRISTI ELKS LODGE

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

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the members of the Corpus Christi Elks Lodge for reestablishing Elks in my hometown. Due to some tough times after Hurricane Katrina and declining membership, the local chapter was consolidated with a chapter in Kingsville. But thanks to the dedication of the members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, the Corpus Christi chapter will, once again, resume activities on October 27.

For more than 140 years, Elks Lodges have brought much to their communities, including awarding millions of dollars in scholarships, aiding veterans, building golf courses and pools, supporting Scouting Troops, providing education to prevent drug abuse, and helping low-income students attend summer camp.

It is my belief that having the order return to Corpus Christi will be a huge blessing to our community, and I join my friends and neighbors in thanking them for their dedication and service,

and telling the Elks: welcome back to Corpus Christi, Texas.

CONSTITUTION WEEK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Constitution Week.

I especially want to honor the efforts of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who initiated the observance of Constitution Week in 1955, in order to encourage the study of the events that led to the framing of the Constitution in 1787; to inform the citizens of the United States of America that the Constitution is the basis of America's heritage and our way of life; and to reinforce our responsibility to protect, defend, and preserve this great document.

Over this past weekend, the Colonel Hugh White-Colonel John Chatham Daughters of the American Revolution chapter in Lock Haven, located in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District, organized a display of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence at the community's library.

I want to thank the members of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Lock Haven and the members of the DAR all over Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District for everything they do to make sure that we never forget the work of our Nation's Founders and the tremendous importance of our Constitution.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLES EVANS HUGHES

(Ms. STEFANIK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable man from my district who dedicated his life to serving our country.

Charles Evans Hughes was born in Glens Falls, New York, where his first home still stands on Center Street. Mr. Hughes began his storied career in public service when he was elected Governor of New York in 1906. He was later appointed to the Supreme Court by President William Howard Taft, where he served 6 years, before resigning in 1916 to run for President.

While his run for President would be unsuccessful, Mr. Hughes continued his life of public service by serving as Secretary of State for Presidents Warren G. Harding and Calvin Coolidge. Later, Charles Evans Hughes was appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court by President Herbert Hoover.

In Glens Falls, we are proud of his amazing legacy of public service, and we will gather on October 15 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of his run for President.

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

Sixteen thousand children in the U.S. are diagnosed with cancer every year. Only one in five will survive.

I have a very special constituent, Chase Ewoldt, of Wheaton, Illinois. This is Chase with his mom and dad. He was diagnosed at the age of 2, in July 2012, with a very rare aggressive brain and spinal cancer. He withstood a grueling 14 months of treatment, spending more time in the hospital than he had at home. He survived. He is not out of the woods yet though.

Chase is the nationwide ambassador for St. Baldrick's Foundation, and his mother wrote a book called "Chase Away Cancer."

This is an incredible example of resiliency, tenacity, and faithfulness in the course of a very difficult season, and I just want to pause and bring attention to Chase and to his family as we recognize Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 20, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 20, 2016 at 9:29 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5985.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5936.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 1475.

Appointment:
John F. Kennedy Centennial Commission.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

□ 1415

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST FAIRNESS AND MEDICAID IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 670) to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend the Medicaid rules regarding supplemental needs trusts for Medicaid beneficiaries to trusts established by those beneficiaries, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 670

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the "Special Needs Trust Fairness and Medicaid Improvement Act".

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Fairness in Medicaid supplemental needs trusts.

Sec. 3. Medicaid coverage of tobacco cessation services for mothers of newborns.

Sec. 4. Eliminating Federal financial participation with respect to expenditures under Medicaid for agents used for cosmetic purposes or hair growth.

Sec. 5. Medicaid Improvement Fund.

SEC. 2. FAIRNESS IN MEDICAID SUPPLEMENTAL NEEDS TRUSTS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 1917(d)(4)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396p(d)(4)(A)) is amended by inserting "the individual," after "for the benefit of such individual by".

(b) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to trusts established on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. MEDICAID COVERAGE OF TOBACCO CESSATION SERVICES FOR MOTHERS OF NEWBORNS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 1905(bb) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(bb)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(4) A woman shall continue to be treated as described in this subsection as a pregnant woman through the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the birth of a child of the woman."

(b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.*—

(1) Subsections (a)(2)(B) and (b)(2)(B) of section 1916 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396o) are each amended by inserting "(and women described in section 1905(bb) as pregnant women pursuant to paragraph (4) of such section)" after "tobacco cessation by pregnant women".

(2) Section 1927(d)(2)(F) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-8(d)(2)(F)) is amended by inserting "(and women described in section 1905(bb) as pregnant women pursuant to paragraph (4) of such section)" after "pregnant women".

(c) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to items and services furnished on or after the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) *EXCEPTION FOR STATE LEGISLATION.*—In the case of a State plan under title XIX of the Social Security Act, which the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines requires State legislation in order for the plan to meet any requirement imposed by amendments made by this section, the plan shall not be regarded as

failing to comply with the requirements of such title solely on the basis of its failure to meet such an additional requirement before the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning after the close of the first regular session of the State legislature that begins after the effective date specified in paragraph (1). For purposes of the previous sentence, in the case of a State that has a 2-year legislative session, each year of the session shall be considered to be a separate regular session of the State legislature.

(d) **REPORT.**—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit to Congress a report that assesses the use of the tobacco cessation service benefit under the Medicaid program. Such report shall include an assessment of—

(1) the extent that States are encouraging the use of such benefit, such as through promotion of beneficiary and provider awareness of such benefit; and

(2) gaps in the delivery of such benefit.

SEC. 4. ELIMINATING FEDERAL FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION WITH RESPECT TO EXPENDITURES UNDER MEDICAID FOR AGENTS USED FOR COSMETIC PURPOSES OR HAIR GROWTH.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1903(i)(21) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(i)(21)) is amended by inserting “section 1927(d)(2)(C) (relating to drugs when used for cosmetic purposes or hair growth), except where medically necessary, and” after “drugs described in”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to calendar quarters beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. MEDICAID IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Section 1941(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396w–1(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking “under paragraph (1)” and inserting “under this subsection”; and

(B) by redesignating such paragraph as paragraph (3); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

“(2) **ADDITIONAL FUNDING.**—In addition to any funds otherwise made available to the Fund, there shall be available to the Fund, for expenditures from the Fund—

“(A) for fiscal year 2021, \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended; and

“(B) for fiscal year 2022, \$14,000,000, to remain available until expended.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 670, the Special Needs Trust Fairness and Medicaid Improve-

ment Act, a bipartisan measure that will remove arbitrary legal barriers for individuals with disabilities to independently create their own special needs trust.

Special needs trusts are valuable tools that enable assets to be saved on behalf of individuals with disabilities, while protecting their eligibility for means-tested benefits. Under current law, individuals who are or become disabled must have a parent, a guardian, or a court-appointed special needs trust regardless of the individual's capacity to do so on their own.

Mr. Speaker, not only does this requirement place an undue burden on individuals who seek a better financial future and want to live with dignity, it runs counter to the precedent set by Congress with the creation of pooled trust accounts in 1993 and the passage of the ABLE Act in 2014. Both provide disabled individuals and their families unencumbered access to mechanisms for savings.

My drive to correct this legal inequity stems from my experience as a certified recreational therapist, a hospital manager, a rehabilitation services manager, and a licensed nursing home administrator. In these roles, I worked with many people who set out on challenging journeys towards rehabilitation and future independence. As a result, I found it difficult to ignore the fact that current law is working to further complicate anyone's path to becoming more self-reliant and independent.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to share the personal narrative of Rana McMurray Arnold, co-founder and director of the Sight-Loss Support Group of Central Pennsylvania and a constituent of mine. As an individual who is living with blindness, Rana helped form a remarkable non-profit to assist others with sight loss by providing peer counseling, vision rehabilitation referral services, and direct accessibility support for local events. Despite challenges she has been faced with, Rana has led a very fulfilling and successful life, running a successful service organization for 30 years and raising a family. However, under the current law, Rana would be deemed unfit to establish her own special needs trust.

It is on Rana's behalf and on behalf of the millions of Americans living with disabilities that I introduced H.R. 670, and I am grateful for its consideration this afternoon on the House floor.

I would also like to thank another constituent of mine, Amos Goodall, who has worked as an elder law attorney in State College, Pennsylvania. Mr. Goodall originally brought this issue to my attention and has been a tireless advocate for this bill. I would also like to thank Katie Brown of my staff, whose work on this bill has gotten us to this point today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in seizing this opportunity to

correct a legal inequity and safeguard the rights of Americans living with disabilities to secure their own future financial stability.

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

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bipartisan legislation, H.R. 670, the Special Needs Trust Fairness and Medicaid Improvement Act. This legislation, which I have championed for multiple Congresses with my Republican colleague, Representative GLENN THOMPSON, would allow individuals with disabilities to set up special needs trusts for themselves without a court petition.

I thank Representative THOMPSON of Pennsylvania for his continued leadership on this issue.

A special needs trust is a special kind of trust that is designed to provide support for certain expenses for disabled individuals to supplement Medicaid benefits. Currently, these types of trusts generally must be established by parents, grandparents, legal guardians, or a court on behalf of the disabled individual. People can only set up a special needs trust for themselves after petitioning a court. Oftentimes, this process can take several months and can incur significant legal fees during the process.

This is just not right. Individuals with disabilities can and should have the ability to set up a special needs trust for themselves, and this legislation fixes that basic inequity. This is a commonsense but very meaningful fix in the lives of those living with a disability.

I would like to also note that H.R. 670 was amended in the Energy and Commerce Committee by adding an additional provision to require States to extend tobacco cessation coverage to pregnant women through the first year postpartum. This is also good policy. Tobacco cessation is absolutely critical to both saving dollars and saving lives, and particularly so for pregnant and postpartum women.

When we invest in helping people to quit smoking, the benefit is not only clear to the health of our communities, but also to our economy. My own home State of New Jersey is currently piloting a project in our Medicaid program specifically aimed at cutting costs and improving birth outcomes through targeted, evidence-based efforts to help pregnant women to quit smoking.

In addition, these policies are fully offset by clarifying that the Federal match for hair growth and cosmetic products is available when those products are medically necessary, which is the current policy of most States already. The remaining savings are put in a Medicaid improvement fund as a downpayment on more positive improvements to the Medicaid program in the future.

So I am very proud, Mr. Speaker, that we were able to work together on these policies. This is an example of the type of work that we should do

more often in the Medicaid program: working together to pass policies that remove barriers for beneficiaries, strengthen benefits, and support the long-term health of the program overall.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 670. I hope that the Senate will consider this new version so it can swiftly become law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I just want to commend my friend from Pennsylvania who has spent so much effort on this. We had testimony in the Energy and Commerce Committee, families coming before us who were in situations that are difficult and gives them the opportunity to provide for their loved one, the original intent of the bill. This one allows the individual himself or herself to set up and provide. I think that is the right thing to do. I encourage my colleagues to vote for this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 670, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SUPPORTING YOUTH OPPORTUNITY AND PREVENTING DELINQUENCY ACT OF 2016

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5963) to reauthorize and improve the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5963

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—DECLARATION OF FINDINGS, PURPOSE, AND DEFINITIONS

Sec. 101. Findings.

Sec. 102. Purposes.

Sec. 103. Definitions.

TITLE II—JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

Sec. 201. Concentration of Federal efforts.

Sec. 202. Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Sec. 203. Annual report.

Sec. 204. Allocation of funds.

Sec. 205. State plans.

Sec. 206. Repeal of juvenile delinquency prevention block grant program.

Sec. 207. Research and evaluation; statistical analyses; information dissemination.

Sec. 208. Training and technical assistance.

Sec. 209. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 210. Administrative authority.

TITLE III—INCENTIVE GRANTS FOR LOCAL DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Sec. 301. Short Title.

Sec. 302. Definitions.

Sec. 303. Duties and functions of the administrator.

Sec. 304. Grants for delinquency prevention programs.

Sec. 305. Grants for tribal delinquency prevention and response programs.

Sec. 306. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 307. Technical amendment.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. Evaluation by Government Accountability Office.

Sec. 402. Accountability and oversight.

TITLE I—DECLARATION OF FINDINGS, PURPOSE, AND DEFINITIONS

SEC. 101. FINDINGS.

Section 101(a)(9) of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601(a)(9)) is amended by inserting “, including offenders who enter the juvenile justice system as the result of sexual abuse, exploitation, and trauma,” after “young juvenile offenders”.

SEC. 102. PURPOSES.

Section 102 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5602) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, tribal,” after “State”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting “, tribal,” after “State”; and

(B) by striking “and” at the end;

(3) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

“(3) to assist State, tribal, and local governments in addressing juvenile crime through the provision of technical assistance, research, training, evaluation, and the dissemination of current and relevant information on effective and evidence-based programs and practices for combating juvenile delinquency; and”;

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) to support a continuum of evidence-based or promising programs (including delinquency prevention, intervention, mental health, behavioral health and substance abuse treatment, family services, and services for children exposed to violence) that are trauma informed, reflect the science of adolescent development, and are designed to meet the needs of at-risk youth and youth who come into contact with the justice system.”.

SEC. 103. DEFINITIONS.

Section 103 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5603) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (8)—

(A) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by adding “or” at the end;

(B) by striking subparagraph (C); and

(C) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (C);

(2) in paragraph (18) by adding at the end the following:

“that has a law enforcement function, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior in consultation with the Attorney General;”.

(3) by amending paragraph (22) to read as follows:

“(22) the term ‘jail or lockup for adults’ means a secure facility that is used by a State, unit of local government, or law enforcement authority to detain or confine adult inmates;”;

(4) by amending paragraph (25) to read as follows:

“(25) the term ‘sight or sound contact’ means any physical, clear visual, or verbal contact that is not brief and inadvertent;”;

(5) by amending paragraph (26) to read as follows:

“(26) the term ‘adult inmate’—

“(A) means an individual who—

“(i) has reached the age of full criminal responsibility under applicable State law; and

“(ii) has been arrested and is in custody for or awaiting trial on a criminal charge, or is convicted of a criminal offense; and

“(B) does not include an individual who—

“(i) at the time of the time of the offense, was younger than the maximum age at which a youth can be held in a juvenile facility under applicable State law; and

“(ii) was committed to the care and custody or supervision, including post-placement or parole supervision, of a juvenile correctional agency by a court of competent jurisdiction or by operation of applicable State law;”;

(6) in paragraph (28), by striking “and” at the end;

(7) in paragraph (29), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(8) by adding at the end the following:

“(30) the term ‘core requirements’—

“(A) means the requirements described in paragraphs (11), (12), (13), and (15) of section 223(a); and

“(B) does not include the data collection requirements described in subparagraphs (A) through (K) of section 207(1);

“(31) the term ‘chemical agent’ means a spray or injection used to temporarily incapacitate a person, including oleoresin capicum spray, tear gas, and 2-chlorobenzalmalononitrile gas;

“(32) the term ‘isolation’—

“(A) means any instance in which a youth is confined alone for more than 10 minutes in a room or cell; and

“(B) does not include—

“(i) confinement during regularly scheduled sleeping hours;

“(ii) separation based on a treatment program approved by a licensed medical or mental health professional;

“(iii) confinement or separation that is requested by the youth; or

“(iv) the separation of the youth from a group in a nonlocked setting for the limited purpose of calming;

“(33) the term ‘restraints’ has the meaning given that term in section 591 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 2901i);

“(34) the term ‘evidence-based’ means a program or practice that—

“(A) is demonstrated to be effective when implemented with fidelity;

“(B) is based on a clearly articulated and empirically supported theory;

“(C) has measurable outcomes relevant to juvenile justice, including a detailed description of the outcomes produced in a particular population, whether urban or rural; and

“(D) has been scientifically tested and proven effective through randomized control studies or comparison group studies and with the ability to replicate and scale;

“(35) the term ‘promising’ means a program or practice that—

“(A) is demonstrated to be effective based on positive outcomes relevant to juvenile justice from 1 or more objective, independent, and scientifically valid evaluations,

as documented in writing to the Administrator; and

“(B) will be evaluated through a well-designed and rigorous study, as described in paragraph (34)(D);

“(36) the term ‘dangerous practice’ means an act, procedure, or program that creates an unreasonable risk of physical injury, pain, or psychological harm to a juvenile subjected to the act, procedure, or program;

“(37) the term ‘screening’ means a brief process—

“(A) designed to identify youth who may have mental health, behavioral health, substance abuse, or other needs requiring immediate attention, intervention, and further evaluation; and

“(B) the purpose of which is to quickly identify a youth with possible mental health, behavioral health, substance abuse, or other needs in need of further assessment;

“(38) the term ‘assessment’ includes, at a minimum, an interview and review of available records and other pertinent information—

“(A) by an appropriately trained professional who is licensed or certified by the applicable State in the mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse fields; and

“(B) which is designed to identify significant mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse treatment needs to be addressed during a youth’s confinement;

“(39) for purposes of section 223(a)(15), the term ‘contact’ means the points at which a youth and the juvenile justice system or criminal justice system officially intersect, including interactions with a juvenile justice, juvenile court, or law enforcement official;

“(40) the term ‘trauma-informed’ means—

“(A) understanding the impact that exposure to violence and trauma have on a youth’s physical, psychological, and psychosocial development;

“(B) recognizing when a youth has been exposed to violence and trauma and is in need of help to recover from the adverse impacts of trauma; and

“(C) responding in ways that resist re-traumatization;

“(41) the term ‘racial and ethnic disparity’ means minority youth populations are involved at a decision point in the juvenile justice system at higher rates, incrementally or cumulatively, than non-minority youth at that decision point;

“(42) the term ‘status offender’ means a juvenile who is charged with or who has committed an offense that would not be criminal if committed by an adult;

“(43) the term ‘rural’ means an area that is not located in a metropolitan statistical area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget;

“(44) the term ‘internal controls’ means a process implemented to provide reasonable assurance regarding the achievement of objectives in—

“(A) effectiveness and efficiency of operations, such as grant management practices;

“(B) reliability of reporting for internal and external use; and

“(C) compliance with applicable laws and regulations, as well as recommendations of the Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office; and

“(45) the term ‘tribal government’ means the governing body of an Indian tribe.”

TITLE II—JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

SEC. 201. CONCENTRATION OF FEDERAL EFFORTS.

Section 204 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5614) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), in the first sentence—

(i) by striking “a long-term plan, and implement” and inserting the following: “a long-term plan to improve the juvenile justice system in the United States, taking into account scientific knowledge regarding adolescent development and behavior and regarding the effects of delinquency prevention programs and juvenile justice interventions on adolescents, and shall implement”; and

(ii) by striking “research, and improvement of the juvenile justice system in the United States” and inserting “and research”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “Federal Register” and all that follows and inserting “Federal Register during the 30-day period ending on October 1 of each year.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking paragraph (7);

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (6) and (7), respectively;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (4), the following:

“(5) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, in consultation with Indian tribes, develop a policy for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to collaborate with representatives of Indian tribes with a criminal justice function on the implementation of the provisions of this Act relating to Indian tribes;”;

(D) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated, by adding “and” at the end; and

(E) in paragraph (7), as so redesignated—

(i) by striking “monitoring”;

(ii) by striking “section 223(a)(15)” and inserting “section 223(a)(16)”;

(iii) by striking “to review the adequacy of such systems; and” and inserting “for monitoring compliance.”

SEC. 202. COORDINATING COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION.

Section 206 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5616) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “the Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Secretary of the Interior,” after “the Secretary of Health and Human Services,”; and

(ii) by striking “Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization” and inserting “Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “United States” and inserting “Federal Government”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraphs (12)(A), (13), and (14) of section 223(a) of this title” and inserting “the core requirements”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “, on an annual basis” after “collectively”; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) not later than 120 days after the completion of the last meeting of the Council during any fiscal year, submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate a report that—

“(i) contains the recommendations described in subparagraph (A);

“(ii) includes a detailed account of the activities conducted by the Council during the fiscal year, including a complete detailed accounting of expenses incurred by the Council

to conduct operations in accordance with this section;

“(iii) is published on the Web sites of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Council, and the Department of Justice; and

“(iv) is in addition to the annual report required under section 207.”

SEC. 203. ANNUAL REPORT.

Section 207 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5617) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “a fiscal year” and inserting “each fiscal year”;

(2) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and gender” and inserting “, gender, and ethnicity, as such term is defined by the Bureau of the Census.”;

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in subparagraph (F)—

(i) by inserting “and other” before “disabilities,”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(G) a summary of data from 1 month of the applicable fiscal year of the use of restraints and isolation upon juveniles held in the custody of secure detention and correctional facilities operated by a State or unit of local government;

“(H) the number of status offense cases petitioned to court, number of status offenders held in secure detention, the findings used to justify the use of secure detention, and the average period of time a status offender was held in secure detention;

“(I) the number of juveniles released from custody and the type of living arrangement to which they are released;

“(J) the number of juveniles whose offense originated on school grounds, during school-sponsored off-campus activities, or due to a referral by a school official, as collected and reported by the Department of Education or similar State educational agency; and

“(K) the number of juveniles in the custody of secure detention and correctional facilities operated by a State or unit of local government who report being pregnant.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) A description of the criteria used to determine what programs qualify as evidence-based and promising programs under this title and title V and a comprehensive list of those programs the Administrator has determined meet such criteria in both rural and urban areas.

“(6) A description of funding provided to Indian tribes under this Act or for a juvenile delinquency or prevention program under the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-211; 124 Stat. 2261), including direct Federal grants and funding provided to Indian tribes through a State or unit of local government.

“(7) An analysis and evaluation of the internal controls at the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to determine if grantees are following the requirements of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grant programs and what remedial action the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has taken to recover any grant funds that are expended in violation of the grant programs, including instances—

“(A) in which supporting documentation was not provided for cost reports;

“(B) where unauthorized expenditures occurred; or

“(C) where subrecipients of grant funds were not compliant with program requirements.

“(8) An analysis and evaluation of the total amount of payments made to grantees that the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention recouped from grantees that were found to be in violation of policies and procedures of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grant programs, including—

“(A) the full name and location of the grantee;

“(B) the violation of the program found;

“(C) the amount of funds sought to be recouped by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; and

“(D) the actual amount recouped by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.”.

SEC. 204. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.

(a) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 221(b)(1) of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5631(b)(1)) is amended by striking “2 percent” and inserting “5 percent”.

(b) OTHER ALLOCATIONS.—Section 222 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5632) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “age eighteen” and inserting “18 years of age, based on the most recent data available from the Bureau of the Census”; and

(B) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

“(2)(A) If the aggregate amount appropriated for a fiscal year to carry out this title is less than \$75,000,000, then—

“(i) the amount allocated to each State other than a State described in clause (ii) for that fiscal year shall be not less than \$400,000; and

“(ii) the amount allocated to the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for that fiscal year shall be not less than \$75,000.

“(B) If the aggregate amount appropriated for a fiscal year to carry out this title is not less than \$75,000,000, then—

“(i) the amount allocated to each State other than a State described in clause (ii) for that fiscal year shall be not less than \$600,000; and

“(ii) the amount allocated to the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for that fiscal year shall be not less than \$100,000.”;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “efficient administration, including monitoring, evaluation, and one full-time staff position” and inserting “effective and efficient administration of funds, including the designation of not less than 1 individual who shall coordinate efforts to achieve and sustain compliance with the core requirements and certify whether the State is in compliance with such requirements”; and

(3) in subsection (d), by striking “5 per centum of the minimum” and inserting “not more than 5 percent of the”.

SEC. 205. STATE PLANS.

Section 223 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5633) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “and shall describe the status of compliance with State plan requirements.” and inserting “and shall describe how the State plan is supported by or takes account of scientific knowledge regarding adolescent development and behavior and regarding the effects of delinquency prevention programs and juvenile justice interventions on adolescents. Not later than 60 days after the date on which a plan or amended plan submitted under this subsection is finalized, a State

shall make the plan or amended plan publicly available by posting the plan or amended plan on the State’s publicly available website.”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “described in section 299(c)(1)” and inserting “as designated by the chief executive officer of the State”;

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in clause (i), by inserting “adolescent development,” after “concerning”;

(II) in clause (ii)—

(aa) in subclause (II), by inserting “publicly supported court-appointed legal counsel with experience representing juveniles in delinquency proceedings,” after “youth.”;

(bb) in subclause (III), by striking “mental health, education, special education” and inserting “child and adolescent mental health, education, child and adolescent substance abuse, special education, services for youth with disabilities”;

(cc) in subclause (V), by striking “delinquents or potential delinquents” and inserting “delinquent youth or youth at risk of delinquency”;

(dd) in subclause (VI), by striking “youth workers involved with” and inserting “representatives of”;

(ee) in subclause (VII), by striking “and” at the end;

(ff) by striking subclause (VIII) and inserting the following:

“(VIII) persons, licensed or certified by the applicable State, with expertise and competence in preventing and addressing mental health and substance abuse needs in delinquent youth and youth at risk of delinquency;

“(IX) representatives of victim or witness advocacy groups, including at least 1 individual with expertise in addressing the challenges of sexual abuse and exploitation and trauma, particularly the needs of special populations who experience disproportionate levels of sexual abuse, exploitation, and trauma before entering the juvenile justice system; and

“(X) for a State in which 1 or more Indian tribes are located, an Indian tribal representative or other individual with significant expertise in tribal law enforcement and juvenile justice in Indian tribal communities.”;

(III) in clause (iv), by striking “24 at the time of appointment” and inserting “28 at the time of initial appointment”;

(IV) in clause (v) by inserting “or, if not feasible and in appropriate circumstances, who is the parent or guardian of someone who has been or is currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system” after “juvenile justice system”;

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking “30 days” and inserting “45 days”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the end; and

(II) in clause (ii), by striking “at least annually recommendations regarding State compliance with the requirements of paragraphs (11), (12), and (13)” and inserting “at least every 2 years a report and necessary recommendations regarding State compliance with the core requirements”; and

(iv) in subparagraph (E)—

(I) in clause (i), by adding “and” at the end; and

(II) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(D) in paragraph (5)(C), by striking “Indian tribes” and all that follows through “applicable to the detention and confinement of juveniles” and inserting “Indian tribes that agree to attempt to comply with the core requirements applicable to the detention and confinement of juveniles”;

(E) in paragraph (7)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “performs law enforcement functions” and inserting “has jurisdiction”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the end; and

(II) by striking clause (iv) and inserting the following:

“(iv) a plan to provide alternatives to detention for status offenders, survivors of commercial sexual exploitation, and others, where appropriate, such as specialized or problem-solving courts or diversion to home-based or community-based services or treatment for those youth in need of mental health, substance abuse, or co-occurring disorder services at the time such juveniles first come into contact with the juvenile justice system;

“(v) a plan to reduce the number of children housed in secure detention and corrections facilities who are awaiting placement in residential treatment programs;

“(vi) a plan to engage family members, where appropriate, in the design and delivery of juvenile delinquency prevention and treatment services, particularly post-placement;

“(vii) a plan to use community-based services to respond to the needs of at-risk youth or youth who have come into contact with the juvenile justice system;

“(viii) a plan to promote evidence-based and trauma-informed programs and practices; and

“(ix) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, a plan, which shall be implemented not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, to—

“(I) eliminate the use of restraints of known pregnant juveniles housed in secure juvenile detention and correction facilities, during labor, delivery, and post-partum recovery, unless credible, reasonable grounds exist to believe the detainee presents an immediate and serious threat of hurting herself, staff, or others; and

“(II) eliminate the use of abdominal restraints, leg and ankle restraints, wrist restraints behind the back, and four-point restraints on known pregnant juveniles, unless—

“(aa) credible, reasonable grounds exist to believe the detainee presents an immediate and serious threat of hurting herself, staff, or others; or

“(bb) reasonable grounds exist to believe the detainee presents an immediate and credible risk of escape that cannot be reasonably minimized through any other method.”;

(F) in paragraph (8), by striking “existing” and inserting “evidence-based and promising”;

(G) in paragraph (9)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “, with priority in funding given to entities meeting the criteria for evidence-based or promising programs” after “used for”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) by inserting “status offenders and other” before “youth who need”; and

(bb) by striking “and” at the end;

(II) in clause (ii) by adding “and” at the end; and

(III) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

“(iii) for youth who are active or former gang members, specialized intensive and comprehensive services that address the unique issues encountered by youth when they become involved with gangs.”;

(iii) in subparagraph (B)(i)—

(I) by striking “parents and other family members” and inserting “status offenders,

other youth, and the parents and other family members of such offenders and youth"; and

(II) by striking "be retained" and inserting "remain";

(iv) in subparagraph (E)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking "delinquent" and inserting "at-risk or delinquent youth"; and

(II) in clause (i), by inserting ", including for truancy prevention and reduction" before the semicolon;

(v) in subparagraph (F), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking "expanding" and inserting "programs to expand";

(vi) by redesignating subparagraphs (G) through (S) as subparagraphs (H) through (T), respectively;

(vii) by inserting after subparagraph (F), the following:

"(G) programs—

"(i) to ensure youth have access to appropriate legal representation; and

"(ii) to expand access to publicly supported, court-appointed legal counsel who are trained to represent juveniles in adjudication proceedings,

except that the State may not use more than 2 percent of the funds received under section 222 for these purposes;"

(viii) in subparagraph (H), as so redesignated, by striking "State," each place the term appears and inserting "State, tribal,"

(ix) in subparagraph (M), as so redesignated—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) by inserting "pre-adjudication and" before "post-adjudication";

(bb) by striking "restraints" and inserting "alternatives"; and

(cc) by inserting "specialized or problem-solving courts," after "(including"; and

(II) in clause (ii)—

(aa) by striking "by the provision by the Administrator"; and

(bb) by striking "to States";

(x) in subparagraph (N), as redesignated—

(I) by inserting "and reduce the risk of recidivism" after "families"; and

(II) by striking "so that such juveniles may be retained in their homes";

(xi) in subparagraph (S), as so redesignated, by striking "and" at the end;

(xii) in subparagraph (T), as so redesignated—

(I) by inserting "or co-occurring disorder" after "mental health";

(II) by inserting "court-involved or" before "incarcerated";

(III) by striking "suspected to be";

(IV) by striking "and discharge plans" and inserting "provision of treatment, and development of discharge plans"; and

(V) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(xiii) by inserting after subparagraph (T) the following:

"(U) programs and projects designed—

"(i) to inform juveniles of the opportunity and process for sealing and expunging juvenile records; and

"(ii) to assist juveniles in pursuing juvenile record sealing and expungements for both adjudications and arrests not followed by adjudications;

except that the State may not use more than 2 percent of the funds received under section 222 for these purposes;

"(V) programs that address the needs of girls in or at risk of entering the juvenile justice system, including pregnant girls, young mothers, victims of sexual abuse, survivors of commercial sexual exploitation or domestic child sex trafficking, girls with disabilities, and girls of color, including girls who are members of an Indian tribe; and

"(W) monitoring for compliance with the core requirements and providing training

and technical assistance on the core requirements to secure facilities;"

(H) by striking paragraph (11) and inserting the following:

"(11)(A) in accordance with rules issued by the Administrator, provide that a juvenile shall not be placed in a secure detention facility or a secure correctional facility, if—

"(i) the juvenile is charged with or has committed an offense that would not be criminal if committed by an adult, excluding—

"(I) a juvenile who is charged with or has committed a violation of section 922(x)(2) of title 18, United States Code, or of a similar State law;

"(II) a juvenile who is charged with or has committed a violation of a valid court order issued and reviewed in accordance with paragraph (23); and

"(III) a juvenile who is held in accordance with the Interstate Compact on Juveniles as enacted by the State; or

"(ii) the juvenile—

"(I) is not charged with any offense; and

"(II)(aa) is an alien; or

"(bb) is alleged to be dependent, neglected, or abused; and

"(B) require that—

"(i) not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, unless a court finds, after a hearing and in writing, that it is in the interest of justice, juveniles awaiting trial or other legal process who are treated as adults for purposes of prosecution in criminal court and housed in a secure facility—

"(I) shall not have sight or sound contact with adult inmates; and

"(II) except as provided in paragraph (13), may not be held in any jail or lockup for adults;

"(ii) in determining under subparagraph (A) whether it is in the interest of justice to permit a juvenile to be held in any jail or lockup for adults, or have sight or sound contact with adult inmates, a court shall consider—

"(I) the age of the juvenile;

"(II) the physical and mental maturity of the juvenile;

"(III) the present mental state of the juvenile, including whether the juvenile presents an imminent risk of harm to the juvenile;

"(IV) the nature and circumstances of the alleged offense;

"(V) the juvenile's history of prior delinquent acts;

"(VI) the relative ability of the available adult and juvenile detention facilities to not only meet the specific needs of the juvenile but also to protect the safety of the public as well as other detained youth; and

"(VII) any other relevant factor; and

"(iii) if a court determines under subparagraph (A) that it is in the interest of justice to permit a juvenile to be held in any jail or lockup for adults—

"(I) the court shall hold a hearing not less frequently than once every 30 days, or in the case of a rural jurisdiction, not less frequently than once every 45 days, to review whether it is still in the interest of justice to permit the juvenile to be so held or have such sight or sound contact; and

"(II) the juvenile shall not be held in any jail or lockup for adults, or permitted to have sight or sound contact with adult inmates, for more than 180 days, unless the court, in writing, determines there is good cause for an extension or the juvenile expressly waives this limitation;"

(I) in paragraph (12)(A), by striking "contact" and inserting "sight or sound contact";

(J) in paragraph (13), by striking "contact" each place it appears and inserting "sight or sound contact";

(K) in paragraph (14)—

(i) by striking "adequate system" and inserting "effective system";

(ii) by inserting "lock-ups," after "monitoring jails,"

(iii) by inserting "and" after "detention facilities,"

(iv) by striking ", and non-secure facilities";

(v) by striking "insure" and inserting "ensure";

(vi) by striking "requirements of paragraphs (11), (12), and (13)" and inserting "core requirements"; and

(vii) by striking ", in the opinion of the Administrator,"

(L) by striking paragraphs (22) and (27);

(M) by redesignating paragraph (28) as paragraph (27);

(N) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through (21) as paragraphs (16) through (22), respectively;

(O) by inserting after paragraph (14) the following:

"(15) implement policy, practice, and system improvement strategies at the State, territorial, local, and tribal levels, as applicable, to identify and reduce racial and ethnic disparities among youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system, without establishing or requiring numerical standards or quotas, by—

"(A) establishing or designating existing coordinating bodies, composed of juvenile justice stakeholders, (including representatives of the educational system) at the State, local, or tribal levels, to advise efforts by States, units of local government, and Indian tribes to reduce racial and ethnic disparities;

"(B) identifying and analyzing data on race and ethnicity at all decision points in State, local, or tribal juvenile justice systems to determine which key points create racial and ethnic disparities among youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system; and

"(C) developing and implementing a work plan that includes measurable objectives for policy, practice, or other system changes, based on the needs identified in the data collection and analysis under subparagraph (B);"

(P) in paragraph (16), as so redesignated, by inserting "ethnicity," after "race,"

(Q) in paragraph (21), as so redesignated, by striking "local," each place the term appears and inserting "local, tribal,"

(R) in paragraph (23)—

(i) in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C), by striking "juvenile" each place it appears and inserting "status offender";

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking "and" at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) in clause (i), by striking "and" at the end;

(II) in clause (ii), by adding "and" at the end; and

(III) by adding at the end the following:

"(iii) if such court determines the status offender should be placed in a secure detention facility or correctional facility for violating such order—

"(I) the court shall issue a written order that—

"(aa) identifies the valid court order that has been violated;

"(bb) specifies the factual basis for determining that there is reasonable cause to believe that the status offender has violated such order;

"(cc) includes findings of fact to support a determination that there is no appropriate

less restrictive alternative available to placing the status offender in such a facility, with due consideration to the best interest of the juvenile;

“(dd) specifies the length of time, not to exceed 7 days, that the status offender may remain in a secure detention facility or correctional facility, and includes a plan for the status offender’s release from such facility; and

“(ee) may not be renewed or extended; and

“(II) the court may not issue a second or subsequent order described in subclause (I) relating to a status offender unless the status offender violates a valid court order after the date on which the court issues an order described in subclause (I);”;

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) there are procedures in place to ensure that any status offender held in a secure detention facility or correctional facility pursuant to a court order described in this paragraph does not remain in custody longer than 7 days or the length of time authorized by the court, whichever is shorter; and

“(E) not later than September 30, 2020 (with a 1-year extension for each additional fiscal year that a State can demonstrate hardship, as determined by the State, and submits in writing evidence of such hardship to the Administrator which shall be considered approved unless the Administrator justifies to the State in writing that the hardship does not qualify for an exemption), the State will eliminate the use of valid court orders to provide secure confinement of status offenders, except that juveniles may be held in secure confinement in accordance with the Interstate Compact for Juveniles if the judge issues a written order that—

“(i) specifies the factual basis to believe that the State has the authority to detain the juvenile under the terms of the Interstate Compact for Juveniles;

“(ii) includes findings of fact to support a determination that there is no appropriate less restrictive alternative available to placing the juvenile in such a facility, with due consideration to the best interest of the juvenile;

“(iii) specifies the length of time a juvenile may remain in secure confinement, not to exceed 15 days, and includes a plan for the return of the juvenile to the home State of the juvenile; and

“(iv) may not be renewed or extended;”;

(S) in paragraph (26)—

(i) by inserting “and in accordance with confidentiality concerns,” after “maximum extent practicable,”; and

(ii) by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting the following: “, so as to provide for—

“(A) data in child abuse or neglect reports relating to juveniles entering the juvenile justice system with a prior reported history of arrest, court intake, probation and parole, juvenile detention, and corrections; and

“(B) a plan to use the data described in subparagraph (A) to provide necessary services for the treatment of such victims of child abuse or neglect;”;

(T) in paragraph (27), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(U) by adding at the end the following:

“(28) provide for the coordinated use of funds provided under this title with other Federal and State funds directed at juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention programs;

“(29) describe the policies, procedures, and training in effect for the staff of juvenile State correctional facilities to eliminate the use of dangerous practices, unreasonable restraints, and unreasonable isolation, including by developing effective behavior management techniques;

“(30) describe—

“(A) the evidence-based methods that will be used to conduct mental health and substance abuse screening, assessment, referral, and treatment for juveniles who—

“(i) request a screening;

“(ii) show signs of needing a screening; or

“(iii) are held for a period of more than 24 hours in a secure facility that provides for an initial screening; and

“(B) how the State will seek, to the extent practicable, to provide or arrange for mental health and substance abuse disorder treatment for juveniles determined to be in need of such treatment;

“(31) describe how reentry planning by the State for juveniles will include—

“(A) a written case plan based on an assessment of needs that includes—

“(i) the pre-release and post-release plans for the juveniles;

“(ii) the living arrangement to which the juveniles are to be discharged; and

“(iii) any other plans developed for the juveniles based on an individualized assessment; and

“(B) review processes;

“(32) provide an assurance that the agency of the State receiving funds under this title collaborates with the State educational agency receiving assistance under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.) to develop and implement a plan to ensure that, in order to support educational progress—

“(A) the student records of adjudicated juveniles, including electronic records if available, are transferred in a timely manner from the educational program in the juvenile detention or secure treatment facility to the educational or training program into which the juveniles will enroll;

“(B) the credits of adjudicated juveniles are transferred; and

“(C) adjudicated juveniles receive full or partial credit toward high school graduation for secondary school coursework satisfactorily completed before and during the period of time during which the juveniles are held in custody, regardless of the local educational agency or entity from which the credits were earned; and

“(33) describe policies and procedures to—

“(A) screen for, identify, and document in records of the State the identification of victims of domestic human trafficking, or those at risk of such trafficking, upon intake; and

“(B) divert youth described in subparagraph (A) to appropriate programs or services, to the extent practicable.”;

(2) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

“(c)(1) If a State fails to comply with any of the core requirements in any fiscal year, then—

“(A) subject to subparagraph (B), the amount allocated to such State under section 222 for the subsequent fiscal year shall be reduced by not less than 20 percent for each core requirement with respect to which the failure occurs; and

“(B) the State shall be ineligible to receive any allocation under such section for such fiscal year unless—

“(i) the State agrees to expend 50 percent of the amount allocated to the State for such fiscal year to achieve compliance with any such core requirement with respect to which the State is in noncompliance; or

“(ii) the Administrator determines that the State—

“(I) has achieved substantial compliance with such applicable requirements with respect to which the State was not in compliance; and

“(II) has made, through appropriate executive or legislative action, an unequivocal commitment to achieving full compliance

with such applicable requirements within a reasonable time.

“(2) Of the total amount of funds not allocated for a fiscal year under paragraph (1)—

“(A) 50 percent of the unallocated funds shall be reallocated under section 222 to States that have not failed to comply with the core requirements; and

“(B) 50 percent of the unallocated funds shall be used by the Administrator to provide additional training and technical assistance to States for the purpose of promoting compliance with the core requirements.”;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking “described in paragraphs (11), (12), (13), and (22) of subsection (a)” and inserting “described in the core requirements”; and

(B) by striking “the requirements under paragraphs (11), (12), (13), and (22) of subsection (a)” and inserting “the core requirements”;

(4) in subsection (f)(2)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A); and

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (E) as subparagraphs (A) through (D), respectively; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(g) COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year, the Administrator shall make a determination regarding whether each State receiving a grant under this title is in compliance or out of compliance with respect to each of the core requirements.

“(2) REPORTING.—The Administrator shall—

“(A) issue an annual public report—

“(i) describing any determination described in paragraph (1) made during the previous year, including a summary of the information on which the determination is based and the actions to be taken by the Administrator (including a description of any reduction imposed under subsection (c)); and

“(ii) for any such determination that a State is out of compliance with any of the core requirements, describing the basis for the determination; and

“(B) make the report described in subparagraph (A) available on a publicly available website.

“(3) DETERMINATIONS REQUIRED.—The Administrator may not—

“(A) determine that a State is ‘not out of compliance’, or issue any other determination not described in paragraph (1), with respect to any core requirement; or

“(B) otherwise fail to make the compliance determinations required under paragraph (1).”.

SEC. 206. REPEAL OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.

Part C of title II of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5651 et seq.) is repealed.

SEC. 207. RESEARCH AND EVALUATION; STATISTICAL ANALYSES; INFORMATION DISSEMINATION.

Section 251 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5661) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “may” and inserting “shall”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “plan and identify” and inserting “annually publish a plan to identify”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking clause (iii) and inserting the following:

“(iii) successful efforts to prevent status offenders and first-time minor offenders from subsequent involvement with the juvenile justice and criminal justice systems;”;

(II) by striking clause (vii) and inserting the following:

“(vii) the prevalence and duration of behavioral health needs (including mental health, substance abuse, and co-occurring disorders) among juveniles pre-placement and post-placement in the juvenile justice system, including an examination of the effects of secure confinement.”;

(III) by redesignating clauses (ix), (x), and (xi) as clauses (xvi), (xvii), and (xviii), respectively; and

(IV) by inserting after clause (viii) the following:

“(ix) training efforts and reforms that have produced reductions in or elimination of the use of dangerous practices;

“(x) methods to improve the recruitment, selection, training, and retention of professional personnel who are focused on the prevention, identification, and treatment of delinquency;

“(xi) methods to improve the identification and response to victims of domestic child sex trafficking within the juvenile justice system;

“(xii) identifying positive outcome measures, such as attainment of employment and educational degrees, that States and units of local government should use to evaluate the success of programs aimed at reducing recidivism of youth who have come in contact with the juvenile justice system or criminal justice system;

“(xiii) evaluating the impact and outcomes of the prosecution and sentencing of juveniles as adults;

“(xiv) evaluating the impact of fines, fees, and other costs assessed by the juvenile justice system on the long-term disposition of status offenders and other juveniles;

“(xv) successful and cost-effective efforts by States and units of local government to reduce recidivism through policies that provide for consideration of appropriate alternative sanctions to incarceration of youth facing nonviolent charges, while ensuring that public safety is preserved.”; and

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “date of enactment of this paragraph, the” and inserting “date of enactment of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, the”; and

(II) by inserting “in accordance with relevant confidentiality requirements” after “wards of the State”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “and Indian tribes” after “State”;

(iii) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at the end;

(iv) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(v) by adding at the end the following:

“(H) a description of the best practices in discharge planning; and

“(I) an assessment of living arrangements for juveniles who, upon release from confinement in a State correctional facility, cannot return to the residence they occupied prior to such confinement.”;

(2) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “may” and inserting “shall”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(f) NATIONAL RECIDIVISM MEASURE.—The Administrator, in accordance with applicable confidentiality requirements and in consultation with experts in the field of juvenile justice research, recidivism, and data collection, shall—

“(1) establish a uniform method of data collection and technology that States may use to evaluate data on juvenile recidivism on an annual basis;

“(2) establish a common national juvenile recidivism measurement system; and

“(3) make cumulative juvenile recidivism data that is collected from States available to the public.”.

SEC. 208. TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 252 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5662) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “may”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “shall” before “develop and carry out projects”; and

(ii) by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting “may” before “make grants to and contracts with”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) shall provide periodic training for States regarding implementation of the core requirements, current protocols and best practices for achieving and monitoring compliance, and information sharing regarding relevant Office resources on evidence-based and promising programs or practices that promote the purposes of this Act.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “may”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “shall” before “develop and implement projects”; and

(ii) by inserting “, including compliance with the core requirements” after “this title”; and

(iii) by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting “may” before “make grants to and contracts with”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) shall provide technical assistance to States and units of local government on achieving compliance with the amendments to the core requirements and State Plans made by the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, including training and technical assistance and, when appropriate, pilot or demonstration projects intended to develop and replicate best practices for achieving sight and sound separation in facilities or portions of facilities that are open and available to the general public and that may or may not contain a jail or a lock-up; and

“(4) shall provide technical assistance to States in support of efforts to establish partnerships between a State and a university, institution of higher education, or research center designed to improve the recruitment, selection, training, and retention of professional personnel in the fields of medicine, law enforcement, the judiciary, juvenile justice, social work and child protection, education, and other relevant fields who are engaged in, or intend to work in, the field of prevention, identification, and treatment of delinquency.”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by inserting “prosecutors,” after “public defenders,”; and

(B) by inserting “status offenders and” after “needs of”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) BEST PRACTICES REGARDING LEGAL REPRESENTATION OF CHILDREN.—In consultation with experts in the field of juvenile defense, the Administrator shall—

“(1) share best practices, which may include sharing standards of practice developed by recognized entities in the profession, for attorneys representing children; and

“(2) provide a State, if it so requests, technical assistance to implement any of the best practices shared under paragraph (1).

“(e) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR LOCAL AND STATE JUVENILE DETENTION AND CORRECTIONS PERSONNEL.—The Administrator shall coordinate training and technical assistance programs with juvenile detention and corrections personnel of States and units of local government—

“(1) to promote methods for improving conditions of juvenile confinement, including methods that are designed to minimize the use of dangerous practices, unreasonable restraints, and isolation and methods responsive to cultural differences; and

“(2) to encourage alternative behavior management techniques based on positive youth development approaches, which may include policies and procedures to train personnel to be culturally competent.

“(f) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT INCLUDING HOME-BASED OR COMMUNITY-BASED CARE.—The Administrator shall provide training and technical assistance, in conjunction with the appropriate public agencies, to individuals involved in making decisions regarding the disposition and management of cases for youth who enter the juvenile justice system about the appropriate services and placement for youth with mental health or substance abuse needs, including—

“(1) juvenile justice intake personnel;

“(2) probation officers;

“(3) juvenile court judges and court services personnel;

“(4) prosecutors and court-appointed counsel; and

“(5) family members of juveniles and family advocates.

“(g) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT JUVENILE COURT JUDGES AND PERSONNEL.—The Attorney General, acting through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the Office of Justice Programs, shall provide training and technical assistance, in conjunction with the appropriate public agencies, to enhance the capacity of State and local courts, judges, and related judicial personnel to—

“(1) improve the lives of children currently involved in or at risk of being involved in the juvenile court system; and

“(2) carry out the requirements of this Act.

“(h) FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES FOR INCARCERATED JUVENILES.—The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall provide guidance to States relating to existing options for school food authorities in the States to apply for reimbursement for free or reduced price lunches under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) for juveniles who are incarcerated and would, if not incarcerated, be eligible for free or reduced price lunches under that Act.”.

SEC. 209. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 299 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5672) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (b) and (c), and redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (b);

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “(EXCLUDING PARTS C AND E)”;

(B) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title—

“(A) \$76,125,000 for fiscal year 2018;

“(B) \$76,125,000 for fiscal year 2019;

“(C) \$77,266,875 for fiscal year 2020;

“(D) \$78,425,878 for fiscal year 2021; and

“(E) \$79,602,266 for fiscal year 2022.”; and

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “(other than parts C and E)”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking “part D” and inserting “parts D and E”.

SEC. 210. ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY.

Section 299A of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5672) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)—

(A) by inserting “(1)” before “The Administrator”;

(B) by striking “, after appropriate consultation with representatives of States and units of local government,”;

(C) by inserting “guidance,” after “regulations,”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following: “In developing guidance and procedures, the Administrator shall consult with representatives of States and units of local government, including those individuals responsible for administration of this Act and compliance with the core requirements.”

“(2) The Administrator shall ensure that—

(A) reporting, compliance reporting, State plan requirements, and other similar documentation as may be required from States is requested in a manner that respects confidentiality, encourages efficiency and reduces the duplication of reporting efforts; and

(B) States meeting all the core requirements are encouraged to experiment with offering innovative, data-driven programs designed to further improve the juvenile justice system.”; and

(2) in subsection (e), by striking “requirements described in paragraphs (11), (12), and (13) of section 223(a)” and inserting “core requirements”.

TITLE III—INCENTIVE GRANTS FOR LOCAL DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PROGRAMS

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

Section 501 of the Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 5601 note) is amended—

(1) by inserting “Youth Promise” before “Incentive Grants”; and

(2) by striking “2002” and inserting “2016”.

SEC. 302. DEFINITIONS.

Section 502 of the Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 5781) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 502. DEFINITIONS.

“In this title—

“(1) the term ‘eligible entity’ means—

“(A) a unit of local government that is in compliance with the requirements of part B of title II; or

“(B) a nonprofit organization in partnership with a unit of local government described in subparagraph (A);

“(2) the term ‘local policy board’, when used with respect to an eligible entity, means a policy board that the eligible entity will engage in the development of the eligible entity’s plan described in section 504(e)(5), and that includes—

“(A) not fewer than 15 and not more than 21 members; and

“(B) a balanced representation of—

“(i) public agencies and private nonprofit organizations serving juveniles and their families; and

“(ii) business and industry;

“(C) at least one representative of the faith community, one adjudicated youth, and one parent of an adjudicated youth; and

“(D) in the case of an eligible entity described in paragraph (1)(B), a representative of the nonprofit organization of the eligible entity;

“(3) the term ‘mentoring’ means matching 1 adult with 1 or more youths for the purpose of providing guidance, support, and encouragement through regularly scheduled meetings for not less than 9 months;

“(4) the term ‘juvenile delinquency program’ means a juvenile delinquency program that is evidence-based or promising and that may include—

“(A) alcohol and substance abuse prevention services;

“(B) tutoring and remedial education, especially in reading and mathematics;

“(C) child and adolescent health and mental health services;

“(D) recreation services;

“(E) leadership and youth development activities;

“(F) the teaching that individuals are and should be held accountable for their actions;

“(G) assistance in the development of job training skills;

“(H) youth mentoring programs;

“(I) after-school programs;

“(J) coordination of a continuum of services, which may include—

“(i) early childhood development services;

“(ii) voluntary home visiting programs;

“(iii) nurse-family partnership programs;

“(iv) parenting skills training;

“(v) child abuse prevention programs;

“(vi) family stabilization programs;

“(vii) child welfare services;

“(viii) family violence intervention programs;

“(ix) adoption assistance programs;

“(x) emergency, transitional and permanent housing assistance;

“(xi) job placement and retention training;

“(xii) summer jobs programs;

“(xiii) alternative school resources for youth who have dropped out of school or demonstrate chronic truancy;

“(xiv) conflict resolution skill training;

“(xv) restorative justice programs;

“(xvi) mentoring programs;

“(xvii) targeted gang prevention, intervention and exit services;

“(xviii) training and education programs for pregnant teens and teen parents; and

“(xix) pre-release, post-release, and re-entry services to assist detained and incarcerated youth with transitioning back into and reentering the community; and

“(K) other data-driven evidence-based or promising prevention programs;

“(5) the term ‘State advisory group’ means the advisory group appointed by the chief executive officer of a State under a plan described in section 223(a); and

“(6) the term ‘State entity’ means the State agency designated under section 223(a)(1) or the entity receiving funds under section 223(d).”.

SEC. 303. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.

Section 503 of the Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 5782) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1); and

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (4) as paragraphs (1) through (3), respectively.

SEC. 304. GRANTS FOR DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PROGRAMS.

Section 504 of the Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 5781 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 504. GRANTS FOR LOCAL DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PROGRAMS.

“(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to enable local communities to address the unmet needs of youth who are involved in, or are at risk of involvement in, juvenile delinquency or gang activity, including through a continuum of delinquency prevention pro-

grams for juveniles who have had contact with the juvenile justice system or who are likely to have contact with the juvenile justice system.

“(b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Administrator shall—

“(1) for each fiscal year for which less than \$25,000,000 is appropriated under section 506, award grants to not fewer than 3 State entities, but not more than 5 State entities, that apply under subsection (c) and meet the requirements of subsection (d); or

“(2) for each fiscal year for which \$25,000,000 or more is appropriated under section 506, award grants to not fewer than 5 State entities that apply under subsection (c) and meet the requirements of subsection (d).

“(c) STATE APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a State entity shall submit an application to the Administrator, which includes the following:

“(1) An assurance the State entity will use—

“(A) not more than 10 percent of such grant, in the aggregate—

“(i) for the costs incurred by the State entity to carry out this section, except that not more than 3 percent of such grant may be used for such costs; and

“(ii) to provide technical assistance to eligible entities receiving a subgrant under subsection (e) in carrying out juvenile delinquency programs under the subgrant; and

“(B) the remainder of such grant to award subgrants to eligible entities under subsection (e).

“(2) An assurance that such grant will supplement, and not supplant, State and local efforts to prevent juvenile delinquency.

“(3) An assurance the State entity will evaluate the capacity of eligible entities receiving a subgrant under subsection (e) to fulfill the requirements under such subsection.

“(4) An assurance that such application was prepared after consultation with, and participation by, the State advisory group, units of local government, community-based organizations, and organizations that carry out programs, projects, or activities to prevent juvenile delinquency in the local juvenile justice system served by the State entity.

“(d) APPROVAL OF STATE APPLICATIONS.—In awarding grants under this section for a fiscal year, the Administrator may not award a grant to a State entity for a fiscal year unless—

“(1)(A) the State that will be served by the State entity submitted a plan under section 223 for such fiscal year; and

“(B) such plan is approved by the Administrator for such fiscal year; or

“(2) after finding good cause for a waiver, the Administrator waives the plan required under subparagraph (A) for such State for such fiscal year.

“(e) SUBGRANT PROGRAM.—

“(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State entity receiving a grant under this section shall award subgrants to eligible entities in accordance with this subsection.

“(B) PRIORITY.—In awarding subgrants under this subsection, the State entity shall give priority to eligible entities that demonstrate ability in—

“(i) plans for service and agency coordination and collaboration including the collocation of services;

“(ii) innovative ways to involve the private nonprofit and business sector in delinquency prevention activities;

“(iii) developing data-driven prevention plans, employing evidence-based prevention strategies, and conducting program evaluations to determine impact and effectiveness;

“(iv) identifying under the plan submitted under paragraph (5) potential savings and efficiencies associated with successful implementation of such plan; and

“(v) describing how such savings and efficiencies may be used to carry out delinquency prevention programs and be reinvested in the continuing implementation of such programs after the end of the subgrant period.

“(C) SUBGRANT PROGRAM PERIOD AND DIVERSITY OF PROJECTS.—

“(i) PROGRAM PERIOD.—A subgrant awarded to an eligible entity by a State entity under this section shall be for a period of not more than 5 years, of which the eligible entity—

“(I) may use not more than 18 months for completing the plan submitted by the eligible entity under paragraph (5); and

“(II) shall use the remainder of the subgrant period, after planning period described in subclause (I), for the implementation of such plan.

“(ii) DIVERSITY OF PROJECTS.—In awarding subgrants under this subsection, a State entity shall ensure, to the extent practicable and applicable, that such subgrants are distributed throughout different areas, including urban, suburban, and rural areas.

“(2) LOCAL APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that desires a subgrant under this subsection shall submit an application to the State entity in the State of the eligible entity, at such time and in such manner as determined by the State entity, and that includes—

“(A) a description of—

“(i) the local policy board and local partners the eligible entity will engage in the development of the plan described in paragraph (5);

“(ii) the unmet needs of youth in the community who are or have been involved in, or are at risk of being involved in juvenile delinquency or gang activity;

“(iii) available resources in the community to meet the unmet needs identified in the needs assessment described in paragraph (5)(A);

“(iv) potential costs to the community if the unmet needs are not addressed;

“(B) a specific time period for the planning and subsequent implementation of its continuum of local delinquency prevention programs;

“(C) the steps the eligible entity will take to implement the plan under subparagraph (A); and

“(D) a plan to continue the grant activity with non-Federal funds, if proven successful according to the performance evaluation process under paragraph (5)(D), after the grant period.

“(3) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—An eligible entity desiring a subgrant under this subsection shall agree to provide a 50 percent match of the amount of the subgrant, which may include the value of in-kind contributions.

“(4) SUBGRANT REVIEW.—

“(A) REVIEW.—Not later than the end of the second year of a subgrant period for a subgrant awarded to an eligible entity under this subsection and before awarding the remaining amount of the subgrant to the eligible entity, the State entity shall—

“(i) ensure that the eligible entity has completed the plan submitted under paragraph (2) and that the plan meets the requirements of such paragraph; and

“(ii) verify that the eligible entity will begin the implementation of its plan upon receiving the next installment of its subgrant award.

“(B) TERMINATION.—If the State entity finds through the review conducted under subparagraph (A) that the eligible entity has not met the requirements of clause (i) of

such subparagraph, the State entity shall reallocate the amount remaining on the subgrant of the eligible entity to other eligible entities receiving a subgrant under this subsection or award the amount to an eligible entity during the next subgrant competition under this subsection.

“(5) LOCAL USES OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives a subgrant under this subsection shall use the funds to implement a plan to carry out delinquency prevention programs in the community served by the eligible entity in a coordinated manner with other delinquency prevention programs or entities serving such community, which includes—

“(A) an analysis of the unmet needs of youth in the community who are or have been, or are at risk of being, involved in juvenile delinquency or gang activity—

“(i) which shall include—

“(I) the available resources in the community to meet the unmet needs; and

“(II) factors present in the community that may contribute to delinquency, such as homelessness, food insecurity, teen pregnancy, youth unemployment, family instability, lack of educational opportunity; and

“(ii) may include an estimate—

“(I) for the most recent year for which reliable data is available, the amount expended by the community and other entities for delinquency adjudication for juveniles and the incarceration of adult offenders for offenses committed in such community; and

“(II) of potential savings and efficiencies that may be achieved through the implementation of the plan;

“(B) a minimum 3-year comprehensive strategy to address the unmet needs and an estimate of the amount or percentage of non-Federal funds that are available to carry out the strategy;

“(C) a description of how delinquency prevention programs under the plan will be coordinated;

“(D) a description of the performance evaluation process of the delinquency prevention programs to be implemented under the plan, which shall include performance measures to assess efforts to address the unmet needs of youth in the community analyzed under subparagraph (A);

“(E) the evidence or promising evaluation on which such delinquency prevention programs are based; and

“(F) if such delinquency prevention programs are proven successful according to the performance evaluation process under subparagraph (D), a strategy to continue such programs after the subgrant period with non-Federal funds, including a description of how any estimated savings or efficiencies created by the implementation of the plan may be used to continue such programs.”.

SEC. 305. GRANTS FOR TRIBAL DELINQUENCY PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAMS.

The Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 5781 et seq.) is amended by redesignating section 505 as section 506 and by inserting after section 504 the following:

“SEC. 505. GRANTS FOR TRIBAL DELINQUENCY PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAMS.

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall make grants under this section, on a competitive basis, to eligible Indian tribes (or consortia of Indian tribes) as described in subsection (b)—

“(1) to support and enhance—

“(A) tribal juvenile delinquency prevention services; and

“(B) the ability of Indian tribes to respond to, and care for, juvenile offenders; and

“(2) to encourage accountability of Indian tribal governments with respect to pre-

venting juvenile delinquency, and responding to, and caring for, juvenile offenders.

“(b) ELIGIBLE INDIAN TRIBES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an Indian tribe or consortium of Indian tribes shall submit to the Administrator an application in such form as the Administrator may require.

“(c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In providing grants under this section, the Administrator shall take into consideration, with respect to the Indian tribe to be served, the—

“(1) juvenile delinquency rates;

“(2) school dropout rates; and

“(3) number of youth at risk of delinquency.

“(d) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Of the amount appropriated for a fiscal year to carry out this title, 11 percent shall be available to carry out this section.”.

SEC. 306. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 506, as redesignated by section 305, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 506. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title—

“(1) \$91,857,500 for fiscal year 2018;

“(2) \$91,857,500 for fiscal year 2019;

“(3) \$93,235,362 for fiscal year 2020;

“(4) \$94,633,892 for fiscal year 2021; and

“(5) \$96,053,401 for fiscal year 2022.”.

SEC. 307. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.

Title V of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 as enacted by Public Law 93-415 (88 Stat. 1133) (relating to miscellaneous and conforming amendments) is repealed.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. EVALUATION BY GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE.

(a) EVALUATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct a comprehensive analysis and evaluation regarding the performance of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (referred to in this section as “the agency”), its functions, its programs, and its grants;

(2) conduct a comprehensive audit and evaluation of a selected, sample of grantees (as determined by the Comptroller General) that receive Federal funds under grant programs administered by the agency including a review of internal controls (as defined in section 103 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5603), as amended by this Act) to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse of funds by grantees; and

(3) submit a report in accordance with subsection (d).

(b) CONSIDERATIONS FOR EVALUATION.—In conducting the analysis and evaluation under subsection (a)(1), and in order to document the efficiency and public benefit of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.), excluding the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.) and the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.), the Comptroller General shall take into consideration—

(1) the outcome and results of the programs carried out by the agency and those programs administered through grants by the agency;

(2) the extent to which the agency has complied with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-62; 107 Stat. 285);

(3) the extent to which the jurisdiction of, and the programs administered by, the agency duplicate or conflict with the jurisdiction and programs of other agencies;

(4) the potential benefits of consolidating programs administered by the agency with similar or duplicative programs of other agencies, and the potential for consolidating those programs;

(5) whether less restrictive or alternative methods exist to carry out the functions of the agency and whether current functions or operations are impeded or enhanced by existing statutes, rules, and procedures;

(6) the number and types of beneficiaries or persons served by programs carried out by the agency;

(7) the manner with which the agency seeks public input and input from State and local governments on the performance of the functions of the agency;

(8) the extent to which the agency complies with section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the Freedom of Information Act);

(9) whether greater oversight is needed of programs developed with grants made by the agency; and

(10) the extent to which changes are necessary in the authorizing statutes of the agency in order for the functions of the agency to be performed in a more efficient and effective manner.

(c) **CONSIDERATIONS FOR AUDITS.**—In conducting the audit and evaluation under subsection (a)(2), and in order to document the efficiency and public benefit of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.), excluding the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.) and the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.), the Comptroller General shall take into consideration—

(1) whether grantees timely file Financial Status Reports;

(2) whether grantees have sufficient internal controls to ensure adequate oversight of grant fund received;

(3) whether disbursements were accompanied with adequate supporting documentation (including invoices and receipts);

(4) whether expenditures were authorized;

(5) whether subrecipients of grant funds were complying with program requirements;

(6) whether salaries and fringe benefits of personnel were adequately supported by documentation;

(7) whether contracts were bid in accordance with program guidelines; and

(8) whether grant funds were spent in accordance with program goals and guidelines.

(d) **REPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(A) submit a report regarding the evaluation conducted under subsection (a) and audit under subsection (b), to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate; and

(B) make the report described in subparagraph (A) available to the public.

(2) **CONTENTS.**—The report submitted in accordance with paragraph (1) shall include all audit findings determined by the selected, statistically significant sample of grantees as required by subsection (a)(2) and shall include the name and location of any selected grantee as well as any findings required by subsection (a)(2).

SEC. 402. ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“TITLE VI—ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT

“SEC. 601. ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT.

“(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that, in order to ensure that at-risk

youth, and youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system or the criminal justice system, are treated fairly and that the outcome of that contact is beneficial to the Nation—

“(1) the Department of Justice, through its Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, must restore meaningful enforcement of the core requirements in title II; and

“(2) States, which are entrusted with a fiscal stewardship role if they accept funds under title II must exercise vigilant oversight to ensure full compliance with the core requirements for juveniles provided for in title II.

“(b) **ACCOUNTABILITY.**—

“(1) **AGENCY PROGRAM REVIEW.**—

“(A) **PROGRAMMATIC AND FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, the Director of the Office of Audit, Assessment, and Management of the Office of Justice Programs at the Department of Justice (referred to in this section as the ‘Director’) shall—

“(I) conduct a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the internal controls of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (referred to in this section as the ‘agency’) to determine if States and Indian tribes receiving grants are following the requirements of the agency grant programs and what remedial action the agency has taken to recover any grant funds that are expended in violation of grant programs, including instances where—

“(aa) supporting documentation was not provided for cost reports;

“(bb) unauthorized expenditures occurred; and

“(cc) subrecipients of grant funds were not in compliance with program requirements;

“(II) conduct a comprehensive audit and evaluation of a selected statistically significant sample of States and Indian tribes (as determined by the Director) that have received Federal funds under title II, including a review of internal controls to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse of funds by grantees; and

“(III) submit a report in accordance with clause (iv).

“(ii) **CONSIDERATIONS FOR EVALUATIONS.**—In conducting the analysis and evaluation under clause (i)(I), and in order to document the efficiency and public benefit of titles II and V, the Director shall take into consideration the extent to which—

“(I) greater oversight is needed of programs developed with grants made by the agency;

“(II) changes are necessary in the authorizing statutes of the agency in order that the functions of the agency can be performed in a more efficient and effective manner; and

“(III) the agency has implemented recommendations issued by the Comptroller General or Office of Inspector General relating to the grant making and grant monitoring responsibilities of the agency.

“(iii) **CONSIDERATIONS FOR AUDITS.**—In conducting the audit and evaluation under clause (i)(II), and in order to document the efficiency and public benefit of titles II and V, the Director shall take into consideration—

“(I) whether grantees timely file Financial Status Reports;

“(II) whether grantees have sufficient internal controls to ensure adequate oversight of grant funds received;

“(III) whether grantees’ assertions of compliance with the core requirements were accompanied with adequate supporting documentation;

“(IV) whether expenditures were authorized;

“(V) whether subrecipients of grant funds were complying with program requirements; and

“(VI) whether grant funds were spent in accordance with the program goals and guidelines.

“(iv) **REPORT.**—The Director shall—

“(I) submit to the Congress a report outlining the results of the analysis, evaluation, and audit conducted under clause (i), including supporting materials, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate; and

“(II) shall make such report available to the public online, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section.

“(B) **ANALYSIS OF INTERNAL CONTROLS.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, the Administrator shall initiate a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the internal controls of the agency to determine whether, and to what extent, States and Indian tribes that receive grants under titles II and V are following the requirements of the grant programs authorized under titles II and V.

“(ii) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report containing—

“(I) the findings of the analysis and evaluation conducted under clause (i);

“(II) a description of remedial actions, if any, that will be taken by the Administrator to enhance the internal controls of the agency and recoup funds that may have been expended in violation of law, regulations, or program requirements issued under titles II and V; and

“(III) a description of—

“(aa) the analysis conducted under clause (i);

“(bb) whether the funds awarded under titles II and V have been used in accordance with law, regulations, program guidance, and applicable plans; and

“(cc) the extent to which funds awarded to States and Indian tribes under titles II and V enhanced the ability of grantees to fulfill the core requirements.

“(C) **REPORT BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, the Attorney General shall submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a report on the estimated amount of formula grant funds disbursed by the agency since fiscal year 2010 that did not meet the requirements for awards of formula grants to States under title II.

“(2) **CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES.**—

“(A) **LIMITATION.**—No amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice under this Act may be used by the Attorney General, or by any individual or organization awarded discretionary funds through a cooperative agreement under this Act, to host or support any expenditure for conferences that uses more than \$20,000 in funds made available to the Department of Justice, unless the Deputy Attorney General or such Assistant Attorney Generals, Directors, or principal deputies as the Deputy Attorney General may designate, provides prior written authorization that the funds may be expended to host a conference.

“(B) **WRITTEN APPROVAL.**—Written approval under subparagraph (A) shall include a written estimate of all costs associated with the conference, including the cost of all food and beverages, audiovisual equipment, honoraria for speakers, and entertainment.

“(C) REPORT.—The Deputy Attorney General shall submit an annual report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives on all conference expenditures approved under this paragraph.

“(3) PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING ACTIVITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated under this Act may not be utilized by any recipient of a grant made using such amounts—

“(i) to lobby any representative of the Department of Justice regarding the award of grant funding; or

“(ii) to lobby any representative of a Federal, State, local, or tribal government regarding the award of grant funding.

“(B) PENALTY.—If the Attorney General determines that any recipient of a grant made using amounts authorized to be appropriated under this Act has violated subparagraph (A), the Attorney General shall—

“(i) require the recipient to repay the grant in full; and

“(ii) prohibit the recipient to receive another grant under this Act for not less than 5 years.

“(C) CLARIFICATION.—For purposes of this paragraph, submitting an application for a grant under this Act shall not be considered lobbying activity in violation of subparagraph (A).

“(C) PREVENTING DUPLICATIVE GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Before the Attorney General awards a grant to an applicant under this Act, the Attorney General shall compare potential grant awards with other grants awarded under this Act to determine if duplicate grant awards are awarded for the same purpose.

“(2) REPORT.—If the Attorney General awards duplicate grants to the same applicant for the same purpose the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

“(A) a list of all duplicate grants awarded, including the total dollar amount of any duplicate grants awarded; and

“(B) the reason the Attorney General awarded the duplicative grant.

“(d) COMPLIANCE WITH AUDITING STANDARDS.—The Administrator shall comply with the Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards, published by the General Accountability Office (commonly known as the ‘Yellow Book’), in the conduct of fiscal, compliance, and programmatic audits of States.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 is amended by striking paragraphs (6) and (7) of section 407 (42 U.S.C. 5776a).

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the 1st day of the 1st fiscal year that begins after the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—In the case of an entity that is barred from receiving grant funds under paragraph (7)(B)(ii) of section 407 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5776a), the amendment made by paragraph (1) of this subsection shall not affect the applicability to the entity, or to the Attorney General with respect to the entity, of paragraph (7) of such section 407, as in effect on the day before the effective date of the amendment made by paragraph (1).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CURBELO) and the gen-

tleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5963.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5963, the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act.

Mr. Speaker, helping kids succeed in life is a priority we all share. That is why we work to make sure all children have access to the education and the opportunities necessary to achieve their goals and build fulfilling futures for themselves.

Unfortunately, too many children don't realize that success is even an option for them. Too many others believe their chance is past or don't know how to seize it. As a result, they make decisions that put them on the wrong path and, in some cases, in the juvenile justice system. These are the children this legislation will help.

H.R. 5963 includes a number of positive reforms, all aimed at improving services to keep at-risk youth out of the juvenile system and help juvenile offenders turn their lives around.

First, the bill's reforms will set these children up for long-term success. They will help them gain the skills they need to become productive members of society or a second chance to reach their full potential. These reforms will also give State and local leaders the flexibility to meet specific and unique needs of vulnerable kids in their communities.

The legislation also prioritizes what works, focusing on evidence-based strategies that will help reduce juvenile delinquency. It will also give policymakers, State and local leaders, and service providers a better understanding of the best ways to serve kids across the country.

Finally, the bill improves oversight and accountability to ensure juvenile justice programs are delivering positive results for children and to protect the taxpayers' investment in these important programs.

These are all commonsense measures that will reform the juvenile justice system and improve public safety. But more than that, they will provide opportunities for kids to build successful, fulfilling lives, especially for young men and women who never thought that kind of life was possible.

I was happy to partner with our ranking member, BOBBY SCOTT, on this important piece of legislation, and I

am proud of the work we have done together. Mr. SCOTT of Virginia has long been a champion of this effort, and with this bipartisan initiative, we have put forward a good bill that will help more children in this country achieve success in life.

I would also like to thank our colleagues in the Senate, especially Judiciary Committee Chairman CHUCK GRASSLEY and Senator SHELDON WHITEHOUSE for their leadership and hard work, as well as Chairman JOHN KLINE, Amy Jones, Leslie Tatum, and the rest of the Education and the Workforce Committee staff. They have all helped pave the way for the reforms in the bill before us today, and I look forward to working with them to complete this important effort.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman KLINE, Subcommittee Chair ROKITA, and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CURBELO) for their work, and also, on our side, Representatives DAVIS of California, ADAMS, and WILSON of Florida for their work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, juvenile courts were established by States over 100 years ago on the emerging legal theory that children should not be held fully responsible for their actions, a theory proven by scientific research into impulse control and brain development. The capacity to rehabilitate children became the focus of the system rather than punishment of offenders. Congress first articulated national standards of juvenile justice in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974.

Long overdue for reauthorization, H.R. 5963 creates Federal guardrails that protect children in the juvenile justice system within each State. In the 14 years since Congress last reauthorized the program, there have been advancements in research and expansion of evidence informing improved methods to prevent inappropriate youth incarceration and to reduce delinquency.

The bill we consider today includes necessary improvements in Federal policy firmly grounded in facts that demonstrate that public investments in services to our youth, particularly trauma-informed care and alternatives to incarceration, will produce positive results for at-risk youth. Those results, in turn, will lead to reduced crime and long-term cost savings.

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H.R. 5963 requires, for the first time, that State juvenile justice plans take into account the latest scientific research on adolescent development and behavior, recognizing the importance of prevention and early intervention in juvenile crime policy. We shouldn't have to legislate use of scientific research, but if we don't, we will end up

codifying and funding slogans and sound bites that have dictated our Nation's approach to crime policy over the years. These slogans and sound bites often do nothing to decrease crime, and, in fact, when studied, some slogans have been shown to actually increase the crime rate.

H.R. 5963 encourages States to consider promising practices when developing State plans, such as programming to ensure youth access to public defenders in juvenile court, the use of problem-solving courts like drug courts as an alternative to conviction and confinement, efforts to inform and aid juveniles in the process of sealing and expunging juvenile records, and programming focused on the needs of girls in or at risk of entering the system.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the bill retools the Title V Local Delinquency Prevention Grant Program, which is now entitled Youth Promise Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Program, to support communities in the planning and implementing of comprehensive evidence-based prevention and intervention programs specifically designed to reduce juvenile delinquency and gang involvement.

Grant recipients will be required to analyze the unmet delinquency prevention needs of youth in the community, then develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to address those unmet needs with an emphasis on program coordination. Research has shown that a communitywide, coordinated approach to delinquency prevention utilizing a continuum of services can actually save the community money and improve efficiencies.

I would like to thank my colleagues for working with me on the Title V provisions, which are modeled after legislation that I have been working on for nearly 10 years—the Youth PROMISE Act. I am confident that if enacted, these incentive grants will vastly improve the lives of—and long-term economic opportunity for—our Nation's at-risk youth.

Mr. Speaker, the collaborative work of this committee gives me hope that we can get the full JJDPa reauthorization over the finish line this year. The Senate Judiciary Committee has marked up and passed their version of the bill. I know Senators GRASSLEY and WHITEHOUSE are working hard to get their bill out of the Senate. I am optimistic that support for the bill, which builds on knowledge and experience of the past 14 years, will spur further action so that the bill can make its way to the President's desk for signature.

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

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROKITA), a subcommittee chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida for his leadership.

I rise today in support of H.R. 5963, the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016.

Mr. Speaker, there are approximately 2 million children involved in our juvenile justice system, with many more at risk of entering it. Prior to entering public service, I was engaged in the private practice of law. A good deal of that practice concerned at-risk youth, concerned juvenile law.

I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, that at the outset of every case, just about, my number one goal was to see that that youth, that those juveniles, did not get put “in the system,” certainly did not get incarcerated. Not because, Mr. Speaker, I was trying to get them off of anything. In fact, my plea agreements and settlements were, in a way, designed to promote much more personal responsibility than any incarceration would. But I knew this: that if they got in the system, the chances were great that they would be lost forever, that they would come out of the system more hardened criminals, a bigger burden on society, with more costs, and, most importantly, another life lost.

That is why I am pleased, as the Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee chairman, to work on this bill with these distinguished leaders: Mr. CURBELO, who I have already mentioned, and ranking minority leader, Mr. SCOTT.

Leaders in Indiana's Fourth Congressional District have long been fighting for these reforms as well. In Lafayette, Indiana, for example, the chief of police there, Patrick Flannely, has been extremely supportive of this bill. In fact, he educated most of us at a Member roundtable recently. He stated: “This bill will better target Federal funding to community-based coaching programs for troubled youth—programs that I have seen firsthand working well in Lafayette.”

Mr. Speaker, students who get involved in the juvenile justice system are less likely to graduate high school, and up to 26 percent are more likely to return to jail as adults. I have personal experience counseling youth as well to back these figures up. Given these realities, we must work to make sure we are doing everything possible to help turn these kids' lives around.

This bill will help that process by making sure that these kids have the skills necessary to become productive members of society. Not only does this bill support prevention services for affected children, but makes sure we are directing our resources to the programs with records of success. Additionally, improvements to program accountability and oversight means they will continue to produce positive effects in their communities.

Finally, it provides State and local leaders with the flexibility they need to assist the children in their communities. These are the people who know best what is needed to better the lives of their children.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the gentlemen for their leadership, and I urge

all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS).

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia for yielding.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, introduced in the spirit of bipartisanship, supports three core principles: education, safety, and prevention. This bill will enable today's young people to continue their education despite incarceration. Education is the great equalizer, and access to opportunities for a quality education should be available even for youth who, because of unfortunate circumstances, sometimes lose their way and stray down the wrong path.

Voting “yes” for this bill will give States and localities clear guidance and direction about how to reduce racial and ethnic disparities found among incarcerated youth. Statistics show that African American youth are five times as likely to be placed in confinement as their White peers. Latino and American Indian youth are between two and three times as likely to be confined.

Reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act gives America's youth a needed second chance to drive their future towards their dreams and not towards detention.

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5963, the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act.

This bill, sponsored by Mr. CURBELO, allows at-risk young adults to get back on track by offering them a vast range of opportunities and reducing the barriers that hold these young adults back from success—from graduating high school to preparing for lifelong achievements in the workplace.

Last fall, in an Education and the Workforce Committee hearing, a witness told his compelling story about his own second chance through a system that allowed him to get out of the path he was on and to chart a new one. Currently, there are 2 million children in the juvenile justice system, a statistic that is much too high. Many of these children need a second chance to succeed, like the witness I heard in the Education and the Workforce Committee.

Before my time in the United States Congress, I had experience with this same issue in the Georgia State legislature where I worked to help pass H.B. 242. In Georgia, that bill ensured that juveniles with status offenses weren't susceptible to the influence of more serious offenders, which could create an opportunity for them to commit more serious crimes later in their life.

Georgia's success with H.B. 242 is a prime example of why we need H.R.

5963 at the Federal level. It saves money for taxpayers, reduces the strain on the justice system, and gives at-risk young adults a chance for a future.

This is a win-win for all sides, and I am proud to cosponsor this legislation. Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Georgia for his comments. He has been a strong advocate for good juvenile justice policy since he was in the Georgia legislature, and has an excellent reputation for that good work.

I would like to thank the Act for Juvenile Justice Coalition for their leadership; Senators GRASSLEY and WHITEHOUSE; and staff members on this side, Denise Forte, Jacque Chevalier, and Christian Haines.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters from the National Prevention Science Coalition, the American Orthopsychiatric Association, and the NAACP.

NATIONAL PREVENTION SCIENCE COALITION

Date: September 18, 2016.

To: Chairman John Kline and Ranking Member Bobby Scott, House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Re In support of H.R. 5963, the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016.

This letter comes in support of H.R. 5963, the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016. I really appreciate Representative Curbelo and Ranking Member Scott for their leadership in introducing the bill. As a 30+ year juvenile and criminal justice practitioner, educator and clinician, I have had many opportunities to work with various policy efforts involving at-risk and other youths who come in contact with the juvenile justice system. My background includes policy and practice experiences at federal, state, county and local municipal levels of government. I am also a member of the Board of Directors of the National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives (www.npscoalition.org)—a bipartisan group of 500+ scientists, practitioners, advocates, clinicians, policy makers, foundation representatives, agency leaders, and other community stakeholders interested in assisting policymakers at all levels in designing and implementing policies that include a prevention mentality (e.g., the best that prevention and implementation science has to offer relative to improving the well-being of citizens). When implemented well, prevention science has been shown to provide significant cost savings and benefits to the health and well-being of persons across the lifespan. Based on these experiences, I consider H.R. 5963 to be a substantial improvement over its former JJDPa version.

The proposed legislation provides a much needed, updated framework inclusive of evidence based, prevention-oriented thinking in federal policy for youths—not as a prescription to the states, rather as a policy vehicle to help guide the states through the availability of financial incentives (formula and incentive grants for local delinquency prevention programs), training, technical assistance, access to research and best practices. The legislation is clearly informed by research describing the importance of using prevention and developmental science when building local and state capacities as youths

interact with the juvenile justice system. H.R. 5963 captures important knowledge gained from investments made through private and public resources over the past 25 years. Such investments have educated us as to the importance of building policies that include frameworks recognizing the developmental differences of youth (from adults) while still holding them accountable for their behaviors. Focus areas in the legislation address the impacts of trauma, mental health challenges, substance use/abuse, family conflict, interpersonal as well as community violence, gender responsiveness, racial/ethnic disparities and are all critical issues. H.R. 5963 also provides a standardized set of expectations (e.g., the “core requirements”) balancing public safety and accountability with the recognition that children and youth require tailored, developmentally appropriate, unbiased and prevention-focused interventions that must be properly implemented with transparency and accountability. Furthermore, H.R. 5963 clearly communicates an intention that states begin look to their local communities to find innovative, cost-beneficial and effective prevention strategies for vulnerable youths and their families.

I request and encourage that you pass this critically needed legislation. States and territories, through their State Advisory Groups (included in this legislation), depend on your leadership in these matters. For 40+ years the JJDPa has been the sole federal policy vehicle for at-risk and court involved youth in this country. The historical results in large measure from JJDPa implementation are impressive—juvenile crime rates are at some of their lowest levels in decades. The JJDPa (now called Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act) will build on the past successes of the JJDPa, and guide states toward the evolution of systems that are much more effective in preventing youth problems and crimes before more expensive, less successful deeper end juvenile and criminal justice alternatives must be used.

Thank you for considering these thoughts.

Respectfully yours,

ROBERT (ROBIN) JENKINS,
PH.D.,
Board of Directors,
National Prevention
Science Coalition to
Improve Lives, Assistant
Professor,
Methodist University.

AMERICAN ORTHOPSYCHIATRIC
ASSOCIATION,
September 17, 2016.

Hon. JOHN KLINE,
Chairman, House Committee on Education and the Workforce, Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT C. SCOTT,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Education and the Workforce, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN KLINE AND RANKING MEMBER SCOTT: On behalf of the members of the American Orthopsychiatric Association, we are writing to thank you for unanimously approving the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016, which strengthens and updates the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (JJDPa) and to urge Congress to take immediate action on this important piece of legislation.

Founded in 1923, Ortho is committed to prevention as a cost-effective, humane, and scientifically sound approach to improving the lives of children and families. Our members are psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, lawyers, and other health professionals, many of whom are working in clin-

ical settings. We are acutely aware of the importance of intervening early to provide support to children and youth who have been exposed to traumatic events and to assist them in developing skills that will enable them to contribute to society.

For more than 40 years, the JJDPa has been an important tool in strengthening the capacity of communities to support children and youth and to keep them out of the juvenile justice system. Your leadership in reauthorizing and strengthening the JJDPa will provide state and local governments with the capacity to address high-risk and delinquent behavior and to improve community safety. We urge the House to act swiftly in passing this critical piece of legislation so that a final bill can be approved before the end of the year.

Thank you.

Respectfully yours,

ROBIN KIMBROUGH-MELTON, JD.
Executive Officer.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE,
Washington, DC, September 19, 2016.

Re NAACP strong support for H.R. 5963, the “Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016”.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the NAACP, our nation's oldest, largest and most widely-recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization, I strongly urge you to support and vote for H.R. 5963, the “Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016” when it comes before you on the floor of the House of Representatives tomorrow under a suspension of the rules. This crucial, bipartisan, legislation strengthens and updates the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (JJDPa), which provides States and localities with federal standards, support, and resources for improving juvenile justice and delinquency prevention practices and has, since it was first signed into law in 1974, contributed to an improvement in safeguards for youth, families and communities. Currently more than 50,000 young people are held in detention centers awaiting trial or confined by the courts in juvenile facilities in our country. For these confined youth, and the many more youth who are at-risk of involvement in the justice system, an updated and relevant JJDPa and the programs it supports and mandates can mean the difference between a life of continued recidivism and a life of becoming a productive member of society.

Of great importance to the communities served and represented by the NAACP is the provision within H.R. 5963 which strengthens the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) program. Numerous studies have shown that racial and ethnic minority youth are disproportionately over-represented and subject to more punitive sanctions than similarly-charged/situated white youth at all levels of the juvenile justice system, from routine stops by law enforcement to transfer to adult court and punishment. H.R. 5963 provides clear direction to States and localities to plan and implement data-driven approaches to ensure more fairness and reduce racial and ethnic disparities, to set measurable objectives for reduction of disparities in the system, and to publicly report such efforts.

We are also extremely supportive of the provisions in the bill which mandate that state and local governments ensure that there is separation in both sight and sound between young prisoners and their adult counterparts at every stage, including when they are being held in adult facilities. We are also supportive of provisions in H.R. 5963

which use evidence-based programs to strengthen the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders core protection; encourage States to eliminate dangerous practices in confinement and to promote adoption of proven best practices and standards; increase family participation in design and delivery of treatment and services; and support efforts by State and local governments to expand youth access to counsel and to encourage programs that inform youth of opportunities to seal or expunge juvenile records once they have gotten their lives back on track.

In short, H.R. 5963 provides badly needed updating to a law which can make a significant positive impact on the lives of many of our nation's youth. Please, for the sake of those youth who may come in contact with the criminal justice system and for the betterment of the future of our nation, support the bipartisan bill, H.R. 5963, when it comes before you on the floor of the House tomorrow.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

HILARY O. SHELTON,
Director, NAACP
Washington Bureau
& Senior Vice President
for Policy and
Advocacy.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.
Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, I want to remind my colleagues what this bill is about.

Yes, it will improve the juvenile justice system. It will help State and local leaders better serve at-risk youth and juvenile offenders. It will also help improve public safety and build strong communities across the country. But, to me, it is really about opportunity.

These reforms will help vulnerable kids from all across the country realize that they have an opportunity to work toward a brighter future—one that doesn't involve a life of crime or violence. And they will help those children find the support they need to seize that opportunity.

A vote in support of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act isn't just a vote to advance this legislation, it is a vote of confidence that all children can achieve a lifetime of success, even when the odds are stacked against them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 5963.

I yield back the balance of my time.
Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5963, the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act.

Every child deserves the opportunity to achieve a lifetime of success. That's what this legislation is about—helping more children realize that success is possible.

In some cases, that means keeping at-risk youth out of the juvenile justice system and showing them a life of crime is not their only option. In others, it means giving children who

are already in the system a second chance to turn their lives around. And in every case, it means helping kids acquire the skills they need to grow into productive members of society.

That's why this bill includes reforms that will empower state and local leaders to better serve vulnerable children in their communities. We know there are important efforts already underway, including right here in our nation's capital.

Earlier this year, I visited a community-based program called Boys Town DC, and I had the opportunity to meet a young man named Terraun. At Boys Town, Terraun was learning how to be responsible for household chores and to resolve conflicts respectfully. He was also improving his cooking skills, which he hopes one day will lead to a successful career as a chef.

Terraun is holding himself accountable and thinking about the future. And regardless of his background and past mistakes, he is on the right path.

Unfortunately, not every vulnerable youth has the same experience. But with this important legislation, we can help more kids just like Terraun work toward a brighter future.

I want to thank Representative CURBELO and Ranking Member SCOTT for all of their hard work on this bipartisan bill and for delivering these important reforms. I also want to thank Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, for the work he has done to advance many of these reforms in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important bill that will have a positive impact on communities across the country, and more importantly, it will help some of our nation's most vulnerable children achieve a lifetime of success. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CURBELO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5963, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PROVIDING AN ANNUITY SUPPLEMENT FOR CERTAIN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5785) to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for an annuity supplement for certain air traffic controllers.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5785

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FULL ANNUITY SUPPLEMENT FOR CERTAIN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS.

Section 8421a of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by striking "The amount" and inserting "Except as provided in subsection (c), the amount";

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

"(c) This section shall not apply to an individual described in section 8412(e) during any period in which the individual, after separating from the service as described in that section, is employed full-time as an air traffic control instructor under contract with the Federal Aviation Administration, including an instructor working at an on-site facility (such as an airport)."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

It is my honor to present and speak about H.R. 5785, which provides a full annuity supplement for certain retired air traffic controllers that serve as instructors—a measure that helps ensure safe skies and also cuts waste and inefficiency.

Over the next 5 years, the Federal Aviation Administration plans to hire a new generation of air traffic controllers. As the generation following the 1981 strike reaches retirement age, more than 6,000 new controllers will be trained in Oklahoma City's FAA Academy to fill this void and safely manage our Nation's air space.

□ 1445

Training this new generation of controllers requires a full staff of quality and committed instructors. Current law, however, financially penalizes instructors who work full time, causing discontinuity in the classroom and government waste.

There is an arbitrary income cap in place for our experienced, retired air traffic controllers who want to receive their full benefits. Consequently, many instructors choose to work part time instead of full time to maintain these benefits. To match the hours of a full-time instructor, the FAA must hire four part-time instructors, which quadruples the cost for training, wasting about \$1 million each year.

To remedy this situation, my bill removes the income limit so that our Nation's most experienced air traffic controllers can work as instructors full time and receive their benefits. Not only will the FAA save up to \$1 million

each year, but consistent teaching by quality instructors will ensure our skies remain safe.

I appreciate the leadership of Chairman CHAFFETZ and Ranking Member CUMMINGS, in giving this legislation timely and supportive consideration, as well as my Democratic cosponsors, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia and Mr. LYNCH of Massachusetts, and the bipartisan supporters who recognize the importance of this matter.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 5785, and I thank Congressman RUSSELL for his leadership on this measure.

H.R. 5785 would help ease the difficulty that the Federal Aviation Administration currently has in hiring air traffic controller instructors. The bill would eliminate the Social Security earnings cap for the FAA air traffic controller instructors who are receiving pension supplements. The cap is, currently, \$15,720 per year. This cap has made it hard for the FAA Academy to hire full-time instructors because retired air traffic controllers do not want to lose their annuity supplements.

The FAA has a critical shortage of air traffic controllers, and it is vital that we help ensure that the FAA is able to recruit enough qualified instructors to train controllers. This legislation is narrowly tailored to address a matter that would have significant effects on public safety, so I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia for her kind support.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5785.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GAO ACCESS AND OVERSIGHT ACT OF 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5690) to ensure the Government Accountability Office has adequate access to information.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5690

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “GAO Access and Oversight Act of 2016”.

SEC. 2. ACCESS TO CERTAIN INFORMATION.

(a) ACCESS TO CERTAIN INFORMATION.—Subchapter II of chapter 7 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 721. Access to certain information

“(a) No provision of the Social Security Act, including section 453(1) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 653(1)), shall be construed to limit, amend, or supersede the authority of the Comptroller General to obtain any information or to inspect any record under section 716 of this title.

“(b) The specific reference to a statute in subsection (a) shall not be construed to affect access by the Government Accountability Office to information under statutes that are not so referenced.”.

(b) AGENCY REPORTS.—Section 720(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “or planned” after “action taken”; and

(2) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives, the congressional committees with jurisdiction over the agency program or activity that is the subject of the recommendation, and the Government Accountability Office before the 61st day after the date of the report; and”.

(c) AUTHORITY TO OBTAIN RECORDS.—Section 716 of title 31, United States Code, is amended in subsection (a)—

(1) by striking “(a)” and inserting “(2)”; and

(2) by inserting after the section heading the following:

“(a)(1) The Comptroller General is authorized to obtain such agency records as the Comptroller General requires to discharge the duties of the Comptroller General (including audit, evaluation, and investigative duties), including through the bringing of civil actions under this section. In reviewing a civil action under this section, the court shall recognize the continuing force and effect of the authorization in the preceding sentence until such time as the authorization is repealed pursuant to law.”.

(d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 7 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 720 the following:

“721. Access to certain information.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 5690, the GAO Access and Oversight Act.

As stewards of the Federal Government, we have a duty to make sure that taxpayer money is spent appropriately. We also have a duty to make sure our watchdogs have the tools that are necessary to combat waste, fraud, and abuse, especially the Government Accountability Office.

The GAO has a proven track record of excellence. In the past 6 years alone, it has identified over 200 areas of duplication, overlap, or fragmentation and has recommended more than 600 corrective actions; however, Congress needs to ensure the GAO has the access necessary to carry out the work we ask of it.

Today, we have the opportunity to better arm the GAO by clarifying that it does, indeed, have inherent access to data contained in the National Directory of New Hires. In doing so, we will help the GAO to better investigate potential fraud and improper payments, including those in the disability insurance program. The GAO's objectives are hindered without access to this data, and taxpayer dollars are not as well protected against waste, fraud, and abuse.

The language in this bill has been included in bipartisan legislation that was approved unanimously by the full House last Congress. To ensure the GAO has all of the information it needs to perform its critical role for Congress, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5690.

I also thank Senator SASSE for his work on this bill in the Senate.

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

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

I thank the gentleman from Georgia for bringing this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, the GAO provides invaluable aid to Congress in conducting our constitutional duty to oversee and evaluate the executive branch. To do its job effectively, the GAO needs timely access to agencies' documents, materials, and other information.

The bill before us would ensure the GAO's access to the National Directory of New Hires, a valuable database of wage and employment information. Access to this database would assist the GAO in its improper payment and fraud work as well as in evaluating programs in which eligibility is being means tested. The bill would also explicitly provide the GAO with standing to pursue litigation if an entity in the executive branch improperly denies the GAO access to information.

Mr. Speaker, similar bills have passed the House by wide margins in a number of previous Congresses. These are needed reforms, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5690.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JUDICIAL FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY ACT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4419) to update the financial disclosure requirements for judges of the District of Columbia courts, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4419

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “District of Columbia Judicial Financial Transparency Act”.

SEC. 2. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDGES OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS.

(a) REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED.—Section 11-1530, D.C. Official Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 11-1530. Financial statements

“(a) Pursuant to such rules as the Commission shall promulgate, each judge of the District of Columbia courts shall, within one year following the date of enactment of the District of Columbia Court Reorganization Act of 1970 and at least annually thereafter, file with the Commission a report containing the following information:

“(1)(A) The source, type and amount of the judge’s income which exceeds \$200 (other than income from the United States government and income referred to in subparagraph (C)) for the period covered by the report.

“(B) The source and type of the judge’s spouse’s income which exceeds \$1,000 (other than income from the United States government and income referred to in subparagraph (C)) for the period covered by the report.

“(C) The source and type of income which consists of dividends, rents, interest, and capital gains received by the judge and the judge’s spouse during such period which exceeds \$200 in amount or value, and an indication of which of the following categories the amount or value of such item of income is within—

“(i) not more than \$1,000,

“(ii) greater than \$1,000 but not more than \$2,500,

“(iii) greater than \$2,500 but not more than \$5,000,

“(iv) greater than \$5,000 but not more than \$15,000,

“(v) greater than \$15,000 but not more than \$50,000,

“(vi) greater than \$50,000 but not more than \$100,000,

“(vii) greater than \$100,000 but not more than \$1,000,000,

“(viii) greater than \$1,000,000 but not more than \$5,000,000, or

“(ix) greater than \$5,000,000.

“(2) The name and address of each private foundation or eleemosynary institution, and of each business or professional corporation, firm, or enterprise in which the judge was an officer, director, proprietor, or partner during such period.

“(3) The identity and category of value (as set forth in subsection (b)) of each liability of \$10,000 or more owed by the judge or by the judge and the judge’s spouse jointly at any time during such period.

“(4) The source and value of all gifts in the aggregate amount or value of \$250 or more from any single source received by the judge during such period, except gifts from the judge’s spouse or any of the judge’s children or parents.

“(5) The identity of each trust in which the judge held a beneficial interest having a value of \$10,000 or more at any time during such period, and in the case of any trust in which the judge held any beneficial interest during such period, the identity, if known, of each interest in real or personal property in which the trust held a beneficial interest having a value of \$10,000 or more at any time during such period. If the judge cannot obtain the identity of the trust interest, the judge shall request the trustee to report that information to the Commission.

“(6) The identity and category of value (as set forth in subsection (b)) of each interest in real or personal property having a value of \$10,000 or more which the judge owned at any time during such period.

“(7) The amount or value and source of each honorarium of \$250 or more received by the judge and the judge’s spouse during such period.

“(8) The source and amount of all money, other than that received from the United States government, received in the form of an expense account or as reimbursement for expenditures from any source aggregating more than \$250 during such period.

“(9) The source and amount of all waivers or partial waivers of fees or charges accepted by the judge on behalf of the judge or the judge’s spouse, domestic partner, or guest during such period.

“(b) For purposes of paragraphs (3) and (6) of subsection (a), the categories of value set forth in this subsection are—

“(1) not more than \$15,000;

“(2) greater than \$15,000 but not more than \$50,000;

“(3) greater than \$50,000 but not more than \$100,000;

“(4) greater than \$100,000 but not more than \$250,000;

“(5) greater than \$250,000 but not more than \$500,000;

“(6) greater than \$500,000 but not more than \$1,000,000;

“(7) greater than \$1,000,000 but not more than \$5,000,000;

“(8) greater than \$5,000,000 but not more than \$25,000,000;

“(9) greater than \$25,000,000 but not more than \$50,000,000; and

“(10) greater than \$50,000,000.

“(c)(1) Reports filed pursuant to this section shall, upon written request, and notice to the reporting judge for purposes of making an application to the Commission for a redaction pursuant to paragraph (2), be made available for public inspection and copying within a reasonable time after filing and during the period they are kept by the Commission (in accordance with rules promulgated by the Commission), and shall be kept by the Commission for not less than three years.

“(2) This section does not require the public availability of reports filed by a judge if upon application by the reporting judge, a finding is made by the Commission that revealing personal and sensitive information

could endanger that judge or a family member of that judge, except that a report may be redacted pursuant to this paragraph only—

“(A) to the extent necessary to protect the individual who filed the report or a family member of that individual; and

“(B) for as long as the danger to such individual exists.

“(d) The intentional failure by a judge of a District of Columbia court to file a report required by this section, or the filing of a fraudulent report, shall constitute willful misconduct in office and shall be grounds for removal from office under section 11-1526(a)(2).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to reports filed under section 11-1530, D.C. Official Code, that cover periods beginning during or after 2016.

SEC. 3. AUTHORITY OF PROBATE DIVISION TO USE MAGISTRATE JUDGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 11-1732(j)(5), District of Columbia Official Code, is amended by striking “Family Divisions” and inserting “Probate Divisions, and the Family Court.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 11-1732(j)(4)(A), District of Columbia Official Code, is amended by striking “Family Division” and inserting “Family Court”.

SEC. 4. AUTHORITY OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS TO ACCEPT CERTAIN TYPES OF PAYMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 17 of title 11, District of Columbia Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 11-1748. Authority of courts to accept certain types of payments

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term ‘electronic funds transfer’—

“(1) means a transfer of funds, other than a transaction by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, that is initiated through an electronic terminal, telephone, or computer or magnetic tape for the purpose of ordering, instructing, or authorizing a financial institution to debit or credit an account; and

“(2) includes point of sale transfers, automated teller machine transfers, direct deposit or withdrawal of funds, transfers initiated by telephone, and transfers resulting from debit card transactions.

“(b) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS AND ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The District of Columbia courts may accept payment of fines, fees, escrow payments, restitution, bonds, and other payments to the courts by credit card or electronic funds transfer.

“(2) USE OF VENDORS AND THIRD PARTY PROVIDERS.—The Executive officer—

“(A) may contract with a bank or credit card vendor, or other third party provider, for purposes of accepting payments by credit card or electronic funds transfer; and

“(B) shall make every effort to find the lowest cost vendor for purposes of accepting such payments.

“(3) RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAYING FEES.—Under any contract entered into under paragraph (2), the person making the payment shall be responsible for covering any fee or charge associated or imposed with respect to the method of payment.

“(4) COMPLETION OF PAYMENT.—If a person elects to make a payment to the District of Columbia courts by a method authorized under paragraph (1), the payment shall not be deemed to be made until the courts receive the funds.

“(c) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT CHECKS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The District of Columbia courts may accept payment of fines, fees, escrow payments, restitution, bonds, and other payments to the courts by check.

“(2) USE OF CHECK GUARANTEE VENDOR.—The Executive Officer—

“(A) may contract with a check guarantee vendor for purposes of accepting payments by check; and

“(B) shall make every effort to find the lowest cost vendor for purposes of accepting such payments.”

“(3) RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAYING FEES.—Under any contract entered into under paragraph (2), the person making the payment by check shall be responsible for covering any fee or charge associated or imposed with respect to the method of payment.

“(d) LIABILITY FOR NON-PAYMENT.—If a check or other method of payment, including payment by credit card, debit card, or charge card, so received is not duly paid, or is paid and subsequently charged back to the District of Columbia courts, the person by whom such check or other method of payment has been tendered shall remain liable for the payment, to the same extent as if such check or other method of payment had not been tendered.”

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subchapter III of chapter 17 of title 11, District of Columbia Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“11-1748. Authority of courts to accept certain types of payments.”

SEC. 5. INCREASE IN MAXIMUM AMOUNT IN CONTROVERSY PERMITTED FOR CASES UNDER JURISDICTION OF SMALL CLAIMS AND CONCILIATION BRANCH OF SUPERIOR COURT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 11-1321, District of Columbia Official Code, is amended by striking “\$5,000” and inserting “\$10,000”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to any case filed in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO APPROVE COMPENSATION OF ATTORNEYS IN EXCESS OF MAXIMUM AMOUNT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) CRIMINAL DEFENSE APPOINTMENTS.—Section 11-2604(c), District of Columbia Official Code, is amended by striking the last sentence and inserting the following: “Each chief judge may delegate such approval authority to an active or senior judge in the court in which the chief judge sits.”

(2) CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT APPOINTMENTS.—Section 16-2326.01(f), District of Columbia Official Code, is amended—

(A) by striking “(f)(1)” and inserting “(f)”;

(B) by striking paragraph (2); and

(C) by adding at the end the following: “Each chief judge may delegate such approval authority to an active or senior judge in the court in which the chief judge sits.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to any case or proceeding initiated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 4419, the District of Columbia Judicial Financial Transparency Act, which was introduced by my colleague from the District of Columbia, Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON. H.R. 4419 would provide a more robust and open disclosure of judicial finances in the District.

Currently, District judges are required to meet disclosure requirements that are less rigorous than those mandated for Federal judges. H.R. 4419 will help to close this disclosure gap. This bill will require judges to disclose sources of income for themselves and their spouses. This increased disclosure will help to strengthen an important pillar of our judicial system: the public's trust in an impartial judicial system.

In order to ensure that those before the District's judicial system can be confident in its impartial nature, the bill also requires that the disclosures be made publicly available.

The bill will require that disclosure reports be made available to the public for 3 years after they have been filed. H.R. 4419 will ensure compliance by making a failure to file or filing a fraudulent report an offense that is punishable by removal from office. This legislation will help to protect the public's faith in the integrity and impartiality of the District's judicial branch.

H.R. 4419 is a good government bill, and I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

I thank the gentleman from Georgia for bringing this bill forward. I thank, especially, Chairman CHAFFETZ for his support in moving this bill through the Oversight and Government Reform Committee and now to the floor for consideration. I am also grateful to Ranking Member ELIJAH CUMMINGS for his vital assistance as this bill moves forward. I thank Senator JAMES LANKFORD, who once served with us on this committee and who introduced the companion bill in the Senate, which was already reported favorably by the Senate's Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs Committee in May of this year.

My bill, the District of Columbia Judicial Financial Transparency Act, as amended, will provide much-needed transparency to the District of Columbia's local courts by enhancing financial disclosure requirements for D.C. court judges to make them more similar to the disclosure requirements that are already in place for Article III Federal judges. District of Columbia judges are Article I Federal judges.

Although current law requires D.C. Superior Court and D.C. Court of Appeals judges to file annual financial reports, there was no requirement that all of this information be made public. For example, while judges are required to submit information about their in-

comes, investments, liabilities, and gifts—and we have no reason to believe that they have failed to do so—current law only makes public judges' connections to charities, private organizations, businesses, as well as honorariums that are more than \$300. My bill would make all of this information, except for the judges' personally identifiable information, available for public inspection.

This bill is particularly necessary because a 2014 survey by the Center for Public Integrity, which took a comprehensive look at each State's judicial financial disclosure rules, gave the District a failing grade. D.C. court judges already submit enough financial information to improve the District's standing. My bill would simply make it public.

Like Senator LANKFORD's bill, my bill also includes provisions that will give D.C. courts new authorities to improve their operations. These provisions would authorize magistrate judges to serve in the probate division, which would help address the increasing number of adult guardianship cases; allow the courts to accept payments by credit card and check—imagine how late we are in getting to that—which would reduce administrative costs and increase efficiency; increase the maximum amount in controversy for small claims from \$5,000 to \$10,000, which would be the first increase in 20 years, would ensure access to the courts for plaintiffs with limited means; and authorize the chief judges to delegate their authority to approve reimbursements to court-appointed attorneys.

□ 1500

Currently the chief judges must personally approve these reimbursements, which adds to their administrative workload and diverts attention and resources away from more critical issues facing our courts.

Congress has the jurisdiction over our court system because, as I have indicated, it has jurisdiction over all Article I courts and, therefore, the authority to make the necessary improvements.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4419, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS AND PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS ACT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5037) to authorize the establishment of a program of voluntary separation incentive payments for nonjudicial employees of the District of Columbia courts and employees of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5037

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “District of Columbia Courts and Public Defender Service Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments Act”.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR PROGRAM OF VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 17 of title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, is amended by inserting after section 11-1726 the following new section:

“§ 11-1726A. Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments

“The Joint Committee on Judicial Administration may, by regulation, establish a program substantially similar to the program established under subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 5, United States Code, for nonjudicial employees of the District of Columbia [courts] courts, except that the maximum amount of the payment made under the program to any individual may not exceed the amount referred to in section 3523(b)(3)(B) of title 5, United States Code.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of chapter 17 of title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 11-1726 the following new item:

“11-1726A. Voluntary separation incentive payments.”.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR PROGRAM OF VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE.

Section 305 of the District of Columbia Court Reform and Criminal Procedure Act of 1970 (sec. 2-1605, D.C. Official Code) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) The Director may establish a program substantially similar to the program established under subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 5, United States Code, for employees of the [Service] Service, except that the maximum amount of the payment made under the program to any individual may not exceed the amount referred to in section 3523(b)(3)(B) of title 5, United States Code.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all

Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 5037, the District of Columbia Courts and Public Defender Service Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments Act, introduced by my colleague from the District of Columbia, Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON.

Voluntary separation incentive payments provide agencies an effective and efficient tool for reducing the size of their workforce, cutting costs in the process.

As stewards of taxpayers' dollars, it is important that every agency ensure it is staffed only to the extent that their work requires. H.R. 5037 will provide authority for the District of Columbia to offer buyouts for employees of the D.C. courts and public defenders.

This legislation would authorize the District to set up a substantially similar system to that already used by Federal agencies. Utilizing a voluntary separation incentive payment program will assist the D.C. court and public defender systems in reducing cost.

When compared to other force reduction efforts, the Government Accountability Office found voluntary separation incentive payments result in greater cost reductions and savings. The GAO review found that voluntary separation payments generate greater savings than direct workforce reductions because the payment encourages higher paid staff to depart.

H.R. 5037 will allow the District to decrease the cost and increase the efficiency of administering the judicial system.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5037.

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

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

Again, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) and especially Chairman CHAFFETZ and Ranking Member CUMMINGS for working together and with me to move this bill to the floor today.

This bill, the District of Columbia Courts and Public Defender Service Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments Act, as amended, would make a minor change to the authorities of the District of Columbia courts and the Public Defender Service by placing these entities in the same position as their Federal counterparts for more effective management and operation.

The bill would give the D.C. courts and PDS the same authority Federal agencies and Federal courts already have to offer voluntary separation incentive payments, or buyouts, to their

employees. The fiscal year 2016 omnibus bill already gives D.C. courts buyout authority. But my bill would make this authorization permanent—so I don't have to keep coming back to this floor on such a minor administrative matter—and it would extend it to PDS, in addition to the courts. Buyouts would allow the D.C. courts and PDS to respond to their future administrative and budget needs and would provide the flexibility to extend buyout offers to their employees.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office has determined that voluntary separation incentive payments may be made only where statutorily authorized. While Federal agencies and Federal courts have the statutory authority to offer buyouts, PDS and the D.C. courts have not been expressly permitted to permanently provide them to their employees. PDS and the D.C. courts seek the same buyout authority in order to manage their workforce as budget conditions and needs change.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CURBELO of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5037, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

MODERNIZING GOVERNMENT TRAVEL ACT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5625) to provide for reimbursement for the use of modern travel services by Federal employees traveling on official Government business, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5625

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Modernizing Government Travel Act”.

SEC. 2. FEDERAL EMPLOYEE REIMBURSEMENT FOR USE OF MODERN TRAVEL SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services shall prescribe regulations under section 5707 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for the reimbursement for the use of a transportation network company or innovative mobility technology company by any Federal employee traveling on official business

under subchapter I of chapter 57 of such title, except that the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall prescribe such regulations with respect to employees of the judicial branch of the Government.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) INNOVATIVE MOBILITY TECHNOLOGY COMPANY.—The term “innovative mobility technology company” means an organization, including a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, sole proprietorship, or any other entity, that applies technology to expand and enhance available transportation choices, better manage demand for transportation services, and provide alternatives to driving alone.

(2) TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY.—The term “transportation network company” means a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other entity, that uses a digital network to connect riders to drivers affiliated with the entity in order for a driver to provide transportation services to a rider.

SEC. 3. REPORT ON TRANSPORTATION COSTS.

Section 5707(c) of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(c)(1) Not later than November 31 of each year, the head of each agency shall submit to the Administrator of the General Services, in a format prescribed by the Administrator and approved by the Director the Office of Management and Budget—

“(A) data on total agency payments for such items as travel and transportation of people, average costs and durations of trips, and purposes of official travel;

“(B) data on estimated total agency payments for employee relocation; and

“(C) an analysis of the total costs of transportation service by type, and the total number of trips utilizing each transportation type for purposes of official travel.

“(2) The Administrator of the General Services shall make the data submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) publically available upon receipt.

“(3) Not later than January 31 of each year, the Administrator of the General Services shall submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate—

“(A) an analysis of the data submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) for the agencies listed in section 901(b) of title 31 and a survey of such data for each other agency; and

“(B) a description of any new regulations promulgated or changes to existing regulations authorized under this section.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 5625, the Modernizing Government Travel Act, introduced by Congressman SETH MOULTON of Massachusetts.

Federal employees' options for transportation on official travel are limited. In the modern shared economy, there are many new methods of transportation that can help the Federal Government reduce the costs associated with travel by Federal employees.

In order for the government to be good stewards of taxpayer funds, it is important that it embrace innovation and the efficiencies that come with it. The Modernizing Government Travel Act will help to ensure that as new transportation services emerge, Federal employees can take advantage of the efficiencies that these services bring.

This bill would provide a statutory framework for authority for employees on official business to travel using transportation network company services. By opening up a new market for transportation services, H.R. 5625 will also help to spur new innovations, which will bring potentially greater cost savings.

Embracing innovation is only one piece of ensuring taxpayer dollars are well spent. We must also ensure that there is accountability for travel expenses. H.R. 5625 will mandate that agencies report their travel costs to the General Services Administration. H.R. 5625 will also require that GSA publish that data for the American people to review. GSA will be required to provide a report on agency official travel costs to Congress in order to better inform future transportation policy decisions.

I urge my colleagues to support this good government bill and help promote innovation in the transportation sector by supporting H.R. 5625.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5625, the Modernizing Government Travel Act, as amended. I thank Representative MOULTON and Representative HURD for their work on this measure in particular.

H.R. 5625 would expand the transportation options for Federal employees on official government travel. Specifically, the legislation would require the General Services Administration to issue regulations to allow Federal employees to be reimbursed for the use of ridesharing services, such as Uber and Lyft. The bill also would allow for the use of future technologies not yet known or available to be covered as reimbursable travel expenses.

In addition, Federal agencies would be required to submit annually to GSA detailed information on their travel costs, including breakdowns of costs by transportation type. GSA would be required to submit annual reports to Congress containing an analysis or survey of agencies' travel costs, as well as implementation of the regulations.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5625.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOULTON), who is the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5625, the Modernizing Government Travel Act. While we may not agree on all things, I think there is consensus on both sides of the aisle that the Federal Government has failed to keep pace with the technological advances and innovation that have come to define the 21st century economy. Despite the emergence of new technologies designed to improve the way we travel, today some Federal employees are unable to be reimbursed for using more cost-effective, innovative modes of transportation when traveling on official business.

Innovative ridesharing services supported by mobile apps have dramatically changed how we get from one place to another. Now, with just a few taps on a smartphone, we can access a variety of new transportation options like rideshare and bikeshare that complement public transit, take more cars off our congested roads, and reduce fuel emissions.

While the Government Services Administration allows agencies to authorize the use of these transportation options by Federal employees, it has not, nor is it required by law, to issue comprehensive guidance across the Federal Government. Consequently, agencies and their employees may be unaware that they have the transportation options available to them for reimbursement.

H.R. 5625 would require the General Services Administration to implement regulations to allow Federal employees to use transportation options like rideshare and bikeshare for official travel. The GSA administrator would be required to submit annual reports to Congress on the implementation of these regulations and the resulting amount of government savings.

I want to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD) for working with me on this legislation, as well as Representatives SWALWELL, ISSA, MEADOWS, and BUSTOS for their support. This is truly a bipartisan effort that will increase the Federal Government's engagement in the sharing economy while saving taxpayer dollars.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

I just thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOULTON) again for this bill. I note that this is a truly bipartisan bill. I wish we had more like them coming on this floor. It does show that bipartisanship still lives. It is not dead in the House of Representatives. It certainly was revived with this bill.

□ 1515

This is a very good bill for reviving it. Look what it does. It keeps up with rapidly changing technology, and what is particularly gratifying about the bill is it says you don't have to come back to the floor every time when technology changes, you can reimburse as technology changes.

This will encourage Federal employees to look for the fastest, cheapest way to get around the District of Columbia and the region. Remember, these employees are all over the United States, but they are particularly to be found in crowded regions like the national capital area region. And I note that in this region Metro is being fixed. It goes to show that we need all the diversity and means of travel we can find, and I applaud this bill.

Mr. Speaker, having no further speakers, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5625, the Modernizing Government Travel Act.

This bill is an important step forward in bringing government employees and federal regulations into the 21st century. Currently, each agency has different policies on what transportation options are available to federal employees for reimbursement. Thus, depending on the agency, some federal employees are unable to be reimbursed for official travel if they use ride-sharing or non-traditional forms of transportation, such as bikeshare. Yet many of these platforms provide cost-effective ways for our government employees to travel quickly and efficiently.

H.R. 5625 would address this problem by requiring the General Services Administration (GSA) to implement regulations to allow all federal employees to be reimbursed for these modes of travel. I was privileged to help in the drafting of H.R. 5625, and I want to thank the sponsor, Congressman SETH MOULTON, for introducing the bill and working diligently to help move it to the Floor.

Last year, Congressman DARRELL ISSA and I co-founded the bipartisan Congressional Sharing Economy Caucus. We started this caucus in order to bring government attention to the benefits of the sharing economy and to find ways for the federal government to support it, a growing sector of our economy. The bill in front of us helps to encourage the use of sharing economy technology, therefore saving taxpayers money, and fits perfectly within the goals of the Sharing Economy Caucus.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5625 today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5625, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1550), to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish entities tasked with improving program and project management in certain Federal agencies, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1550

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Program Management Improvement Accountability Act".

SEC. 2. PROJECT MANAGEMENT.

(a) DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT.—

(1) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS.—Section 503 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT.—

"(1) REQUIREMENT.—Subject to the direction and approval of the Director, the Deputy Director for Management or a designee shall—

"(A) adopt governmentwide standards, policies, and guidelines for program and project management for executive agencies;

"(B) oversee implementation of program and project management for the standards, policies, and guidelines established under subparagraph (A);

"(C) chair the Program Management Policy Council established under section 1126(b);

"(D) establish standards and policies for executive agencies, consistent with widely accepted standards for program and project management planning and delivery;

"(E) engage with the private sector to identify best practices in program and project management that would improve Federal program and project management;

"(F) conduct portfolio reviews to address programs identified as high risk by the Government Accountability Office;

"(G) not less than annually, conduct portfolio reviews of agency programs in coordination with Project Management Improvement Officers designated under section 1126(a)(1) to assess the quality and effectiveness of program management; and

"(H) establish a 5-year strategic plan for program and project management.

"(2) APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the Department of Defense to the extent that the provisions of that paragraph are substantially similar to or duplicative of—

"(A) the provisions of chapter 87 of title 10; or

"(B) policy, guidance, or instruction of the Department related to program management."

(2) DEADLINE FOR STANDARDS, POLICIES, AND GUIDELINES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget shall issue the standards, policies, and guidelines required under section 503(c) of title 31, United States Code, as added by paragraph (1).

(3) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the standards, poli-

cies, and guidelines are issued under paragraph (2), the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Program Management Policy Council established under section 1126(b) of title 31, United States Code, as added by subsection (b)(1), and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall issue any regulations as are necessary to implement the requirements of section 503(c) of title 31, United States Code, as added by paragraph (1).

(b) PROGRAM MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT OFFICERS AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT POLICY COUNCIL.—

(1) AMENDMENT.—Chapter 11 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 1126. Program management improvement officers and program management policy council

"(a) PROGRAM MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT OFFICERS.—

"(1) DESIGNATION.—The head of each agency described in section 901(b) shall designate a senior executive of the agency as the Program Management Improvement Officer of the agency.

"(2) FUNCTIONS.—The Program Management Improvement Officer of an agency designated under paragraph (1) shall—

"(A) implement program management policies established by the agency under section 503(c); and

"(B) develop a strategy for enhancing the role of program managers within the agency that includes the following:

"(i) Enhanced training and educational opportunities for program managers that shall include—

"(I) training in the relevant competencies encompassed with program and project manager within the private sector for program managers; and

"(II) training that emphasizes cost containment for large projects and programs.

"(ii) Mentoring of current and future program managers by experienced senior executives and program managers within the agency.

"(iii) Improved career paths and career opportunities for program managers.

"(iv) A plan to encourage the recruitment and retention of highly qualified individuals to serve as program managers.

"(v) Improved means of collecting and disseminating best practices and lessons learned to enhance program management across the agency.

"(vi) Common templates and tools to support improved data gathering and analysis for program management and oversight purposes.

"(3) APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—This subsection shall not apply to the Department of Defense to the extent that the provisions of this subsection are substantially similar to or duplicative of the provisions of chapter 87 of title 10. For purposes of paragraph (1), the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (or a designee of the Under Secretary) shall be considered the Program Management Improvement Officer.

"(b) PROGRAM MANAGEMENT POLICY COUNCIL.—

"(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Office of Management and Budget a council to be known as the 'Program Management Policy Council' (in this subsection referred to as the 'Council').

"(2) PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS.—The Council shall act as the principal interagency forum for improving agency practices related to program and project management. The Council shall—

“(A) advise and assist the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget;

“(B) review programs identified as high risk by the General Accountability Office and make recommendations for actions to be taken by the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget or a designee;

“(C) discuss topics of importance to the workforce, including—

“(i) career development and workforce development needs;

“(ii) policy to support continuous improvement in program and project management; and

“(iii) major challenges across agencies in managing programs;

“(D) advise on the development and applicability of standards governmentwide for program management transparency; and

“(E) review the information published on the website of the Office of Management and Budget pursuant to section 1122.

“(3) MEMBERSHIP.—

“(A) COMPOSITION.—The Council shall be composed of the following members:

“(i) Five members from the Office of Management and Budget as follows:

“(I) The Deputy Director for Management.

“(II) The Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government.

“(III) The Administrator of Federal Procurement Policy.

“(IV) The Controller of the Office of Federal Financial Management.

“(V) The Director of the Office of Performance and Personnel Management.

“(ii) The Program Management Improvement Officer from each agency described in section 901(b).

“(iii) Any other full-time or permanent part-time officer or employee of the Federal Government or member of the Armed Forces designated by the Chairperson.

“(B) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget shall be the Chairperson of the Council. A Vice Chairperson shall be elected by the members and shall serve a term of not more than 1 year.

“(ii) DUTIES.—The Chairperson shall preside at the meetings of the Council, determine the agenda of the Council, direct the work of the Council, and establish and direct subgroups of the Council as appropriate.

“(4) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet not less than twice per fiscal year and may meet at the call of the Chairperson or a majority of the members of the Council.

“(5) SUPPORT.—The head of each agency with a Project Management Improvement Officer serving on the Council shall provide administrative support to the Council, as appropriate, at the request of the Chairperson.”

(2) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with each Program Management Improvement Officer designated under section 1126(a)(1) of title 31, United States Code, shall submit to Congress a report containing the strategy developed under section 1126(a)(2)(B) of such title, as added by paragraph (1).

(c) PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL STANDARDS.—

(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “agency” means each agency described in section 901(b) of title 31, United States Code, other than the Department of Defense.

(2) REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the standards, policies, and guidelines are issued under section 503(c) of title 31, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1), the Di-

rector of the Office of Personnel Management, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall issue regulations that—

(A) identify key skills and competencies needed for a program and project manager in an agency;

(B) establish a new job series, or update and improve an existing job series, for program and project management within an agency; and

(C) establish a new career path for program and project managers within an agency.

(d) GAO REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF POLICIES ON PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Government Accountability Office shall issue, in conjunction with the High Risk list of the Government Accountability Office, a report examining the effectiveness of the following on improving Federal program and project management:

(1) The standards, policies, and guidelines for program and project management issued under section 503(c) of title 31, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1).

(2) The 5-year strategic plan established under section 503(c)(1)(H) of title 31, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1).

(3) Program Management Improvement Officers designated under section 1126(a)(1) of title 31, United States Code, as added by subsection (b)(1).

(4) The Program Management Policy Council established under section 1126(b)(1) of title 31, United States Code, as added by subsection (b)(1).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1550, the Program Management Improvement Accountability Act, introduced by Senator JONI ERNST of Iowa. Program and project management are the guide rails that are necessary to ensure the Federal Government actually works.

Effective program and project managers are both the first line of defense against waste and fraud throughout the Federal Government and the best positioned employees to increase government efficiency.

With Federal spending out of control, we need the best program and project managers we can get to combat waste, fraud, and inefficiency. According to CBO, the Federal Government will spend more than \$4 trillion in fiscal year 2017, but better management alone could prove a significant effect on our long-term spending.

A 2013 Accenture study found that a 1 percent increase in efficiency could save the Federal Government nearly \$1 trillion by 2025.

S. 1550 gives our Federal professionals the support and leadership they need to build a strong foundation of efficiency for Federal programs and projects. The bill addresses challenges these professionals face to ensure that management professionals in our Federal workforce have the guidance, support, and professional standards necessary to improve efficiency.

According to a report by the National Academy of Public Administration, there are five significant challenges to improving program management capabilities in the Federal Government: laws do not holistically address challenges of program management; program management is not recognized as an important discipline for improving performance and results; agency executives and stakeholders do not understand their roles and responsibilities; training and development of program managers lack consistency across the Federal Government; and program managers lack a professional community to provide support and voice concerns about program management development.

S. 1550 addresses these challenges by: requiring OMB's Deputy Director of Management to adopt and oversee government-wide standards that are consistent with private sector best practices; requiring agencies to designate a senior executive to serve as a program management improvement officer, an individual who will then be responsible for implementing standards and policies set by OMB at their agency; and establishing a Program Management Policy Council to discuss topics of importance to program and project managers and make recommendations to resolve inefficiencies in programs identified as high risk by the Government Accountability Office.

Providing guidance and leadership to our Federal employees responsible for trillions of dollars in spending will go a long way toward meeting a simple goal like increasing efficiency by just 1 percent. I urge my colleagues to support this cost-saving, bipartisan bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I support this bipartisan legislation to improve program management practices in Federal agencies, and I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), my good friend, and of course the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) for their bipartisan hard work on this bill.

The bill would require the development of standard policies and guidelines across the Federal Government for program management. It would also establish an interagency Program Management Policy Council to develop best practices and focus on improving the management of Federal programs.

The bill would, in addition, require the Office of Personnel Management to establish a new career path for program and project management and to identify key skills and competencies for such jobs. The Federal Government is often called upon to manage large, complex new programs and initiatives and needs a cadre of managers capable of guiding this work.

S. 1550, as amended, is a good, bipartisan measure that would improve the management of the Federal Government, and I urge its adoption.

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), my good friend and a sponsor of this bill.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), my good friends, for their leadership in managing today.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, in strong support of this bill, which will make fundamental changes to project and program management practices and standards for the Federal Government.

The bill's cosponsor, Representative TODD YOUNG, and I currently serve as co-chairs of the Government Efficiency Caucus, which to some may seem like an oxymoron. In our capacity as co-chairs, Representative YOUNG and I worked together on a bipartisan basis to develop the Program Management Improvement and Accountability Act.

After taking input from many stakeholders, including from agency management and private sector partners, regarding the root causes of poor project performance, we identified serious deficiencies in program and project management competencies across the entire Federal Government.

As ranking member of the Subcommittee on Government Operations, it is deeply troubling to me that so many Federal projects and programs find themselves substantially over budget or significantly behind schedule. These are all symptoms of a lack of institutional focus and attention to the mechanics of project management.

This bill strengthens project management policy throughout the Federal Government by requiring consistent project standards and guidelines for program management, demanding accountability at OMB and in Federal agencies to capture and implement lessons learned, and requiring a clear identification of skills and competencies necessary for effective program management professionals.

I have the honor of representing more than 13,000 project managers, Federal project managers, and the lack of requirements for the position is not acceptable. The job description for an important position where billions of dollars are being spent should be clearly

defined, and this legislation instructs OPM, the Office of Personnel Management, to develop a job classification and career path for these professionals.

I am proud to have worked with Congressman YOUNG and the Government Efficiency Caucus on a bipartisan basis. We have the support of non-partisan good government groups, including the Project Management Institute and the National Academy of Public Administration behind this bill.

As a result, the PMIAA passed through our committee, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, without objection, and passed the Senate unanimously. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation that I think will lead to significant efficiencies in the Federal Government and ultimately benefit the American taxpayer.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bill. I thank my colleague for his work on this bill, my good friend from Virginia.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1550, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GAO MANDATES REVISION ACT OF 2016

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5687) to eliminate or modify certain mandates of the Government Accountability Office.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5687

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "GAO Mandates Revision Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) SINGLE AUDIT ACT MONITORING RESPONSIBILITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking section 7506; and

(B) by redesignating section 7507 as section 7506.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking the items relating to sections 7506 and 7507 and inserting the following:

"7506. Effective date."

(b) REVIEW OF MEDIGAP PREMIUM LEVELS.—Section 111(c) of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 (Appendix F; 114 Stat. 2763A-473), as enacted into law by section 1(a)(6) of Public Law 106-554, is repealed.

(c) REPORT ON DISPUTE RESOLUTION PILOT PROGRAM.—Section 1105 of the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013 (42 U.S.C. 5189a note) is amended by striking subsection (d).

(d) BIENNIAL SURVEY REGARDING TRANSPORTATION INTELLIGENCE REPORTS.—Section 114(u) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking "subsection (t)" and inserting "subsection (s)(4)(E)";

(2) by striking paragraph (7); and

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (8) and (9) as paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively.

SEC. 3. REPORTS MODIFIED.

(a) OVERSIGHT AND AUDITS UNDER THE EMERGENCY ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ACT OF 2008.—Section 116(a)(3) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (12 U.S.C. 5226(a)(3)) is amended by striking "regularly and no less frequently than once every 60 days," and inserting "annually".

(b) REPORTS ON CONFLICT MINERALS.—Section 1502(d) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 78m note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "until the termination of the disclosure requirements under section 13(p) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934" and inserting "through 2020, in 2022, and in 2024"; and

(2) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting "through 2020, in 2022, and in 2024" after "annually thereafter".

(c) UPDATE ON ACTIONS TAKEN BY SECRETARY OF HHS TO IMPLEMENT GAO RECOMMENDATION.—Section 632(d) of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-240; 126 Stat. 2354) is amended in the first sentence by striking "December 31, 2015" and inserting "December 31, 2023".

(d) REVIEW PANEL.—Section 399V-4(d)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-15) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking "or an individual within the Government Accountability Office designated by the Comptroller General, shall" and inserting "shall designate a member of the review panel to"; and

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking "Comptroller General" and inserting "Secretary".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 5687, the GAO Mandates Revision

Act of 2016. We have a unique opportunity today to help a critical congressional ally, the Government Accountability Office.

GAO's reporting helps ensure that Federal funds are efficiently and effectively spent and that our Federal programs work as intended for the American people. For example, the GAO has created over \$600 billion in financial benefits to the Federal Government since fiscal year 2003. The implementation of GAO's recommendations has led to over 16,000 program and operational improvements across the Federal Government.

Congress relies heavily on GAO, and, therefore, it is natural that committees frequently pass bills to require the GAO to produce regular reporting. However, Congress must also periodically review these requirements to ensure that we are not burdening GAO with required reporting that is no longer necessary.

The bill before us does just that by repealing eight mandated reviews that are outdated or unnecessary. Elimination of these reports will allow the GAO to free up resources and better focus on Congress' highest priorities. All reports being repealed by this legislation have been agreed upon on a bipartisan, bicameral basis.

I want to thank my colleagues throughout the House and Senate who have taken part in this process. We will be back in the 115th Congress with a similar review, and I thank you in advance for your help again.

In summary, the bill before us today will allow the GAO to better respond to more time-sensitive congressional requests. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5687.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this is a simple, commonsense bill that would eliminate or modify certain outdated GAO reports currently mandated by statute. The bill would allow GAO to more effectively use its resources and assist Congress more effectively. I appreciate the bipartisan and bicameral approach taken on this bill.

□ 1530

Majority and minority staff of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee worked to ensure that the committee that received the reports affected by the bill were all comfortable with the changes being made.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5687.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MARINE LANCE CORPORAL SQUIRE "SKIP" WELLS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5612) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2886 Sandy Plains Road in Marietta, Georgia, as the "Marine Lance Corporal Squire 'Skip' Wells Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5612

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MARINE LANCE CORPORAL SQUIRE "SKIP" WELLS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2886 Sandy Plains Road in Marietta, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "Marine Lance Corporal Squire 'Skip' Wells Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Marine Lance Corporal Squire 'Skip' Wells Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5612, introduced by Representative TOM PRICE of Georgia, to designate a post office located in Marietta, Georgia, as the Marine Lance Corporal Squire "Skip" Wells Post Office Building.

Lance Corporal Wells enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 2014 after 2 years in college. On July 16, 2015, he was completing training at the Naval and Marine Reserve Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee, when a gunman opened fire.

Lance Corporal Wells heroically lost his life warning fellow marines about the attack. I look forward to learning more about Lance Corporal Wells from

the sponsor of the bill, Representative PRICE. For now, I urge Members to support the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 5612, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2886 Sandy Plains Road in Marietta, Georgia, as the Marine Lance Corporal Squire "Skip" Wells Post Office Building.

A native of Marietta, Georgia, Skip Wells enlisted in the Marine Corps in 2014 and was assigned to the 14th Marine Regiment in Tennessee, where he served as a field artillery commander.

On July 16, 2015, while serving a voluntary 2-week assignment at the U.S. Naval and Marine Reserve Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee, Lance Corporal Wells was tragically killed when a lone gunman opened fire on the center. Lance Corporal Wells was posthumously awarded a Purple Heart.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to honor the bravery, service, and sacrifice of Lance Corporal Skip Wells. I urge support for this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. TOM PRICE), my good friend, a great leader, and the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a fallen hero from Georgia's Sixth Congressional District, Marine Lance Corporal Squire Wells from Marietta, Georgia.

Known by his friends and family as Skip, Lance Corporal Wells was one of five servicemembers tragically murdered in a terrorist attack at the Naval and Marine Reserve Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee, on July 16, 2015.

Skip Wells graduated from Sprayberry High School in Cobb County in 2012. In high school, he played clarinet in the marching band, was active in Junior ROTC, and was regarded by his classmates as a "protector"—someone who "looked at everyone with love" and would "go anywhere to protect anybody."

After graduation, he studied history at Georgia Southern University before going on to enlist in the Marine Corps in 2014. Mr. Speaker, his family had a long tradition of military service, and Skip Wells felt a strong calling to defend his country.

While in the Marines, Skip Wells distinguished himself as a proud field artillery cannoneer. His desire to put the well-being of his fellow marines and the mission before that of his own was famous among fellow servicemembers. Once, while on a training exercise, a sledge hammer badly damaged his hand while attempting to drive a stake into the ground. Seeing the damage to his hand, his commanding officer ordered Wells to seek immediate medical attention for his injuries, but Lance Corporal Wells refused. He said:

First Sergeant, I will not leave my gun. I'll refuse medical treatment, but I am not leaving my position.

Such was his resolve to serve and his commitment to his fellow marines, that he would not abandon them, not even during a training exercise. Mr. Speaker, this was one remarkable man.

On July 16, 2015, Skip Wells was completing 2 weeks of training at the Naval and Marine Reserve Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee, when a terrorist opened fire on the facility. Disregarding his own safety, Skip Wells was last seen running to warn colleagues in the motor pool of the attack. He was 21 years old at the time of his death.

Mr. Speaker, the valor of this young man's action and the tragedy surrounding the taking of his life at the hands of a terrorist moved people in my district deeply. At a memorial service that was held at his high school, more than 4,000 mourners filled the stadium to remember Skip Wells. Thousands more stood around the periphery of the field.

Skip Wells was a proud marine and a true hero. He made the ultimate sacrifice and selflessly gave his life to protect his fellow servicemembers and to protect our Nation. There is nothing we could do that would be too much to honor this young hero's memory.

Thus, I urge the House to pass this legislation to designate this facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2886 Sandy Plains Road in Marietta, Georgia, the post office closest to his high school, Sprayberry High School, as the Marine Lance Corporal Squire "Skip" Wells Post Office Building.

It is my hope, Mr. Speaker, that, for generations to come, young children and others at the post office will see that post office's name and ask: Who is Skip Wells? Mr. Speaker, that answer will be very, very clear. He was a valiant defender, a hero, and a patriot. He was truly the very best of us.

To his mom, Cathy, and his family, we extend our deepest appreciation for his service and his sacrifice. May God bless his memory, the Wells family, and the United States of America.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN), from the State where this tragedy occurred.

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation that my dear friend and colleague, Dr. PRICE, has sponsored in this House.

On that fateful day, July 16, 2015, five great American heroes lost their lives: Gunnery Sergeant Thomas Sullivan, Staff Sergeant David Wyatt, Sergeant Carson Holmquist, Petty Officer Second Class Randall Smith, and, yes, another great hero, Lance Corporal Skip Wells.

I am honored to stand in the well of this House, as I was when I came here after those attacks, and I want all Americans to know and understand the

love and support that not only Chattanooga and the great State of Tennessee—my State—showed, but the great support shown in the people's House for those five fallen heroes.

Lance Corporal Skip Wells truly was and is an American hero. Think about that. He was a marine serving at the Naval and Marine Reserve Center. I had been there prior to these attacks. I have been there several times after these attacks. As a matter of fact, the Commandant of the great United States Marine Corps has visited there. General Miller has actually been to where we sustained this great loss of life. Those terrorist attacks that day on American soil in Chattanooga, Tennessee, took these five lives.

Skip Wells stood proud as a marine and defended our great Nation that day. And yes, all five of these great service people were awarded the Purple Heart posthumously, as they should have been. But now, in some great way that we can, with Dr. PRICE's bill, we honor this great American marine and great American hero who gave the ultimate sacrifice for us so that we can serve in this House and so that we can remain the freest, greatest Nation that the world has ever seen.

We will honor him and, hopefully, pass this bill on the naming of a post office. Yes, Dr. PRICE is right: this is just a small token of the debt that Chattanooga, Tennessee, and America, will always owe to Lance Corporal Squire "Skip" Wells.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be a cosponsor of this bill. I thank Dr. PRICE and my friend from Tennessee as well. At this time, I urge adoption of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5612.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RICHARD ALLEN CABLE POST OFFICE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4887) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 23323 Shelby Road in Shelby, Indiana, as the "Richard Allen Cable Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4887

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RICHARD ALLEN CABLE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 23323

Shelby Road in Shelby, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the "Richard Allen Cable Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Richard Allen Cable Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4887, introduced by Representative PETER VISCLOSKEY, to designate a post office located in Shelby, Indiana, as the Richard Allen Cable Post Office.

Richard Cable served the United States gallantly in Vietnam and was awarded a Purple Heart and a Silver Star. He gave his life protecting fellow soldiers from deadly crossfire from insurgents.

I look forward to learning more about Mr. Cable from the sponsor of the bill, Representative VISCLOSKEY. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4887.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 4887, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 23323 Shelby Road in Shelby, Indiana, as the Richard Allen Cable Post Office.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY), the author of the bill.

□ 1545

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I thank the gentleman from Georgia, as well as the gentlewoman, for managing this legislation. I also do want to thank the chairs of the full committee and subcommittee, as well as the ranking members, for allowing this legislation to be brought up today.

Mr. Speaker, I do wish to remember United States Army Specialist Richard "Dickie" Allen Cable for his bravery and willingness to defend his country.

Specialist Cable was killed in action while defending his comrades during Operation Billings in Vietnam on June 14, 1967. It is my honor to sponsor H.R.

4887, a bill to name the post office in Shelby, Indiana, after Specialist Cable, a hero who gave his life in service of his Nation.

Dickie is survived by his mother, Grace, and a close-knit community of neighbors and friends who continue to honor his memory today through their persistent advocacy of this dedication.

In particular, I would like to thank Mr. Richard Boetler, who first approached my office about dedicating the Shelby Post Office to Dickie's memory and organized a petition signed by over 700 Shelby residents to advocate for this legislation.

Additionally, I want to thank each of my colleagues in the Indiana delegation for cosponsoring this legislation. Finally, I want to thank local elected officials for their advocacy, including Indiana State Senator Rick Niemeyer, Indiana State Representative Michael Aylesworth, Cedar Creek Township Trustee Alice Dahl, Lake County Councilman Eldon Strong and, finally, Lake County Commissioner Gerry Scheub.

I ask that my colleagues support H.R. 4887.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, we certainly should pass this bill to remember the incredible courage and selflessness displayed by Specialist Dickie Cable as he put the lives of others before his own. I strongly support this bill. I urge passage of H.R. 4887.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4887.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEONARD MONTALTO POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5150) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3031 Veterans Road West in Staten Island, New York, as the "Leonard Montalto Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5150

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LEONARD MONTALTO POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3031 Veterans Road West in Staten Island, New

York, shall be known and designated as the "Leonard Montalto Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Leonard Montalto Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 5150, introduced by Representative DANIEL DONOVAN, to designate the post office located in Staten Island, New York, as the Leonard Montalto Post Office Building.

Leonard Montalto worked for the U.S. Postal Service in Staten Island, the community in which he grew up. Lenny, as he was known, tragically died during Hurricane Sandy when his home was flooded.

I look forward to learning more about Mr. Montalto from the sponsor of the bill, Representative DONOVAN. I urge Members to support the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 5150, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3031 Veterans Road West in Staten Island, New York, as the Leonard Montalto Post Office Building.

Leonard Montalto served with the United States Postal Service for 31 years. He worked as a clerk in the Tottenville, New York, mail processing station, and also served as the secretary-treasurer of his local American Postal Workers Union.

A dedicated father of three daughters, Lenny, as he was called, enjoyed spending his free time coaching his daughters' travel soccer teams, hosting family gatherings, and playing his guitar.

Lenny tragically passed away during Hurricane Sandy when a storm surge flooded his home, and he was unable to escape to higher ground.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to commemorate Leonard Montalto's dedication to the Postal Service and the positive impact he had on so many

members of his community. I urge the passage of H.R. 5150.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a local postal employee from the 11th Congressional District, Mr. Leonard Montalto.

Lenny, as his friends called him, was a lifelong resident of Staten Island. He was a loving father and a dedicated public servant. He worked for 28 years as a clerk at the mail processing station in the Tottenville section of Staten Island.

H.R. 5150 renames that postal facility after Leonard Montalto, who tragically passed away during Superstorm Sandy. Lenny was at his family's home in Oakwood Beach during Superstorm Sandy. At the height of the storm, his basement began to flood rapidly. He became trapped inside just hours after warning his daughter to evacuate. Superstorm Sandy, sadly, took Lenny, an honest and hardworking family man.

Earlier this year, my office reached out to one of Lenny's daughters, Angela, about renaming the postal facility in her father's honor, an idea first offered by my predecessor, former Congressman Michael Grimm.

I want to thank all three of Lenny's daughters, Angela, Nicole, and Ashley, for helping me advocate for this bill's passage. I also want to thank Chairman CHAFFETZ, Ranking Member CUMMINGS, and the entire Oversight and Government Reform Committee for passing H.R. 5150, as well as the entire New York delegation for their strong support of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, today we remember Leonard Montalto and all the men and women who tragically lost their lives during Superstorm Sandy. I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 5150.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his work on this bill, and I urge adoption of it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5150.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ARMY FIRST LIEUTENANT DONALD C. CARWILE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5309) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 McElroy

Drive in Oxford, Mississippi, as the "Army First Lieutenant Donald C. Carwile Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5309

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ARMY FIRST LIEUTENANT DONALD C. CARWILE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 McElroy Drive in Oxford, Mississippi, shall be known and designated as the "Army First Lieutenant Donald C. Carwile Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Army First Lieutenant Donald C. Carwile Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 5309, introduced by Representative TRENT KELLY, to designate a post office located in Oxford, Mississippi, as the Army First Lieutenant Donald C. Carwile Post Office Building.

First Lieutenant Carwile dedicated his life to serving the people of Mississippi and the United States. He began a career in law enforcement in Batesville and Oxford, Mississippi, before joining the U.S. Army and deploying to Afghanistan. He was killed when his vehicle struck an IED during a combat mission.

I look forward to learning more about First Lieutenant Carwile from the sponsor of the bill, Representative KELLY of Mississippi. For now, I urge Members to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 5309, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 McElroy Drive in Oxford, Mississippi, as the Army First Lieutenant Donald C. Carwile Post Office Building.

Donnie Carwile, as he was called, enlisted in the Army shortly after high

school, and was assigned to the 25th Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Following a 3-year enlistment, he returned home to dedicate himself to his family after the death of his step-mother.

During that time, Donnie served as a police officer and continued his education. In 2006, Donnie re-enlisted in the Army and was assigned as a platoon leader in the 101st Airborne Division. He deployed to Wardak, Afghanistan, in 2008.

On August 15, 2008, First Lieutenant Carwile was killed when his vehicle struck an IED. He received the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart for his honorable service.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to honor First Lieutenant Donnie Carwile's service and remember the ultimate sacrifice he made for our country. I urge passage of H.R. 5309.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. KELLY), the sponsor of the bill and my good friend.

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled and honored today to rise in the memory of First Lieutenant Donald C. Carwile, known to his family and friends as Donnie.

He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. First Lieutenant Carwile gave his life in defense of this great nation on August 15, 2008, while on a combat mission in Wardak Province, Afghanistan.

He and fellow soldier, Army Private First Class Paul E. Conlon, Jr., of Somerville, Massachusetts, lost their lives when their vehicle was struck by a roadside bomb and then attacked by insurgents with small arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades.

No greater love has a man than to lay down his life for his friends.

Donnie is survived by his wife, Jennifer, and daughters, Elizabeth Reese and Avery Claire, who were only 5 and 3 when they lost their dad. I want his daughters and wife to know that their loved one is a hero and that this grateful Nation recognizes his service.

Donnie was born in Virginia, and he grew up in Lafayette County, Mississippi, where he had deep family roots. From an early age, he led a life of looking out for others.

His Lafayette High School and Northwest Community College instructor, Janice Martin, told the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal in 2008: "He went out of his way to be a friend to students who weren't as gifted as some."

Shortly after graduating from Lafayette High School, Donnie joined the Army in 2003. Just after September 11, 2001, he adjusted course, deciding he wanted to follow a path of law enforce-

ment with his father, grandfather, and uncle, and so he started as a patrol officer with the Batesville Police Department, and then the Oxford Police Department.

After finishing a degree in criminal justice at Ole Miss, he re-enlisted in the Army in 2006 and qualified for Officer Candidate School, where he was commissioned as an infantry officer.

His wife, Jennifer, shared with Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal: "He cared so much about the men in his platoon. He always said his first goal was to bring his men home, and his second, only after that, was to come home himself."

First Lieutenant Carwile's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Air Assault Badge, Parachutist Badge, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon.

Donnie led a life of service to family, state, and country.

□ 1600

He is a hero, and he paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of this great Nation.

I thank my colleagues in the Mississippi delegation and the 114th Congress for their support of H.R. 5309 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 McElroy Drive in Oxford, Mississippi, as the Army First Lieutenant Donald C. Carwile Post Office Building.

This small gesture will honor his memory and will serve as a reminder of First Lieutenant Carwile's selfless service and sacrifice for our freedom.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5309.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ZAPATA VETERANS POST OFFICE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5591) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 810 N US Highway 83 in Zapata, Texas, as the "Zapata Veterans Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5591

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ZAPATA VETERANS POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 810 N US Highway 83 in Zapata, Texas, shall be known and designated as the “Zapata Veterans Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Zapata Veterans Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5591 introduced by Representative HENRY CUELLAR to designate the post office located in Zapata, Texas, as the Zapata Veterans Post Office.

Our veterans deserve to be recognized every day, and we, as a House of Representatives, express our sincerest appreciation and gratitude for their sacrifices in the name of preserving our freedoms that we enjoy as Americans. I look forward to learning more about the heroic exploits of veterans from Zapata, Texas, from the sponsor of the bill, Representative CUELLAR.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 5591, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 810 North US Highway 83 in Zapata, Texas, as the Zapata Veterans Post Office.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR), a good friend and the author of this bill.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I want to say, first of all, that I rise in support of H.R. 5591, which designates the facility of the United States Postal Service in Zapata as the Zapata Veterans Post Office.

I would like to thank Chairman CHAFFETZ and Ranking Member CUMMINGS for their leadership and their support in this bill and, of course, the staff on both the majority and the minority. I especially want to thank also

the chairman, the managing Member from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) for his kind words to the veterans in Zapata, and also my friend, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON)—both of them for their leadership. I thank them so much for the work that they have done.

Zapata County is home to 503 veterans, according to our U.S. Census. It is imperative that we honor the service and dedication of those veterans in Zapata to our Nation. Dedication of this post office in Zapata to the Zapata veterans will serve as a constant reminder of the sacrifice that our friends, our neighbors, and our families have made while serving our country.

Today, I particularly want to acknowledge the sacrifice of those veterans in Zapata County. These are veterans who put country ahead of self for whom I am proud to recognize in dedicating the Zapata postal facility in their name.

As an example of some of the heroic actions of some of the veterans of Zapata, let me mention the six Trevino brothers: Teodoro, Leopoldo, Antonio, Anselmo, Filberto, Jr., and Jose Manuel, who served honorably for a combined 15½ years in our armed services during World War II before they returned home to Zapata.

Despite the many hardships that these brothers faced, six of them were able to overcome whatever obstacle was put before them. Among their many acts of bravery, they fearlessly took down enemy planes and protected fellow soldiers using their bodies as shields.

Their courage and dedication to our Nation—those six brothers and the other veterans who we have in Zapata—demonstrate what it really means to be an American. They are, again, just an example of many of the veterans who have made countless sacrifices for their country in the face of danger.

I also would like to thank the Veterans' Service Office in Zapata for their work in providing care to the veterans in Zapata. Again, they are only one of many local organizations.

Again, using the words of President John F. Kennedy: “As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.” This bill allows us to show our appreciation and make sure that their service and the sacrifice to our country is not forgotten.

So, again, I want to thank, Mr. Speaker, both the chairman and the ranking member, Ms. NORTON and Mr. JODY B. HICE, and, of course, the staff that has worked so hard.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I want only to conclude by requesting that the House pass this bill and name the post office in Zapata, Texas, to commemorate the men and women whose brave acts and selfless deeds have preserved our American freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 5591.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the work of the gentleman from Texas. I urge passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5591.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

OFFICER JOSEPH P. CALI POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5676) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6300 N. Northwest Highway in Chicago, Illinois, as the “Officer Joseph P. Cali Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5676

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. OFFICER JOSEPH P. CALI POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6300 N. Northwest Highway in Chicago, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the “Officer Joseph P. Cali Post Office Building”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Officer Joseph P. Cali Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5676, introduced by Representative QUIGLEY, to designate a post office in Chicago, Illinois, as the Officer Joseph P. Cali Post Office Building.

Officer Cali capably served the United States in Vietnam before becoming a police officer in Chicago.

Tragically, he was murdered by a sniper while on the job in May of 1975. The city of Chicago has honored his legacy by dedicating the street on which he lived to his service.

I look forward to learning more about Officer Cali from the sponsor of the bill, Mr. QUIGLEY.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I am pleased to support H.R. 5676, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6300 N. Northwest Highway in Chicago, Illinois, as the Officer Joseph P. Cali Post Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY), a good friend, the author of this legislation, and a member of the committee.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Georgia and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, today, I come before you in strong support of H.R. 5676 to designate the post office located at 6300 N. Northwest Highway in Chicago, Illinois, as the Officer Joseph P. Cali Post Office Building.

It is with great honor that I seek to designate this postal facility in my district in the memory of Officer Cali, a hero who dedicated his life to protecting the people of Chicago.

Before joining the force in 1973, Officer Cali enlisted in the United States Army and valiantly served our country in Vietnam. After returning from Vietnam, Officer Cali continued his service to his country and community by joining the Chicago police force.

In just 2 years as an officer, Officer Cali received five honorable mention awards and two letters of commendation—a remarkable accomplishment in such a short period of time.

While working on his day off in May of 1975, Officer Cali was tragically murdered by a sniper during a routine traffic stop. He was only 31 years old when he was tragically killed. He is survived by his wife, Neva, and two young daughters, Jennifer and Carolyn.

Officer Cali's incredible effort to serve and protect the people of Chicago with humility and perseverance will always be remembered.

I hope that this post office can stand in Officer Cali's name to memorialize his courage and his dedication to the city of Chicago and his country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow colleagues to support this bill to honor his memory and his sacrifice.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I want only to endorse the remarks of my good friend, Mr. QUIGLEY, and to indicate we should pass this bill to memorialize Officer Cali and inspire others through his legacy of respect, kindness, and community service.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank Representative QUIGLEY for his fine work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5676.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SEGUNDO T. SABLAN AND CNMI FALLEN MILITARY HEROES POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. JODY B. HICE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5889) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Chalan Kanoa VLG in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as the Segundo T. Sablan and CNMI Fallen Military Heroes Post Office Building.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5889

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SEGUNDO T. SABLAN AND CNMI FALLEN MILITARY HEROES POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Chalan Kanoa VLG in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, shall be known and designated as the “Segundo T. Sablan and CNMI Fallen Military Heroes Post Office Building”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Segundo T. Sablan and CNMI Fallen Military Heroes Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5889, introduced by Delegate SABLAN, to designate the post office lo-

cated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as the Segundo T. Sablan and CNMI Fallen Military Heroes Post Office Building.

Segundo Sablan assisted U.S. forces during World War II as they fought to take control of the island of Saipan from the Japanese.

□ 1615

After the war ended, Mr. Sablan was appointed by the Navy to handle postal services for the Northern Mariana Islands. He was named the first postmaster for Saipan soon after.

I look forward to learning more about Segundo Sablan from the sponsor of the bill, Representative GREGORIO SABLAN.

I urge Members to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 5889, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Chalan Kanoa VLG in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as the Segundo T. Sablan and CNMI Fallen Military Heroes Post Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN), the author of this bill.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5889, a bill to designate the United States postal facility located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, the Segundo T. Sablan and CNMI Fallen Military Heroes Post Office Building. The bill recognizes Mr. Sablan, the first Chamorro and native of Saipan appointed a U.S. postmaster. The bill also honors the Northern Marianas servicemen and -women who lost their lives while serving our great country during this war on terrorism.

Segundo Tudela Sablan, fondly known as Tun Segundo, was born on May 27, 1919, on Saipan. Shortly after the United States victory over the Japanese in the Battle of Saipan during World War II, Tun Segundo was among a small group of Chamorros and Carolinians, the indigenous people of the Northern Marianas, selected by the U.S. military to serve as Marine Scouts for the 6th Provisional Police Military Battalion. His knowledge of the terrain and fluency in the Japanese language made him ideally suited for the task of searching the island's caves and jungles for Japanese holdouts responsible for sniper and grenade attacks on American soldiers.

In 1951, Tun Segundo was appointed the first United States postmaster for Saipan by the United States Navy, which, at the time, had administrative responsibility for the Northern Marianas under the United States Trusteeship Agreement, known as the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. A dedicated postmaster, he twice used his home for postal operations after typhoons destroyed the post office building and often neglected his farm and livestock to ensure families received their mail. A crippling back injury sustained during the war eventually made

it impossible for him to carry out the physical tasks required of the job. He resigned as postmaster in 1961.

The post office name will also serve as a tribute to our fallen Northern Marianas sons and daughters. The people of the Northern Marianas have a proud history of military service that began long before we were officially part of the United States and continues to this day.

We lost 20 young men and women to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan alone. I hope that knowing their service and sacrifice will never be forgotten brings a measure of comfort to their families and friends.

I am grateful to Chairman CHAFFETZ and Ranking Member CUMMINGS and their staff on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform for their work and moving this through the process. I am equally grateful to the gentleman from Florida and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia for their time and effort in managing today's bill.

I offer special thanks to the family of Tun Segundo, who provided much information about the life of this leader, their father, for their support of this legislation.

I also want to thank the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Saipan Post 3457, especially Post Commander Michael O'Kelley; Senior Vice Commander Matias Chargualaf; and Departmental Quartermaster Peter Callaghan for their endorsement.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill in memory of Segundo Sablan, his heroic actions during World War II, and his dedicated career in the United States Postal Service. I urge the passage of H.R. 5889.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I, likewise, urge adoption of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5889.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

E. MARIE YOUNGBLOOD POST OFFICE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5356) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14231 TX-150 in Coldspring, Texas, as the "E. Marie Youngblood Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5356

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. E. MARIE YOUNGBLOOD POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14231 TX-150 in Coldspring, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "E. Marie Youngblood Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "E. Marie Youngblood Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 5356, introduced by Representative KEVIN BRADY, to designate a post office located in Coldspring, Texas, as the E. Marie Youngblood Post Office.

Eddie "Marie" Youngblood worked as a rural letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service in southeast Texas. Mrs. Youngblood's life was tragically cut short while serving her community by delivering mail on May 17, 2013.

I look forward to learning more about Mrs. Youngblood from the sponsor of the bill, Representative BRADY. For now, I urge Members to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I am pleased to support H.R. 5356, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14231 TX-150 in Coldspring, Texas, as the E. Marie Youngblood Post Office.

Eddie "Marie" Youngblood served as a rural letter carrier and worked tirelessly to deliver mail to southeast Texans who would have otherwise had to travel many miles. She was well known and loved on her route for her friendly nature and willingness to go out of her way to serve others.

Tragically, Marie was shot and killed while on her mail route on May 17, 2013, leaving behind a husband, two sons, and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to remember Eddie "Marie" Youngblood and celebrate the lives she

touched through her loving actions and committed service to the community and to the United States Postal Service.

I urge the passage of H.R. 5356.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY), the sponsor of the bill, a good friend and great leader around here.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to tell you about an amazing constituent of mine and my legislation to name the Coldspring, Texas, Post Office in her honor.

A native Texan, Eddie "Marie" Youngblood was born in Houston in 1961. But big city life was not for Marie. When her family moved to Shepherd when she was in junior high, she found her calling in small town Texas life. While in Shepherd, Marie fell in love with George, the man who would become her husband.

Together, Marie and George raised two wonderful sons, George Jr. and Mark, who were blessed with children of their own. Marie relished being a grandmother and made a point to spend every moment she could with her grandchildren, Kimara and Luke.

Throughout her life, it was Marie's loving, nurturing personality that drew people to her. Whether she was helping clients working at the local bank, serving hungry customers soul food at one of her two Marie's Diners, or delivering the mail on her rural mail route, she always put others first. Her devotion to Pleasant Valley Baptist Church and her community was limitless, as was her deep and abiding faith in the Lord.

Through her dedication to the people around her, Marie chose to serve as a rural letter carrier. Every day, she loaded her specialized Jeep with letters and packages for Texans who otherwise would have had to travel many miles just for their mail. Marie was so well known on her route, her customers often stopped her just to chat as she made her deliveries.

Tragically, it was on this route she loved and where she was loved that her life was cut short. On May 17, 2013, this beloved daughter, mother, and grandmother was killed in a senseless act of violence while she was simply doing her job.

Justice has not yet been served, but it is important that Marie's life, not her death, define her legacy. While Marie may be gone, her legacy lives on through the lives she touched: both of Marie's sons work for the Postal Service, and her loving husband George visits her grave each and every day to keep the flowers fresh and grave site pristine. While she has entered the kingdom of Heaven, her legacy of service before self lives on.

My legislation, H.R. 5356, supported by the entire Texas delegation, celebrates that legacy by naming the post office in Coldspring, Texas, in her honor. I cannot think of a more fitting way of honoring Marie's life.

I humbly ask my colleagues to support naming the Coldspring, Texas, Post Office for this public servant who was taken from us far too soon.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY). We all, likewise, hope that justice will be served quickly. I thank him for his leadership.

I urge adoption of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5356.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ABNER J. MIKVA POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5798) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Davis Street in Evanston, Illinois, as the "Abner J. Mikva Post Office Building". The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5798

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ABNER J. MIKVA POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Davis Street in Evanston, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Abner J. Mikva Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Abner J. Mikva Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY B. HICE) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5798, introduced by Representative SCHAKOWSKY, to designate a post office located in Evanston, Illinois, as the Abner J. Mikva Post Office Building.

The Honorable Abner Mikva dedicated his life to public service. He served in all three branches of the Federal Government, serving in the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and in the White House as counsel to President Bill Clinton.

I look forward to learning more about the Honorable Abner Mikva from the sponsor of the bill, Representative SCHAKOWSKY.

I urge Members to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1630

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to support H.R. 5798, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Davis Street in Evanston, Illinois, as the Abner J. Mikva Post Office Building.

I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), the author of this bill.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding, and I thank my colleague across the aisle for his support of this legislation. I also thank all of my colleagues in the Illinois delegation for cosponsoring this legislation to name a post office for Abner J. Mikva.

Ab, as my colleague mentioned, is one of the few Americans to hold the distinction of serving in all three branches of the Federal Government. When Abner Mikva was a young man, he went to the office of a Chicago ward committeeman and asked to volunteer. His offer was rebuffed with the remark: "We don't want nobody nobody sent." Unswayed, Abner Mikva devoted his life to public service and to politics.

Abner Mikva was born in 1926 in Milwaukee. He enrolled in the Army Air Corps in 1944 and served as a navigator in the Army Air Corps during World War II. In 1951, he received a law degree from the University of Chicago and, after graduation, served as a clerk to Associate Justice Sherman Minton on the Supreme Court.

In 1956, Abner Mikva was elected to the Illinois General Assembly, where he served for five consecutive terms. He was then elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1968, where he represented the south side, Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago. That is Barack Obama's neighborhood. After redistricting in 1971, Abner Mikva moved to Evanston. In 1974, he won the election to represent Illinois' 10th Congressional District, which was based, at that time, in Evanston, my hometown. Abner Mikva was elected in three consecutive elections to represent the people of Evanston and the surrounding north shore communities in the United States House.

His campaigns were notable for their involvement of thousands of young people in his robust grassroots election efforts. Eighteen-year-olds had recently been granted the constitutional

right to vote, and he had recruited and enlisted many of them. Many of these young people became effective political organizers, transforming the nature of political campaigns over the last four decades.

Abner Mikva was nominated in his third term as an appointee to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, where he served alongside Jurists Clarence Thomas, Antonin Scalia, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. During his final 4 years on the D.C. Circuit Court, Abner Mikva served as chief judge. He was then selected by President Bill Clinton in 1994 to be White House Counsel. After a year as White House Counsel, Abner Mikva returned to the Chicago area and taught at Northwestern University in Evanston.

In 1997, Abner Mikva and his beloved wife and partner, Zoe, started what they called the Mikva Challenge—his effort to engage young people in civic leadership. Each year, the Mikva Challenge engages 7,000 young people—students—in programs across the Chicagoland area. These are high school kids. Students volunteer on the campaigns of both parties, serve as election judges, intern in legislative offices, and learn how to be effective advocates on issues they care the most about.

In 2014, President Obama recognized Abner Mikva's service to this country with the Presidential Medal of Freedom—our highest civilian honor.

When honoring Abner Mikva, President Obama said: "Ab transcends any single moment in recent political history, but he had a hand in shaping some of the best of it."

Abner Mikva said that receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom from his friend Barack Obama was "the greatest thing that ever happened to me."

Abner Mikva remains a revered fighter in Illinois and a favorite son of Evanston's—remembered for his enduring wit, humanity, and the ongoing legacy of the Mikva Challenge.

Let me just say, personally, on July 4, 2016, while America lost a great patriot, I also lost a very precious friend and mentor. I am so happy that we are going to pay an appropriate tribute to his great memory and his legacy.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I endorse the words of the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), and I urge the passage of H.R. 5798, a bill to honor the legacy of Abner Mikva and to commemorate his exemplary life of public service across all branches of our Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JODY

B. HICE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5798.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EMERGENCY CITRUS DISEASE RESPONSE ACT OF 2016

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3957) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to temporarily allow expensing of certain costs of replanting citrus plants lost by reason of casualty, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3957

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Emergency Citrus Disease Response Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. EXPENSING OF CERTAIN COSTS OF REPLANTING CITRUS PLANTS LOST BY REASON OF CASUALTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 263A(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) SPECIAL TEMPORARY RULE FOR CITRUS PLANTS LOST BY REASON OF CASUALTY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of the replanting of citrus plants, subparagraph (A) shall apply to amounts paid or incurred by a person (other than the taxpayer described in subparagraph (A)) if—

“(I) the taxpayer described in subparagraph (A) has an equity interest of not less than 50 percent in the replanted citrus plants at all times during the taxable year in which such amounts were paid or incurred and such other person holds any part of the remaining equity interest, or

“(II) such other person acquired the entirety of such taxpayer's equity interest in the land on which the lost or damaged citrus plants were located at the time of such loss or damage, and the replanting is on such land.

“(ii) TERMINATION.—Clause (i) shall not apply to any cost paid or incurred after December 31, 2025.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to costs paid or incurred after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BUCHANAN) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3957, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

This bill makes a slight change to the existing law in order to help struggling farmers.

The U.S. citrus industry faces a grave threat from an incurable bacterial disease called citrus greening. While not harmful to humans, it results in bitter, hard, misshapen fruit and eventually causes trees to die.

The disease arrived in Florida in 2005 and has since infected 99 percent of the commercial citrus groves in my State as well as 50 percent of the groves in Texas. Greening has begun to march across the country and has been found in California, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Georgia. Once infected, trees must be uprooted and destroyed. Replacing citrus trees is costly, but farmers have no choice as they must replant in order to earn a living. This disease has put 62,000 citrus jobs at risk in my State alone.

The Tax Code currently allows farmers to fully deduct the cost of replanting trees that are damaged by drought, disease, or pests; but the current rule has a significant limitation: in order to get the deduction, the farmers must bear the costs of replanting the trees themselves.

My bill would let farmers bring in investors to help underwrite replanting costs without losing the immediate deduction; and, to ensure that farmers keep working their land, my bill requires them to maintain at least a 50 percent interest in their groves in order to use this deduction.

This commonsense, limited change to an existing provision in the Tax Code has broad, bipartisan support. In fact, every member of the Florida delegation, which is about 29 members—Democrats and Republicans alike—support this proposal. Citrus growers in Florida, Texas, and California have all come out in support of the bill for one simple reason: nationwide, nearly 20 million trees will need to be replaced due to greening.

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

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

There is no doubt the citrus industry is facing an emergency. A disease, referred to as “greening,” is rapidly spreading among citrus crops, including oranges, tangerines, grapefruits, lemons, and limes. To date, Florida orange growers have been hard hit by this disease and have been forced to abandon more than 100,000 acres of groves. It takes about 2 years for the disease to fully manifest itself; therefore, citrus crops in Texas and in California are also at risk. This bill would expand an exception that allows for the immediate expensing of replanting costs when crops are destroyed by this disease.

Under current law, minority investors only are allowed to immediately expense costs incurred for replanting

when, one, the grower who incurred the loss or damage keeps a more than 50 percent interest in the property and, second, when the minority investor materially participates in the planting, maintenance, cultivation, or development of the property.

Under this bill, minority investors also would be able to immediately expense costs incurred for replanting if, one, the grower has an equity interest of not less than 50 percent in the replanted citrus plants, and the minority investor holds the remaining interest or, two, if the minority investor acquires all of the taxpayer's land on which the lost or damaged citrus plants were located, and the replanting is on such land. This bill would not require minority investors to materially participate in the planting and growing, thus making it more appealing for investors.

At a cost of \$30 million over 10 years, this bill takes a modest step in helping the citrus industry attract investors and much-needed capital to fight this devastating disease.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to pass this bill so that struggling farmers can have the flexibility to use the existing provisions of the Tax Code in a more ownership-type structure. Without this change, we run the risk of losing tens of thousands of jobs.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BUCHANAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3957, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EXPANDING SENIORS RECEIVING DIALYSIS CHOICE ACT OF 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5659) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to expanding Medicare Advantage coverage for individuals with end-stage renal disease (ESRD), as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5659

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Expanding Seniors Receiving Dialysis Choice Act of 2016” or as the “ESRD Choice Act of 2016”.

SEC. 2. EXPANDING MEDICARE ADVANTAGE COVERAGE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH END-STAGE RENAL DISEASE (ESRD).

(a) EXPANDED MA ELIGIBILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1851(a)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–21(a)(3)) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraph (B); and

(B) by striking “ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL” and all that follows through “In this title, subject to subparagraph (B),” and inserting “ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—In this title,”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 1852(b)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–22(b)(1)) is amended—

(i) by striking subparagraph (B); and

(ii) by striking “BENEFICIARIES” and all that follows through “A Medicare+Choice organization” and inserting “BENEFICIARIES.—A Medicare Advantage organization”.

(B) Section 1859(b)(6) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–28(b)(6)) is amended by striking “may waive” and all that follows through “subparagraph and”.

(b) EXCLUDING COSTS FOR KIDNEY ACQUISITIONS FROM MA BENCHMARK.—Section 1853 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–23) is amended—

(1) in subsection (k)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “paragraphs (2) and (4)” and inserting “paragraphs (2), (4), and (5)”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “paragraphs (2) and (4)” and inserting “paragraphs (2), (4), and (5)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) EXCLUSION OF COSTS FOR KIDNEY ACQUISITIONS FROM CAPITATION RATES.—After determining the applicable amount for an area for a year under paragraph (1) (beginning with 2019), the Secretary shall adjust such applicable amount to exclude from such applicable amount the Secretary’s estimate of the standardized costs for payments for organ acquisitions for kidney transplants covered under this title (including expenses covered under section 1881(d)) in the area for the year.”; and

(2) in subsection (n)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(i), by inserting “and, for 2019 and subsequent years, the exclusion of payments for organ acquisitions for kidney transplants from the capitation rate as described in subsection (k)(5)” before the semicolon at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (E), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “subparagraph (F)” and inserting “subparagraphs (F) and (G)”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(G) APPLICATION OF KIDNEY ACQUISITIONS ADJUSTMENT.—The base payment amount specified in subparagraph (E) for a year (beginning with 2019) shall be adjusted in the same manner under paragraph (5) of subsection (k) as the applicable amount is adjusted under such subsection.”.

(c) FFS COVERAGE OF KIDNEY ACQUISITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1852(a)(1)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–22(a)(1)(B)(i)) is amended by inserting “or coverage for organ acquisitions for kidney transplants, including as covered under section 1881(d)” after “hospice care”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1851(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–21(i)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) FFS PAYMENT FOR EXPENSES FOR KIDNEY ACQUISITIONS.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) do not apply with respect to expenses for organ acquisitions for kidney transplants described in section 1852(a)(1)(B)(i).”.

(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING APPLICATION OF APPROPRIATE MEDICARE ADVANTAGE RISK ADJUSTMENT FOR PAYMENT FOR INCREASED ESRD ENROLLEES.—It is the sense of Congress that in implementing the poli-

cies under this section, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services should provide, in an accurate and transparent manner, for risk adjustment to payment under the Medicare Advantage program to account for the increased enrollment in Medicare Advantage plans of individuals with end-stage renal disease.

(e) EXPANDED MA EDUCATION.—Section 1851(d)(2)(A)(iii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–21(d)(2)(A)(iii)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, including any additional information that individuals determined to have end-stage renal disease may need to make informed decisions with respect to such an election”.

(f) REPORT.—Not later than April 1, 2022, the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services shall submit to Congress a report on the impact of the amendments made by this section on spending under the traditional Medicare fee-for-service program under parts A and B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act as well as on spending under parts C and D of such title. The report shall include an assessment of the risk adjustment payment methodologies under such parts C and D and their adequacy with respect to individuals with end-stage renal disease and such recommendations as the Administrator deems appropriate.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plans years beginning on or after January 1, 2020.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

□ 1645

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5659, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today in support of H.R. 5659, the ESRD Choice Act, and thank the Speaker for taking this effort up today on the floor.

This bipartisan legislation expands access to high-quality, affordable healthcare coverage options for Americans suffering from serious kidney illness. End-stage renal disease, or ESRD, is the only preexisting condition that explicitly prevents patients from enrolling in Medicare Advantage.

This bill removes a harmful Federal restriction that has, for too long, blocked patients with ESRD from enrolling in Medicare Advantage plans. The question is: Why should kidney disease patients be denied a choice all other Medicare beneficiaries have? The short answer is: They shouldn't. These patients should have the same option to choose Medicare Advantage.

Once this bill is passed and signed into law, my colleagues and I will be constantly watching the bureaucrats at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to make sure they fulfill their responsibilities to properly risk adjust payments to plans in an accurate and transparent manner. The bill requires a report of the effects of this legislation on risk adjustment, and I will be watching to make sure they get it right.

I also want to recognize the hard work that went into this bill and specifically thank Mr. LEWIS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. MARINO, as well as the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Energy and Commerce for the hard work to remove the last preexisting conditions in Medicare Advantage.

The benefits of Medicare Advantage should be extended to all ESRD patients. It is right thing to do, and now is the time to get it done.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, more than 80 percent of the approximately 640,000 Americans living with kidney failure, or end-stage renal disease, are covered under Medicare. Unfortunately, those individuals who receive Medicare coverage as a result of their ESRD do not have access to managed care plans under the Medicare Advantage program.

This bill would make a commonsense change and enable Medicare beneficiaries with ESRD to have the same choices as all other Medicare beneficiaries. H.R. 5659 would help make sure ESRD beneficiaries in Medicare have access to the coordinated services, flexibility, and integrated care they need to fit their own individual needs.

I want to thank my fellow colleague on the Ways and Means Committee, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), for his dedication and his hard work over the past years on this important bipartisan legislation. I look forward to it advancing swiftly to the President's desk to be signed into law.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The legislation expands access to a program that has improved millions of lives. This is just one of the bipartisan solutions Americans deserve, and these are the types of solutions I hope to continue working with the chairman and my colleagues in delivering as we work to improve our healthcare system.

Dozens of folks back home in southeast and south central Missouri have contacted me with their support for this bill. Do you know what they tell me? They want a choice.

I am pleased that the House is acting on our bill today since it follows one of our core principles as we look at health care, increasing patients' options and control over their care. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5659, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. AMASH. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONTINUING ACCESS TO HOSPITALS ACT OF 2016

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5613) to provide for the extension of the enforcement instruction on supervision requirements for outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals through 2016, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5613

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Continuing Access to Hospitals Act of 2016” or the “CAH Act of 2016”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF ENFORCEMENT INSTRUCTION ON SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS FOR OUTPATIENT THERAPEUTIC SERVICES IN CRITICAL ACCESS AND SMALL RURAL HOSPITALS THROUGH 2016.

Section 1 of Public Law 113–198, as amended by section 1 of Public Law 114–112, is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “2014 AND 2015” and inserting “2016”; and

(2) by striking “and 2015” and inserting “, 2015, and 2016”.

SEC. 3. REPORT.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (established under section 1805 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395b–6)) shall submit to Congress a report analyzing the effect of the extension of the enforcement instruction under section 1 of Public Law 113–198, as amended by section 1 of Public Law 114–112 and section 2 of this Act, on the access to health care by Medicare beneficiaries, on the economic impact and the impact upon hospital staffing needs, and on the quality of health care furnished to such beneficiaries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. JENKINS) and the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on H.R. 5613, currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Kansas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 5613, the Continuing Access to Hospitals Act of 2016, a policy this Congress has passed unanimously in 2014 and 2015.

Every year across Kansas, hospitals in rural communities must wait to see if they will have to comply with a burdensome Federal regulation that makes caring for patients more difficult, while providing no additional benefits.

Back in January 2014, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services began enforcing a requirement that physicians must supervise outpatient therapeutic services at critical access hospitals and other small rural hospitals. This meant that routine outpatient therapeutic procedures, such as the application of a splint to a finger or a demonstration of how to use a nebulizer, had to be directly supervised by a physician.

Thankfully, Congress passed an extension of a moratorium on that supervision requirement in 2014 and again in 2015. Here we are again today to try to give a little bit of certainty to these very important rural and critical access hospitals.

There are over 1,300 critical access hospitals that serve rural Americans in nearly every State, and these facilities simply lack the resources to fulfill this burdensome mandate. Before 2014, physicians at rural hospitals were not required to directly supervise these types of outpatient therapeutic services, and asking them to do so now, after unanimously passing identical extensions the past 2 years, will only jeopardize access to care.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5613, the Continuing Access to Hospitals Act. I am pleased the House is considering this bipartisan legislation, which I introduced with Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.

Many of Iowa’s rural hospitals, just like the rural hospitals in Kansas and other parts of America, are struggling in these economic times. I have made it a point to visit all of the hospitals in my district on many occasions in order to hear directly from them about the issues they are facing and how I, as their Congressman, can help.

I have seen firsthand that rural hospitals are bedrocks of their communities, providing more than just high-quality, local access to health care. Rural hospitals also stimulate the local economy, creating jobs in the hospital and in the larger community. Without quality local health care, lives and communities are lost.

One issue I consistently hear about is the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid

Services’ rule strictly requiring direct supervision of outpatient therapeutic services. The enforcement of this rule will cause rural facilities to reduce therapy services, threatening access to needed procedures for rural Americans.

That is why I was proud that, last year, the legislation that Congresswoman JENKINS and I introduced to continue the prohibition on CMS from enforcing the unreasonable supervision requirements for 2015 was signed into law. That bill, however, was only a fix for 2015, as Congresswoman JENKINS pointed out. I am committed to making sure this is also solved in 2016, as well as working toward a permanent fix to provide certainty for our critical access hospitals, again, not just in Iowa or Kansas, but around the country.

The services covered by this legislation have always been provided by licensed, skilled professionals under the overall direction of a physician and with the assurance of rapid assistance from a team of caregivers, including a physician. While there is some need for direct supervision for certain outpatient services that pose a high risk or are very complex, CMS’ policy generally applies to even the lowest risk services.

This legislation will provide temporary relief that will go far in relieving the regulatory burden of direct supervision of outpatient therapeutic services for rural hospitals. This legislation, fittingly, protects hospitals that were providing and are providing quality, responsible care during the period in question.

I urge all my colleagues to support this bill today.

Again, I thank Congresswoman JENKINS. We have worked together on this now for a couple of years. I think it proves that, if folks from both parties put their heads together and offer commonsense legislation, we can get it passed. Most importantly, it proves that we can help our local hospitals and folks who live in these rural areas who need that access to those local hospitals.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH), an esteemed member of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5613 to once again delay enforcement of supervision requirements on critical access hospitals.

It has unfortunately become an annual ritual for us to pass legislation to block this arbitrary regulation which requires a physician to be on-site and present for the administration of most procedures, no matter how basic.

As a condition of participation in the critical access program, a facility must have 25 or fewer beds, be distant from the next closest hospital, and have a physician on call and available within

30 minutes. The individuals who practice at these facilities, including doctors, nurses, physician's assistants, and nurse practitioners, have a very strong understanding of what care can be safely provided in their critical access setting and which cases should be transferred to a larger facility.

However, CMS' efforts to accommodate the concerns of rural providers hasn't been to empower these professionals, but to create a limited list of procedures which can be done without a physician on-site. For this reason, I appreciate the chairman and the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. JENKINS) for working with me to incorporate language into this bill, which requires MedPAC to report on the economic and staffing impacts of these regulations on rural hospitals.

Based on discussions I have had with hospitals across Nebraska's Third District, I expect MedPAC's findings will make a strong case for repealing this regulation outright.

I urge passage of this bill, which is vital to communities across rural America.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH). We came into Congress at the same time, and it is great we can work on this bill together. It is a commonsense bill.

Again, in Iowa, we have over 80 critical access hospitals. The gentleman pointed out the importance that these are small hospitals, 25 or fewer beds. Their resources are limited. I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) for supporting this bill. I really appreciate it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Congressman LOEBSACK and I worked together to introduce this measure, once again, in a bipartisan fashion. I, too, want to thank him for understanding the problem rural doctors face with this supervision mandate and for his willingness to work with me to introduce this bill.

I urge my colleagues in the House to pass this measure, once again, unanimously, so that we can provide the rural doctors of this country with a little more certainty and take away the threat of an unnecessary burden.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. JENKINS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5320, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. AMASH. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1700

SOCIAL SECURITY MUST AVERT IDENTITY LOSS (MAIL) ACT OF 2016

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5320) to restrict the inclusion of social security account numbers on documents sent by mail by the Social Security Administration, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5320

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Social Security Must Avert Identity Loss (MAIL) Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. RESTRICTION ON SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBERS IN DOCUMENTS SENT BY MAIL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 205(c)(2)(C) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(c)(2)(C)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(xiv)(I) The Commissioner of Social Security shall ensure that no document sent by mail by the Social Security Administration includes a complete social security account number unless the Commissioner determines that inclusion of such complete number is necessary.

"(II) Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this clause and not later than each of March 31 and September 30 of each of the first 6 years following the year in which such date of enactment occurs, the Commissioner of Social Security shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report on the implementation of subclause (I). Such report shall include—

"(aa) the title and identification number of each document used by the Social Security Administration during the previous year on which is printed an individual's complete social security account number;

"(bb) the most recent date on which each such document was updated; and

"(cc) the projected date on which complete social security account numbers will be removed from each such document, or if the Commissioner determines that inclusion of such complete number is necessary, the rationale for such determination."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall implement the amendments made under subsection (a) as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BROOKS of Alabama). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to review and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5320, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today I rise as chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security in support of the Social Security Must Avert Identity Loss Act of 2016, also known as the Social Security MAIL Act legislation. It is legislation that I introduced along with the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RENACCI).

Mr. Speaker, Social Security makes a point of telling Americans how important it is to protect their Social Security numbers. Time and time again, Americans are warned to protect their Social Security cards in order to avoid identity theft.

For years I have been calling for ending the use of Social Security numbers unless it is absolutely necessary. Unfortunately, while some progress has been made, the Social Security Administration still includes Social Security numbers on some documents it mails. Just last year, Social Security sent out more than 233 million letters that included full Social Security numbers. This needs to stop and now.

The bill requires Social Security to either remove Social Security numbers from mailings or explain why including a Social Security number is necessary. This commonsense legislation is supported by AARP and the Association of Mature American Citizens. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD their letters of support.

AARP,
July 13, 2016.

Hon. SAM JOHNSON,
Chairman, House Subcommittee on Social Security.

DEAR CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: AARP supports H.R. 5320, the Social Security Must Avert Identity Loss (MAIL) Act of 2016, which would protect Social Security numbers (SSNs) from inappropriate public disclosure. AARP, with its nearly 38 million members in all 50 States and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, nationwide organization that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to families such as healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities and protection from financial abuse.

Social Security is the primary source of retirement and disability income for 60 million Americans. Personal information about Social Security benefits, such as Social Security numbers (SSNs), is critical financial information and must be afforded the highest level of privacy protection. H.R. 5320 would ensure that Social Security numbers (SSNs) are protected by making clear the Social Security Administration may not include a full Social Security account number on any document sent by mail unless the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration determines that such inclusion is necessary.

AARP has a longstanding public policy position on Social Security privacy that companies, government agencies, and individuals should not be allowed to post or publicly display SSNs, print them on cards, transmit them over the internet, or send them by mail without safety measures. We appreciate your recognition of the important need to protect personal Social Security information and efforts to urge Congress to make this needed change in the law.

Because of Social Security, millions of Americans and their families are able to live

their lives with dignity and independence. We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure that all aspects of the Social Security program remain strong for future generations of American workers and their families. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

JOYCE A. ROGERS,
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs.

AMAC,
June 30, 2016.

Hon. SAM JOHNSON,
Chairman, Social Security Subcommittee, House
Committee on Ways and Means, Wash-
ington, DC.

Hon. JIM RENACCI,
16th District, Ohio,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN JOHNSON AND CONGRESS-
MAN RENACCI: On behalf of the 1.3 million
members of AMAC, the Association of Ma-
ture American Citizens, I am writing in
strong support of the H.R. 5320, the Social
Security Must Avert Identity Loss Act of
2016, or the Social Security MAIL Act of 2016.
This important piece of legislation seeks to
protect Social Security beneficiaries from
runaway identity theft that has become all
too common for senior citizens. As identity
theft becomes more and more rampant
across the country, this timely bill offers a
smart, sensible solution to a problem mil-
lions of seniors face annually.

Last year, the Social Security Administra-
tion (SSA) sent 352 million notices by mail—
including 233 million notices containing an
individual's full Social Security number.
With such massive amounts of mail being de-
livered with unnecessary and identity-com-
promising information, there are several op-
portunities for criminals to steal an individ-
ual's identity. In fact, in 2014, it is estimated
that roughly 7% of the population over the
age of 16 were victims of identity theft. As
the world gets smaller, and as more crim-
inals see opportunities to steal identities in
any way they can, H.R. 5320 offers a com-
monsense solution to Social Security ben-
eficiaries who are unknowingly being put at
risk by the unnecessary use of their Social
Security number.

The Social Security MAIL Act of 2016 is as
simple as it is smart. The bill mandates that
the SSA ensure no piece of mail being sent
to an individual includes that individual's
complete Social Security account number—
unless it is absolutely necessary. As rates of
identity theft continue to go up, Congress
must take action to prevent making identity
theft easier for opportunistic criminals. A
bill like H.R. 5320 is long overdue, and we en-
courage House leadership to act on behalf of
Social Security beneficiaries and take swift
action to enact this bill.

As an organization committed to rep-
resenting the interests of mature Americans
and seniors, AMAC is dedicated to ensuring
senior citizens' interests are protected. We
applaud Chairman Johnson, Congressman
Renacci, and your attentive staffs for your
thoughtful and practical solution to protect
seniors from identity theft. AMAC is pleased
to offer our organization's full support to the
Social Security MAIL Act of 2016.

Sincerely,

DAN WEBER,
President and Founder of AMAC.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr.
Speaker, Americans rightly expect
that the Social Security Administra-
tion keeps their personal information
safe. This bill makes sure Social Secu-
rity doesn't include a Social Security
number in documents it mails unless it
is absolutely necessary. It is a com-

monsense solution to a problem that
shouldn't exist in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members in
the House to vote "yes" and pass the
Social Security MAIL Act today.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield my-
self such time as I may consume.

This bill codifies current practice at
the Social Security Administration,
which is to remove Social Security
numbers from its letters and notices in
order to reduce the risk of identity
theft.

It is important to note that SSA is
ahead of the game on these efforts. It
has not included Social Security num-
bers on statements since 2001. Checks
have not contained Social Security
numbers since 2004, and the annual
COLA notice no longer contains full
Social Security numbers.

This bill before us also requires SSA
to report to Congress twice each year
for the next 6 years on its progress to-
ward removing Social Security num-
bers from all mail documents.

I am glad that SSA has already
taken important steps to protect
Americans' identities, and I commend
SSA for the high value it places on pro-
tecting Americans' private informa-
tion.

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr.
Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gen-
tleman from Ohio (Mr. RENACCI).

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I thank
Chairman JOHNSON for his leadership
on the Subcommittee on Social Secu-
rity and for his leadership on this legis-
lation.

Identity theft is an issue that has be-
come all too prevalent in recent years.
In fact, the Federal Trade Commission
received over 490,000 identity theft
complaints in 2015. This represents a 47
percent increase compared to 2014.

As a personal victim of identity
theft, I understand the frustration,
fear, and sense of helplessness of hav-
ing your identity stolen. I also under-
stand the worry that victims have that
someone will use their identity to file
other fraudulent claims. The Federal
Government and Federal agencies have
a responsibility to carefully protect
every American's identifying informa-
tion. That is why I was stunned to
learn that the Social Security Admin-
istration provided a full Social Secu-
rity number on over 230 million docu-
ments that it sent out in 2015. This rep-
resents 66 percent of all mailings.

The volume of documents that con-
tain Americans' full Social Security
number puts Americans unnecessarily
at risk of having their identity stolen.
In fact, in a recent report, the inspec-
tor general of the Social Security Ad-
ministration stated that the "more
SSNs are unnecessarily used, the high-
er the probability they may be used in-
appropriately." This led the inspector
general to recommend that the SSA
should take steps to remove Social Se-
curity numbers from documents and

that the Social Security Administra-
tion should be at the forefront of lim-
iting the use of full Social Security
numbers.

Our legislation helps address this
problem. H.R. 5320 simply directs the
Social Security Administration to re-
move full Social Security numbers
from mailings when they simply are
not needed. To northeast Ohioans, this
is just common sense.

Also, this bill will ensure Congress
provides the proper amount of over-
sight over the Social Security Admin-
istration, requiring the administration
to justify the continued use of full So-
cial Security numbers on mailed docu-
ments.

All Americans should have the con-
fidence in knowing that the Social Se-
curity Administration is doing every-
thing within its power to protect So-
cial Security numbers. I urge all Mem-
bers to support this commonsense, bi-
partisan legislation.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back
the balance of my time.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr.
Speaker, having no other speakers, I
am prepared to close my remarks.

Mr. Speaker, again, I urge all Mem-
bers of the House to vote "yes" and
pass the Social Security MAIL Act
today so the Senate can take action
soon and the President can sign it into
law without delay.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The
question is on the motion offered by
the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM
JOHNSON) that the House suspend the
rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5320, as
amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the
opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being
in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on
that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursu-
ant to clause 8 of rule XX, further pro-
ceedings on this motion will be post-
poned.

UNITED STATES APPRECIATION FOR OLYMPIANS AND PARALYMPIANS ACT OF 2016

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I move to
suspend the rules and pass the bill
(H.R. 5946) to amend the Internal Rev-
enue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross
income any prizes or awards won in
competition in the Olympic Games or
the Paralympic Games, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5946

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Rep-
resentatives of the United States of America in
Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "United States
Appreciation for Olympians and Paralympians
Act of 2016".*

SEC. 2. OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC MEDALS AND USOC PRIZE MONEY EXCLUDED FROM GROSS INCOME.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 74 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) *EXCEPTION FOR OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC MEDALS AND PRIZES.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Gross income shall not include the value of any medal awarded in, or any prize money received from the United States Olympic Committee on account of, competition in the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games.

“(2) *LIMITATION BASED ON ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.*—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any taxpayer for any taxable year if the adjusted gross income (determined without regard to this subsection) of such taxpayer for such taxable year exceeds \$1,000,000 (half of such amount in the case of a married individual filing a separate return).

“(B) *COORDINATION WITH OTHER LIMITATIONS.*—For purposes of sections 86, 135, 137, 199, 219, 221, 222, and 469, adjusted gross income shall be determined after the application of paragraph (1) and before the application of subparagraph (A).”.

(b) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—The amendment made by this section shall apply to prizes and awards received after December 31, 2015.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5946, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, every 2 years, young men and women travel around the world to represent the United States at the Olympic and Paralympic Games. These truly gifted athletes have dedicated their lives to training for the opportunity to compete on the world's greatest stage and represent our country, often with little financial help.

The vast majority of these athletes do not have endorsement deals and sponsorships. Instead, they often work full-time jobs while training or are full-time students, like Olivia Smoliga, born in Glenview, Illinois, who won gold in the 4x100 medley relay, while also studying as a student at the University of Georgia.

Over the years there have been a number of athletes who have struggled just to get by while training to represent our Nation. Olympians like Sarah Robles, who is now the highest ranked U.S. weightlifter, while training for the 2012 London Olympics, she lived in near poverty on just \$400 a month. Sarah continued to focus on her training, and this past summer in Rio, she stood triumphantly on the Olympic podium, earning a bronze

medal for the United States. And Paralympians like archery champion and world record holder Matt Stutzman, who picked up hunting to help feed his family while he was unemployed and having difficulty paying the rent.

These are just a couple of examples, but they are indicative of the hardships and sacrifices faced by many U.S. Olympians as they train for the opportunity to represent our country at the Olympics. These men and women are the embodiment of the Olympic spirit.

Upon their return from the games, our Olympians are met with praise and admiration. However, for those who win a medal, they are also met with a tax bill from the IRS. Not only do our Olympians owe the Federal Government tax revenue based on the value of their Olympic medal, but they also owe a cut of their prize winnings provided by the United States Olympic Committee.

This tax on success, Mr. Speaker, is a disservice to the great athletes who compete for the United States. That is why I introduced, with Congressman BLAKE FARENTHOLD, the United States Appreciation for Olympians and Paralympians Act. This legislation will eliminate the tax that the IRS imposes on both Olympic and Paralympic winnings by declaring that any medal value or prize money that is awarded by the United States Olympic Committee to our medalists not be counted in gross income.

Under current law, there are a number of awards and prizes that are exempted from being counted as gross income by the IRS, which are similar to this very exemption. Additionally, I know there are concerns that individual athletes who have acted in a manner that is unbecoming of the Olympic spirit could benefit from this proposal. In those instances, there is precedent—as recently as this year—where the United States Olympic Committee determines that the athlete must forfeit receiving any prize winnings. This ensures that this tax exemption only applies to those athletes who uphold the Olympic spirit and their ideals.

Finally, this bill before us today includes a commonsense amendment offered during the committee markup by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL), my good friend, which makes sure that the proposal only applies to our Olympic athletes with a gross income below \$1 million that year.

□ 1715

Our Olympic and Paralympic athletes deserve a catalyst to bring this Nation together every 2 years.

I am asking my colleagues to join me in showing our appreciation for the hard work and dedication of our Olympians and Paralympians by supporting this bipartisan piece of legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the main sponsor of the bill, Congressman DOLD from Illinois. I think it is very thoughtful legislation.

Our Olympic athletes have worked and trained tirelessly to represent the greatest country in the world on the world stage. They have won contests in athletics, and they have won our hearts and minds. We know that time spent in training and in competitions requires enormous sacrifices from the athletes and their families. We are proud of our Olympians.

I appreciate the spirit of this legislation. We do not want to hit our athletes with a tax bill when they return home. That is a wonderful thank you. That is why I will support this legislation today.

I am confident and very happy to support this legislation. It does include the amendment that the sponsor of the bill just mentioned, put forth in the Ways and Means Committee, to limit tax exclusion to those Olympians making less than \$1 million a year.

Some of these athletes win not only medals but lucrative endorsements. Michael Phelps is worth an estimated \$50 million to \$60 million. NBA players like Kevin Durant make an estimated \$56 million in 1 year. In fact, Forbes reports that the 12 members of the U.S. basketball team earned a collective \$257 million in salaries and endorsements over the past year.

God bless them. But a cash prize for winning a competition is income, and there are many professions in the United States—and I think the sponsor would agree—that are valuable that we do not exempt from income taxes: teaching children with special needs, taking care of cancer patients, or taking care of our police and firefighters.

My colleague, JOHN LARSON, introduced an amendment to allow volunteer firefighters to exclude from taxes nominal benefits they receive in their communities. These are ideas that merit our consideration, and there are many individuals worth honoring in our society.

This legislation honors our Olympic athletes, while making sure our highest-paid professional sports stars continue to pay their fair share.

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FARENTHOLD), my good friend who has also done a lot of work in preparing this legislation.

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, our taxes in this country are too high and too complicated. We need a fairer, flatter, simpler tax system, but there is a lot of work to be done on that.

I know my friend, the gentleman from Illinois in the Ways and Means Committee, and Chairman BRADY from Texas are all working on that. But we do have a situation where many of our Olympic athletes work hard for years—

some of whom are living at or below poverty—and when they bring home the gold, silver, or bronze to our country, they are tagged by the IRS with very high taxes.

This bill is a small step and a small way that we can say thank you for the hard work those athletes put in to make us all proud as Americans.

I do think the bill does great service to our athletes, but it should also serve as a reminder that we need to be looking at the bigger tax system in this country as a whole. As my colleague on the other side of the aisle said, there are a many great people doing many great things in this country who suffer a very, very high tax burden.

I pledge to work with my friends and colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee toward that end, but I am happy we are making this small step forward—something I have been fighting for for several years. I thank the committee for their hard work on it, and I look forward to joining, hopefully, all of my colleagues in voting “yes” for this.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Some people say that we don't win anymore. I would like to remind those people that the United States won 105 total medals in Rio. Thirty-eight of them were gold. To those who say America doesn't win anymore, we could cite many, many other examples, of course.

Our Olympic athletes make us proud. New Jersey's own Laurie Hernandez wowed us with her strength and agility in the gymnastics competition. Soccer star Carli Lloyd and rower Lauren Schmetterling made New Jersey proud, as did Hoboken-born track star Keturah Orji, not to mention a former intern from my office, Caylee Watson, who competed for the U.S. Virgin Islands in the backstroke swimming competition.

You can't make this stuff up. This is great. They are just a few of the incredible athletes who inspired us this summer in Rio. We should do all what we can to honor these Olympians with our gratitude and our admiration.

Again, I salute the sponsor. This bill recognizes the tremendous sacrifice of time and resources in Olympic athletes' training, while also preventing another tax cut for wealthy individuals who don't need it.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Again, I want to thank my good friend from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) not only for his thoughtfulness in this bill, which is a commonsense piece of legislation, but actually for his amendment, which I think strengthens the bill.

Mr. Speaker, millions of young people around the world look at the Olympic games and dream of someday be-

coming an athlete and representing their Nation. We are extremely proud of our Olympians and Paralympians. We want to reward them for the hard work and sacrifice they have put day in and day out. This piece of legislation, again, I think, goes one step in that direction.

This is not a bill to reward the Kevin Durants or the Michael Phelps of the world, but it is a bill to say thank you to our Olympians for representing our country so well. Thank you for putting in the time, the effort, and the energy to train as hard as you are to do so well on the world stage.

I want to thank LINDA SÁNCHEZ and MIKE THOMPSON who also were cosponsors of this legislation. I sincerely hope that we can get colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5946, the “United States Appreciation for Olympians and Paralympians Act.”

H.R. 5946 would amend the Internal Revenue Code to exclude the value of any medal or prize money that an Athlete may win competing in the Olympic and Paralympic games.

I support this legislation because it would allow athletes to keep more of the hard earned prize money that they rightly deserve from the coveted and honorable medals won during the Olympics and Paralympics.

The “United States Appreciation for Olympians and Paralympians Act” is a thoughtful and necessary bill that will assist those who represent our nation in athletic competition.

I am proud of the athletes in both the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games who competed in Rio de Janeiro.

Houston, Texas had the great honor of sending two of our own to the Olympic Games; Simone Biles who won 4 gold medals and one bronze in the sport of Gymnastics, along with Simone Manuel who became the first African American woman to win gold in the sport of swimming.

The great state of Texas also had Jimmy Feigen won the gold medal in swimming, Townley Haas, Jack Conger and Clark Smith won the gold medal in the freestyle relay, and Michelle Carter, who is also University of Texas alum, won the gold medal in women's shot put.

In the Paralympic Games Jazmin Almlie-Ryan represented her nation and the City of Houston in the sport of target shooting.

H.R. 5946 embodies the spirit of bipartisanship that is needed in this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, this is why I join with my colleagues in working to reward our athletes who have worked so diligently and represented the very best of our ideals.

I urge my colleagues in the House to support H.R. 5946 “United States Appreciation for Olympians and Paralympians Act.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5946, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SUSTAINING HEALTHCARE INTEGRITY AND FAIR TREATMENT ACT OF 2016

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5713) to provide for the extension of certain long-term care hospital Medicare payment rules, clarify the application of rules on the calculation of hospital length of stay to certain moratorium-excepted long-term care hospitals, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5713

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Sustaining Healthcare Integrity and Fair Treatment Act of 2016”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—This table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—MEDICARE PART A PROVISIONS

Sec. 101. Extension of certain LTCH Medicare payment rules.

Sec. 102. Application of rules on the calculation of hospital length of stay to all LTCHs.

Sec. 103. Change in Medicare classification for certain hospitals.

Sec. 104. Temporary exception to the application of the Medicare LTCH site neutral provisions for certain spinal cord specialty hospitals.

Sec. 105. Temporary extension to the application of the Medicare LTCH site neutral provisions for certain discharges with severe wounds.

TITLE II—OTHER PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. No payment for items and services furnished by newly enrolled providers or suppliers within a temporary moratorium area.

TITLE I—MEDICARE PART A PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LTCH MEDICARE PAYMENT RULES.

(a) 25-PERCENT PATIENT THRESHOLD PAYMENT ADJUSTMENT.—Section 114(c)(1)(A) of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 1395www note), as amended by section 4302(a) of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Public Law 111–5), sections 3106(a) and 10312(a) of Public Law 111–148, and section 1206(b)(1)(B) of the Pathway for SGR Reform Act of 2013 (division B of Public Law 113–67), is amended by striking “for a 9-year period” and inserting “through June 30, 2016, and for discharges occurring on or after October 1, 2016, and before July 1, 2017”.

(b) PAYMENT FOR HOSPITALS-WITHIN-HOSPITALS.—Section 114(c)(2) of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 1395www note), as amended by section 4302(a) of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Public Law 111–5), sections 3106(a) and 10312(a) of Public

Law 111-148, and section 1206(b)(1)(A) of the Pathway for SGR Reform Act of 2013 (division B of Public Law 113-67), is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or any similar provision,” after “Regulations.”;

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting “or any similar provision,” after “Regulations.”; and

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting “, or any similar provision,” after “Regulations.”; and

(3) in subparagraph (C), by striking “for a 9-year period” and inserting “through June 30, 2016, and for discharges occurring on or after October 1, 2016, and before July 1, 2017”.

SEC. 102. APPLICATION OF RULES ON THE CALCULATION OF HOSPITAL LENGTH OF STAY TO ALL LTCHS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1206(a)(3) of the Pathway for SGR Reform Act of 2013 (division B of Public Law 113-67; 42 U.S.C. 1395ww note) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (B);

(2) by striking “SITE NEUTRAL BASIS.” and all that follows through “For discharges occurring” and inserting “SITE NEUTRAL BASIS.—For discharges occurring”;

(3) by striking “subject to subparagraph (B).”; and

(4) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and moving each of such subparagraphs (as so redesignated) 2 ems to the left.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be effective as if included in the enactment of section 1206(a)(3) of the Pathway for SGR Reform Act of 2013 (division B of Public Law 113-67; 42 U.S.C. 1395ww note).

SEC. 103. CHANGE IN MEDICARE CLASSIFICATION FOR CERTAIN HOSPITALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d)(1)(B) of section 1886 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww) is amended—

(1) in clause (iv)—

(A) in subclause (I), by striking “or” at the end;

(B) in subclause (II)—

(i) by striking “, or” at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(ii) by redesignating such subclause as clause (vi) and by moving it to immediately follow clause (v); and

(iii) in clause (v), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting “, or”;

(C) by striking “(iv)(I) a hospital” and inserting “(iv) a hospital”.

(b) CONFORMING PAYMENT REFERENCES.—The second sentence of subsection (d)(1)(B) of such section is amended—

(1) by inserting “(as in effect as of such date)” after “clause (iv)”;

(2) by inserting “(or, in the case of a hospital described in clause (iv)(II), as so in effect, shall be classified under clause (vi) on and after the effective date of such clause (vi) and for cost reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2015, shall not be subject to subsection (m) as of the date of such classification)” after “so classified”.

(c) APPLICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For cost reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2015, in the case of an applicable hospital (as defined in paragraph (3)), the following shall apply:

(A) Payment for inpatient operating costs shall be made on a reasonable cost basis in the manner provided in section 412.526(c)(3) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on January 1, 2015) and in any subsequent modifications.

(B) Payment for capital costs shall be made in the manner provided by section 412.526(c)(4) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on such date).

(C) Claims for payment for Medicare beneficiaries who are discharged on or after January 1, 2017, shall be processed as claims which are paid on a reasonable cost basis as

described in section 412.526(c) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on such date).

(2) APPLICABLE HOSPITAL DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “applicable hospital” means a hospital that is classified under clause (iv)(II) of section 1886(d)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(1)(B)) on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act and which is classified under clause (vi) of such section, as redesignated and moved by subsection (a), on or after such date of enactment.

(d) CONFORMING TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1899B(a)(2)(A)(iv) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ll(a)(2)(A)(iv)) is amended by striking “1886(d)(1)(B)(iv)(II)” and inserting “1886(d)(1)(B)(vi)”.

(2) Section 1886(m)(5)(F) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(m)(5)(F)) is amended in each of clauses (i) and (ii) by striking “(d)(1)(B)(iv)(II)” and inserting “(d)(1)(B)(vi)”.

SEC. 104. TEMPORARY EXCEPTION TO THE APPLICATION OF THE MEDICARE LTCH SITE NEUTRAL PROVISIONS FOR CERTAIN SPINAL CORD SPECIALTY HOSPITALS.

(a) EXCEPTION.—Section 1886(m)(6) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(m)(6)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking “and (E)” and inserting “, (E), and (F)”;

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) TEMPORARY EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN SPINAL CORD SPECIALTY HOSPITALS.—For discharges in cost reporting periods beginning during fiscal years 2018 and 2019, subparagraph (A)(i) shall not apply (and payment shall be made to a long-term care hospital without regard to this paragraph) if such discharge is from a long-term care hospital that meets each of the following requirements:

“(i) NOT-FOR-PROFIT.—The long-term care hospital was a not-for-profit long-term care hospital on June 1, 2014, as determined by cost report data.

“(ii) PRIMARILY PROVIDING TREATMENT FOR CATASTROPHIC SPINAL CORD OR ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURIES OR OTHER PARALYZING NEUROMUSCULAR CONDITIONS.—Of the discharges in calendar year 2013 from the long-term care hospital for which payment was made under this section, at least 50 percent were classified under MS-LTCH-DRGs 28, 29, 52, 57, 551, 573, and 963.

“(iii) SIGNIFICANT OUT-OF-STATE ADMISSIONS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—The long-term care hospital discharged inpatients (including both individuals entitled to, or enrolled for, benefits under this title and individuals not so entitled or enrolled) during fiscal year 2014 who had been admitted from at least 20 of the 50 States, determined by the States of residency of such inpatients and based on such data submitted by the hospital to the Secretary as the Secretary may require.

“(II) IMPLEMENTATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may implement subclause (I) by program instruction or otherwise.

“(III) NON-APPLICATION OF PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, shall not apply to data collected under this clause.”

(b) STUDY AND REPORT ON THE STATUS AND VIABILITY OF CERTAIN SPINAL CORD SPECIALTY LONG-TERM CARE HOSPITALS.—

(1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on long-term care hospitals described in section 1886(m)(6)(F) of the Social Security Act, as added by subsection (a). Such report shall include an analysis of the following:

(A) The impact on such hospitals of the classification and facility licensure by State agencies of such hospitals.

(B) The Medicare payment rates for such hospitals.

(C) Data on the number and health care needs of Medicare beneficiaries who have been diagnosed with catastrophic spinal cord or acquired brain injuries or other paralyzing neuromuscular conditions (as described within the discharge classifications specified in clause (ii) of such section) who are receiving services from such hospitals.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than October 1, 2018, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under paragraph (1), including recommendations for such legislation and administrative action as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

SEC. 105. TEMPORARY EXTENSION TO THE APPLICATION OF THE MEDICARE LTCH SITE NEUTRAL PROVISIONS FOR CERTAIN DISCHARGES WITH SEVERE WOUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1886(m)(6) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(m)(6)), as amended by section 104, is further amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(i) by striking “and (F)” and inserting “(F), and (G)”;

(2) in subparagraph (E)(i)(aa), by striking “the amendment made” and all that follows before the semicolon and inserting “the last sentence of subsection (d)(1)(B)”;

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(G) ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN SEVERE WOUND DISCHARGES FROM CERTAIN LONG-TERM CARE HOSPITALS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For a discharge occurring in a cost reporting period beginning during fiscal year 2018, subparagraph (A)(i) shall not apply (and payment shall be made to a long-term care hospital without regard to this paragraph) if such discharge—

“(I) is from a long-term care hospital identified by the last sentence of subsection (d)(1)(B);

“(II) is classified under MS-LTCH-DRG 602, 603, 539, or 540; and

“(III) is with respect to an individual treated by a long-term care hospital for a severe wound.

“(ii) SEVERE WOUND DEFINED.—In this subparagraph, the term ‘severe wound’ means a wound which is a stage 3 wound, stage 4 wound, unstageable wound, non-healing surgical wound, or fistula as identified in the claim from the long-term care hospital.

“(iii) WOUND DEFINED.—In this subparagraph, the term ‘wound’ means an injury involving division of tissue or rupture of the integument or mucous membrane with exposure to the external environment.”

(c) STUDY AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, conduct a study on the treatment needs of individuals entitled to benefits under part A of title XVIII of the Social Security Act or enrolled under part B of such title who require specialized wound care, and the cost, for such individuals and the Medicare program under such title, of treating severe wounds in rural and urban areas. Such study shall include an assessment of—

(A) access of such individuals to appropriate levels of care for such cases;

(B) the potential impact that section 1886(m)(6)(A)(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(m)(6)(A)(i)) will have on the access, quality, and cost of care for such individuals; and

(C) how to appropriately pay for such care under the Medicare program under such title.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than October 1, 2020, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted

under paragraph (1), including recommendations for such legislation and administrative action as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

TITLE II—OTHER PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. NO PAYMENT FOR ITEMS AND SERVICES FURNISHED BY NEWLY ENROLLED PROVIDERS OR SUPPLIERS WITHIN A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM AREA.

(a) MEDICARE.—Section 1866(j)(7) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395cc(j)(7)) is amended—

(1) in the paragraph heading, by inserting “; NONPAYMENT” before the period; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) NONPAYMENT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—No payment may be made under this title or under a program described in subparagraph (A) with respect to an item or service described in clause (ii) furnished on or after October 1, 2017.

“(ii) ITEM OR SERVICE DESCRIBED.—An item or service described in this clause is an item or service furnished—

“(I) within a geographic area with respect to which a temporary moratorium imposed under subparagraph (A) is in effect; and

“(II) by a provider of services or supplier that meets the requirements of clause (iii).

“(iii) REQUIREMENTS.—For purposes of clause (ii), the requirements of this clause are that a provider of services or supplier—

“(I) enrolls under this title on or after the effective date of such temporary moratorium; and

“(II) is within a category of providers of services and suppliers (as described in subparagraph (A)) subject to such temporary moratorium.

“(iv) PROHIBITION ON CHARGES FOR SPECIFIED ITEMS OR SERVICES.—In no case shall a provider of services or supplier described in clause (ii)(II) charge an individual or other person for an item or service described in clause (ii) furnished on or after October 1, 2017, to an individual entitled to benefits under part A or enrolled under part B or an individual under a program specified in subparagraph (A).”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) MEDICAID.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 1903(i)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(i)(2)) is amended—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking the comma at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “or” at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) with respect to any amount expended for such an item or service furnished during calendar quarters beginning on or after October 1, 2017, subject to section 1902(kk)(4)(A)(ii)(II), within a geographic area that is subject to a moratorium imposed under section 1866(j)(7) by a provider or supplier that meets the requirements specified in subparagraph (C)(iii) of such section, during the period of such moratorium; or”.

(B) EXCEPTION WITH RESPECT TO ACCESS.—Section 1902(kk)(4)(A)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(kk)(4)(A)(ii)) is amended to read as follows:

“(ii) EXCEPTIONS.—

“(I) COMPLIANCE WITH MORATORIUM.—A State shall not be required to comply with a temporary moratorium described in clause (i) if the State determines that the imposition of such temporary moratorium would adversely impact beneficiaries’ access to medical assistance.

“(II) FFP AVAILABLE.—Notwithstanding section 1903(i)(2)(D), payment may be made to a State under this title with respect to amounts expended for items and services de-

scribed in such section if the Secretary, in consultation with the State agency administering the State plan under this title (or a waiver of the plan), determines that denying payment to the State pursuant to such section would adversely impact beneficiaries’ access to medical assistance.”.

(C) STATE PLAN REQUIREMENT WITH RESPECT TO LIMITATION ON CHARGES TO BENEFICIARIES.—Section 1902(kk)(4)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(kk)(4)(A)) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) LIMITATION ON CHARGES TO BENEFICIARIES.—With respect to any amount expended for items or services furnished during calendar quarters beginning on or after October 1, 2017, the State prohibits, during the period of a temporary moratorium described in clause (i), a provider meeting the requirements specified in subparagraph (C)(iii) of section 1866(j)(7) from charging an individual or other person eligible to receive medical assistance under the State plan under this title (or a waiver of the plan) for an item or service described in section 1903(i)(2)(D) furnished to such an individual.”.

(2) CORRECTING AMENDMENTS TO RELATED PROVISIONS.—

(A) SECTION 1866(J).—Section 1866(j) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395cc(j)) is amended—

(i) in paragraph (1)(A)—

(I) by striking “paragraph (4)” and inserting “paragraph (5)”;

(II) by striking “moratoria in accordance with paragraph (5)” and inserting “moratoria in accordance with paragraph (7)”;

(III) by striking “paragraph (6)” and inserting “paragraph (9)”;

(ii) by redesignating the second paragraph (8) (added by section 1304(1) of Public Law 111–152) as paragraph (9).

(B) SECTION 1902(KK).—Section 1902(kk) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(kk)) is amended—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “section 1866(j)(2)” and inserting “section 1866(j)(2)”;

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking “section 1866(j)(3)” and inserting “section 1866(j)(3)”;

(iii) in paragraph (3), by striking “section 1866(j)(4)” and inserting “section 1866(j)(5)”;

(iv) in paragraph (4)(A), by striking “section 1866(j)(6)” and inserting “section 1866(j)(7)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5713, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. This bill provides needed regulatory relief for our hospitals, specifically long-term care hospitals.

I am happy that the Ways and Means Committee has come together in a bipartisan effort on this bill, and I want to thank my colleague and dear friend from the Garden State, BILL PASCRELL,

for cosponsoring this bill with me today.

H.R. 5713, the Sustaining Healthcare Integrity and Fair Treatment Act, or the SHIFT Act, will give relief to all long-term care hospitals, or LTCHs, from the 25 percent rule before it fully goes into effect next month on October 1 of this year.

This CMS rule, which has been delayed for 10 years, allows for no more than 25 percent of patients to come from one inpatient acute care hospital in one quarter. My bill will reinstate the 50 percent threshold that was in effect prior to July 1, 2016, and delay the rule for 9 months.

During a time when patients and healthcare providers are facing increasing burdens and higher costs, I am pleased that we could come to an agreement that will help over 400 hospitals across America. This bill will also provide relief for four specific groups of LTCHs that treat highly unique groups of patients.

I was glad to work with a number of my colleagues to incorporate their bills within this bill, including Mr. BUCHANAN's and Mr. PASCRELL's bill, H.R. 4650; Mr. JASON SMITH's bill, H.R. 5559; Mr. CROWLEY's bill, H.R. 5614; Dr. PRICE's and Mr. LEWIS' bill, H.R. 5688; and finally, Mr. LEVIN's bill, H.R. 5723.

The SHIFT Act also allows the Medicare, Medicaid, and Children's Health Insurance Program to limit reimbursement for providers or suppliers who may be exploiting program integrity loopholes and engaging in waste, fraud, or abuse. This will prevent hard-earned taxpayer dollars from going to bad actors.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,

Washington, DC, September 20, 2016.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY: I write in regard to the following bills:

H.R. 5713, Sustaining Healthcare Integrity and Fair Treatment Act of 2016;

H.R. 5659, Expanding Seniors Receiving Dialectic Choice Act of 2016; and

H.R. 5613, To provide for the extension of the enforcement instruction on supervision requirements for outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals through 2016.

As you know, H.R. 5716, H.R. 5659, and H.R. 5613 were each referred to both the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Ways and Means. I wanted to notify you that the Committee on Energy and Commerce will forgo action on each of these bills so that they may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

This is done with the understanding that the Committee on Energy and Commerce's jurisdictional interests over these bills and similar legislation are in no way diminished or altered and that the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as these bills or similar legislation move forward. In addition, the Committee reserves the right to seek conferees each of these bills and requests your support when such a request is made.

I would appreciate your response confirming this understanding with respect to

H.R. 5716, H.R. 5659, and H.R. 5613 and ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during consideration of these bills on the House floor.

Sincerely,

FRED UPTON,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 20, 2016.

Hon. FRED UPTON,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you for your letter regarding the following bills:

H.R. 5713, the "Sustaining Healthcare Integrity and Fair Treatment Act of 2016;"

H.R. 5659, the "Expanding Seniors Receiving Dialysis Choice Act of 2016;" and

H.R. 5613, to provide for the extension of the enforcement instruction on supervision requirements for outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals through 2016.

I am most appreciative of your decision to waive formal consideration of these measures so that they may proceed expeditiously to the House floor. I acknowledge that although you waived formal consideration of these bills, the Committee on Energy and Commerce is in no way waiving its jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in those provisions of the bills that fall within your Rule X jurisdiction. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees on any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will include a copy of our letters in the Congressional Record during consideration of these measures on the House floor.

Sincerely,

KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce H.R. 5713 with Mr. TIBERI, Sustaining Healthcare Integrity and Fair Treatment Act. I think this is good legislation, not because my name is on it but because I thought a lot of thought came into this, and staff helped tremendously.

This is one of the areas I have tried to concentrate on since being in Congress: long-term and acute care. As the cofounder and co-chair of the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force, I understand the important role that long-term care hospitals play in the recovery of many individuals who suffer moderate to severe traumatic brain injuries, or TBIs.

I use this as one example, the area of TBI. If there is one thing I have learned about TBI in the 18 years I have been working on this issue, it is that recovery looks different for everyone, whether you are on the battlefield or you fall off a ladder trying to fix your roof.

I understand the important role that long-term care hospitals play. I want to repeat that. That is why we must, I believe, preserve access to all post-acute care options, so that patients can receive the individualized care they need, and we don't tell them: get out, because your time is up, in the middle of their treatment. And that is what the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) has talked about many times.

□ 1730

This is the right legislation, I believe, for this particular problem. H.R. 5713 would provide an additional 9 months of relief from the full implementation of the 25 percent rule for long-term care hospitals, which Mr. TIBERI mentioned. This bill includes technical changes for long-term hospitals.

H.R. 5713 would, first, clarify the application of rules on the calculation of the hospital length to certain moratorium-excepted LTCHs, the long-term care hospitals.

Second, it would correct the status of Calvary Hospital in New York City that has led to secondary-payer issues, big issues.

Third, it would provide a temporary exception to the application of the Medicare long-term care hospital site-neutral provisions for certain spinal cord specialty hospitals.

Fourth, it would exempt four payment codes for severe wounds from site-neutral payments.

This is a bipartisan piece of legislation. We can do this. We could do it, without exception, if you put people in the room who want to compromise, who don't know all the answers, and I don't. We could come to a conclusion.

This bill would offset the cost of this extension by implementing an important program integrity policy that would allow the Secretary to reject Medicare claims from new Medicare suppliers and providers located just outside of the moratorium areas.

While this bill is an important step forward, it is just a temporary Band-Aid on the 25 percent rule. I say to the gentleman, I don't believe it is a permanent solution, but I think it helps us. We need to work together to find a long-term solution to the issue.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill before us today.

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

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I don't think I have any more speakers and am ready to close.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, long-term hospitals are an important part of our post-acute care system. This bill will help preserve access and maintain fairness for these hospitals and their patients.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5713, and it is my hope that this bill is taken up expeditiously on the other side of the building in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I thank the Speaker for allowing me the opportunity to present this bill today, this bipartisan bill that came out of the Ways and Means Committee.

I really can't add much to what Mr. PASCRELL said, and I really appreciate his leadership, not only on this issue, but on the issue of traumatic brain injury. There has been nobody in the

Congress who has talked more, spent more time in educating folks and trying to come up with solutions to traumatic brain injury, and I appreciate his leadership.

I thank the Speaker for allowing us to present and advance this package, this healthcare package through the process today.

I ask all my colleagues to vote for it. We must help those beneficiaries that suffer from acute, long-term illness and injuries, and I believe this bill will do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5713, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PREVENT TRAFFICKING IN CULTURAL PROPERTY ACT

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2285) to improve enforcement against trafficking in cultural property and prevent stolen or illicit cultural property from financing terrorist and criminal networks, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2285

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Prevent Trafficking in Cultural Property Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITION.

In this Act, the term "cultural property" includes property covered under—

(1) Article 1 of the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, adopted at the Hague on May 14, 1954 (Treaty 13 Doc. 106-1(A)); or

(2) Article 1 of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization ("UNESCO") on November 14, 1970.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It shall be the policy of the United States to—

(1) ensure the components of the Department of Homeland Security enhance and unify efforts to—

(A) interdict, detain, seize, and investigate cultural property illegally imported into the United States;

(B) disrupt and dismantle smuggling and trafficking networks and transnational criminal organizations engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating illegal

trade in cultural property, including stolen antiquities used to finance terrorism; and

(C) support Offices of United States Attorneys in prosecuting persons engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating illegal trade in cultural property; and

(2) protect cultural property pursuant to its obligations under the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, and the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act (19 U.S.C. 2601–2613).

SEC. 4. ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall—

(1) designate a principal coordinator within U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, respectively, to direct, manage, coordinate, and update their respective policies and procedures, as well as conduct interagency communications, regarding illegally imported cultural property;

(2) update existing directives, regulations, rules, and memoranda of understanding of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, respectively, and, if necessary, devise additional directives, regulations, rules, and memoranda of understanding, relating to policies and procedures on the illegal importation of cultural property in order to—

(A) reflect changes in cultural property law, including changes and updates to relevant treaties, bilateral agreements, statutes, regulations, and case law that occurred subsequent to Customs Directive No. 5230–015, “Customs Directive on Detention and Seizure of Cultural Property”, dated April 18, 1991;

(B) emphasize investigating, and providing support for investigations and prosecutions, of persons engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating the illegal importation of cultural property, including smugglers, dealers, buyers, money launderers, and any other appropriate parties; and

(C) provide for communication and coordination between relevant U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement offices, respectively, in investigating and supporting prosecutions of persons engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating the illegal importation of cultural property; and

(3) ensure relevant personnel within U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, respectively, receive sufficient training in—

(A) relevant cultural property laws;

(B) the identification of cultural property that is at greatest risk of looting and trafficking; and

(C) methods of interdiction and investigative techniques specifically related to illegal trade in cultural property.

SEC. 5. ROLE OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that the heads of all components of the Department of Homeland Security involved in cultural property protection activities are authorized to enter into agreements or memoranda of understanding with the Smithsonian Institution to temporarily engage personnel from the Smithsonian Institution for the purposes of furthering such cultural property protection activities.

SEC. 6. REPORT.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and three years

thereafter, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Commissioner of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall jointly submit to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on—

(1) the progress of the implementation of this Act; and

(2) other actions to enhance and unify efforts to interdict, detain, seize, and investigate cultural property illegally imported into the United States, and investigate, disrupt, and dismantle smuggling and trafficking networks engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating the illegal importation of cultural property.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2285 currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING) has done good work here and we are deeply appreciative, and I think all Americans are when they learn about what is in this piece of legislation. It enjoys broad bipartisan support, and I am here to urge its passage. Let me tell you briefly about it.

The Prevent Trafficking in Cultural Property Act is a key component in the fight against terrorism. This bill will allow us to launch a strategic blow to ISIS by cutting off one of their main fundraising sources. ISIS and their network loot and smuggle artifacts from world heritage sites and sell them on the black market to fund their terrorist activities. We can and we must put an end to this.

The Department of Homeland Security is responsible for detecting and collecting stolen artifacts from the U.S., but illegal trade of valuable artifacts continues to grow, and much more needs to be done to address this very serious problem. That is where Mr. KEATING and this bill come into play.

This bill creates a clear U.S. policy to stop and prevent the trafficking of historic artifacts by providing the U.S. Government with the tools it needs to effectively detain, seize, and investigate historic objects that are illegally imported into the U.S.

Because ISIS relies heavily on cash to carry out its terrorist activities, passing this bill is an important step in taking down a group that has caused so much harm, so much heartache, and so

much anxiety to Americans, our allies, and innocent civilians around the world.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, September 14, 2016.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY: I write with respect to H.R. 2285, the “Prevent Trafficking in Cultural Property Act,” which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary among others. As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions within H.R. 2285 that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, I agree to discharge our committee from further consideration of this bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

The Judiciary Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 2285 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation and that our committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction. Our committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation and asks that you support any such request.

I would appreciate a response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 2285 and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in your committee report and in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 2285.

Sincerely,

BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, September 15, 2016.
Hon. BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GOODLATTE: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 2285, the “Prevent Trafficking in Cultural Property Act.” As you noted, the Committee on the Judiciary was granted an additional referral of the bill.

I am most appreciative of your decision to waive formal consideration of H.R. 2285 so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor. I acknowledge that although you waived formal consideration of the bill, the Committee on the Judiciary is in no way waiving its jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in those provisions of the bill that fall within your Rule X jurisdiction. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees on any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will include a copy of our letters in the Congressional Record during consideration of this legislation on the House floor.

Sincerely,

KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2285. I would like to thank my colleague from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM) for

his strong support in trying to eradicate a major funding source for a terrorist group that is causing great destruction all over the world now, ISIL.

I rise in support of H.R. 2285. It is a bill to prevent stolen and illicit cultural property from financing terrorist and criminal networks, and also to improve enforcement and prosecution against trafficking in cultural property.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2285, the Prevent Trafficking in Cultural Property Act, is a bipartisan bill aimed at stopping ISIL and other terrorist groups from advancing their activities through the sale of stolen antiquities and other cultural property. Along with oil and hostage-taking, this is one of the leading sources of their terrorist financing.

To date, ISIL has reportedly plundered tens of millions of dollars from antiquities stolen in Syria alone. In just one 4-month period, at the end of 2014 and the beginning of 2015, ISIL earned more than \$265,000 in what they term “taxes” on the sale of antiquities. I was struck by intelligence indicating that ISIL had stolen \$36 million from one site alone in al-Nabuk, west of Damascus.

As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, we work with Customs and Border Patrol and Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials, and we have learned that there was a gap in enforcement of laws and regulations against trafficking in cultural property, and there was a real need to require greater information sharing across agencies and to better equip personnel to identify stolen antiquities and trafficking networks. This bill closes this gap by expanding trainings for personnel and by enhancing coordination between Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

H.R. 2285 also increases cooperation with agencies outside the Department of Homeland Security, authorizing memorandums of understanding with groups like the Smithsonian Institution to promote collaboration around cultural property protection activities and training our personnel to spot these illegal acts.

ISIL forces have been terrorizing communities across the Middle East, targeting ethnic and religious minorities with acts of enslavement and genocide. Their attacks have been directed not only against people, but against ancient historic sites, works of art, objects, monuments, and buildings, as ISIL has worked to destroy all evidence of the region’s rich cultural, historical, and religious identity. What ISIL does not destroy, it sells to generate income for their terrorist acts.

This legislation would help cut off an important revenue stream for ISIL and, by working to close the illicit antiquities market in the United States, would ultimately reduce the incentives in Iraq and Syria to loot and steal antiquities in the first place.

We must act to disrupt these smuggling and trafficking networks so that

ISIL may not profit from the destruction of the cultural and heritage backgrounds of this region, so that the remaining treasured cultural and historic sites throughout Syria and Iraq will live on.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), the ranking member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING) for yielding to me. He is a very valued member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and, once again, he is doing excellent work with this bill, and Mr. ROSKAM as well.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill. I am grateful for the work that Mr. KEATING has done to shine a light on the challenge of antiquities looting.

We hear these stories about ISIS terrorists destroying heritage sites and smashing statutes, and it is heart-breaking. They are trying to wipe away history. But I have heard people say: Well, this is bad, but shouldn’t we be focused on stopping violence and killing?

Well, make no mistake; these practices go hand in hand. It is not a matter of choosing one over the other. Before ISIS extremists pulverize statues and temples, they loot whatever they can carry and peddle these items on the black market. I have a bill—a law, actually—that has been passed involving these antiquities in Syria. This is a funding source for their campaign of terror; so, by confronting the problem, we are working to cut off a valuable resource for ISIS.

As I mentioned, I am proud that, earlier this year, the President signed a law that I authored to impose new import restrictions on antiquities looted from Syria during the current conflict. Mr. KEATING and Mr. ROSKAM’s measure goes a step further to help provide the training needed to enforce the protections we have put in place.

The new restrictions are similar to what we have imposed for Iraq a number of years ago. They are designed to undermine the market for looted antiquities and ensure that antiquities sold by terrorist organizations don’t find their way to our shores.

Before these restrictions can do their job, however, law enforcement needs tools and training to identify stolen antiquities so they don’t slip through our ports. Mr. KEATING’s legislation will help make sure Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers are able to intercept and investigate cultural property illegally imported into the United States. It will make it easier for them to root out the trafficking networks responsible for this trafficking, and it expresses support for the U.S. attorneys we depend on for prosecuting these cases.

This is not a new job for these officers. For years they have worked to prevent trafficking in illegal antiquities. But their jobs are harder than ever. This bill will get them the legal tools and training they need to get that job done.

So, Mr. Speaker, we need every tool at our disposal to deny ISIS funding and resources. That is what we are doing when we focus on antiquities looting. At the same time, we are working to preserve cultural heritage that is increasingly under threat.

So I thank Mr. KEATING for his leadership and hard work. I thank him for bringing the bill forward. I am very pleased to support it, and I urge all Members to do the same.

□ 1745

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM) for his support in this. I want to thank the 19 cosponsors of this legislation, including the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) who just spoke and who is the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL) who is the chair of the Homeland Security Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I think our constituents are really heartened when they see both parties coming together to work on things of national importance. Without question, H.R. 2285 is in that category. It is a tool that we need to combat ISIS.

I commend Mr. KEATING, and I urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2285, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RESTRAINING EXCESSIVE SEIZURE OF PROPERTY THROUGH THE EXPLOITATION OF CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE TOOLS ACT

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5523) to amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from carrying out seizures relating to a structuring transaction unless the property to be seized derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of another

criminal law or regulation, to require notice and a post-seizure hearing for such seizures, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5523

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Clyde-Hirsch-Sowers RESPECT Act” or the “Restraining Excessive Seizure of Property through the Exploitation of Civil Asset Forfeiture Tools Act”.

SEC. 2. INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE SEIZURE REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO STRUCTURING TRANSACTIONS.

Section 5317(c)(2) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “Any property” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any property”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE SEIZURE REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO STRUCTURING TRANSACTIONS.—

“(i) PROPERTY DERIVED FROM AN ILLEGAL SOURCE.—Property may only be seized by the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to subparagraph (A) by reason of a claimed violation of section 5324 if the property to be seized was derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of a criminal law or regulation other than section 5324.

“(ii) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after property is seized by the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to subparagraph (A), the Internal Revenue Service shall—

“(I) make a good faith effort to find all persons with an ownership interest in such property; and

“(II) provide each such person with a notice of the person’s rights under clause (iv).

“(iii) EXTENSION OF NOTICE UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.—The Internal Revenue Service may apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for one 30-day extension of the notice requirement under clause (ii) if the Internal Revenue Service can establish probable cause of an imminent threat to national security or personal safety necessitating such extension.

“(iv) POST-SEIZURE HEARING.—If a person with a property interest in property seized pursuant to subparagraph (A) by the Internal Revenue Service requests a hearing by a court of competent jurisdiction within 30 days after the date on which notice is provided under subclause (ii), such property shall be returned unless the court holds an adversarial hearing and finds within 30 days of such request (or such longer period as the court may provide, but only on request of an interested party) that there is probable cause to believe that there is a violation of section 5324 involving such property and probable cause to believe that the property to be seized was derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of a criminal law or regulation other than section 5324.”.

SEC. 3. EXCLUSION OF INTEREST RECEIVED IN ACTION TO RECOVER PROPERTY SEIZED BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE BASED ON STRUCTURING TRANSACTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting before section 140 the following new section:

“SEC. 139G. INTEREST RECEIVED IN ACTION TO RECOVER PROPERTY SEIZED BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE BASED ON STRUCTURING TRANSACTION.

“Gross income shall not include any interest received from the Federal Government in connection with an action to recover property

seized by the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to section 5317(c)(2) of title 31, United States Code, by reason of a claimed violation of section 5324 of such title.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by inserting before the item relating to section 140 the following new item:

“Sec. 139G. Interest received in action to recover property seized by the Internal Revenue Service based on structuring transaction.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to interest received on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5523, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this afternoon, the gentleman from New York and I are going to tell you a fascinating story. It is a story that when we tell it to our constituents at home, there is such a level of concern about what they have heard has happened that it really gets their attention. The good news is that the Ways and Means Committee and others have come along and tried to come up with a remedy.

So here is what has been going on: for the past 2 years, the Ways and Means Oversight Subcommittee has been investigating how the IRS has abused its civil asset forfeiture authority. We heard from numerous people about how the IRS seized their life savings with no notice simply because they had deposited their own money into their own bank accounts in amounts of less than \$10,000. You heard that right—their own money into their own bank accounts with no underlying bad act, and the IRS came in and seized their assets with no notice.

It was so outrageous and so egregious in some of these cases, Mr. Speaker, that the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service actually apologized to some of these people. Now, getting an apology out of the IRS Commissioner was like birthing a calf, but we got the apology from him, and we have been able to move forward.

Subsequent to that, the Internal Revenue Service has changed their policy—which is okay, it is a good step—but we have to go farther and we need to change the underlying statute.

Now, here is the back story: most people don’t know that the law requires deposits of more than \$10,000 to

be reported to the government. It is not a bad policy, and it is in place in case there is a human trafficking operation or a mafia front group or a meth lab that is trying to get around some bank secrecy acts. Others don’t know that it is actually illegal to intentionally avoid that reporting requirement.

Two Maryland farming families, the Sowers and the Taylors, went through this ordeal. In their cases, bank tellers told them that it would be helpful if they could deposit all the cash they earned by selling farmers market products in amounts less than \$10,000.

So, Mr. Speaker, in other words, the bank teller says: Look, it is a big hassle when you come in here with more than \$10,000. It would be much easier if you come in with less than \$10,000 because we, the bank, won’t have to make a report.

The Sowers and the Taylors—nicest people ever—said: Sure.

That is where the trouble began. As they requested, they kept their deposits under \$10,000 to help out the tellers.

Likewise, the Hirsch brothers in New York, who own a convenience store distributorship, do a lot of cash business; and just because they made large cash deposits at their bank, the government seized their savings of \$400,000.

Andrew Clyde, who owns an armory down in Athens, Georgia, has a similar story. His store’s insurance policy only covers up to \$10,000 in cash losses. So he does what any commonsense, clear-thinking person would do, and that is to take less than \$10,000 to the bank because more than \$10,000 wouldn’t be covered by his own insurance policy.

Mr. Speaker, now, even after the IRS had seized these accounts and the IRS realized that there was no criminal activity attached to these funds—in other words, they realized this is not what this law is all about—the IRS kept the money, and people like the families that I just mentioned spent time and resources trying to get them back. Some of them, like Mr. Clyde and the Taylors, are still fighting today.

Mr. Speaker, the entire subcommittee, both sides of the aisle, was scandalized to learn about this. It began to say, number one, how can this be? And number two, what can we do about it?

Mr. CROWLEY, my friend from New York, and I thought it was a good step that the IRS changed their policy. But we think an even better step is to pass this underlying bill.

What the bill does is it says that the IRS would only be able to seize structured assets if they are used to conceal another crime or they are derived from an illegal source. It would also give procedural protections, like the right to a speedy hearing, to people from whom the IRS seizes money. Finally, if the government ultimately gives assets and interest back when challenged, our bill would exempt that interest from Federal income tax. It serves to help right the wrong, if only in a small way,

for the money being improperly taken in the first place.

Unfortunately, the bill comes up too late to keep the Clydes, the Sowers, the Hirsches, and the Taylors from dealing with this problem. But they have done all Americans and this body a service by standing up and being willing to tell their stories so that we can respond. We cannot let the IRS abuse this discretion and abuse this power. I am pleased that the overwhelming and, in fact, the unanimous Ways and Means Committee has supported this.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, September 8, 2016.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY: I am writing concerning H.R. 5523, the "Clyde-Hirsch-Sowers RESPECT Act".

As a result of your having consulted with the Committee on Financial Services concerning provisions in the bill that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction, I agree to forgo action on the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor. The Committee on Financial Services takes this action with our mutual understanding that, by foregoing consideration of H.R. 5523 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. Our Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for any such request.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 5523 and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in your committee's report to accompany the legislation, as well as in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during floor consideration thereof.

Sincerely,

JEB HENSARLING,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 8, 2016.

HON. JEB HENSARLING,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HENSARLING: Thank you for your letter concerning H.R. 5523, the "Clyde-Hirsch-Sowers RESPECT Act," on which the Financial Services Committee was granted an additional referral.

I am most appreciative of your decision to waive formal consideration of H.R. 5523 so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor. I acknowledge that although you waived formal consideration of the bill, the Financial Services Committee is in no way waiving its jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in those provisions of the bill that fall within your Rule X jurisdiction. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees on any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will include a copy of our letters in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during consideration of this legislation on the House floor.

Sincerely,

KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, first, let me thank my good friend, my colleague from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM), for his good work on this issue. Tenacity does pay off. The gentleman has really kept his nose to the grindstone on this. Now, I don't want the gentleman to get a bad reputation for working with me on so many issues. I just want to point that out for the record.

Today is a good day for American taxpayers as, hopefully, the House of Representatives will soon pass the Clyde-Hirsch-Sowers RESPECT Act to enact vital reforms to the Federal Government's civil asset forfeiture process.

Civil asset forfeiture is an important tool for the IRS and for other Federal agencies. They use it to go after ill-gotten funds from drug dealers, human traffickers, terrorists, and other criminals.

This bill will not weaken that vital law enforcement tool one bit. But this legislation will codify into law much-needed reforms to the process to stop abusive asset forfeitures—abusive seizures such as the ability of the government to take a person's bank account without ever charging them with a crime.

The Oversight Subcommittee on the Ways and Means Committee, under the guidance of our chairman, Mr. ROSKAM, undertook a painstaking 17-month investigation. I think this is a good example of the committee process and how we can work functionally, unlike what we have seen in other committees here in the House.

This investigation included holding a series of congressional hearings, meeting with officials from a number of Federal agencies, and continually keeping the pressure on the IRS to practically reach out and return any asset seized from people who were never charged with any crimes. In particular, Mr. Speaker, hearing from the victims themselves was incredibly moving and touching, I think, to Members of both sides of the aisle.

These actions culminated in this bipartisan legislation that passed the Ways and Means Committee unanimously. This bill, the Clyde-Hirsch-Sowers RESPECT Act, aims to take what we have learned and fix the system to prevent the seizure of bank accounts of law-abiding citizens. Specifically, this legislation prohibits the IRS from taking any assets related to structuring unless the funds are from an illegal source or the funds were structured to conceal other criminal activity.

Additionally, to provide due process to affected taxpayers, the bill requires the IRS to notify an account holder of a seizure within 30 days of that seizure.

Once an account is seized, the bill allows the person whose assets were seized to seek a post-seizure hearing within 30 days. Now, even that, for some, can be onerous; but it is a start. We know that those engaged in illegal actions will usually not contest the seizure. They won't go to the agency and contest it. But for those who committed no crimes, this bill, in many respects, levels the playing field.

But the passage of this bill isn't the last part of this fight. I know my colleague, Mr. ROSKAM, and I will continue to keep pressure on the Federal Government to quickly return the assets of those innocent taxpayers not charged with any crimes whose assets are still being held by the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to the passage of this legislation and correcting a wrong in the law that exists to help law-abiding citizens hold on to their hard-earned resources.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. CROWLEY for his work, his advocacy, and his willingness to make suggestions to improve this bill so we could enjoy unanimous support. We are in a very good situation on it.

Let me just give you a little bit more color commentary, if I could, because I think it is important for us to recognize the role that we in this House play as a coequal branch of government pushing back on abuse when we see it in the executive branch, and this is part of our experience.

So here is the back story: it occurred to us, Mr. Speaker, that these were certain cases—and I mentioned them a minute ago; I gave the names of these individuals a minute ago—that we had come to learn about. The IRS then subsequently changed their policy.

But then it begs the question: What happens to the people, number one, that we don't know about who are still stuck in the system?

So the IRS, in other words, said that we are not going to do this moving forward.

What about the people that they had done this to?

In other words, they had assets they had confiscated.

So we ended up having another hearing, again, bipartisan. The result of that hearing, a result of a unanimous voice on the subcommittee itself, was that the IRS said: We are going to come up with a petition process. The IRS has written to 1,100 people involving approximately 700 cases, and they have heard back from 380 people so far who have said: You have wrongly taken this money.

□ 1800

Mr. Speaker, I just want to tell you a quick story.

It was a few months ago—I don't remember the exact date—but it was a

few months ago when I asked for a briefing from the Department of Justice and the Internal Revenue Service on these pending cases. I thought, Mr. Speaker, based on these hearings and so forth, that the meeting at my request was going to take 10 minutes and that the officials were going to come in and my question was: What is happening to the people who are caught in the middle of this? I thought they were going to come in and they would say, you know: Mr. ROSKAM, here is a list or whatever. We can't give you a list, but here is all disposed of.

No, no, no, no. An hour and a half later, at the end of this discussion, I turned to the Department of Justice officials, Mr. Speaker, and I said: I am more afraid of you now than when I started this meeting. Do you want to know why I am afraid of you? Because you are acting in a completely obtuse manner.

When I asked what happened to these people's money, the officials told me, Mr. Speaker, that the money had been absorbed into the Federal system. Let me repeat that. They said that the money had been absorbed into the Federal system—wrongly absorbed, but absorbed nevertheless. That this could come out of the mouth of someone who works for the Department of Justice I found to be completely absurd.

I asked a simple question: What happens if my constituents owe a tax liability, don't pay the tax liability, and spend the money on something else? What do you do to them? And I answered the question: What you do to them is you put a lien on their house and you put them in prison, that is what you do.

So don't you see, Mr. Speaker, what we are dealing with? We have got to get to this situation, and we have got to get to making sure that power is used appropriately and it is not abused. I think this legislation that, again, is bipartisan, comes forward and it says it strikes the right balance, and if there is an underlying bad act—that is, an illegal activity—there is no one that is going to find any comfort in this bill; however, for the innocent folks who are not abusing this, they will find great comfort.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, Congress has a chance to right a wrong in the law by passing this bill.

We always say that, in the U.S., you are innocent until proven guilty, but the civil asset forfeiture policies imposed by the Federal Government don't always reflect that basic premise.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote for this bill.

But let me be clear. While we are correcting an injustice in one area, this bill reminds us of the importance of a larger discussion on much-needed criminal justice reform.

I hope that this larger issue can also be tackled by this year's Congress.

Just like the Clyde family and the Hirsch family and the Sowers family, whom we named this bill for, far too many American families have seen the U.S. justice system not work on behalf of them. We need to address that issue of criminal justice reform in the same bipartisan way, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. ROSKAM and the entire Ways and Means Committee dealt with civil asset forfeiture.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know how difficult it is to birth a calf. I am a boy from Woodside, Queens. I used to say we had no running water growing up where I came from. Well, we had running water in my home, but we didn't have any streams; we had no ponds, no lakes. The closest I got to the water—I want the violins to come out now—the closest I got to the water was Rockaway Beach in Queens. But my wife is from Montana, and she grew up on a ranch. She may certainly have an inclination how difficult that is.

But let me say, on behalf of the American people, we want to apologize—though it is not necessarily our place—for the entire Federal Government. We didn't impose this on the Clyde family or the Hirsch family or the Sowers family, but they do deserve an apology, not just from the IRS, but from the American people as well, all taxpayers.

But the Clyde family, the Hirsch family, and the Sowers family, I don't know where their families came from. I do not know their ethnicity. I do not know their political persuasion. I do not know what religion they practice, if any at all. But what I do know is they are American citizens, so they deserve to be treated with justice under the law.

In these particular cases, they sought justice and were denied it; and we are restoring that today with the passage of this bill, not only for them, but for all Americans who find themselves in this situation. For that, I am grateful for my friend from Illinois, for his tenacity; but I am also grateful for the tenacity of these families to not sit back and allow this to happen not only to themselves, but to potentially future victims. That is what their legacy will be. I hope their families are proud of what they have accomplished.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I think Mr. CROWLEY made a great point, and that is there is a great temptation when the Federal Government comes after you—I would imagine, a great temptation—to cower to the intimidation. The government has a lot of power, and the government in this case figuratively reached out and grabbed these families by the throat and choked them and used power that was not correct to use against them, and it was unjust.

It would have been an easy thing for these families to just sit back and take it and so forth, but they didn't do that.

I think the fact that they didn't do that, Mr. Speaker, and they are willing to stand up and fight is a good foreshadowing of things to come. In other words, they told their story; Members of Congress heard their story, and we have been able to move and seek justice, not only changing underlying policies within the executive branch, but also changing an underlying statute.

The other body has introduced this, and I am hopeful that it will be considered in an expeditious manner.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) for his support and advocacy. I urge passage of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5523, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1832

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WESTMORELAND) at 6 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 670, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 5785, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 5690, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST FAIRNESS AND MEDICAID IMPROVEMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 670) to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend the Medicaid rules regarding supplemental needs trusts for Medicaid beneficiaries to trusts established by those beneficiaries, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 383, nays 22, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 521]

YEAS—383

Abraham	Cramer	Hartzler
Adams	Crawford	Hastings
Aderholt	Crenshaw	Heck (NV)
Aguilar	Crowley	Heck (WA)
Allen	Cuellar	Hensarling
Amash	Culberson	Herrera Beutler
Amodei	Cummings	Hice, Jody B.
Ashford	Curbelo (FL)	Higgins
Babin	Davis (CA)	Hill
Barletta	Davis, Danny	Himes
Barr	Davis, Rodney	Holding
Barton	DeFazio	Honda
Bass	DeGette	Hoyer
Beatty	Delaney	Hudson
Becerra	DeLauro	Huffman
Benishek	DelBene	Huizenga (MI)
Bera	Denham	Hultgren
Beyer	Dent	Hunter
Bilirakis	DeSantis	Hurd (TX)
Bishop (GA)	DeSaulnier	Hurt (VA)
Bishop (MI)	Deutch	Israel
Bishop (UT)	Diaz-Balart	Issa
Black	Dingell	Jackson Lee
Blackburn	Doggett	Jeffries
Blum	Dold	Jenkins (KS)
Blumenauer	Donovan	Jenkins (WV)
Bost	Doyle, Michael	Johnson (GA)
Boyle, Brendan	F.	Johnson (OH)
F.	Duffy	Johnson, E. B.
Brady (PA)	Duncan (SC)	Jolly
Brady (TX)	Duncan (TN)	Jones
Brooks (IN)	Edwards	Joyce
Brown (FL)	Ellison	Katko
Brownley (CA)	Ellmers (NC)	Keating
Buchanan	Engel	Kelly (MS)
Bucshon	Eshoo	Kelly (PA)
Burgess	Esty	Kennedy
Bustos	Farenthold	Kildee
Butterfield	Farr	Kilmer
Byrne	Fitzpatrick	Kind
Calvert	Fleischmann	King (IA)
Capps	Flores	King (NY)
Capuano	Fortenberry	Kinzing (IL)
Cárdenas	Foster	Kline
Carson (IN)	Fox	Knight
Carter (GA)	Frankel (FL)	Kuster
Carter (TX)	Frelinghuysen	LaHood
Cartwright	Fudge	LaMalfa
Castor (FL)	Gabbard	Lamborn
Castro (TX)	Gallego	Lance
Chabot	Garamendi	Langevin
Chaffetz	Garrett	Larsen (WA)
Chu, Judy	Gibbs	Larson (CT)
Cicilline	Gibson	Latta
Clark (MA)	Goodlatte	Lawrence
Clarke (NY)	Gowdy	Lee
Clawson (FL)	Graham	Levin
Clay	Granger	Lewis
Cleaver	Graves (GA)	Lieu, Ted
Clyburn	Graves (LA)	Lipinski
Coffman	Graves (MO)	LoBiondo
Cohen	Grayson	Loeb
Cole	Green, Al	Loeb
Collins (GA)	Green, Gene	Lofgren
Collins (NY)	Griffith	Loudermilk
Comstock	Grijalva	Love
Conaway	Grothman	Lowenthal
Connolly	Guinta	Lowe
Conyers	Guthrie	Lucas
Cook	Hahn	Luetkemeyer
Cooper	Hanna	Lujan Grisham
Costa	Hardy	(NM)
Costello (PA)	Harper	Luján, Ben Ray
Courtney	Harris	(NM)
		Lynch

MacArthur	Pittenger	Smith (MO)
Maloney,	Pitts	Smith (NE)
Carolyn	Pocan	Smith (NJ)
Maloney, Sean	Poliquin	Smith (TX)
Marchant	Polis	Smith (WA)
Marino	Pompeo	Speier
Massie	Posey	Stefanik
Matsui	Price (NC)	Stewart
McCarthy	Price, Tom	Stivers
McCaul	Quigley	Swalwell (CA)
McCollum	Rangel	Takano
McDermott	Reed	Thompson (CA)
McGovern	Reichert	Thompson (MS)
McHenry	Renacci	Thompson (PA)
McKinley	Ribble	Thornberry
McMorris	Rice (NY)	Tiberi
Rodgers	Rice (SC)	Tipton
McNerney	Richmond	Titus
McSally	Rigell	Tonko
Meadows	Roby	Torres
Meehan	Roe (TN)	Trott
Meng	Rogers (AL)	Tsongas
Messer	Rogers (KY)	Turner
Mica	Rohrabacher	Upton
Miller (FL)	Rokita	Valadao
Moolenaar	Ros-Lehtinen	Van Hollen
Mooney (WV)	Roskam	Vargas
Moore	Ross	Veasey
Moulton	Rothfus	Vela
Mullin	Rouzer	Velázquez
Mulvaney	Roybal-Allard	Visclosky
Murphy (FL)	Royce	Walberg
Murphy (PA)	Ruiz	Walden
Nadler	Ruppersberger	Walker
Napolitano	Russell	Walorski
Neal	Sánchez, Linda	Walters, Mimi
Neugebauer	T.	Walz
Newhouse	Sarbanes	Waters, Maxine
Noem	Scalise	Watson Coleman
Nolan	Schakowsky	Weber (TX)
Norcross	Schiff	Webster (FL)
Nugent	Schweikert	Welch
Nunes	Scott (VA)	Wenstrup
O'Rourke	Scott, Austin	Westerman
Olson	Scott, David	Westmoreland
Palazzo	Sensenbrenner	Williams
Pallone	Serrano	Wilson (SC)
Pascrell	Sessions	Womack
Paulsen	Sewell (AL)	Woodall
Payne	Sherman	Yarmuth
Pearce	Shimkus	Yoder
Pelosi	Shuster	Yoho
Perlmutter	Simpson	Young (AK)
Peters	Sinema	Young (IA)
Peterson	Sires	Young (IN)
Pingree	Slaughter	Zeldin

NAYS—22

Brat	Gohmert
Bridenstine	Gosar
Brooks (AL)	Huelskamp
Buck	Jordan
Davidson	Labrador
DesJarlais	Lummis
Fleming	McClintock
Franks (AZ)	Palmer

NOT VOTING—26

Bonamici	Johnson, Sam	Rush
Boustany	Kaptur	Ryan (OH)
Carney	Kelly (IL)	Sanchez, Loretta
Duckworth	Kirkpatrick	Schrader
Emmer (MN)	Long	Stutzman
Fincher	Meeke	Wagner
Forbes	Miller (MI)	Wasserman
Gutiérrez	Poe (TX)	Schultz
Hinojosa	Rooney (FL)	Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1853

Messrs. DAVIDSON, GOSAR, FLEMING, SALMON, DESJARLAIS, PERRY, WITTMAN, Mrs. LUMMIS, and Mr. ZINKE changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. YOHO and SCALISE changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING AN ANNUITY SUPPLEMENT FOR CERTAIN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5785) to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for an annuity supplement for certain air traffic controllers, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 399, nays 4, not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 522]

YEAS—399

Abraham	Cole	Gabbard
Adams	Collins (GA)	Gallego
Aderholt	Collins (NY)	Garamendi
Aguilar	Comstock	Garrett
Allen	Conaway	Gibbs
Amodei	Connolly	Gibson
Ashford	Conyers	Gohmert
Babin	Cook	Goodlatte
Barletta	Cooper	Gosar
Barr	Costa	Gowdy
Barton	Costello (PA)	Graham
Bass	Courtney	Granger
Beatty	Cramer	Graves (GA)
Becerra	Crawford	Graves (LA)
Benishek	Crenshaw	Graves (MO)
Bera	Crowley	Grayson
Beyer	Cuellar	Green, Al
Bilirakis	Culberson	Green, Gene
Bishop (GA)	Cummings	Griffith
Bishop (MI)	Curbelo (FL)	Grijalva
Bishop (UT)	Davidson	Grothman
Black	Davis (CA)	Guinta
Blackburn	Davis, Danny	Guthrie
Blum	Davis, Rodney	Hahn
Blumenauer	DeFazio	Hanna
Bost	DeGette	Hardy
Boyle, Brendan	Delaney	Harper
F.	DeLauro	Harris
Brady (PA)	DelBene	Hartzler
Brady (TX)	Denham	Hastings
Brat	Dent	Heck (NV)
Bridenstine	DeSantis	Heck (WA)
Brooks (IN)	DeSaulnier	Hensarling
Brown (FL)	DesJarlais	Herrera Beutler
Brownley (CA)	Deutch	Hice, Jody B.
Buchanan	Diaz-Balart	Higgins
Buck	Dingell	Hill
Bucshon	Doggett	Himes
Burgess	Dold	Holding
Bustos	Donovan	Honda
Butterfield	Doyle, Michael	Hoyer
Byrne	F.	Hudson
Calvert	Duffy	Huelskamp
Capps	Duncan (SC)	Huffman
Capuano	Duncan (TN)	Huizenga (MI)
Cárdenas	Edwards	Hultgren
Carson (IN)	Ellison	Hunter
Carter (GA)	Ellmers (NC)	Hurd (TX)
Carter (TX)	Engel	Hurt (VA)
Cartwright	Eshoo	Israel
Castor (FL)	Esty	Issa
Castro (TX)	Farenthold	Jackson Lee
Chabot	Farr	Jeffries
Chaffetz	Fitzpatrick	Jenkins (KS)
Chu, Judy	Fleischmann	Jenkins (WV)
Cicilline	Fleming	Johnson (GA)
Clark (MA)	Flores	Johnson (OH)
Clarke (NY)	Fortenberry	Johnson, E. B.
Clawson (FL)	Foster	Jolly
Clay	Fox	Jones
Cleaver	Frankel (FL)	Jordan
Clyburn	Franks (AZ)	Joyce
Coffman	Frelinghuysen	Katko
Cohen	Fudge	Keating

Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Knight
Kuster
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham
(NM)
Luján, Ben Ray
(NM)
Lummis
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney,
Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Massie
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meng
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin

Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neugebauer
Newhouse
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nugent
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (NC)
Price, Tom
Quigley
Rangel
Ratcliffe
Reed
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Russell
Salmon
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin

Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Westmoreland
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Young (IN)
Zeldin
Zinke

NAYS—4

Amash
Brooks (AL)

McClintock
Mulvaney

NOT VOTING—28

Bonamici
Boustany
Carney
Duckworth
Emmer (MN)
Fincher
Forbes
Gutiérrez
Hinojosa
Johnson, Sam

Kaptur
Kelly (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Long
Meeks
Miller (MI)
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Reichert
Rooney (FL)

Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sanchez, Loretta
Schrader
Stutzman
Wagner
Wasserman
Schultz
Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1859

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 522, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

GAO ACCESS AND OVERSIGHT ACT OF 2016

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5690) to ensure the Government Accountability Office has adequate access to information, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 404, nays 0, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 523]

YEAS—404

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Ashford
Babin
Barr
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Benishek
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Bost
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu, Judy
Cicilline

Clarke (NY)
Clawson (FL)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donovan
Doyle, Michael
F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers (NC)
Engel
Eshoo
Esty

Farenthold
Farr
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Fox
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graham
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hanna
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Harris
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Hastings
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Holding
Honda
Hoyer
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)

Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Hurt (VA)
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Jolly
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Katko
Keating
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Knight
Kuster
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larsen (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham
(NM)
Luján, Ben Ray
(NM)
Lummis
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney,
Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Massie
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
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Miller (FL)
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Mooney (WV)
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Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neugebauer
Newhouse
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nugent
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poliquin
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (NC)
Price, Tom
Quigley
Rangel
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Lujan Grisham
(NM)
Luján, Ben Ray
(NM)
Lummis
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney,
Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Massie
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
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Miller (FL)
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin

Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Westmoreland
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Young (IN)
Zeldin
Zinke

NOT VOTING—27

Bonamici
Boustany
Carney
Clark (MA)
Duckworth
Emmer (MN)
Fincher
Forbes
Gutiérrez
Hinojosa

Johnson, Sam
Kaptur
Kelly (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Long
Meeks
Miller (MI)
Poe (TX)
Rooney (FL)
Rush

Ryan (OH)
Sanchez, Loretta
Schrader
Stutzman
Wagner
Wasserman
Schultz
Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PALMER) (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1911

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3438, REQUIRE EVALUATION BEFORE IMPLEMENTING EXECUTIVE WISHLISTS ACT OF 2016; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5719, EMPOWERING EMPLOYEES THROUGH STOCK OWNERSHIP ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-777) on the resolution (H. Res. 875) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3438) to amend title 5, United States Code, to postpone the effective date of high-impact rules pending judicial review; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5719) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the tax treatment of certain equity grants; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5461, IRANIAN LEADERSHIP ASSET TRANSPARENCY ACT

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-778) on the resolution (H. Res. 876) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5461) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on the estimated total assets under direct or indirect control by certain senior Iranian leaders and other figures, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on additional motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

AMENDING TITLE 49 TO INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN IMPACTS ON COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH AND REENTRY ACTIVITIES

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and

pass the bill (H.R. 6007) to amend title 49, United States Code, to include consideration of certain impacts on commercial space launch and reentry activities in a navigable airspace analysis, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6007

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NAVIGABLE AIRSPACE ANALYSIS FOR COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH SITE RUNWAYS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 44718(b)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “air navigation facilities and equipment” and inserting “air or space navigation facilities and equipment”;

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(3) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) the impact on launch and reentry for launch and reentry vehicles arriving or departing from a launch site or reentry site licensed by the Secretary.”

(b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall initiate a rulemaking to implement the amendments made by subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6007.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6007. The bill will improve aviation safety by requiring the Federal Aviation Administration to take commercial space transportation activity into consideration when conducting aeronautical studies at spaceports licensed by the FAA. This is an important safety issue that has to be addressed as commercial space transportation is integrated into the National Airspace System.

The Aviation Subcommittee recently held a hearing on the FAA's oversight of the commercial space transportation industry. The hearing examined important issues facing the industry, including the development of commercial spaceports that have yet to be fully addressed by Congress.

□ 1915

The committee looks forward to working with all individuals, obvi-

ously, on this. I know that the majority leader, Mr. MCCARTHY—and I do want to thank him for his strong leadership on this issue—worked very hard on it, and we are also going to be looking forward to working with him on this.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6007.

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 6007. This legislation, Mr. Speaker, provides the FAA with authority to review whether or not a proposed structure will present a hazard to commercial space vehicle launches and reentries.

The FAA is entrusted, Mr. Speaker, with providing for the safety of people and property in the air and on the ground, so it is very critical that the agency has the tools it needs to account for the rapidly-changing uses of the skies.

The FAA already has authority to evaluate whether proposed new structures will interfere with the safe operation of aircraft or air traffic control. However, this statutory authority does not explicitly direct the FAA, Mr. Speaker, to consider whether a new structure might interfere with the safe launch and reentry of commercial space vehicles.

H.R. 6007 provides the FAA with the authority it needs to maintain the highest levels of safety while allowing this dynamic industry to continue to grow.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BRIDENSTINE).

Mr. BRIDENSTINE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the majority leader for introducing this bill H.R. 6007, and for his efforts on behalf of the entire commercial space industry. Due to his efforts, we got a great bill in the Commercial Space Launch Competitiveness Act last year. Nine months into the bill, it has had a great impact on this industry.

Space represents what is exceptional about the United States of America. We are characterized by a spirit of adventure, risk taking, entrepreneurialism, and a spirit that has revolutionized access and operations in space, to the point where our very way of life now depends on space. We have transformed how we communicate, how we navigate, how we produce food and energy, how we conduct banking, predict weather, perform disaster relief, provide security, and so much more.

But to be able to access space, we need robust infrastructure. Spaceports—and I would mention that we have a licensed spaceport in the great State of Oklahoma—are a key cog in that infrastructure, facilitating launches and reentries, not only by

government agencies but also now by private companies.

In order to ensure these entities can operate efficiently and facilitate space launch and reentry, government policy needs to treat them as it treats other key pieces of transportation infrastructure.

This legislation, which I am proud to cosponsor, simply gives the FAA the ability to analyze the navigable airspace around spaceports, an authority it currently lacks. This will help the FAA and spaceports understand how structures and other features around spaceports will affect the operation of space vehicles.

As a pilot myself, I can tell you, I have used approach plates, and I have used departures. And what we need now is an ability for the future infrastructure to incorporate space vehicles into these approach plates so that we can integrate commercial air traffic with space traffic.

This is an important tool, and I urge passage of this bill.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I will conclude by saying that I urge all Members to support H.R. 6007.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6007.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION TO PROVIDE CONGRESS ADVANCE NOTICE OF CERTAIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5977) to direct the Secretary of Transportation to provide to the appropriate committees of Congress advance notice of certain announcements, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5977

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b) or as expressly provided in another provision of law, the Secretary of Transportation shall provide to the appropriate committees of Congress notice of an announcement concerning a covered project at least 3 full business days before the announcement is made by the Department of Transportation.

(b) EMERGENCY PROGRAM.—With respect to an allocation of funds under section 125 of title 23, United States Code, the Secretary shall provide to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate notice of the allocation—

(1) at least 3 full business days before the issuance of the allocation; or

(2) concurrently with the issuance of the allocation, if the allocation is made using the quick release process of the Department (or any successor process).

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Environment and Public Works, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(2) COVERED PROJECT.—The term “covered project” means a project competitively selected by the Department of Transportation to receive a discretionary grant award, letter of intent, loan commitment, loan guarantee commitment, or line of credit commitment in an amount equal to or greater than \$750,000.

(3) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.—The term “Department of Transportation” includes the modal administrations of the Department of Transportation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 5977.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Congress authorizes funding for the Federal transportation programs, which, in turn, obviously provide the funding and credit assistance for transportation projects across the country. However, the authorizing committees don't consistently get advance notice from the Department of Transportation prior to its announcement of grant awards and credit assistance for projects.

What this bill does is real simple. It requires the Department to give the authorizing committees at least 3 days advanced notice prior to announcing grant awards and credit assistance for projects. It is going to improve transparency and enhance oversight of the Department by ensuring that Congress is properly notified of these announcements.

I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 5977.

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 5977. This bill ensures that the members of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and certain Senate committees, will receive at least 3 days advanced notice of discretionary grants and loans made by the Department of Transportation.

When Congress enacted the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), we included a Congressional notification requirement for surface transportation grants. Language to require notification was omitted inadvertently when Congress enacted the most recent surface transportation authorization act, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, or FAST Act.

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has not consistently received notice from DOT prior to the announcement of grant awards and credit assistance for transportation projects since the passage of the FAST Act.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), the author of the FAST Act, the chairman of the Transportation Committee.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) for his help in developing H.R. 5977 and for his hard work on developing and passing the FAST Act, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, which provides 5 years of funding for Federal transportation programs. These programs enable us to make much-needed investment in our transportation system.

H.R. 5977 will help ensure that Federal transportation funding is spent wisely, through proper and consistent notification from the Department of Transportation to Congress.

I thank my colleagues for their help in developing this important legislation, and I urge the support of H.R. 5977.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to help me and support this legislation. It is a very important piece of legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5977.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

AMENDING TITLE 49 WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN GRANT ASSURANCES

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5944) to amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to certain grant assurances, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5944

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GRANT ASSURANCES.

Section 47107 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(t) RENEWAL OF CERTAIN LEASES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a)(13), an airport owner or operator who renews a covered lease shall not be treated as violating a written assurance requirement under this section as a result of such renewal.

“(2) COVERED LEASE DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘covered lease’ means a lease—

“(A) originally entered into before the date of enactment of this subsection;

“(B) under which a nominal lease rate is provided;

“(C) under which the lessee is a Federal or State government entity; and

“(D) that supports the operation of military aircraft by the Air Force or Air National Guard—

“(i) at the airport; or

“(ii) remotely from the airport.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5944.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5944. This bill will ensure regulatory consistency and stability for airports that are co-located with Air National Guard or Air Force bases.

In recent years, several Air National Guard units have had their manned aircraft mission replaced with an unmanned aircraft mission. For some of these units, the unmanned aircraft are remotely operated from the Guard facilities but not located at the airport.

Since, in some instances, the unmanned aircraft do not land at the airport from where they are being operated, there is concern that the nominal leases these units have long enjoyed may no longer be permitted by the Federal Aviation Administration.

This bill ensures that an airport's simple renewal of a nominal rate lease

with an Air National Guard unit that operates aircraft, remotely or otherwise, does not result in the airport losing its Federal grant funding.

The bill in no way prohibits airports from negotiating new lease terms with Air National Guard units, but it ensures that should an airport and an Air National Guard unit agree to renew a nominal rate lease they may do so.

Mr. Speaker, in this time of transition for military aviation, this bill allows airports and the Department of Defense sufficient flexibility to rebalance and adjust the missions of Air National Guard units without jeopardizing the airports' FAA grants.

This bill provides that flexibility while preserving the right of airports to renew leases that it believes are in the best interest of the airport and surrounding community.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5944.

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill as well, which will allow our Nation's military to continue leasing space at airports at nominal rates.

Current law requires that airports agree to certain conditions to receive Federal airport grants. One of these requirements is for an airport to generate revenue that sustains most, if not all, of the airport's operations. If airports continue to renew leases under which tenants of airport property pay discounted rates, they could violate their grant assurances and put their Federal airport funding in jeopardy.

This bill allows airports to continue offering below-market rates to military tenants. I have no objection to this bill. However, I would like to note that our Nation's airport infrastructure needs far exceed the Federal funding available. I regret that we are not here discussing some accompanying language that would increase airports' ability to generate revenue, such as through the passenger facility charge or an increase in funding for the Airport Improvement Program.

I am very pleased this bill is narrowly tailored to accommodate the important missions of the National Guard and the U.S. Air Force, as well as to protect the needs of airports.

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

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER).

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues from New York and Indiana and the other colleagues supporting this legislation. They have described it beautifully.

I would just simply state that what this really does is it brings FAA policy up to the contemporary standards of modern-day missions by our Air Force and Air National Guard.

Many flying missions have made the transition or are making the transition

from manned aircraft to remotely piloted aircraft, just like the Happy Hoosigans in my home State of North Dakota, and I think this policy recognizes that reality.

I am just going to wrap up by simply stating, Mr. Speaker, that there are many benefits to this bill in addition to the ones that have been stated. First of all, it is taxpayer friendly, and it is mission appropriate. It does nothing to diminish but rather enhances the integrity of the Air Force's mission, and it is good for taxpayers. It supports airport authorities and their flexibility, as well as military and defense operations.

Ultimately, Mr. Speaker, it strengthens the defense of our country, which is our highest priority, by keeping military installations at local airports.

I urge a “yes” vote on H.R. 5944.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1930

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H.R. 5944.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the House for their swift consideration of H.R. 5944. This important, bipartisan piece of legislation helps our National Guard and Air Force continue to evolve into the 21st Century as Remote Piloted Aircraft—or RPA's—become a modern tool in our efforts to defend our nation.

RPA's provide key intelligence, reconnaissance, close air combat support, and have become one of the most reliable tools in our toolbox as we fight terrorism abroad. Years ago, we could not have envisioned the advances in technology that now allow our soldiers and pilots to fly missions from a control center thousands of miles from the battlefield. Yet our laws are unfortunately woefully outdated when it comes to the infrastructure that supports RPA's. Now is the time to update those laws and now is the time to update this critical infrastructure.

This bill allows our National Guard and Air Force stations on civilian airfields that operate and participate in RPA missions to remain eligible for nominal leases. Doing so will save our military millions of dollars that can be spent elsewhere—on soldiers and equipment.

Without this fix to federal law, estimates show that the National Guard would be forced to spend over \$155 million each year just to keep their leases for bases they are on now. That would be an additional \$155 million on top of the current costs. If faced with this enormous cost, bases would be forced to shutter their operations permanently and missions would be eliminated entirely.

This legislation not only saves dollars, it saves our current defense structure that helps protect our country, which in turn saves lives.

Nothing in this legislation creates a mandate for our airports or the military, rather it allows leases and current agreements to be renewed. Future agreements can be fairly negotiated without the risk of airfields losing FAA grant eligibility or the Guard losing their entire budget to lease payments.

I have many constituents that work at the Battle Creek Air National Guard Based in Michigan, which is just one of the many dual-use airfields that will immediately benefit from

our legislation. Those servicemen and women support missions from cyberspace, on the ground, and in the air with our MQ-9 RPA mission that contribute to combat terror efforts overseas as we speak.

We cannot risk disturbing these critical missions by moving or eliminating the capability the Guard and Air Force provide simply because of outdated laws that could not have foreseen the technology we would be using to effectively carry out missions. Every Guard and Air Force base on a civilian airfield will have the certainty to continue their operations without the fear of losing the lease structure currently in operation. With our bill, airfields will have the certainty knowing they are still eligible for FAA grants and together, the Guard and the FAA can develop better agreements for the future of airfields across the nation.

H.R. 5944 prevents a disruption of our missions, saves taxpayer dollars, and allows our Guard to modernize for the 21st century and beyond.

I would like to sincerely thank the House Transportation and Infrastructure, Chairman SHUSTER and Subcommittee Chairman LOBIONDO, both majority and minority staff, Nick Bush on my staff, as well as the Federal Aviation Administration for working together on this bipartisan solution for our airfields across the country.

Providing for the national defense and supporting our troops around the country is one of Congress' foremost priorities and H.R. 5944 ensures that our military will continue to be the greatest in the world.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5944.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION VETERAN TRANSITION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2016

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5957) to include disabled veteran leave in the personnel management system of the Federal Aviation Administration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5957

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Federal Aviation Administration Veteran Transition Improvement Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF DISABLED VETERAN LEAVE IN FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 40122(g)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (H), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (I)(iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(J) subject to paragraph (4) of this subsection, section 6329, relating to disabled veteran leave.”.

(b) CERTIFICATION OF LEAVE.—Section 40122(g) of such title is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) CERTIFICATION OF DISABLED VETERAN LEAVE.—In order to verify that leave credited to an employee pursuant to paragraph (2)(J) is used for treating a service-connected disability, that employee shall, notwithstanding section 6329(c) of title 5, submit to the Assistant Administrator for Human Resource Management of the Federal Aviation Administration certification, in such form and manner as the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may prescribe, that the employee used that leave for purposes of being furnished treatment for that disability by a health care provider.”.

(c) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to any employee of the Federal Aviation Administration hired on or after the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall prescribe policies and procedures to carry out the amendments made by this section that are comparable, to the maximum extent practicable, to the regulations prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management under section 6329 of title 5, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5957.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5957.

When Congress passed the Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act last year, it inadvertently excluded new FAA employees from coverage under a new sick leave system. This bill corrects that omission.

Mr. Speaker, one-third of veterans who served after September 11 report having a service-connected disability, with more than two-thirds of those disabilities rating 30 percent or higher.

There are more than 35,000 veterans in my district alone, many of whom have the skill sets and background in aviation necessary to succeed in highly technical FAA positions. This bill will help ensure that a veteran's service to our Nation does not become a barrier to future employment.

I want to thank Aviation Subcommittee Chairman LOBIONDO and Subcommittee Ranking Member LAR-

SEN for their leadership and bipartisan partnership on this simple, yet important fix to remove an unnecessary barrier to employment for our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5957.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5957, the Federal Aviation Administration Veteran Transition Improvement Act of 2016.

This bill, introduced by my colleague and Aviation Subcommittee Ranking Member RICK LARSEN, a distinguished Member, will provide newly hired disabled veterans at the FAA with the same entitlement to leave that disabled veterans receive at other Federal agencies. I am also proud to be a sponsor of this bill.

H.R. 5957 will close an important loophole and it will create parity between FAA-employed veterans with certain service-connected disabilities and veterans at other Federal agencies.

This bill is fair, it is necessary, and it is the right thing to do for servicemen and -women who have bravely served this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the very distinguished gentleman from Washington State (Mr. LARSEN).

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 5957, the FAA Veteran Transition Improvement Act of 2016.

Last November, after passing the House and the Senate by unanimous consent, the Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act was signed into law. That legislation recognizes that no one who has sustained an injury due to military service should have to choose between earning a paycheck or receiving health care.

Specifically, that act provides up to 104 hours of upfront, disabled veteran leave during an employee's first 12 months on the job. The Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act will apply to anyone hired on or after November 5 of this year.

However, that legislation only applies to Federal civilian personnel covered under title 5 leave provisions. Consequently, those not covered under title 5—including employees of the FAA—are not able to use these leave benefits.

Now, in my own State of Washington, there are more than 650 veterans who work at the FAA; and across the country, more than 15,000 veterans work for the FAA. From 2012 to 2016, the FAA hired between 150 to 350 veterans each year—men and women who have served our country but may be unable to get the health care that they need. So in an effort to expand these benefits to disabled veterans hired by the FAA, Representative LOBIONDO joined me in introducing this bipartisan bill earlier this month.

H.R. 5957 will ensure that newly hired disabled veteran FAA employees receive the same upfront disabled leave that personnel at other government agencies will receive. This legislation will help ensure that no newly hired disabled veteran FAA employee is faced with the choice between earning a paycheck or receiving health care, and finishes the laudable work that was started by the Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act.

I want to thank all the advocacy organizations who support this legislation, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, The American Legion, Paralyzed Veterans of America, American Federation of Government Employees, the Federal Managers Association, the FAA Managers Association, Professional Aviation Safety Specialists, General Aviation Manufacturers Association, and the National Air Traffic Controllers Association.

I also want to be sure to thank Representative LoBIONDO for working with me on this important legislation. Lastly, I want to thank and recognize Senator HIRONO, who has introduced companion legislation in the Senate, and I look forward to continue working to move this important bill past the finish line.

Last week, this bipartisan bill was unanimously reported out of the committee, and today I ask for this Chamber's support as well. Let's not keep these veterans waiting.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H.R. 5957.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5957.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DIRECTING THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION TO ALLOW CERTAIN CONSTRUCTION OR ALTERATION OF STRUCTURES BY STATE DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6014) to direct the Federal Aviation Administration to allow certain construction or alteration of structures by State departments of transportation without requiring an aeronautical study, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6014

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REIMBURSABLE AGREEMENTS FOR CERTAIN AIRPORT PROJECTS.

The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may enter into a reimbursable agreement with a State or local government agency to carry out a project at an airport as to which notice is required under section 77.9 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, if the agreement—

(1) includes measures for cost-effective completion of such project; and

(2) would not negatively affect the safety or efficiency of the national airspace system.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. NOLAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6014.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6014. This bill clarifies that the Federal Aviation Administration may enter into an agreement with a State or local government agency to carry out a project at an airport in exchange for reimbursement by that State or local government agency.

The agreement to provide these services would have to include measures for cost-effective completion of the project and not negatively affect the safety or efficiency of the National Airspace System. The text before us includes a minor technical change to clarify that the legislation applies only to projects located at airports.

This bill does not create any new authority; rather, it clarifies the application of the Federal Aviation Administration's existing authority to provide in-kind services to State and local government agencies in exchange for payment.

I appreciate Mr. NOLAN's commitment to this issue and his willingness to work with the committee on a bipartisan basis.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6014.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this commonsense, bipartisan measure. I would be remiss if I didn't thank Chairman SHUSTER and Subcommittee Chairman LoBIONDO, Ranking Members LARSEN and DEFazio and members of the committee for supporting this legislation.

What it does is it authorizes and clarifies that the FAA has the authority to enter into reimbursable contracts with the State and all of the States in this country. The reason and the rationale for it is that it dramati-

cally reduces Federal bureaucracy. It saves the taxpayers a ton of money as well as investors and encourages private investments in our airport infrastructure, creating jobs and laying the foundation for a good economic development in the future.

I would like to give one real quick illustration. These are two towers that are used for navigation at a regional airport in north central Minnesota, the town of Brainerd, Minnesota. They are about 25 feet high. A group of investors agreed to put \$1 million into a new hangar to accommodate corporate jets in this community—a very fast-growing economic community.

The FAA said: Well, we are going to have to do a feasibility study, and that will cost several \$100,000. And, oh, by the way, the airport and the investors will have to pay for that.

Then they said: Oh, by the way, we will select the contractor under the current rules, and that will cost another 4 or \$500,000. And, by the way, you will have to pay for that.

So, right away, there was resistance at the airport and in the business community because everybody in town knew at least two guys with a pickup truck and a backhoe that could have moved the two towers on a Saturday morning somewhere.

So I called the State Department of Aviation and said: Have you ever done anything like this before?

They said: Yeah, yeah. They said that they had done it.

I said: Have you done it in compliance with FAA standards for safety and navigation?

They said: Yes.

I said: Will you go up and take a look to see this particular project and give me an estimate on what you could do that for?

They did. They came back. And instead of three-quarters of a million dollars, they said: We can do it for about \$17,000.

So that is what we are talking about. We are talking about enormous savings for taxpayers, for investors, and stimulating investment. It is a good bill. I am grateful for the bipartisan support that it has received throughout the community and from the FAA, quite frankly.

So I strongly urge its adoption and thank the leadership for bringing this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H.R. 6014.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6014, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

BATHROOMS ACCESSIBLE IN EVERY SITUATION ACT

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5147) to amend title 40, United States Code, to require that male and female restrooms in public buildings be equipped with baby changing facilities, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5147

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Bathrooms Accessible in Every Situation Act" or "BABIES Act".

SEC. 2. BABY CHANGING FACILITIES IN RESTROOMS IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 3314, 3315, and 3316 as sections 3315, 3316, and 3317, respectively; and

(2) by inserting after section 3313 the following new section:

"§3314. Baby changing facilities in restrooms

"(a) *ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, AND ACQUISITION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.*—Except as provided in subsection (b) and subject to any reasonable accommodations that may be made for individuals in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) restrooms in a public building shall be equipped with baby changing facilities that the Administrator determines are physically safe, sanitary, and appropriate.

"(b) *EXCEPTIONS.*—The requirement under subsection (a) shall not apply—

"(1) to a restroom in a public building that is not available or accessible for public use;

"(2) to a restroom in a public building that contains clear and conspicuous signage indicating where a restroom with a baby changing table is located on the same floor of such public building;

"(3) if new construction would be required to install a baby changing facility in the public building and the cost of such construction is unfeasible; or

"(4) to a building not subject to an alteration as set forth in section 3307.

"(c) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

"(1) *BABY CHANGING FACILITY.*—The term 'baby changing facility' means a table or other device suitable for changing the diaper of a child age 3 or under.

"(2) *PUBLIC BUILDING.*—The term 'public building' means a public building as defined in section 3301 and controlled by the Public Building Service of the General Services Administration."

(b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.*—The analysis for such chapter is amended by striking the items relating to sections 3314, 3315, and 3316 and inserting the following:

"3314. Baby changing facilities in restrooms.

"3315. Delegation.

"3316. Report to Congress.

"3317. Certain authority not affected."

(c) *APPLICABILITY.*—The requirement under section 3314(a) of title 40, United States Code, shall apply in the case of a public building constructed, altered, or acquired by the Adminis-

trator of General Services on or after the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, beginning on that date.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5147, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5147, as amended, the Bathrooms Accessible in Every Situation Act, or BABIES Act, would require restrooms in certain public buildings be equipped with baby changing stations that are safe and sanitary. Millions of American families visit Federal facilities every day. While the cost of changing stations is small, some Federal buildings open to the public do not have them.

□ 1945

This bill would cover those buildings controlled by the General Services Administration that are open for public use. This requirement would not apply to restrooms not publicly accessible, if there are other restrooms nearby with changing stations, or if it would require costly construction or alterations.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman BARLETTA.

I also support this bill, as amended, which directs the GSA to install baby changing stations in restrooms in public buildings across the Nation.

I would like to commend my colleague, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE), for his leadership on this issue, and for his willingness to work with us to bring this bill to the floor today. I am pleased that our committee worked closely with Representative CICILLINE to achieve the original purpose of the bill and to keep costs down to change public policy.

The amended bill directs GSA to include at least one baby changing station in the men's and the women's restroom on each floor of a public building. The requirements of this bill do not apply to all restrooms in Federal buildings which are not available to the public.

I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE).

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I want to begin by thanking Chairman SHUSTER and Ranking Member DeFAZIO for their support on this legislation. I would also particularly like to thank Congressman CARSON for his strong support in getting this bill to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and thank Chairman BARLETTA for his support as well.

H.R. 5147, the Bathrooms Accessible in Every Situation Act, or the BABIES Act, would require that both male and female restrooms in public buildings be equipped with baby changing facilities that are physically safe, sanitary, and appropriate.

Federal public buildings belong to the people of this country, and they should be welcoming and appropriately accommodating. This legislation will ensure that there are appropriate and sanitary facilities in publicly accessible Federal buildings for parents and caretakers to change the infants and toddlers that are with them.

For example, in the office building where my office is located, Rayburn, there are no baby changing tables at all. That means that Rhode Islanders who come to visit my office have to try to find a changing station in another public building, or they will have to decide to change their baby on a bathroom floor, which is a terrible option, unsanitary for both the parents and the children. This same problem exists in Federal buildings all across this country.

Access to baby changing stations in restrooms in Federal buildings will help in protecting the health and safety of children and will encourage a family-friendly environment. Various cities and counties in the United States have passed similar laws requiring changing tables in men's and women's bathrooms for all of the same reasons.

Current GSA policy requires that the planning of new construction modernization alteration projects include family restrooms equipped with baby changing stations, but current policy does not apply to existing buildings. This legislation would impose the requirement for publicly accessible Federal buildings and facilities. The cost will be modest to install a baby changing station. This will go a very long way to ensuring the safety and comfort of families visiting Federal buildings all across this country.

I thank the chairman and ranking member for their support, and I urge my colleagues to support it as well.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5147, the "Bathrooms Accessible in Every Situation (BABIES) Act of 2016."

This is an important measure that would provide diaper changing facilities in male and female restrooms in public buildings.

This piece of legislation simply seeks to provide equal rights to both men and women caregivers.

According to a report released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, fathers today are more involved with their children.

Fathers also need access to childcare facilities.

H.R. 5147 would apply to:

any public building constructed, altered, or acquired by the General Services Administration a year after the enactment of this measure; and any other public building, not described above, beginning two years after the enactment of this measure.

H.R. 5147 would not apply to:

public buildings where the restrooms are not for public use; and

restrooms in a public building with clear and conspicuous signage indicating where another restroom, male or female, is located within the same sector or corridor of said building.

In California, two similar state bills were struck down that would have provided equal access to changing tables for both men and women.

Positive reforms are, however, taking place around the country.

For example, Miami Dade County, Florida, requires that new and remodeled businesses have baby changing stations that are accessible by both men and women.

In San Francisco, California, planning codes require that new or renovated public buildings must install baby changing stations that are accessible to women and men.

Yet, there is no federal law or legislation to regulate the equal access of stations for men and women.

H.R. 5147 supplies that standard.

This legislation is long overdue.

We must support equal access to basic needs and bathroom changing stations for all men and women caregivers.

For these reasons, I support H.R. 5147 the "Bathroom Accessible in Every Situation (BA-BIES) Act of 2016."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5147, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

JUDGE RANDY D. DOUB UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3937) to designate the building utilized as a United States courthouse located at 150 Reade Circle in Greenville, North Carolina, as the "Judge

Randy D. Doub United States Courthouse", as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3937

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The building utilized as a United States courthouse located at 150 Reade Circle in Greenville, North Carolina, shall be known and designated as the "Randy D. Doub United States Courthouse" during the period in which the building is utilized as a United States courthouse.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

With respect to the period in which the building referred to in section 1 is utilized as a United States courthouse, any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to that building shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Randy D. Doub United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3937, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 3937, as amended, would designate the building utilized as a United States courthouse located at 150 Reade Circle in Greenville, North Carolina, as the Judge Randy D. Doub United States Courthouse.

I would like to thank the gentlemen from North Carolina, Mr. JONES and Mr. BUTTERFIELD, for their leadership on this legislation.

Judge Randy D. Doub was in the private practice of law for 26 years in Greenville, North Carolina. From 1985 until 1990, he served on the North Carolina Board of Transportation. In 2006, he was appointed by the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals as a United States bankruptcy judge and served as chief judge from 2007 to 2014.

Sadly, last year, Judge Doub passed away suddenly. He was a well respected bankruptcy attorney and jurist, which is exemplified by the fact that this bill was sponsored by the entire North Carolina delegation.

I think it is fitting to recognize his service to the law and the community by naming this courthouse after him.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I also support H.R. 3937, as amended, which designates a U.S. courthouse located in Greenville, North Carolina, as the Judge Randy D. Doub United States Courthouse.

I want to thank my good friend and colleague, G.K. BUTTERFIELD, for his work on this effort.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, in January 2015, one of my dearest friends suddenly passed away at the age of 59. Judge Randy Doub had been a friend of mine for years. He was a strong man who lived his faith. He loved his country, and he loved, very dearly, his wife, Toni, and sons, Alexander and Jameson. Randy was also very active in his church and passionate in his career.

As a Federal bankruptcy judge, he was respected by the lawyers who came before him, by the families whom he helped through financial difficulties, and by the dedicated and most loyal staff that he worked so closely with.

Psalm 106:3 says:

Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

Randy truly was a fair and caring judge who understood that the opportunity to serve in this capacity was a gift from God.

Mr. Speaker, while he achieved much in his career, one of Randy's prouder accomplishments was his work with the GAO on the Greenville Courthouse. He helped to design, create, and oversee a high-quality facility to better serve the residents of eastern North Carolina, all while keeping the project under budget. He took great pride in this building.

Mr. Speaker, for all of the reasons I have mentioned and more, it is right and justified to name this courthouse after Judge Randy Davis Doub.

I want to thank my dear friend, Mr. G.K. BUTTERFIELD, who knew Randy Doub as well as I did. Mr. BUTTERFIELD, as you know, is a former judge in State courts and is also an attorney. He and I worked side by side to get this legislation to the floor of the House.

I want to thank the committee of jurisdiction and I want to thank the subcommittees who are on the floor today for giving us this chance to remember a man who loved his country, who loved the Constitution, and who loved his family.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, let me begin this evening by thanking Mr. CARSON for yielding time, and thanking him for his extraordinary leadership not only on his committee, but for the great work that he does here in Congress. He is a leader of leaders, and I thank him so very much. I also thank Mr. BARLETTA for his work. I feel a sense of bipartisanship on this committee, and I want to congratulate both of them for their fine work.

Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 3937, which seeks to

honor a great American jurist, a great public servant, and a great American, Judge Randy D. Doub of Greenville, North Carolina.

Randy was an outstanding jurist and a lifelong North Carolinian who is fondly remembered by many who appeared before his court, and by those in the Pitt County, North Carolina, community he loved so much.

Last November, I introduced this legislation, a bill that seeks to name the U.S. courthouse at 150 Reade Circle in Greenville, North Carolina, as the Judge Randy D. Doub United States Courthouse.

My good friend and colleague of many, many years, Congressman WALTER JONES, as he mentioned just a moment ago, has joined me in spearheading this effort. We have worked on it for a long time. I thank WALTER for his tireless work on this bill. We were joined by the entire North Carolina delegation, who signed on as original cosponsors.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to my colleagues—all of them, Democrat and Republican—from North Carolina for the strong bipartisan support for this bill.

I would also like to thank the majority leader, Mr. MCCARTHY, for working with me to put this bill on the floor. I asked Leader MCCARTHY if he would put it on the floor this week and he agreed.

Mr. Speaker, Randy Doub was born in Forsyth County, North Carolina, a little community outside of Winston-Salem called Pfafftown. In 1977, he graduated at the top of his class, magna cum laude, from East Carolina University, which is in Greenville, my congressional district. He then earned his law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1980. That is when I met Randy Doub. I passed the bar and graduated from law school in 1974; Randy did so in 1980, and after 1980 we became very good friends.

After law school, Judge Doub went into private practice, where he spent 26 years providing expert counsel to his clients and devotedly represented their interests in court.

After more than a quarter of a century in private practice, Randy was appointed as the United States bankruptcy judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina. As he ascended to the bench, Judge Doub's reputation as a hardworking, fair, and compassionate jurist did not go unnoticed. In 2007, he was named chief judge, a position he held until last year.

Sadly, on January 24, 2015, Judge Doub passed away at the young age of 59 from a sudden heart attack. He left behind a wonderful family and community who loved and respected him so very much. He was well respected.

Judge Doub put his family and faith above all else. He was a devoted and loving husband to his wife of 29 long years, Toni, and a wonderful father to their two sons, Alexander and Jameson.

A man of strong conviction and faith, Judge Doub was a member of Unity Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville and was a dedicated and long-serving member of the church choir.

Mr. Speaker, while Judge Randy Doub is deserving of far more accolades than I have given him this evening, I am sure they will come with time. It is my great pleasure to offer this legislation that seeks in some very small way to honor the life and work of Judge Randy Doub.

□ 2000

In closing, there is no more fitting way to honor this legacy and the contributions of Judge Randy Doub than to name this courthouse the Randy D. Doub Courthouse in Greenville, North Carolina, where Randy served with such distinction and honor.

I thank my colleagues for their strong support. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this legislation.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3937, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to designate the building utilized as a United States courthouse located at 150 Reade Circle in Greenville, North Carolina, as the 'Randy D. Doub United States Courthouse'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNITY COUNTERTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS ACT

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5859) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the major metropolitan area counterterrorism training and exercise grant program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5859

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Community Counterterrorism Preparedness Act".

SEC. 2. MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREA COUNTERTERRORISM TRAINING AND EXERCISE GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title XX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 603 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 2009. MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREA COUNTERTERRORISM TRAINING AND EXERCISE GRANT PROGRAM.

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator and the heads of other relevant components of the Department, shall carry out a program for emergency response providers to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the most likely terrorist attack scenarios, including active shooters, as determined by the Secretary, against major metropolitan areas.

"(2) INFORMATION.—In establishing the program under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall provide to eligible applicants—

"(A) information, in an unclassified format, on the most likely terrorist attack scenarios, including active shooters, which such grants are intended to address; and

"(B) information on training and exercises best practices.

"(b) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Emergency response providers in jurisdictions that are currently receiving, or that previously received, funding under section 2003 may apply for a grant under the program established in subsection (a).

"(2) ADDITIONAL JURISDICTIONS.—Eligible applicants receiving funding under the program established in subsection (a) may include in activities funded by such program neighboring jurisdictions that would be likely to provide mutual aid in response to the most likely terrorist attack scenarios, including active shooters.

"(c) APPLICATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Eligible applicants described in subsection (b) may apply for a grant under this section, and shall submit such information in support of an application as the Administrator may require.

"(2) MINIMUM CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—The Administrator shall require that each applicant include in its application at a minimum, the following:

"(A) The purpose for which the applicant seeks grant funds, including a description of how the applicant plans to use such funds.

"(B) A description of how the activity for which the funding is sought will prepare the applicant to prevent, prepare for, and respond to complex, coordinated attacks.

"(C) A description of how the applicant will work with community partners located within the applicant's jurisdiction, such as schools, places of worship, and businesses, as appropriate, when conducting activities permitted under subsection (d).

"(D) Such other information as determined necessary by the Administrator.

"(d) PERMITTED USES.—The recipient of a grant under this section may use such grant to conduct training and exercises consistent with preventing, preparing for, and responding to the most likely terrorist attack scenarios, including active shooters.

"(e) PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE.—The Administrator shall make funds provided under this section available for use by a recipient of a grant for a period of not fewer than 24 months.

"(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for grants under this section \$39,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 through 2022."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 2008 the following new item:

"Sec. 2009. Major metropolitan area counterterrorism training and exercise grant program."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, if no one is claiming time in opposition, I would like to claim that time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would inquire if the gentleman from New Jersey is opposed to the bill.

Mr. PAYNE. No, I am not.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On that basis, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) will control 20 minutes in opposition.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

As we stand here this evening, there are ongoing investigations into the terrorist attacks over the weekend in New York, in New Jersey, and in Minnesota. Details of these attacks and of those responsible continue to emerge. One thing is certain: we are thankful that there was no loss of life and we are thankful for our brave first responders who worked around the clock to keep our communities safe.

These brave men and women are doing their jobs in increasingly difficult times. The threat environment is as high as we have ever seen it since 9/11. Large-scale terror attacks have been replaced as the main threat by smaller attacks that seek to terrorize entire communities at an alarming pace. Whether it is a simultaneous, coordinated attack at multiple locations, as we saw in Paris last year, or attacks like the ones in New York, New Jersey, and Minnesota this past weekend, or an active shooter who targets law enforcement, as we experienced in my home State of Texas against the Dallas Police Department, we must ensure that our communities and our first responders—our heroes—have the tools and training they need to best address today's threats.

That is why I introduced H.R. 5859, the Community Counterterrorism Preparedness Act. This bill authorizes \$39 million for first responders in major metropolitan areas to conduct training and exercises to prevent, to prepare for, and to respond to the most likely terrorist attack scenarios, like the IED attacks that we recently saw in New York and in New Jersey or active shooter attacks. The fiscal year 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act included \$39 million for grants to address complex, coordinated terrorist attacks, like the attacks in Paris.

My bill authorizes the program, and it provides clear direction to the Department of Homeland Security, ensuring that emergency response providers receive the funding they need to ad-

dress these emerging threats. First responders in any of the more than 60 jurisdictions that currently receive or have previously received funding under the Urban Areas Security Initiative are eligible for funding under this new program.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, my main job is to support the establishment of policies and programs that will help keep the American people safe. This program that is established in my bipartisan bill will provide the additional resources to first responders so they can do just that.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 10 minutes of my time to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) and ask unanimous consent that he be allowed to control that time.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 5859, the Community Counterterrorism Preparedness Act of 2016.

Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, a pressure cooker bomb exploded in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan, New York. A second explosive was found only blocks away. Thankfully, nobody was killed, but 29 innocent people were injured. Over the course of the investigation, additional explosive devices were found in Elizabeth, New Jersey. All of these devices were ultimately connected devices that were found in Seaside Park, New Jersey, one of which exploded early Saturday morning.

Law enforcement's pursuit of the suspected terrorist ended in Linden, New Jersey, which is in my congressional district. Yesterday, police successfully apprehended the suspect after a shootout in which two brave officers were shot. Thankfully, we understand that both injured Linden police officers have been released from the hospital. Officer Padilla and Officer Hammer have even made requests to go back to work.

Mr. Speaker, the events of this past weekend reflect the evolving nature of the terrorist threats that our communities are confronting. From homemade explosive devices that are planted in multiple densely populated locations throughout a region to active shooter incidents, today's threat environment demands that local law enforcement be prepared to respond to these complex attacks.

The Community Counterterrorism Preparedness Act would formally authorize the \$39 million Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks program funded in the fiscal year 2016 appropriations bill. The program would help our first responders access the training that is necessary to stay a step ahead of those who would do us harm and to keep our communities safe.

I also want to express my deepest appreciation for the first responders and New Jersey citizens who came together to quickly identify and apprehend the suspect in the bombings. By remaining engaged and vigilant, Linden and Elizabeth residents, law enforcement, and first responders kept our communities safe and prevented loss of life. I know a lot of people will not acknowledge the help we got from the Muslim community, but I specifically acknowledge their efforts to assist authorities in apprehending the suspect.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

One thing that all three of us who have spoken on this bill tonight share is a desire to protect our homeland. I know that absolutely, completely to each of our cores we want our homeland protected. The issue comes in how we go about doing that and what lessons have been learned from prior mistakes and prior deaths and injuries.

We continue to hear in the media about lone wolves. As Patrick Poole once said, They are not lone wolves. We keep finding that they are known wolves. It seems that, over and over, people who are killing in the name of Allah, killing in the name of the Islamic State and its leader, killing in the name of radical Islamic jihad have been questioned, have surfaced as a threat; yet, when they are investigated, they don't seem to be able to capture the fact that this is someone who has been radicalized and is going to go about killing people—killing Americans.

If we look at Orlando and now at New York City, we are training law enforcement officers to spot nonexistent Islamophobes. That is an expression—a word—that was coined by the organization of the Islamic Council, which has 57 members—or states—or 50 states. I forget. With the United States or the OIC, one of us has 57 states and the other has 50. Anyway, they are the ones who coined the phrases “Islamaphobe,” “Islamophobia,” and that is what is being taught.

As we have looked at how Homeland Security money has been spent in trying to prepare against radical Islamists—although they call it countering violent extremism, they don't want to say the words “radical Islam.” The gentleman from Texas has repeatedly said the phrase “radical Islam” because he understands that that is what it is. Unfortunately, the Homeland Security Department still can't quite grasp what radical Islam is.

For those who wonder is it even possible that money that we would appropriate under this bill, which makes clear on page 4 of the bill that, when applying for the money, at a minimum, the application has to say how the applicant will work with community partners—“community partners.” That is an interesting phrase in itself.

Where have we found that before?

We have found that with Homeland Security; we have found that with the FBI; and we have heard testimony in our Judiciary Committee from FBI Director Mueller on the community partnership that they have had with mosques and with different groups, like CAIR. In fact, CAIR, itself, and other Islamic groups have even been actually named as unindicted coconspirators in the Holy Land Foundation trial in which the principals were convicted of supporting terrorism.

□ 2015

There were numerous unindicted coconspirators. The only ones who objected to their listing as unindicted coconspirators brought their motion to be struck from the pleading before the Federal district judge in the case. He examined the evidence and indicated there was plenty of evidence to support them being named as coconspirators. They weren't satisfied with that; they appealed it to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals examined the evidence that was available and said, just on the evidence available, that these groups that are objecting to being listed as coconspirators, there is plenty of evidence to show that they are coconspirators. The names shall not be struck.

Yet, the FBI, the State Department, the Department of Homeland Security, the CIA, and our intelligence agencies continue to follow the instructions of the White House and, that is, to be community partners with these groups that have ties to the Muslim Brotherhood.

As I have traveled in the Middle East and North Africa, repeatedly, I have been asked by leaders, once the cameras are out of the room: Why do you not understand the Muslim Brotherhood has been at war with you for decades? You keep helping the Muslim Brotherhood. You keep getting advice from the Muslim Brotherhood. When are you going to learn?

In Egypt, where the Muslim Brotherhood was born, Egypt has understood what a threat the Muslim Brotherhood is to Western civilization. They don't want to recognize our Constitution; they want it supplanted and replaced with Sharia law. We can live in peace with the vast number of Muslims in the world, but we need to be sure we recognize radical Islamic jihadists.

So how do we go about training? The Committee on Homeland Security is making a wonderful gesture: Here is money for law enforcement officers to be trained. What happens? Well, they are told they have got to reach out with community partners.

And I know from personally questioning former-FBI Director Mueller—I was chastising him for the fact that the United States was notified twice that the older Tsarnaev brother, the Boston bomber, had been radicalized and was going to kill people in the

United States—they didn't do an adequate investigation.

The best that I can determine, from the information the FBI provided, they sent an agent to talk to Tsarnaev himself. Apparently, he indicated: Gee, I am not a terrorist.

Well, to be sure they did an adequate investigation, they went and talked to his mother. And his mother said, in essence, that he is not a terrorist; that he is a good boy. And the FBI checked the box that he is not a terrorist. He was a terrorist.

We also know, from our hearings from material that only a few of us in this Congress have examined that was purged from the FBI training material, they have purged information from the training that our FBI, our intelligence, our Homeland Security, and our Justice Department can have to learn about what radical Islam is.

We know that Osama bin Laden, for example, said that he was radicalized, and it began with his reading the Muslim Brotherhood Qutb's booklet called Milestones. The reading of that booklet helped radicalize Osama bin Laden.

I would bet that, of the FBI agents that have been trained under this administration, most of them have never heard of Qutb. So nobody would have known to ask Tsarnaev: Have you read Milestones? What do you think of Milestones?

I challenged Mueller that they had not even gone to the mosque to ask questions: How is Tsarnaev acting? Is he becoming more stern, more religious? Has he talked about Qutb? Has he talked about Milestones? What is he reading?

I chastised him for not going to the mosque, and the best our FBI director could say was: We did go to that mosque in our outreach program.

Oh, yes, they took money that was appropriated to train and prevent terrorism, and they go out and have sit-down programs, probably have some meals. I don't know what all they do in their outreach program, but they are not learning to spot radical Islamists.

The Committee on Homeland Security has their heart in the right place. They are wanting to do the right thing. They are hearing from our Department of Homeland Security.

Block grants to these law enforcement will allow them to train to prevent—and the language is—they may use the grant to conduct training and exercises consistent with preventing.

That is where our training so far is going to help people—whether New York, Orlando, San Bernardino—to spot Islamophobes. That is why when a complaint is made in San Bernardino about the person that would go on to kill so many lives there, take so many lives there—yeah, they investigated, but they thought it was just an Islamophobe because that is what they have been trained to look for.

When the FBI got a heads-up on the Orlando shooter, they investigated, and they figured, oh, this is probably just

Muslim haters. That is what they are spending their money to train for.

In New Jersey, they actually investigated Mr. Rahami after his own father reported him as a terrorist after he stabbed his own brother. What does the FBI do? They didn't go to his social media. If so, they would have learned he had been radicalized. They didn't bother to look at his travel records, as best we can tell, to see where he traveled, who he saw, where he went, or where he might have been radicalized. No. No. They eventually got from the father a recanting, so they let it go. As a result, countless people were nearly killed.

Why? It is not because law enforcement in New Jersey or New York don't want to do their jobs and do the best job they can and save lives. These are good law enforcement officers, just as they are in San Bernardino and Orlando. They want to do their job, but they haven't had the right training.

I would direct my friends to August 10 through 12 of 2011, Steve Coughlin, who used to brief the Joint Chiefs of Staff on radical Islam, along with some others who have spent their adult life studying radical Islam, was going to do a seminar for law enforcement training in the prevention of terrorist attacks or extremist attacks.

Two days before law enforcement around the country were going to go to Langley to our intelligence agency and be trained on how to spot radical Islam, how to prevent these attacks—just like this money is going to be used here—someone with CAIR, the Council on American-Islamic Relations, from the story we got, called someone at the White House. Someone at the White House called Langley: Cancel that training.

They changed the guidelines so that only people who were going to train about Islamophobia and minimize the training about true radical Islam and how to spot it are now allowed to teach our law enforcement as long as this administration is here in place.

So my proposal was: Let's amend this language, and we could just say that none of this money can be used in correlation or coordinating with or to go to anyone who was named as a coconspirator in the Holy Land Foundation trial, or the Muslim Brotherhood and its affiliates, or CAIR and its affiliates.

This is a suspension bill; it cannot be amended. For that reason, I regretfully must oppose the bill and urge my colleagues to vote “no” until we can get a bill so law enforcement can be trained to spot radical Islamists and not dismiss those warnings of the radicals as nothing but a bunch of Islamophobes.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOHMERT. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I listened diligently to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT), who is a friend and a colleague, both in the Judiciary and in the Appropriations Legislative Branch Subcommittee.

I am not going to address the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) by his first name because judges don't address opponents by their first name.

Mr. GOHMERT, your frustration level is extremely high, as I would argue most Americans' frustration level is extremely high.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Mr. GOHMERT's frustration level is extremely high, as I would argue the American citizens' frustration level is extremely high.

For that reason, he is concerned about what people who are avoiding the intent of the law are doing to circumvent the laws in this country. So am I.

But does that mean, because we don't trust someone in the White House or someone in an agency to do the right thing, we shouldn't provide the additional training that will keep law enforcement officers from being killed because they weren't trained well enough to respond in a first responder situation or an active shooter situation?

We are trying to get additional funding to train up every person who enforces the law right in this country. I understand Mr. GOHMERT's worry about these people who are circumventing the intent of the Congress. We all worry about that quite a bit. But it is not a reason to take down a piece of legislation that will provide needed resources for first responders and law enforcement across this great land.

Those people, the better trained they are, the better chance they have got to stay alive. If they stay alive, they can do their job.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, since I know I have very little time left, let me respond.

When you can't trust the people in the White House to train properly to recognize radical Islam, then it is incumbent upon the Congress to put the language in our bill so they don't have a choice. It is not my level of frustration with people circumventing the law. It is the fact that we have the power to put in the bills who does the training, who will get the training, exactly what kind of training, and we are leaving it to this administration.

As a result, my frustration is that people are being killed and injured needlessly. Because, even as we stand here with the language in this bill, this administration has already shown that they will train—in order to prepare for and to prevent a terrorist attack, yes, I know they can get training for active shooting—but they are being trained to prevent and prepare for.

You have to learn about Islamophobia. Let's put the language in there so that this administration cannot prevent the true professors of radical Islam from teaching law enforcement on what to look for to know whether someone is radicalized.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as I already seemed to have expressed fairly passionately with Mr. GOHMERT, I am very proud to support H.R. 5859, the Community Counterterrorism Preparedness Act, because this bill authorizes \$39 million to allow our first responders to conduct training and exercises to prevent, prepare for, and respond to terrorist attacks, including attacks that involve active shooters.

The Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security has provided funds for this program, and I am glad to join the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) in pushing forward a formal authorization.

□ 2030

We have to do everything in our power to make sure our local law enforcement has the ability to respond during terrorist attacks or active shooter scenarios.

If you just watch those first responder-trained Dallas policemen as they went into that high-rise parking garage, how they parked the cars, how they moved through the cars, that is first responder training and how it saves lives.

Time and again we have seen tragic accidents brought to an end by our law enforcement officers, and often they are the first ones on the scene. We must ensure that they have the training they need to do their job safely but effectively.

I have long supported similar training through the Department of Justice's VALOR program, which conducts training right in our backyard in Texas at Texas State University's ALERTT facility.

The President recently signed my POLICE Act, which will allow local law enforcement to access active shooter response training through the COPS grants. I am proud to support this similar legislation that once again gives more resources to our first responders and our law enforcement officers so we can save their lives and help them to save our lives.

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

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT), my good friend, stated one thing that was true in his speech, that he does not know what community outreach means. It is something that helps first responders, has helped; but obviously, he has had no experiences with that.

This talk and this notion about the White House and what they are and they aren't and what they do and they don't do—when our greatest enemy, Osama bin Laden, was in our sights, whoever or whatever at the White House said: Take that shot. So to continue to question certain people's resolve in keeping the homeland safe I think is disrespectful.

Mr. Speaker, nothing in this bill provides that any entity other than law

enforcement will be eligible to receive grant funding. Only law enforcement will be eligible. This bill merely provides that community partners that law enforcement are being trained to protect are included in the efforts to prepare for complex and coordinated attacks. This is language I added, and I thank the chairman for his commitment to community preparedness.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN).

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), my friend, who is on the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications with me, a subcommittee of Chairman MCCAUL's Committee on Homeland Security.

I rise in support of H.R. 5859, the Community Counterterrorism Preparedness Act. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill that was introduced by the leadership of Chairman MCCAUL.

Mr. Speaker, we recently commemorated the 15th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. In the 15 years since that tragedy, first responders have taken steps—often with the help of Federal homeland security grant funding—to enhance their ability to prevent, prepare for, and respond to terrorist attacks. Much progress has been made in that time.

But the terrorist threat is evolving. As Chairman MCCAUL noted, terrorists have transitioned from the 9/11-type, large-scale attacks to smaller attacks that are either directed or inspired by overseas terrorist organizations. We must ensure that our first responders are prepared to counter changing terrorist tactics, and that is why this bill is so important.

H.R. 5859 will provide first responders in major metropolitan areas across our great Nation with funding to address the evolving terror threats facing our homeland, a need reinforced by this weekend's attacks in New York City and New Jersey.

On Saturday morning at 8:30 at a Marine Corps race honoring our veterans, a bomb exploded. Less than 12 hours later, in a busy, restaurant-filled section of Manhattan known as Chelsea, at 8:30, another explosion occurred. And the next evening in Elizabeth, New Jersey, at a train station, another bomb was discovered and eventually exploded as a robot tried to dismantle it. All three of these locations were picked because they are heavily traveled, there were many people there, and it could have caused great destruction. Twenty-nine people were injured in the Chelsea incident.

During the investigation that led to the apprehension of the villain who masterminded these attacks on our innocent citizens, Mr. Rahami, law enforcement tracked and detained associates of his while they were driving through my district, and it was Mr. PAYNE's district in which Rahami was apprehended. This is personal to us.

I recently attended a number of memorials for first responders from my district who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11. When I was elected to Congress 16 short months ago, I requested to become a member of the Committee on Homeland Security so I could work with my colleagues to ensure that our first responders, those brave men and women, have the tools they need to ensure our communities are protected.

When the 2017 Presidential budget proposal cut the Urban Area Security Initiative grants in half, there were people on this floor, particularly people on the Committee on Homeland Security, who advocated for and restored those grants. I want to thank Chairman MCCAUL for his leadership and for introducing this bipartisan bill. I urge all Members to join me in supporting the legislation.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to Chairman MCCAUL to control.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) will control the time.

There was no objection.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire, how much time do I have?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 5 minutes remaining.

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

Mr. Speaker, I attended the 9/11 ceremony. It was a moving experience. I spent almost my entire career working with law enforcement, with Federal law enforcement and State and local law enforcement, as both a Federal prosecutor and a State prosecutor.

Today I released a report called the National Strategy to Win the War Against Islamist Terror. I would submit that nobody knows this issue better than I do. It is the reason I am chairman of this committee. I get the briefings. I understand the threat level. And, yes, it is radical Islamist terror.

I had an NYPD intelligence briefing after the 9/11 ceremony briefing me in a classified setting on how this threat has evolved from not just go to Syria to join the fight but, rather, kill and attack where you are. As I met with those brave men and women at NYPD, they said: Mr. Chairman, we need your help in this fight; we need the UASI funding; and, yes, we need funding to help us with the active shooter threat that is out there, with the IED threat that is out there, with the suicide bomber threat, targeting New York. And guess what. Just a few days later, we got hit again. Not just in New York, but in New Jersey and in Minnesota.

These funds, importantly, go to no one but law enforcement and first responders. It doesn't go to the people Mr. GOHMERT is talking about. It goes directly to police chiefs and to first responders and fire departments, who are our heroes, and we should have their backs. Day in and day out they protect the American people, and to suggest or

even insinuate that these heroes, front-line defenders would in any way conspire with the Muslim Brotherhood or radical Islamist terrorists is an insult, and it is disgraceful to this body, to this Chamber. It is an assault on all law enforcement and first responders across this country. We shouldn't doubt our police chiefs, our law enforcement, our fire chiefs, our first responders. We should have their backs. Mr. Speaker, that is exactly what this bill is designed to do.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to reclaim the balance of my time to respond to my remarks being disgraceful.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 2½ minutes.

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

Mr. Speaker, there is nothing that I have said that impugns the integrity of any law enforcement officer. I have worked with law enforcement officers; I have been a prosecutor; I have been a judge. I know how tough their job is. There is nothing I have said that would impugn their integrity. There is nothing that is disgraceful except when a Congress refuses to learn from repeated killings, murders by radical Islamists.

I understand the intent. It is going to train for active shooters. But when the language in the bill says "such grant to conduct training and exercises consistent with preventing," then I can guarantee you because even though my friend says he knows more about this issue than anyone else, he doesn't know, apparently, what Homeland Security is doing with the money, doing with the training, didn't know about the changes that were made by this administration to who can teach about radical Islam.

And so I would simply say, we really do need to help our law enforcement learn what radical Islam is about, and the way to do that is put it in the bill so this administration cannot change what is done with the money. That is what we should be doing.

As far as community outreach, I know all about community outreach. I have been with Muslim friends at mosques. I know about community outreach. But I try to make sure I am not talking to the foxes that Homeland Security has brought into the henhouse. If you think I am wrong, look at the article published in Egypt by the Muslim Brotherhood, a pre-approved publication, that identified six Muslim brothers who were high consultants, including Eliabary. I warned about him for years in Homeland Security, and nobody in this body would help me on the committee to get Eliabary out. Finally, after Eliabary tweeted out that the international caliphate was inevi-

table, finally Homeland Security allowed him to rotate off of their advisory council. We have got foxes in the henhouse, and it is up to Congress to get them out. That is why I oppose the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5859, the "Community Counterterrorism Preparedness Act," for two reasons.

First, the bill will save lives. Second, the legislation is necessary to support the vital work of first responders in preparing for and responding to crises that may range from terrorist incidents to active shooter events.

As a senior member of the House Homeland Security Committee, I understand how critical it is for our first responders to be prepared and well trained to manage a wide range of potential threats both conventional and unconventional.

September is National Preparedness Month, which serves as a reminder that we all must take action to prepare, now and throughout the year, for the types of emergencies that could affect us where we live, work, and also where we visit.

The recent events in New York, New Jersey, and Minnesota highlight the importance of H.R. 5859, which amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the major Metropolitan Area Counterterrorism Training and Exercise Grant Program.

The legislation directs components of the Department of Homeland Security to conduct training programs for emergency response providers to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the most likely terrorist attack scenarios, including active shooters.

My congressional district, which is centered in the city of Houston Texas, which has a population of 2.2 million, is the fourth most populous city in the United States, trailing only New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago.

Houston, largest city in the South and the Southwest.

The city is a racially diverse and ethnically dynamic city comprised of Anglo (38.8 percent), Hispanic (35.9 percent), African American (16.7 percent), Asian (6.7 percent) and others.

More than 145 different languages are spoken in Houston, the third largest number of languages spoken in a U.S. city behind New York (192) and Los Angeles (185).

It is appropriate that we address how we can better coordinate preparedness training so that first responders can accomplish what we have seen over the last few days—in every city in the nation.

The Homeland Security Act created the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate within the Department of Homeland Security with the purpose of partnering with states, local and tribal governments to accomplish the following:

- promote the effectiveness of emergency responders through standards, training exercises, and funding;
- manage and coordinate specified federal resources;
- aid recovery in the event of an attack;
- build an intergovernmental national incident management system to guide responses;
- consolidate existing federal response plans; and,

develop programs for communications.

There are over 1 million firefighters in the United States, of which 750,000 are volunteers.

Local police departments have about 556,000 full-time employees.

Sheriffs' offices reported about 291,000 full-time employees.

There are over 155,000 nationally registered emergency medical technicians (EMT).

H.R. 5859 provides an additional resource to first responders to do the work they have dedicated their lives to doing—saving lives.

Last year, the House passed my bill, H.R. 2795, the "First Responder Identification of Emergency Needs in Disaster Situations," (FRIENDS Act).

The FRIENDS Act embodies the important and fundamental idea that we have an obligation to ensure that the first responders who protect our loved ones in emergencies, have the peace of mind that comes from knowing that their loved ones are safe while they do their duty.

The FRIENDS Act reflects stakeholder input and bipartisan collaboration with the Majority.

I am passionate about the work of those who dedicate themselves to public service.

I hold in high regard the service of firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency response technicians, nurses, emergency room doctors, and the dozens of other professionals who are the ultimate public servants.

First responders are called to serve and few outside of their ranks can understand why they do the work that they do each day—placing their lives in harm's way to save a stranger.

A law enforcement officer, fire fighters, and emergency medical technicians make our lives safer, while often at the same time putting their own lives at risk.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5859, the "Community Counterterrorism Preparedness Act."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5859, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 2045

BEALE AIR FORCE BASE TRAGEDY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise with sadness tonight.

In northern California, Beale Air Force Base conducts very important reconnaissance operations. This morning, we lost one of our U-2 aircraft as part of the mission process. Two flight

members were part of that aircraft. Both were able to eject. One has passed away, and one is suffering from injuries.

I am asking tonight that those who are watching and have heard about this pray for their families, pray for the healing of that one flight member still alive, and pray for their colleagues.

Beale conducts very important reconnaissance missions in defense of our country. We are very grateful to all of them. Our hearts go out to the families of those two flight members.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. POE of Texas (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today and the balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 21, 2016, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6918. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program [DOD-2008-OS-0124; 0790-AJ40] received September 16, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6919. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Professional U.S. Scouting Organization Operations at U.S. Military Installations Overseas; Technical Amendment [Docket ID: DOD-2012-OS-0170] (RIN: 0790-AI98) received September 16, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6920. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, LRAD, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Treasury's Major final rule — Margin and Capital Requirements for Covered Swap Entities [Docket No.: OCC-2015-0023] (RIN: 1557-AD00) received September 16, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6921. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the report entitled "Health, United States, 2015", pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 242m(a)(1); July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, Sec. 308 (as amended by Public Law 100-177, Sec. 106(a)); (101 Stat. 989); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6922. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, trans-

mitting the Department's final rule — Clinical Trials Registration and Results Information Submission [Docket No.: NIH-2011-0003] (RIN: 0925-AA55) received September 15, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6923. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's direct final rule — Removing Outmoded Regulations Regarding the Smallpox Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (RIN: 0906-AA84) received September 15, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6924. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval/Disapproval; MS Infrastructure Requirements for the 2010 NO2 NAAQS [EPA-R04-OAR-2014-0751; FRL-9952-33-Region 4] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6925. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; Alabama: Volatile Organic Compounds [EPA-R04-OAR-2016-0473; FRL-9952-30-Region 4] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6926. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Ohio: Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2012 PM2.5 NAAQS [EPA-R05-OAR-2015-0824; FRL-9952-42-Region 5] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6927. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; SC Infrastructure Requirements for the 2010 1-hour NO2 NAAQS [EPA-R04-OAR-2015-0251; FRL-9952-28-Region 4] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6928. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Tennessee: Revision and Removal of Stage I and II Gasoline Vapor Recovery Program [EPA-R04-OAR-2016-0011; FRL-9952-50-Region 4] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6929. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Ammonium persulfate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0237; FRL-9951-08] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6930. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, Department of Pesticide Regulations [EPA-R09-OAR-2015-0807; FRL-9951-19-Region 9] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law

104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6931. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's withdrawal of direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Control of Volatile Organic Compounds Emissions from Fiberglass Boat Manufacturing Materials [EPA-R03-OAR-2016-0304; FRL-9952-47-Region 3] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6932. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Iowa's Air Quality Implementation Plans; Correction [EPA-R07-OAR-2016-0501; FRL-9952-44-Region 7] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6933. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Aspergillus flavus* strains TC16F, TC35C, TC38B, and TC46G; Temporary Exemptions from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0742; FRL-9951-44] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6934. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; NJ; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for 2008 Lead, 2008 Ozone, 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide, 2010 Sulfur Dioxide, and 2012 PM_{2.5}, 2006 PM₁₀, and 2011 Carbon Monoxide NAAQS; Interstate Transport Provisions [EPA-R02-OAR-2016-0389; FRL-9952-41-Region 2] received September 19, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6935. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 07-16, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 62(a) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6936. A letter from the Archivist, National Archives, transmitting the Archive's FY 2016 Commercial and Inherently Governmental Activities Inventory, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 501 note; Public Law 105-270, Sec. 2(c)(1)(A); (112 Stat. 2382); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6937. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rulemaking — Special Rights for Transferred Employees under the Dodd-Frank Act Regarding Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (RIN: 3206-AM81) received September 16, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6938. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment [Docket ID: DOD-2016-OS-0045] (RIN: 0790-AJ42) received September 16, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6939. A letter from the Deputy Clerk, United States Court of Appeals, transmitting an opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, Richard Boeta v. FAA USDC No. EA-5744; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6940. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rules — Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Mental Disorders [Docket No.: SSA-2007-0101] (RIN: 0960-AF69) received September 16, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6941. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Federal Agency Drug-Free Workplace Program Report to Congress, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 7301 note; Public Law 100-71, Sec. 503(a)(1)(B) (as amended by Public Law 102-54, Sec. 13(b)(6)); (105 Stat. 274); jointly to the Committees on Appropriations and Oversight and Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. BRADY of Texas: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 5713. A bill to provide for the extension of certain long-term care hospital Medicare payment rules, clarify the application of rules on the calculation of hospital length of stay to certain moratorium-excepted long-term care hospitals, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-761, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BRADY of Texas: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 5946. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income any prizes or awards won in competition in the Olympic Games or the Paralympic Games; with an amendment (Rept. 114-762). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. KLINE: Committee on Education and the Workforce. H.R. 5963. A bill to reauthorize and improve the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-763). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CHAFFETZ: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 5037. A bill to authorize the establishment of a program of voluntary separation incentive payments for nonjudicial employees of the District of Columbia courts and employees of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service; with amendments (Rept. 114-764). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CHAFFETZ: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 5785. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for an annuity supplement for certain air traffic controllers (Rept. 114-765). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CHAFFETZ: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 5625. A bill to provide for reimbursement for the use of modern travel services by Federal employees traveling on official Government business, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-766). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ROYCE: Committee on Foreign Affairs. H.R. 5931. A bill to provide for the prohibition on cash payments to the Government of Iran and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-767). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Agriculture. H.R. 5883. A bill to amend the Pack-

ers and Stockyards Act, 1921, to clarify the duties relating to services furnished in connection with the buying or selling of livestock in commerce through online, video, or other electronic methods, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-768). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Agriculture. H.R. 470. A bill to authorize the sale of certain National Forest System land in the State of Georgia (Rept. 114-769). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Agriculture. H.R. 845. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to publish in the Federal Register a strategy to significantly increase the role of volunteers and partners in National Forest System trail maintenance, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-770, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5957. A bill to include disabled veteran leave in the personnel management system of the Federal Aviation Administration (Rept. 114-771). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5873. A bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 511 East San Antonio Avenue in El Paso, Texas, as the "R.E. Thomason Federal Building and United States Courthouse" (Rept. 114-772). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5011. A bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 300 Fannin Street in Shreveport, Louisiana, as the "Tom Stagg Federal Building and United States Courthouse"; with an amendment (Rept. 114-773). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5147. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to require that male and female restrooms in public buildings be equipped with baby changing facilities; with an amendment (Rept. 114-774). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MCCAUL: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 5065. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to notify air carriers and security screening personnel of the Transportation Security Administration of such Administration's guidelines regarding permitting baby formula, breast milk, and juice on airplanes, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 114-775). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MCCAUL: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 5943. A bill to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 to clarify certain allowable uses of funds for public transportation security assistance grants and establish periods of performance for such grants, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-776). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 875. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3438) to amend title 5, United States Code, to postpone the effective date of high-impact rules pending judicial review; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5719) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the tax treatment of certain equity grants; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (Rept. 114-777). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. WOODALL: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 876. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5461) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on the estimated total assets under direct or indirect control by certain senior Iranian leaders and other figures, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-778). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Natural Resources discharged from further consideration. H.R. 845 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5713 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. ROGERS of Alabama):

H.R. 6068. A bill to prohibit funding for the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization in the event the United Nations Security Council adopts a resolution prohibiting activities counter to the object and purpose of the Treaty; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself and Mr. ROHRBACHER):

H.R. 6069. A bill to require a report on the designation of Pakistan as a state sponsor of terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. CALVERT, and Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California):

H.R. 6070. A bill to amend the Fair Housing Act to better protect persons with disabilities and communities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FLORES:

H.R. 6071. A bill making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. HONDA, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia):

H.R. 6072. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to promote accuracy, integrity, and security in the administration of elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HONDA, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia):

H.R. 6073. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct research and development to mitigate the consequences of threats to voting systems, to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require the voting systems used in elections for Federal office to comply with national standards developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology for operational security and ballot verification, to establish programs to promote research in innovative voting system technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, and Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FLEMING:

H.R. 6074. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to limit the payments from the Judgment Fund in certain cases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KEATING:

H.R. 6075. A bill to clarify the United States' interest in certain submerged lands in the area of the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BABIN (for himself, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. POSEY, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, and Mr. ABRAHAM):

H.R. 6076. A bill to require the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to establish a program for the medical monitoring, diagnosis, and treatment of astronauts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. ABRAHAM:

H.R. 6077. A bill to provide a Federal share for disaster assistance provided to the State of Louisiana in connection with the major disaster declaration declared on March 13, 2016, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H.R. 6078. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs efficiently furnishes certain records in the custody of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 6079. A bill to amend section 416 of title 39, United States Code, to remove the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue semipostals except as provided for by an Act of Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 6080. A bill to provide for the availability of personalized handguns from federally licensed firearms dealers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HARDY:

H.R. 6081. A bill to provide for a land conveyance in the State of Nevada; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. TONKO, Ms. LEE, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 6082. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to issue regulations regarding disclosure of oil data, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 6083. A bill to provide payment for patient navigator services under title XIX of the Social Security Act, and for other pur-

poses; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 6084. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide comprehensive cancer patient treatment education under the Medicare program and to provide for research to improve cancer symptom management; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (for herself, Mr. HANNA, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6085. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the national limitation amount for qualified highway or surface freight transfer facility bonds; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LAMBORN:

H.R. 6086. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect the religious free exercise and free speech rights of churches and other houses of worship; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCSALLY (for herself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, and Mr. BRADY of Texas):

H.R. 6087. A bill to require the completion of the digitization of all remaining paper-based fingerprint records for inclusion in the Automated Biometric Identification System (IDENT) of the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RENACCI (for himself, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio):

H.R. 6088. A bill to delay for one year the release of the Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WALKER:

H.R. 6089. A bill to authorize members and former members of the uniformed services who are entitled to veterans disability compensation to continue to participate in the Thrift Savings Plan through the deduction and deposit of a percentage of their veterans disability compensation to the Thrift Savings Fund; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 6090. A bill to provide that section 4108(5)(C)(iv) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 may be known as "Bree's Law"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. TED LIEU of California (for himself, Mr. MULVANEY, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. AMASH, and Mr. JONES):

H.J. Res. 98. A joint resolution relating to the disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Government of the Kingdom

of Saudi Arabia of M1A1/A2 Abrams Tank structures and other major defense equipment; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HASTINGS:

H. Con. Res. 157. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should continue to exercise its veto in the United Nations Security Council on resolutions regarding the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and oppose anti-Israel measures considered by the United Nations General Assembly; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself and Ms. ESHOO):

H. Res. 874. A resolution expressing support for designation of the month of September as "Rheumatic Disease Awareness Month", in recognition of the costs imposed by rheumatic diseases, the need for increased medical research, and the quality care provided by trained rheumatologists; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. ROE of Tennessee):

H. Res. 877. A resolution encouraging each State to enact legislation that increases the likelihood of survival after sudden cardiac arrest in our Nation's schools; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. ROSKAM, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H. Res. 878. A resolution recognizing the 25th anniversary of Ukraine's act of declaration of independence from the Soviet Union; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri:

H.R. 5659.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional Authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. TIBERI:

H.R. 5713.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional Authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the

United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 6068.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 6069.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 6070.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, clause 1 of the United States Constitution grants Congress the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States;

Article I, section 8, clause 3 of the United States Constitution grants Congress the power to regulate commerce among the several states;

Article I, section 8, clause 18 of the United States Constitution grants Congress the power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. FLORES:

H.R. 6071.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law" In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States" Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use."

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 6072.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 4, Clause 1—the times, places and manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each state by the Legislature thereof; but Congress may at any time make or alter such Regulations, except as to the place of choosing Senators.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 6073.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 4, Clause 1—the times, places and manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each state by the Legislature thereof; but Congress may at any time make or alter such Regulations, except as to the place of choosing Senators.

By Mr. FLEMING:

H.R. 6074.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7.

By Mr. KEATING:

H.R. 6075.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BABIN:

H.R. 6076.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3:

The Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with Indian tribes. and

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

The Congress shall have power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. ABRAHAM:

H.R. 6077.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 and Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H.R. 6078.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 and Clause 18 of Section 8, of Article 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 6079.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The attached legislation falls under Congress' enumerated constitutional authority to regulate the postal system pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 7.

By Mr. DESAULNIER

H.R. 6080.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. HARDY:

H.R. 6081.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

"clause 2 of section 3 of article IV of the Constitution".

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 6082.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 6083.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 6084.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 6085.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. LAMBORN:

H.R. 6086.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by the

First Amendment of the United States Constitution, which states that, among other things, Congress shall make no law prohibiting the free exercise of religion.

By Ms. MCSALLY:

H.R. 6087.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1—The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

Article 1, Section, Clause 18—To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. RENACCI:

H.R. 6088.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. WALKER:

H.R. 6089.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 6090.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. TED LIEU of California:

H.J. Res. 98.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section I, which includes an implied power for the Congress to regulate the conduct of the United States with respect to foreign affairs; and U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, which authorizes the Congress to: (1) "provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States," and (2) "make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers."

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 213: Ms. MOORE, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. KUSTER, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, and Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 379: Mr. POMPEO and Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 525: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 546: Mr. POLIQUIN.

H.R. 604: Mr. HENSARLING.

H.R. 687: Mr. PITTINGER and Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 745: Mr. DENT.

H.R. 746: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. NORCROSS, and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 771: Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 775: Mr. GUINTA.

H.R. 776: Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 802: Mr. POLIQUIN.

H.R. 846: Mrs. LOWEY.

H.R. 863: Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 932: Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 1151: Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 1192: Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 1220: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 1258: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 1342: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama and Mr. POLIQUIN.

H.R. 1552: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 1608: Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. ZINKE, and Mr. ASHFORD.

H.R. 1653: Miss RICE of New York.

H.R. 1686: Mr. ZINKE.

H.R. 1713: Ms. KUSTER and Ms. MENG.

H.R. 1728: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 1736: Mr. ROSKAM and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 1943: Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 2063: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 2096: Mr. FARENTHOLD.

H.R. 2170: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas and Ms. ESTY.

H.R. 2260: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 2264: Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 2278: Mr. HENSARLING.

H.R. 2293: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 2313: Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS and Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 2342: Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 2368: Mr. CLAY and Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 2403: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 2431: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 2532: Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 2566: Mr. STEWART.

H.R. 2660: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 2710: Mr. BRAT.

H.R. 2715: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 2748: Miss RICE of New York.

H.R. 2752: Mr. HULTGREN.

H.R. 2858: Mr. MARINO.

H.R. 2889: Ms. LEE.

H.R. 2902: Mr. DENT, Mrs. LOWEY, and Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 2903: Mr. RIGELL.

H.R. 2948: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.

H.R. 2957: Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 2991: Mr. MESSER.

H.R. 3012: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 3119: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KILMER, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. COURTNEY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. SERRANO, and Ms. MENG.

H.R. 3130: Mr. FOSTER and Ms. EDWARDS.

H.R. 3185: Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 3198: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 3229: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.

H.R. 3235: Mr. BRAT.

H.R. 3316: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. RUSH, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. NORCROSS.

H.R. 3355: Mr. KILMER and Mrs. ROBY.

H.R. 3410: Mr. HONDA and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 3660: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

H.R. 3706: Mr. PALLONE, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 3742: Mr. HARDY, Mr. HANNA, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. ROSS, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

H.R. 3765: Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 3882: Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 3924: Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 3943: Mr. LEWIS.

H.R. 3952: Mr. DOLD.

H.R. 3991: Mr. RUIZ and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 4019: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 4030: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 4184: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 4247: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.

H.R. 4298: Ms. TITUS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HECK of Washington, and Mrs. LUMMIS.

H.R. 4559: Mr. ABRAHAM.

H.R. 4575: Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 4603: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 4625: Mr. JOYCE and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 4626: Mr. COLE, Mr. NADLER, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. MICA, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

H.R. 4657: Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 4764: Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 4773: Mr. RATCLIFFE and Mr. MEADOWS.

H.R. 4816: Mr. KLINE and Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 4818: Mr. PETERSON, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 4863: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.R. 4919: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. KEATING, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. LEE, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 4927: Mr. HIGGINS.

H.R. 4980: Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. HARDY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. LATTA, and Mr. COLE.

H.R. 5009: Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 5015: Mr. ISSA and Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 5090: Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. BABIN, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. ABRAHAM.

H.R. 5177: Mr. YOUNG of Iowa.

H.R. 5182: Mr. DOLD and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 5224: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 5292: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 5321: Mr. MULVANEY.

H.R. 5410: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.

H.R. 5418: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. MARCHANT, and Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 5432: Mr. ROONEY of Florida and Mr. GUINTA.

H.R. 5545: Mr. MARCHANT.

H.R. 5584: Mr. GIBSON, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 5589: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.

H.R. 5600: Mr. NUGENT.

H.R. 5628: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 5650: Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 5689: Mr. POLIS.

H.R. 5692: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 5721: Mr. MARCHANT.

H.R. 5727: Mr. WEBER of Texas and Mr. ZELDIN.

H.R. 5732: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. HONDA, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. HURD of Texas.

H.R. 5765: Ms. DUCKWORTH and Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 5812: Mr. BRAT.

H.R. 5813: Mr. PETERS and Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 5850: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 5851: Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. ESHOO, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 5866: Mr. MCNERNEY.

H.R. 5883: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama and Mr. PITTINGER.

H.R. 5904: Mr. HUELSKAMP.

H.R. 5931: Mr. TURNER and Mr. WENSTRUP.

H.R. 5941: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 5942: Mr. COHEN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.

H.R. 5961: Mr. PITTS and Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.

H.R. 5962: Mr. DONOVAN and Mr. HINOJOSA.

H.R. 5963: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BARLETTA, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. BASS, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 5965: Mr. FARR.

H.R. 5980: Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. HECK of Washington, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 5989: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. COFFMAN, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 5996: Ms. BASS.

H.R. 5999: Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 6010: Ms. GRAHAM.

H.R. 6013: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 6016: Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 6023: Ms. PLASKETT.

H.R. 6030: Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 6034: Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 6043: Mr. NADLER, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 6045: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. WALBERG.

H.R. 6061: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. LEWIS.

H.R. 6062: Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 6066: Mrs. COMSTOCK.

H. Con. Res. 19: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.

H. Con. Res. 114: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.

H. Con. Res. 133: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.

H. Con. Res. 140: Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina, Mr. LANCE, Mr. DOLD, Mr. MESSER,

Mr. COLE, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. ROYCE.

H. Con. Res. 143: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H. Con. Res. 150: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H. Con. Res. 155: Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan.

H. Res. 94: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.

H. Res. 289: Mr. DOGGETT.

H. Res. 403: Mr. COOPER.

H. Res. 540: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H. Res. 590: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mr. ROE of Tennessee.

H. Res. 625: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.

H. Res. 703: Mr. ROONEY of Florida.

H. Res. 766: Mr. COHEN.

H. Res. 782: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

H. Res. 808: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H. Res. 840: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. POCAN.

H. Res. 853: Mr. MASSIE.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendment to be offered by Representative CICILLINE or a designee to H.R. 3438, the Require Evaluation before Implementing Executive Wishlists Act, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

The amendment to be offered by Representative POLIQUIN, or a designee, to H.R. 5461, the Iranian Leadership Asset Transparency Act does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.