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No. 170

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
October 28, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DWIGHT EVANS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, 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. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

### RECOGNIZING DR. DANIEL P. KING

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

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Daniel P. King for his service to the Rio Grande Valley in the State of Texas.

Dr. King is a proven leader in the 34th Congressional District of Texas. As a public school superintendent for the last 14 years, he has guided district-wide initiatives to improve student performance and graduation rates across south Texas. Under his leader-

ship as superintendent at Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Independent School District, the annual dropout rate has been reduced by more than 90 percent, and the overall high school completion rate now surpasses the State average. He also helped establish the College 3 program which aims to offer every single student the opportunity to earn at least 12 college hours before high school graduation.

This year PSJA named its newest early college campus the Dr. Daniel P. King College & University Center in recognition of his accomplishments.

Prior to his role at PSJA ISD, Dr. King was superintendent at Hidalgo Independent School District where he led the development of the first early college school district in the Nation. In 2006, Hidalgo ISD earned the H-E-B Excellence in Education Award. And in 2007 U.S. News & World Report named Hidalgo High the 11th best high school in the Nation and number one in Texas. He also earned the State Superintendent of the Year Award in 2006 by the Texas Association of School Boards.

Dr. King is an influential educator, and his numerous accomplishments have paved the way for continued student success in south Texas. Our community is thankful for his contributions, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with him.

As we honor Dr. Daniel P. King, I also want to acknowledge his wife, Sara, who is a PSJA faculty member, and their six children who have supported Dr. King in achieving his professional goals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join his family, our community, and me in wishing him a happy retirement and thanking him for his service.

### AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, last week the biggest news in Congress was overshadowed by an impeachment circus. The Republican Study Committee and our task force introduced a framework for personalized, affordable healthcare.

Mr. Speaker, our current healthcare system is broken. It is simply not working. Healthcare costs are out of control, and it is time we modernize it.

We promise to all of America that we will deliver personalized healthcare where you and your doctor will remain in control of your healthcare. This is phase one of a two-phase plan which will protect vulnerable Americans with preexisting conditions, chronic illnesses, and serious health issues while reducing premiums, deductibles, and overall healthcare costs.

Personally, I can't wait to continue working on these important issues to improve the lives of Kansans and deliver for America.

### NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, today dozens of Kansas FFA members, Future Farmers of America, are in Indianapolis, Indiana, for the start of the 2019 National FFA Convention. They will be joining students from Pennsylvania to California and more than a dozen high school students from my own district will be competing in various competitions, including Clay Center, Kansas, FFA member Garrett Craig who will be competing for a position as a national FFA officer.

Good luck to you, Garrett.

While it is known for agriculture education, Kansas FFA chapters are thriving in rural America as well as urban school districts and have introduced thousands of new students to agriculture and ag-related career opportunities.

I want to wish all Kansas FFA students participating in Indianapolis this week the best of luck and trust that Kansas will continue its long legacy of

☐ 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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## USMCA

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, this morning I want to applaud the efforts of my colleagues across the aisle on their efforts and the United States trade team for getting closer to approving the USMCA trade agreement. I remain very optimistic that we can get this passed in Congress and that we can get this done this fall.

It is time to deliver the USMCA agreement for Kansas. We have waited over a year, and it is now time to pass this agreement. This agreement will mean thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars of increased exports for Kansas.

Today I want to remind the Speaker of the importance of the USMCA deal and to please bring it to the floor where we can vote on it and deliver for America.

## CHINA TRADE WAR

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I want to applaud the administration's effort on the China trade war. I want to applaud President Trump and his trade team led by Ambassador Bob Lighthizer for all their hard work. It seems like just yesterday they signed an agreement with Japan. But they didn't rest on their laurels and have quickly moved on to the significance of a Chinese trade agreement.

There seems to be more good news coming out of the White House every day, and we continue to encourage the White House and the Chinese leadership to develop this agreement and allow more agriculture products into China. We look forward to future engagements with our Chinese counterparts in the near future as well and continue to hope that we can work toward a strong agreement yet this fall.

## ABU BAKR AL-BAGHDADI MISSION

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to stop and congratulate President Trump and the intelligence officers and the U.S. Special Forces who risked their lives in a daring raid this weekend where the leader of ISIS died by detonating a suicide vest killing himself and, very sadly, his three children after he was cornered in a tunnel.

Mr. Speaker, I have to stop and ask the question: What type of a person would sacrifice his own children?

ISIS is among the most depraved organizations in history. They have committed genocidal mass murder and enslaved, tortured, and beheaded innocent civilians.

Americans can all be encouraged by President Trump's Syria policy. He has destroyed ISIS, and he has kept American troops out of harm's way. President Trump continues to support the Kurds in eastern Syria where he sent a military convoy on Saturday.

President Trump is keeping his promises: leading American foreign policy abroad through strength and showing our enemies there is nowhere for them to hide.

## RURAL ENERGY

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, this morning I want to stop and say thanks to Mother Nature for all the blessings she has given Kansas, in particular the fact that we are an energy rich State. She has given us oil, natural gas, ethanol, wind, and solar production.

We want to stop and applaud the efforts of what the USDA and the Department of Energy formally did last week as they began working together to facilitate energy-related investments in America's rural communities to encourage investments in our new and improved rural energy production and infrastructure.

Additional focus on cybersecurity and grid improvements to secure our rural energy networks are also happening. This work builds upon President Trump's energy task force on agriculture and rural prosperity.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the President so much for making rural America stronger today.

## ABU BAKR AL-BAGHDADI IS NO MORE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the tremendous news we all received over the weekend that the world's most wanted terrorist and leader of ISIS, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, was killed in a U.S.-led raid in northern Syria.

As the self-proclaimed leader of the Islamic State, al-Baghdadi was directly involved in countless atrocities and demonstrated complete disregard for human rights and human life. Genocide, sex slavery, organized rape, mass executions via crucifixion, stoning, burning in cages or flogging—al-Baghdadi's brutality knew no limits.

The world is unquestionably a better place without this purveyor of evil inhabiting it at this time.

I commend U.S. Joint Special Operations Command's 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta, also known as Delta Force, for the flawless execution of their mission—and without any U.S. casualties.

I also commend President Trump and his administration for authorizing this raid and bringing one of the most dangerous men in the world to justice. They are doing good work in the Syria situation. This will go down as a significant achievement in the war against terror.

In the immediate aftermath of the announcement becoming public, most rational people from both sides of the aisle celebrated this accomplishment—but not all.

Mr. Speaker, you may have seen the headlines from the Washington Post: "Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, an austere religious scholar at the helm of Islamic State dies at 48."

Even in this age of questionable reporting, this headline and others like it

are reprehensible. In fact, his last cowardly action on Earth was to detonate a suicide vest as he was being hunted down by some of our specialized military dogs as well as our personnel. Great work. In doing so, with his suicide vest, he also took the lives of three of his own children.

U.S. Special Operations Forces didn't kill just a noble religious scholar as was headlined. They actually killed a deranged, radicalized madman who was directly responsible for the brutal murders of countless people: Americans and his own country people from that part of the world as well.

While the headline has since been changed by the Washington Post, they should be ashamed of themselves. We don't mourn the loss of terrorists in the United States of America.

Now, this victory doesn't mean the war against terror is won by any means, but it should send a loud, clear, and unmistakable message to the rest of the world that the United States will root out evil wherever it is and wherever it hides. Our enemies are not safe, and they never will be.

We celebrate this evil's removal from the Earth embodied by al-Baghdadi. Anyone who is willing to commit these types of atrocities should understand one thing: We will not rest as a Nation and as a military until they are wiped out from the face of the Earth.

## 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 12 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 (Ms. KELLY of Illinois) at 2 p.m.

## PRAYER

Reverend Dr. Derek W.H. Thomas, First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, South Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Heavenly Father, I thank You for Your guiding hand upon our Nation for almost 2½ centuries.

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."

Today, I humbly ask that You would bless our Congressional leaders. Grant them the wisdom of Solomon to address the complex issues of government, ensuring that the legitimate needs of our citizens are faithfully represented. At a moment of tension and division, I ask that Your will might be done, ensuring the preservation of liberty and justice for all.

I especially pray for those who protect our Nation and today may be in

harm's way. Set Your angels to guard their every step. I thank You for those who make it their life's ambition to protect the lives of the weak and helpless. May this House ensure that righteousness exalts this Nation.

All this I ask in Jesus' mighty name. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

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

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

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania 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.

#### WELCOMING DR. DEREK W.H. THOMAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the Reverend Dr. Derek William Henry Thomas is the senior pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Columbia, South Carolina, and the Chancellor's Professor of Systematic and Pastoral Theology at Reformed Theological Seminary.

A native of Wales in the United Kingdom, Dr. Thomas completed his ministerial training at Reformed Theological Seminary and received his Ph.D. from the University of Wales, Lampeter. He served as a pastor for 17 years in Belfast, Northern Ireland, before returning to the United States to serve as the minister of teaching at First Presbyterian Church in Jackson, Mississippi. He was called to his present position in 2013. He has written or edited 25 books becoming editorial director for the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals and the editor of its e-zine, *Reformation 21*.

He and his wife, Rosemary, have been married for 43 years, have two adult children, and are naturalized citizens of the United States.

The First Presbyterian Church was the first church organized in the capital of South Carolina and will celebrate its semisestercentennial next year. It is the largest congregation in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Synod with 3,000 members.

The historic First Presbyterian Churchyard was established in 1798 with Federal legislators interred along with Ann Pamela Cunningham who

founded the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association in 1853 saving President George Washington's home from collapse. Also interred are President Woodrow Wilson's parents, Reverend Joseph and Jessie Wilson.

#### CONGRATULATING THE NORTH CAROLINA COURAGE

(Mr. PRICE of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the North Carolina Courage for their second straight National Women's Soccer League Championship and their third title in the past 4 years.

Their four-goal win was the largest margin of victory in NWSL history.

The Triangle area that I represent in North Carolina has truly embraced this team with a record-setting crowd attending Sunday's match.

Now, this was really a team effort, but I do want to give a special shout-out to Coach Paul Riley, MVP Debinha Miri, and the retiring great—Heather O'Reilly. I must also mention the four members from the Courage who also led us to victory in the 2019 Women's World Cup: Crystal Dunn, Samewis, Abby Dahlkemper, and Jessica McDonald.

Thank you for making North Carolina proud. And congratulations again to the North Carolina Courage.

#### SALUTING OUR TROOPS FOR ELIMINATING ABU BAKR AL-BAGHDADI

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, today, thanks to the relentless efforts of our military's special operations servicemembers, ISIS leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, is dead and our world is a safer place. Saturday night's victory over this violent enemy is due to our troops' selfless sacrifices and superior work with our Nation's intelligence operatives.

President Trump has shown that under his command there is no safe place for terrorists, and I thank him and our troops for helping keep our country free and safe.

Providing national security is the number one job of the Federal Government. Now it is time the House of Representatives puts our troops first by passing the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2020 to support our military's continued success and ensure the safest possible outcome in all its missions.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. PATRICIA SKINNER

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great education leader in my district, Dr. Patricia Skinner of Gaston College. She has been president of Gaston College for 25 years, nearly half of the college's existence.

Over the last two decades, the college has seen tremendous progress. Dr. Skinner facilitated the opening of two new campuses in addition to the construction of 11 new academic and administrative buildings and recently opened the Center for Advanced Manufacturing at the Dallas campus.

She has done a fantastic and phenomenal job, and we wish her great success in her retirement. Spending more time with her two daughters and her grandchildren will put her through the paces as we well know.

We wish Dr. Skinner well in her retirement.

#### NATIONAL FIRST RESPONDERS DAY

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and the sacrifice of our Nation's first responders.

In Pennsylvania and around the entire country, police officers, firefighters, EMTs, and other emergency personnel are willing to put their lives on the line each and every day that they report to duty. On today, National First Responders Day, we thank these men and women and their families for serving our communities.

As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I am committed to ensuring that first responders are well-equipped to do the job that we have entrusted them to do. This month it was my privilege to announce that FEMA, through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, has awarded nearly \$3 million to local fire companies and first responders in the 13th District of Pennsylvania. These funds will help them to acquire much-needed equipment and training.

When there is an emergency, we know that our first responders will be there, and Congress needs to be there for them too.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 2:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1430

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 2 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

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, October 28, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
The Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM 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 October 28, 2019, at 12:27 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2065.  
That the Senate passed S. 2107.  
With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

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 votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

DIGNITY IN AGING ACT OF 2019

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4334) to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2020 through 2024, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.  
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4334

*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 “Dignity in Aging Act of 2019”.

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

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- TITLE I—ENSURING COLLABORATION AND PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS**
- Sec. 101. Person-centered, trauma-informed care.
- Sec. 102. Vaccination.
- Sec. 103. Functions of Assistant Secretary.
- Sec. 104. Professional standards for nutrition official under Assistant Secretary.
- Sec. 105. Interagency Coordinating Committee on Age-Friendly Communities.
- Sec. 106. Technical assistance on age-friendly communities.
- Sec. 107. Malnutrition.
- Sec. 108. Coordination with resource centers.
- Sec. 109. Arts education.
- Sec. 110. Social determinants of health.
- Sec. 111. Falls prevention and chronic disease self-management education.
- Sec. 112. Extension of RAISE Family Caregivers Act.

- Sec. 113. Support for socially-isolated older Americans.
- Sec. 114. Increased focus of Assistant Secretary on health effects associated with social isolation.
- Sec. 115. Advisory council on health effects associated with social isolation.
- Sec. 116. Supportive services and senior centers.
- Sec. 117. Demonstration projects.
- Sec. 118. Younger onset Alzheimer’s Disease.
- Sec. 119. Priority for the senior community service employment program.
- Sec. 120. Direct care workforce.
- Sec. 121. National resource center for older individuals experiencing the long-term and adverse consequences of trauma.
- Sec. 122. National Resource Center for Women and Retirement.
- Sec. 123. Definition.
- Sec. 124. Review of reports.
- Sec. 125. Area plans.
- Sec. 126. Addressing chronic pain management.
- Sec. 127. Extension of the Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act.
- Sec. 128. Screening for suicide risk.
- Sec. 129. Traumatic brain injury.
- Sec. 130. Addressing public health emergencies and emerging health threats.
- Sec. 131. Prevention of sexually transmitted diseases.
- Sec. 132. Aging and Disability Resource Center.

**TITLE II—EMPOWERING THE AGING NETWORK TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OLDER INDIVIDUALS**

- Sec. 201. National family caregiver support program cap.
- Sec. 202. Minimum funding level for State administrative expenses.
- Sec. 203. Culturally-appropriate, medically-tailored meals.
- Sec. 204. Business acumen provisions and clarification regarding outside funding for area agencies on aging.
- Sec. 205. Other practices.
- Sec. 206. Caregiver assessments.
- Sec. 207. Research and evaluation.
- Sec. 208. Grant program for multigenerational collaboration.

**TITLE III—STRENGTHENING PROTECTIONS FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS**

- Sec. 301. State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program minimum funding and maintenance of effort.
- Sec. 302. State long-term care volunteer ombudsman representatives.
- Sec. 303. Clarification regarding board and care facilities.
- Sec. 304. Report on legal hotlines.
- Sec. 305. Community outreach.
- Sec. 306. Principles for person-directed services and supports during serious illness.

**TITLE IV—MEETING THE NEEDS OF OLDER NATIVE AMERICANS**

- Sec. 401. Expanding supportive services for Native American aging programs.
- Sec. 402. Enhancing capacity to support Native American aging programs.

**TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS**

- Sec. 501. Technical corrections.
- Sec. 502. Authorization of appropriations; uses of funds.
- Sec. 503. Hold harmless formula.

**TITLE I—ENSURING COLLABORATION AND PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS**

**SEC. 101. PERSON-CENTERED, TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE.**

Section 101(2) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001(2)) is amended by in-

serting “(including access to person-centered, trauma-informed care)” after “health”.

**SEC. 102. VACCINATION.**

Section 102(14) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002(14)) is amended—

- (1) in subparagraph (B) by inserting “immunization status,” after “oral health,” and
- (2) in subparagraph (D) by inserting “infectious disease, and vaccine preventable disease,” after “disease.”.

**SEC. 103. FUNCTIONS OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY.**

(a) **REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS.**—Section 202 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3012) is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a)(4) to read as follows:

“(4) administer the grants provided by this Act but not approve an application submitted by an applicant for a grant for a program for which such applicant previously received a grant unless the Assistant Secretary determines—

“(A) the program for which such application was submitted is operating effectively to achieve its stated purpose; and

“(B) such applicant complied with the assurances provided to the Assistant Secretary with the application for such previous grant; and”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(h) The Assistant Secretary shall publish, on an annual basis, a list of centers and demonstration projects funded under each title of the Act. The Assistant Secretary shall ensure that this information is also directly provided to States and area agencies on aging.”.

(b) **ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF OLDER INDIVIDUALS IN DISASTERS.**—Section 202(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3012(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (30) by striking “and” at the end,

(2) in paragraph (31) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”, and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(32) provide technical assistance to and share best practices with States and area agencies on aging on how to collaborate and coordinate activities and develop long-range emergency preparedness plans with local and State emergency response agencies, relief organizations, local and State governments, federal agencies as appropriate, and any other institutions that have responsibility for disaster relief service delivery.”.

**SEC. 104. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR NUTRITION OFFICIAL UNDER ASSISTANT SECRETARY.**

Section 205(a)(2)(C)(ii) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3016(a)(2)(C)(ii)) is amended to read as follows:

“(ii) be a registered dietitian or registered dietitian nutritionist.”.

**SEC. 105. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES.**

Section 203 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3013) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (18) by striking “and” at the end,

(B) in subparagraph (19) by striking the period at the end, and inserting “, and”, and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(20) section 393D of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b-1f), relating to safety of seniors.”, and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “Aging” and inserting “Age-Friendly Communities”, and

(ii) by inserting “to support the ability of older individuals to age in place, including through the provision of homelessness prevention services, support the ability of older

individuals to access preventive health care, promote age-friendly communities, and address the ability of older individuals to access long-term care supports, including access to caregivers and home- and community-based services” before the period at the end,

(B) in paragraph (4) by inserting “, except that the 1st term of a member appointed to the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Age-Friendly Communities shall begin not later than 1 year after the effective date of this exception” before the period at the end,

(C) in paragraph (5) by striking “once each year” and inserting “semiannually”,

(D) in paragraph (6)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

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

(II) in clause (iv) by adding “and” at the end, and

(III) by adding at the end the following:

“(v) identifying best practices for connecting older individuals to services for which they may be eligible;”,

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by inserting “transportation,” after “housing,” the 1st place it appears,

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

(III) by amending clause (ii) to read as follows:

“(ii) innovations in technology applications (including assistive technology devices and assistive technology services) that—

“(I) promote safe and accessible independent living environments; and

“(II) give older individuals access to information on available services or help in providing services to older individuals, including information on transportation services such as public transit, on-demand transportation services, volunteer-based transportation services, and other private transportation services; and”; and

(IV) by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) transportation models that reduce costs of transportation for older individuals and provide the ability to schedule trips in advance and on demand, as appropriate;”,

(iii) in subparagraph (E)—

(I) by striking “nongovernmental experts and organizations, including public health interest and research groups and foundations” and inserting “nongovernmental organizations, academic or research institutions, community-based organizations, and philanthropic organizations”, and

(II) by striking “(F)” and inserting “(G)”,

(iv) by redesignating subparagraphs (E), (F), and (G) as subparagraphs (F), (G), and (H), respectively,

(v) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

“(E) work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institute on Aging, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Housing and Urban Development Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, and other Federal agencies as appropriate, to develop recommendations, in accordance with paragraph (1), to reduce falls among older individuals that incorporate evidence-based falls prevention programs and home modifications to reduce and prevent falls;”, and

(vi) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) In this subsection, the term ‘age-friendly community’ means a community that—

“(A) is taking steps—

“(i) to include accessible housing, accessible spaces and buildings, safe and secure paths, variable route transportation services, and programs and services designed to maintain health and well-being;

“(ii) to respect and include older individuals in social opportunities, civic participation, volunteerism, and employment; and

“(iii) to facilitate access to supportive services for older individuals; and

“(B) has a plan in place to meet local needs for housing, transportation, civic participation, social connectedness, and accessible spaces.” and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) Not later than 2 years after the effective date of this subsection, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study and issue a report that includes—

“(1) an inventory of Federal programs, administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, or any other Federal agency determined appropriate by the Comptroller General, that support home assessments and home modifications for older individuals and individuals with disabilities,

“(2) statistical data, for recent fiscal years, on the number of older individuals and individuals with disabilities served by each Federal program described in paragraph (1) and the approximate amount of Federal funding invested in each such program,

“(3) a demographic analysis of individuals served by each such program for recent fiscal years;

“(4) an analysis of duplication and gaps in populations supported by the Federal programs described in paragraph (1),

“(5) what is known about the impact of the Federal programs described in paragraph (1) on health status and health outcomes in populations supported by such programs,

“(6) a review of Federal efforts to coordinate Federal programs existing prior to the effective date of this subsection that support home assessments and home modifications for older individuals and individuals with disabilities and any considerations for improving coordination, which may include an indication of the Federal agency or department that is best suited to coordinate such Federal efforts, and

“(7) information on the extent to which consumer-friendly resources, such as a brochure, are available through the National Eldercare Locator Service established under section 202(a)(21), are accessible to all area agencies on aging, and contain information on home assessments and home modifications for older individuals attempting to live independently and safely in their homes and for the caregivers of such individuals.”.

**SEC. 106. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES.**

Section 205(a)(2) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3016(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D), and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) The Assistant Secretary may provide technical assistance, including through the regional offices of the Administration, to State agencies, area agencies on aging, local government agencies, or leaders in age-friendly communities (as defined in section 203(c)(9)) regarding—

“(i) support for public and private entities in building partnerships to promote such age-friendly communities;

“(ii) dissemination of, or consideration of ways to implement, best practices and recommendations from the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Age-Friendly Communities established under section 203(c); and

“(iii) methods for managing and coordinating existing programs to meet the needs of growing age-friendly communities.”.

**SEC. 107. MALNUTRITION.**

The Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 102(14)(B) by inserting “(including screening for malnutrition)” before the semicolon at the end, and

(2) in section 330(1) by striking “and food insecurity” and inserting “, food insecurity, and malnutrition”.

**SEC. 108. COORDINATION WITH RESOURCE CENTERS.**

(a) AREA PLANS.—Section 306(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3026(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (16) by striking “and” at the end,

(2) in paragraph (17) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”, and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(18) provide assurances that the area agency on aging will collect data to determine—

“(A) the services that are needed by older individuals whose needs were the focus of all centers funded under title IV in fiscal year 2019; and

“(B) the effectiveness of the programs, policies, and services provided by such area agency on aging in assisting such individuals; and

“(19) provide assurances that the area agency on aging will use outreach efforts that will identify older individuals eligible for assistance under this Act, with special emphasis on those older individuals whose needs were the focus of all centers funded under title IV in fiscal year 2019.”.

(b) STATE PLANS.—Section 307(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3027) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(31) The plan shall contain an assurance that the State shall prepare and submit to the Assistant Secretary annual reports that describe—

“(A) data collected to determine the services that are needed by older individuals whose needs were the focus of all centers funded under title IV in fiscal year 2019;

“(B) data collected to determine the effectiveness of the programs, policies, and services provided by area agencies on aging in assisting such individuals; and,

“(C) outreach efforts and other activities carried out to satisfy the assurances described in paragraphs (18) and (19) of section 306(a).”.

**SEC. 109. ARTS EDUCATION.**

(a) PROGRAM DESIGN.—Section 202(a)(5) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3012(a)(5)) is amended by inserting “cultural experiences, activities and services, including the arts,” after “education),”.

(b) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Section 321(a)(7) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030d(a)(7)) is amended by inserting “cultural experiences (including the arts),” after “art therapy;”.

**SEC. 110. SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH.**

Section 301(a)(1) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3021(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C) by striking “and” at the end,

(2) in subparagraph (D) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”, and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) address the social determinants of health of older individuals.”.

**SEC. 111. FALLS PREVENTION AND CHRONIC DISEASE SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION.**

Section 411(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (13) and (14) as paragraphs (15) and (16), respectively, and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (12) the following:

“(13) bringing to scale and sustaining evidence-based falls prevention programs that

will reduce the number of falls, fear of falling, and fall-related injuries in older individuals and older individuals with disabilities;

“(14) bringing to scale and sustaining evidence-based chronic disease self-management programs that empower older individuals and older individuals with disabilities to better manage their chronic conditions.”.

**SEC. 112. EXTENSION OF RAISE FAMILY CAREGIVERS ACT.**

Section 6 of the RAISE Family Caregivers Act (Public Law 115-119; 132 Stat. 27) is amended by striking “3” and inserting “4”.

**SEC. 113. SUPPORT FOR SOCIALLY-ISOLATED OLDER AMERICANS.**

Section 102(14) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002(14)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (K) by striking “and” at the end,

(2) in subparagraph (L) by striking “(K)” and inserting “(L)”,

(3) by redesignating subparagraph (L) as subparagraph (M), and

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (K) the following:

“(L) screening for the prevention of negative health effects associated with social isolation and coordination of supportive services and health care to address negative health effects associated with social isolation; and”.

**SEC. 114. INCREASED FOCUS OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY ON HEALTH EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH SOCIAL ISOLATION.**

Section 202(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3012(a)), as amended by section 103, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (31) by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon,

(2) in paragraph (32) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”, and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(33) develop objectives, priorities, and a long-term plan for supporting State and local efforts involving education about, prevention of, detection of, and response to negative health effects associated with social isolation among older individuals.”.

**SEC. 115. ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HEALTH EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH SOCIAL ISOLATION.**

Section 202 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3012), as amended by section 103, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(i)(1) The Assistant Secretary shall convene an advisory council on negative health effects associated with social isolation with aging network stakeholders, including caregivers, and select members in a manner that ensures geographic diversity of the members—

“(A) to review and evaluate efforts to address negative health effects associated with social isolation among older individuals; and

“(B) to identify challenges, solutions, and best practices related to such efforts.

“(2) The advisory council convened under paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) ensure consideration of consumer-directed care models; and

“(B) submit a report to Congress on its findings.

“(3) The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply with respect to the advisory council convened under paragraph (1).”.

**SEC. 116. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND SENIOR CENTERS.**

Section 321(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030d(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (24) by striking “and” at the end,

(2) by redesignating paragraph (25) as paragraph (26), and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (24) the following:

“(25) services that promote or support social connectedness and reduce negative health effects associated with social isolation; and”.

**SEC. 117. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.**

(a) DEMONSTRATIONS.—Section 411(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)), as amended by section 111, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (15) by striking “and” at the end,

(2) by redesignating paragraph (16) as paragraph (17), and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (15) the following:

“(16) projects that address negative health effects associated with social isolation among older adults; and”.

(b) REPEAL.—Section 416 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032e) is repealed.

**SEC. 118. YOUNGER ONSET ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE.**

(a) DEFINITION OF “FAMILY CAREGIVER”.—Section 302(3) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3022(3)) is amended by inserting “of any age” after “an individual”.

(b) DEFINITION OF “RESIDENT”.—Section 711(6) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3058(6)) is amended by inserting “of any age” after “individual”.

**SEC. 119. PRIORITY FOR THE SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.**

(a) PRIORITY.—The Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 503(a)(4)(C)—

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

(B) in clause (iv) by adding “and” at the end, and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(v) eligible individuals who have been incarcerated within the last 5 years or are under supervision following the release from prison or jail within the last 5 years;”.

(2) in section 514(e)(1) by inserting “older individuals who have been incarcerated or are under supervision following the release from prison or jail,” after “need,” and

(3) in section 518—

(A) in subsection (a)(3)(B)(ii)—

(i) in clause (IV) by striking “or” at the end,

(ii) in clause (V) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”, and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(VI) have been incarcerated within the last 5 years or are under supervision following the release from prison or jail within the last 5 years.”, and

(B) in subsection (b)(2)—

(i) in subparagraph (F) by striking “or” at the end,

(ii) in subparagraph (G) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”,

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(H) has been incarcerated or is under supervision following the release from prison or jail within the last 5 years.”.

(b) TRANSITION PERIOD.—This section shall take effect 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 120. DIRECT CARE WORKFORCE.**

(a) DEMONSTRATIONS.—Section 411(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)), as amended by sections 111 and 117, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (16) and (17) as paragraphs (17) and (18), respectively, and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (15) the following:

“(16) in coordination with the Secretary of Labor, the demonstration of new strategies for the recruitment, retention, or advancement of direct care workers, and to solicit, develop, and implement strategies—

“(A) to reduce barriers to entry for a diverse and high-quality direct care workforce, including providing wages, benefits, and advancement opportunities needed to attract or retain direct care workers;

“(B) to provide supportive services and career planning for direct care workers; and

“(C) to support the advancement of direct care workers through education and workforce development programs that include necessary credential or licensing preparation, paid on-the-job training or work-based learning, and appropriate safety training;”.

(b) OLDER AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.—Section 502(e)(2)(B) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056(e)(2)(B)) is amended—

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

(2) in clause (iv) by adding “and” at the end, and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(v) attract, retain, or advance the direct care workforce, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary, providing for wages and benefits needed to reduce barriers to entry for a diverse and high-quality direct care workforce, supportive services and career planning, and paid on-the-job training or work-based learning, with appropriate safety training;”.

**SEC. 121. NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING THE LONG-TERM AND ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES OF TRAUMA.**

Section 411(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)), as amended by sections 111, 117, and 120, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (17) by striking “and” at the end,

(2) in paragraph (18) by striking the period at the end, and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(19) the establishment and operation of a national resource center that shall—

“(A) provide training and technical assistance to agencies in the aging network delivering services to older individuals experiencing the long-term and adverse consequences of trauma;

“(B) share best practices with the aging network; and

“(C) make subgrants to the agencies best positioned to advance and improve the delivery of person-centered, trauma-informed services for older individuals experiencing the long-term and adverse consequences of trauma.”.

**SEC. 122. NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR WOMEN AND RETIREMENT.**

Section 202 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3012), as amended by sections 103 and 115, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(j)(1) The Assistant Secretary shall, directly or by grant or contract, operate the National Resource Center for Women and Retirement (in this subsection referred to as the ‘Center’).

“(2) The Center shall—

“(A) provide basic financial management, retirement planning, and other educational tools that promote financial wellness and help to identify and prevent fraud and elder exploitation, and integrate these with information on health and long-term care;

“(B) annually disseminate a summary of outreach provided, including work to provide user-friendly consumer information and public education materials;

“(C) develop targeted outreach strategies;

“(D) provide technical assistance to State agencies and to other public and nonprofit private agencies and organizations; and

“(E) develop partnerships and collaborations to address program objectives.”.

**SEC. 123. DEFINITION.**

Section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (41) through (54) as paragraphs (42) through (55), and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (40) the following:

“(41) The term ‘person-centered, trauma-informed’ when used with respect to services means services provided through an aging program that—

“(A) use a holistic approach to providing services;

“(B) promote the dignity, strength and empowerment of victims of trauma; and

“(C) incorporate research-based practices based on knowledge about the role of trauma in trauma victims’ lives.”.

#### SEC. 124. REVIEW OF REPORTS.

Sec. 308(b) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3028(b)) is amended by inserting at the end the following:

“(B) The Assistant Secretary shall review the reports submitted under section 307(a)(31) and include aggregate data in the report required by section 207(a), including data on—

“(A) the effectiveness of the programs, policies, and services provided by area agencies on aging in assisting individuals whose needs were the focus of all centers funded under title IV in fiscal year 2019; and,

“(B) outreach efforts and other activities carried out to satisfy the assurances described in paragraphs (18) and (19) of section 306(a), to identify such older individuals and their service needs.”.

#### SEC. 125. AREA PLANS.

Section 306(a)(4) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3026(a)(4)) is amended in subparagraph (B)(i)(VII) by inserting “, specifically including survivors of the Holocaust” after “placement”.

#### SEC. 126. ADDRESSING CHRONIC PAIN MANAGEMENT.

Section 102(14)(D) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002(14)) is amended by inserting “chronic pain management,” after “substance abuse reduction.”.

#### SEC. 127. EXTENSION OF THE SUPPORTING GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN ACT.

Section 3(f) of the Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act (Public Law 115-196) is amended by striking “3” and inserting “4”.

#### SEC. 128. SCREENING FOR SUICIDE RISK.

Section 102(14)(G) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002(14)(G)) is amended by inserting “and screening for suicide risk” after “depression”.

#### SEC. 129. TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY.

(a) Section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002), as amended by section 113, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (14)—

(A) in paragraph (M) by striking “(L)” and inserting “(M)”.

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (H) through (M) as subparagraphs (I) through (N), respectively,

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (G) the following:

“(H) screening for fall-related traumatic brain injury; coordination of treatment, rehabilitation, and related services; and referral services;” and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(56) The term ‘traumatic brain injury’ has the meaning given to it in section 339B(d) of the Public Health Service Act.”.

(b) Section 321(a)(8) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030d(a)(8)) is amended—

(1) by striking “screening and” and inserting “screening, screening for negative health effects associated with social isolation,” and

(2) by striking “screening)” and inserting “screening, and traumatic brain injury screening)”.

(c) Section 411(a)(12) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)(12)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “dementia,” after “dysfunction,”.

(2) by striking “and” the 2d place it appears, and

(3) by inserting “and traumatic brain injury” before the semicolon at the end.

#### SEC. 130. ADDRESSING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES AND EMERGING HEALTH THREATS.

Section 102(14) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002(14)), as amended by sections 113 and 129, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (M) by striking “and” at the end,

(2) in subparagraph (N) by striking “(M)” and inserting “(N)”.

(3) by redesignating subparagraphs (K), (L), (M), and (N) as subparagraphs (L), (M), (N), and (O) respectively, and

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (J) the following:

“(K) responses to public health emergencies and emerging health threats;”.

#### SEC. 131. PREVENTION OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES.

Section 102(14)(D) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002(14)(D)), as amended by section 102, is amended by inserting “prevention of sexually transmitted disease,” after “disease”.

#### SEC. 132. AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER.

Section 102(4) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002(4)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “, in collaboration with (as appropriate) area agencies on aging, centers for independent living (as described in part C of title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 796f et seq.)), and other aging or disability entities” after “provides”.

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by inserting “services, supports, and” after “plan for long-term”, and

(B) by inserting “and choices” after “desires”; and

(3) in subparagraph (D) by striking “(29 U.S.C. 796f et seq.) and other community-based entities,” and inserting “, and other community-based entities, including other aging or disability entities”.

#### TITLE II—EMPOWERING THE AGING NETWORK TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OLDER INDIVIDUALS

##### SEC. 201. NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM CAP.

(a) FEDERAL SHARE.—Section 373(g)(2) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030s-1(g)(2)) is amended by striking subparagraph (C).

(b) MONITORING THE IMPACT OF THE ELIMINATION OF THE CAP ON FUNDS FOR OLDER RELATIVE CAREGIVERS.—

(1) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report on the impact of the amendment made by subsection (a) to eliminate the limitation on funds that States may allocate to provide support services to older relative caregivers in the National Family Caregiver Support Program established under part E of title III of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030s-3030s-2). Each such report shall also be made available to the public.

(2) CONTENTS.—For purposes of reports required by paragraph (1), each State that receives an allotment under such National Family Caregiver Support Program for fiscal year 2020 or a subsequent fiscal year shall re-

port to the Assistant Secretary for the fiscal year involved the amount of funds of the total Federal and non-Federal share allotment used by the State to provide support services for caregiver support for older relative caregivers and family caregivers.

##### SEC. 202. MINIMUM FUNDING LEVEL FOR STATE ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

Section 308(b)(2)(A) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3028(b)(2)(B)) is amended by striking “\$500,000” and inserting “\$750,000”.

##### SEC. 203. CULTURALLY-APPROPRIATE, MEDICALLY-TAILORED MEALS.

Section 339(2)(A) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3939h(2)(A)) is amended by inserting “, including cultural considerations and preferences (including needs based on religious, cultural, or ethnic requirements) and medically tailored meals” before the comma at the end.

##### SEC. 204. BUSINESS ACUMEN PROVISIONS AND CLARIFICATION REGARDING OUTSIDE FUNDING FOR AREA AGENCIES ON AGING.

(a) ASSISTANCE RELATING TO GROWING AND SUSTAINING CAPACITY.—Section 202(b)(9) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3012(b)(9)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A) by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end,

(2) in subparagraph (B) by inserting “and” after the semicolon at the end, and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) business acumen, capacity building, organizational development, innovation, and other methods of growing and sustaining the capacity of the aging network to serve older individuals and caregivers most effectively;”.

(b) CLARIFYING PARTNERSHIPS FOR AREA AGENCIES ON AGING.—Section 306 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3026) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) Nothing in this Act shall restrict an area agency on aging from providing services not provided or authorized by this Act, including through—

“(1) contracts with health care payers;

“(2) consumer private pay programs; or

“(3) other arrangements with entities or individuals that increase the availability of home and community-based services and supports in the planning and service area supported by the area agency on aging.”.

##### SEC. 205. OTHER PRACTICES.

Section 315 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030c-2) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) RESPONSE TO AREA AGENCIES ON AGING.—Upon request from an area agency on aging, the State shall make available any policies or guidance pertaining to policies under this section.”.

##### SEC. 206. CAREGIVER ASSESSMENTS.

(a) DEFINITION OF CAREGIVER ASSESSMENT.—Section 372(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030s(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) CAREGIVER ASSESSMENT.—The term ‘caregiver assessment’ means a systematic process of gathering information about the situation of a caregiver who voluntarily participates in such process, which may include contact through a home visit, the Internet, telephone or teleconference, or in-person interaction, to identify the caregiver’s specific needs, barriers, and existing supports as identified by the caregiver that—

“(A) provides the opportunity for the recognized caregiver to participate in such process;

“(B) requires direct contact with the caregiver and is used to appropriately target and tailor support services to the caregiver’s unique needs; and

“(C) includes reassessment of such specific needs, barriers, and existing supports, including to accommodate a significant change

in the caregiving situation, which shall occur on a voluntary basis with the consent of the caregiver.”

(b) **USE OF CAREGIVER ASSESSMENTS.**—Section 373(b) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030s-1(b)) is amended by inserting “may be informed through the use of caregiver assessments and” after “with.”

(c) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CAREGIVER ASSESSMENTS.**—Section 373 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030s-1) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CAREGIVER ASSESSMENTS.**—Not later than 1 year after the effective date of this subsection, the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with caregivers, older individuals, individuals with a disability who receive care from an older relative caregiver, the aging network, and other experts and stakeholders, shall provide technical assistance to promote and implement the use of caregiver assessments. Such technical assistance shall include sharing available tools and templates, comprehensive assessment protocols, and best practices concerning—

“(1) conducting caregiver assessments and reassessments;

“(2) implementing such assessments that are consistent across a planning and service area; and

“(3) implementing caregiver support service plans, including referrals to and coordination of activities with relevant State and local services.”

(d) **REPORTING ON CAREGIVER ASSESSMENT.**—Section 373(e) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030s-1(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3) by inserting “, including caregiver assessments used in the State,” after “mechanisms” the 1st place it appears, and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) **REPORT ON CAREGIVER ASSESSMENTS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 3 years after the effective date of this paragraph, the Assistant Secretary shall issue a report on the use of caregiver assessments by area agencies on aging, entities contracting with such agencies, and organizations. Such report shall include—

“(i) an analysis of the current use of caregiver assessments, including a repository of caregiver assessment tools or templates and comprehensive assessment protocols;

“(ii) using objective data, an analysis of the impact of caregiver assessments on—

“(I) family caregivers and older relative caregivers; and

“(II) the individuals to whom the caregivers described in subclause (I) provide care;

“(iii) an analysis of the impact of using caregiver assessments on the aging network;

“(iv) an analysis of how caregiver assessments are being used to identify the specific needs, barriers, and existing supports of family caregivers and older relative caregivers;

“(v) recommendations for using caregiver assessments, including in rural or underserved areas; and

“(vi) feedback from State agencies and area agencies on aging, particularly in rural or underserved areas, on the implementation of caregiver assessments.

“(B) **SUBMISSION.**—Not later than 6 months after the issuance of the report under subparagraph (A), the Assistant Secretary shall submit the report to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate.”

**SEC. 207. RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.**

Section 201 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3011) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g)(1) The Assistant Secretary shall coordinate the research and evaluation func-

tions of this Act under a National Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center for the Aging Network (in this subsection referred to as the ‘Center’), which shall be headed by a director designated by the Assistant Secretary from individuals described in paragraph (4).

“(2) The purpose of the Center shall be—

“(A) to coordinate research, research dissemination, evaluation, demonstration projects, and related activities carried out under this Act;

“(B) to provide assessment of the programs authorized under this Act; and

“(C) to increase the repository of information on evidence-based programs and interventions available to the aging network. Such information shall be applicable to existing programs and help in the development of new evidence-based programs and interventions.

“(3) Activities of the Center shall include conducting, promoting, coordinating, and providing support for—

“(A) research and evaluation activities that support the objectives of this Act, including—

“(i) evaluation of new and existing programs and interventions authorized by this Act; and

“(ii) research on and assessment of the relationship between programs and interventions under this Act and the health outcomes, social determinants of health, quality of life, health care savings (including to the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act and the Medicaid program under title XIX of such Act as practicable), and independence of individuals served under this Act;

“(B) demonstration projects that support the objectives of the Act and activities to bring effective demonstration projects to scale with a prioritization of projects that address the needs of underserved populations;

“(C) outreach and dissemination of research findings; and

“(D) technical assistance related to the activities described in this subparagraph.

“(4) The director shall be an individual with substantial knowledge of and experience in aging and health policy, and research administration.

“(5) Not later than October 1, 2020, and at 5-year intervals thereafter, the director shall prepare and publish in the Federal Register for public comment a draft of a 5-year plan that—

“(A) outlines priorities for research, research dissemination, evaluation, and related activities;

“(B) explains the basis for such priorities; and

“(C) describes how the plan will meet the needs of underserved populations.

“(6) The director shall coordinate research, research dissemination, evaluation, and demonstration projects, and related activities with appropriate agency program staff, and, as appropriate, coordinate with other Federal departments and agencies involved in research in the field of aging.

“(7) Not later than December 31, 2020, and annually thereafter, the director shall prepare, and submit to the Secretary, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate, and the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives, a report on the activities funded under this section and title IV.

“(8) The director shall, as appropriate, consult with experts on aging research and evaluation and aging network stakeholders on the implementation of the activities described under paragraph (3) of this subsection.

“(9) The director shall coordinate all research and evaluation authorities under this Act.”

**SEC. 208. GRANT PROGRAM FOR MULTIGENERATIONAL COLLABORATION.**

Section 417 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032f) is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

“(a) **GRANTS AND CONTRACTS.**—The Assistant Secretary shall award grants to, and enter into contracts with, eligible organizations to carry out projects—

“(1) to provide opportunities for older individuals to participate in multigenerational activities and civic engagement activities that contribute to the health and wellness of older individuals and individuals in younger generations by developing—

“(A) meaningful roles for participants;

“(B) reciprocity in relationship building;

“(C) reduced social isolation and improved participant social connectedness;

“(D) improved economic well-being for older individuals;

“(E) increased lifelong learning; or

“(F) support for older relative caregivers by—

“(i) providing support for older relative caregivers (as defined in section 372) raising children (such as kinship navigator programs); or

“(ii) involving volunteers who are older individuals who provide support and information to families who have a child with a disability or chronic illness, or other families in need of such family support;

“(2) to coordinate multigenerational activities and civic engagement activities, including multigenerational nutrition and meal service programs;

“(3) to promote volunteerism, including becoming a mentor to young people; and

“(4) to facilitate development of and participation in multigenerational activities and civic engagement activities.”

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

“(b) **USE OF FUNDS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—An eligible organization shall use funds made available under a grant awarded, or a contract entered into, under this section to carry out a project described in subsection (a).

“(2) **PROVISION OF PROJECTS THROUGH GRANTEES.**—In making grants under this section, the Assistant Secretary shall ensure that awards are made for the activities and projects described in each of paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a).”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “that serves individuals in younger generations and older individuals” after “to carry out a project”;

(B) in paragraph (1) by inserting “, intent to carry out, or intent to partner with local organizations or multiservice organizations to carry out,” after “record of carrying out”;

(C) in paragraph (3) by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon.

(D) in paragraph (4) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”, and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) eligible organizations proposing multigenerational activity projects that utilize shared site programs, such as collocated child care and long-term care facilities.”

(4) by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

“(e) **ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS.**—Organizations eligible to receive a grant or enter into a contract under subsection (a) shall—

“(1) be a State, an area agency on aging, or an organization that provides opportunities for older individuals to participate in activities described in such subsection; and



“(2) have the capacity to conduct the coordination, promotion, and facilitation described in such subsection through the use of multigenerational coordinators.”,

(5) by striking subsection (g),

(6) in subsection (h)(2)(B)(i) by striking “individuals from the generations with older individuals” and inserting “older individuals”.

(7) by redesignating subsections (b) through (f) as subsections (c) through (g), respectively, and

(8) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) GRANT PERIOD.—Each grant awarded or contract made under subsection (a) shall be to carry out projects for a period of not less than 36 months.”.

### TITLE III—STRENGTHENING PROTECTIONS FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS

#### SEC. 301. STATE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM MINIMUM FUNDING AND MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.

The Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by amending section 306(a)(9) to read as follows:

“(9) provide assurances that—

“(A) the area agency on aging, in carrying out the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman program under section 307(a)(9), will expend not less than the total amount of funds appropriated under this Act and expended by the agency in fiscal year 2019 in carrying out such a program under this title; and

“(B) funds made available to area agencies on aging pursuant to section 712 shall be used to supplement and not supplant other Federal, State, and local funds expended to support activities described in section 712.”, and

(2) by amending section 307(a)(9) to read as follows:

“(9) The plan shall provide assurances that—

“(A) the State agency will carry out, through the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, a State Long-Term Care Ombudsman program in accordance with section 712 and this title, and will expend for such purpose an amount that is not less than an amount expended by the State agency with funds received under this title for fiscal year 2019, and an amount that is not less than the amount expended by the State agency with funds received under title VII for fiscal year 2019; and

“(B) funds made available to state agencies pursuant to section 712 shall be used to supplement and not supplant other Federal, State, and local funds expended to support activities described in section 712.”.

#### SEC. 302. STATE LONG-TERM CARE VOLUNTEER OMBUDSMAN REPRESENTATIVES.

Section 712(a)(5) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3058g(a)(5)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E), and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

“(D) VOLUNTEER OMBUDSMAN REPRESENTATIVES.—An individual designated as a volunteer ombudsman representative may receive financial support and recognition from the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program for expenses incurred during service.”.

#### SEC. 303. CLARIFICATION REGARDING BOARD AND CARE FACILITIES.

Section 102(35)(C) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002(35)(C)) is amended by striking “for purposes of sections 307(a)(12) and 712.”.

#### SEC. 304. REPORT ON LEGAL HOTLINES.

Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Sec-

retary on Aging shall prepare and submit to the Congress a report containing—

(1) information on which States or localities operate senior legal hotlines,

(2) information on how such hotlines operated by States or localities are funded,

(3) information on the usefulness of senior legal hotlines in the coordination and provision of legal assistance, and

(4) recommendations on additional actions that should be taken related to senior legal hotlines.

#### SEC. 305. COMMUNITY OUTREACH.

Section 721(b)(12) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3058i(b)(12)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C) by inserting “community outreach and education,” after “technical assistance”, and

(2) in subparagraph (F)—

(A) by striking “studying” and inserting “implementing”, and

(B) by inserting “, programs, and materials” after “practices”.

#### SEC. 306. PRINCIPLES FOR PERSON-DIRECTED SERVICES AND SUPPORTS DURING SERIOUS ILLNESS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Administration for Community Living.

(2) AREA AGENCY ON AGING; ASSISTANT SECRETARY; STATE AGENCY.—The terms “area agency on aging”, “Assistant Secretary”, and “State agency” have the meanings given the terms in section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002).

(3) COVERED AGENCY.—The term “covered agency” means—

(A) a State agency or area agency on aging; and

(B) a Federal agency other than the Department of Health and Human Services, and a unit of that Department other than the Administration on Aging, that the Assistant Secretary determines performs functions for which the principles are relevant, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

(4) PRINCIPLES.—The term “principles” means the Principles for Person-directed Services and Supports during Serious Illness, issued by the Administration on September 1, 2017, or an updated set of such Principles.

(b) DISSEMINATION.—The Administrator shall disseminate the principles to appropriate stakeholders within the aging network, as determined by the Assistant Secretary, and to covered agencies. The covered agencies may use the principles in setting priorities for service delivery and care plans in programs carried out by the agencies.

(c) FEEDBACK.—The Administrator shall solicit, on an ongoing basis, feedback on the principles from covered agencies, experts in the fields of aging and dementia, and stakeholders who provide or receive disability services.

(d) REPORT.—Not less often than once, but not more often than annually, during the 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall prepare and submit to Congress a report describing the feedback received under subsection (c) and indicating if any changes or updates are needed to the principles.

### TITLE IV—MEETING THE NEEDS OF OLDER NATIVE AMERICANS

#### SEC. 401. EXPANDING SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR NATIVE AMERICAN AGING PROGRAMS.

Title VI of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3057 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in part D—

(A) by amending section 643 to read as follows:

#### “SEC. 643. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

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

“(1) for parts A and B, \$38,524,324 for fiscal year 2020, \$40,835,783 for fiscal year 2021, \$43,285,930 for fiscal year 2022, \$45,883,086 for fiscal year 2023, and \$48,636,071 for fiscal year 2024; and

“(2) for part C subject to section 644, \$10,785,575 for fiscal year 2020, \$11,432,710 for fiscal year 2021, \$12,118,672 for fiscal year 2022, \$12,845,792 for fiscal year 2023, and \$13,616,540 for fiscal year 2024.”, and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

#### “SEC. 644. FUNDING SET ASIDE.

“Of the funds appropriated under section 643(1) for a fiscal year, not more than 5 percent shall be made available to carry out part D for such fiscal year if for such fiscal year—

“(1) the funds appropriated for parts A and B are greater than the funds appropriated for such parts for fiscal year 2019; and

“(2) the Assistant Secretary makes available for parts A and B not less than the amount of resources made available for fiscal year 2019.”,

(2) by redesignating part D as part E, and

(3) by inserting after part C the following:

#### “PART D—SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR HEALTHY AGING AND INDEPENDENCE

#### “SEC. 636. PROGRAM.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall carry out a competitive demonstration program for making grants to tribal or Native Hawaiian organizations with applications approved under parts A and B, to pay for the Federal share of carrying out programs, to enable the organizations to build their capacity to provide a wider range of in-home and community supportive services to enable older individuals to maintain their health and independence and to avoid long-term care facility placement.

“(b) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), supportive services described in subsection (a) may include any of the activities described in section 321(a).

“(2) PRIORITY.—The Assistant Secretary, in making grants under this section, shall give priority to organizations that will use the grant funds for supportive services described in subsection (a) that are for in-home assistance, transportation, information and referral, case management, health and wellness programs, legal services, family caregiver support services, and other services that directly support the independence of the older individuals served.

“(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed or interpreted to prohibit the provision of supportive services under part A or B.”.

#### SEC. 402. ENHANCING CAPACITY TO SUPPORT NATIVE AMERICAN AGING PROGRAMS.

Title II of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3011 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 201(c)(3)(H) by inserting “to ensure adequate capacity to deliver the services under such title, which technical assistance programs may include program management, data development and use, basic business skills, grant development, program and service innovations, and staff professional development and certification” before the semicolon at the end, and

(2) section 216 is amended to read as follows:

#### “SEC. 216. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of carrying out this Act, there are authorized to be appropriated for administration, salaries, and expenses of the Administration \$44,042,171 for fiscal year 2020, \$46,684,701 for fiscal year 2021, \$49,485,783 for fiscal year 2022, \$52,454,930 for fiscal year 2023, and \$55,602,226 for fiscal year 2024.

“(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR PROGRAMS.—There are authorized to be appropriated—

“(1) to carry out section 201(g), \$20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2020 through 2024;

“(2) to carry out section 202(a)(21) (relating to the National Eldercare Locator Service), \$2,186,227 for fiscal year 2020, \$2,317,401 for fiscal year 2021, \$2,456,445 for fiscal year 2022, \$2,603,832 for fiscal year 2023, and \$2,760,062 for fiscal year 2024;

“(3) to carry out sections 215 and 202(j), \$1,992,460 for fiscal year 2020, \$2,112,008 for fiscal year 2021, \$2,238,728 for fiscal year 2022, \$2,373,052 for fiscal year 2023, and \$2,515,435 for fiscal year 2024;

“(4) to carry out section 202 (relating to Elder Rights Support Activities under this title), \$1,375,011 for fiscal year 2020, \$1,457,511 for fiscal year 2021, \$1,544,962 for fiscal year 2022, \$1,637,660 for fiscal year 2023, and \$1,735,919 for fiscal year 2024;

“(5) to carry out section 202(b) (relating to the Aging and Disability Resource Centers), \$8,708,043 for fiscal year 2020, \$9,230,526 for fiscal year 2021, \$9,784,357 for fiscal year 2022, \$10,371,419 for fiscal year 2023, and \$10,993,704 for fiscal year 2024; and

“(6) to carry out section 201(c)(3)(H) (relating to professional development and technical assistance for programs under title VI), \$500,000 for fiscal year 2021.”.

#### TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS

##### SEC. 501. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

The Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 102(37)(A) by striking “paragraph (5)” and inserting “paragraph (26)”;

(2) in section 202(a)(23) by striking “sections 307(a)(18) and 731(b)(2)” and inserting “sections 307(a)(13) and 731”;

(3) in section 202(e)(1)(A) by moving the left margin of clause (i) 2 ems to the left,

(4) in sections 203(c)(7), 207(b)(2)(B), and 215(i) by striking “Committee on Education and the Workforce” and inserting “Committee on Education and Labor”;

(5) in section 207(b)(3)(A) by striking “Administrator of the Health Care Finance Administration” and inserting “Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services”;

(6) in section 304(a)(3)(C) by striking “term” and all that follows through “does”, and inserting “term ‘State’ does”;

(7) in section 304(d)(1)(B) by striking “(excluding)” and all that follows through “303(a)(3)”;

(8) in section 306(a)—

(A) by inserting “the number of older individuals at risk for institutional placement residing in such area,” after “areas residing in such area,” the last place it appears, and

(B) in paragraph (2) by striking “who are victims of” and inserting “with”;

(9) in section 339 by striking “Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences” and inserting “National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine”;

(10) in section 611 by striking “(a)”, and

(11) in section 614(c)(4) by striking “(a)(12)” and inserting “(a)(11)”.

##### SEC. 502. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; USES OF FUNDS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; USES OF FUNDS.—Section 303 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3023) is amended to read as follows:

##### “SEC. 303. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; USES OF FUNDS.

“(a)(1) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out part B (relating to supportive services) \$413,011,586 for fiscal year 2020, \$437,792,281 for fiscal year 2021, \$464,059,818 for fiscal year 2022, \$491,903,407 for fiscal year 2023, and \$521,417,612 for fiscal year 2024.

“(2) Funds appropriated under paragraph (1) shall be available to carry out section 712.

“(b)(1) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subpart 1 of part C (relating to congregate nutrition services) \$531,279,663 for fiscal year 2020, \$563,156,443 for fiscal year 2021, \$596,945,830 for fiscal year 2022, \$632,762,580 for fiscal year 2023, and \$670,728,334 for fiscal year 2024.

“(2) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subpart 2 of part C (relating to home delivered nutrition services) \$269,577,167 for fiscal year 2020, \$285,751,797 for fiscal year 2021, \$302,896,905 for fiscal year 2022, \$321,070,719 for fiscal year 2023, and \$340,334,963 for fiscal year 2024.

“(c) Grants made under part B, and subparts 1 and 2 of part C, of this title may be used for paying part of the cost of—

“(1) the administration of area plans by area agencies on aging designated under section 305(a)(2)(A), including the preparation of area plans on aging consistent with section 306 and the evaluation of activities carried out under such plans; and

“(2) the development of comprehensive and coordinated systems for supportive services, congregate and home delivered nutrition services under subparts 1 and 2 of part C, the development and operation of multipurpose senior centers, and the delivery of legal assistance.

“(d) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out part D (relating to disease prevention and health promotion services) \$26,650,753 for fiscal year 2020, \$28,249,798 for fiscal year 2021, \$29,944,786 for fiscal year 2022, \$31,741,473 for fiscal year 2023, and \$33,645,961 for fiscal year 2024.

“(e) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out part E (relating to family caregiver support) \$194,331,264 for fiscal year 2020, \$205,991,140 for fiscal year 2021, \$218,350,609 for fiscal year 2022, \$231,451,645 for fiscal year 2023, and \$245,338,744 for fiscal year 2024.”.

(b) Section 311(e) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030a(e)) is amended to read as follows:

“(e) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section (other than subsection (c)(1)) \$171,682,200 for fiscal year 2020, \$181,983,132 for fiscal year 2021, \$192,902,120 for fiscal year 2022, \$204,476,247 for fiscal year 2023, and \$216,744,822 for fiscal year 2024.”.

(c) Section 411(b) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032(b)) is amended to read as follows:

“(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out—

“(1) aging network support activities under this section, \$14,549,157 for fiscal year 2020, \$15,422,107 for fiscal year 2021, \$16,347,433 for fiscal year 2022, \$17,328,279 for fiscal year 2023, and \$18,367,976 for fiscal year 2024; and

“(2) elder rights support activities under this section, \$15,650,667 for fiscal year 2020, \$16,589,707 for fiscal year 2021, \$17,585,090 for fiscal year 2022, \$18,640,195 for fiscal year 2023, and \$19,758,607 for fiscal year 2024.”.

(d) Section 517(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056o(a)) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$429,020,486 for fiscal year 2020, \$454,761,715 for fiscal year 2021, \$482,047,418 for fiscal year 2022, \$510,970,263 for fiscal year 2023, and \$541,628,478 for fiscal year 2024.”.

(e) Section 702 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3058a) is amended to read as follows:

##### “SEC. 702. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“(a) OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out chapter 2, \$18,110,027 for fiscal year 2020, \$19,196,629 for fiscal year 2021, \$20,348,427 for

fiscal year 2022, \$21,569,332 for fiscal year 2023, and \$22,863,492 for fiscal year 2024.

“(b) OTHER PROGRAMS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out chapters 3 and 4, \$5,119,287 for fiscal year 2020, \$5,426,444 for fiscal year 2021, \$5,752,031 for fiscal year 2022, \$6,097,153 for fiscal year 2023, and \$6,462,982 for fiscal year 2024.”.

##### SEC. 503. HOLD HARMLESS FORMULA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 304(a)(3)(D) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3024(a)(3)(D)) is amended to read as follows:

“(D)(i) In this subparagraph and paragraph (5):

“(I) The term ‘allot’ means allot under this subsection from a sum appropriated under section 303(a) or 303(b)(1), as the case may be.

“(II) The term ‘covered fiscal year’ means any of fiscal years 2020 through 2029.

“(ii) If the sum appropriated under section 303(a) or 303(b)(1) for a particular fiscal year is less than or equal to the sum appropriated under section 303(a) or 303(b)(1), respectively, for fiscal year 2019, amounts shall be allotted to States from the sum appropriated for the particular year in accordance with paragraphs (1) and (2), and subparagraphs (A) through (C) as applicable, but no State shall be allotted an amount that is less than—

“(I) for fiscal year 2020, 99.75 percent of the corresponding sum appropriated for fiscal year 2019;

“(II) for fiscal year 2021, 99.50 percent of that sum;

“(III) for fiscal year 2022, 99.25 percent of that sum;

“(IV) for fiscal year 2023, 99.00 percent of that sum;

“(V) for fiscal year 2024, 98.75 percent of that sum;

“(VI) for fiscal year 2025, 98.50 percent of that sum;

“(VII) for fiscal year 2026, 98.25 percent of that sum;

“(VIII) for fiscal year 2027, 98.00 percent of that sum;

“(IX) for fiscal year 2028, 97.75 percent of that sum;

“(X) for fiscal year 2029, 97.50 percent of that sum.

“(iii) If the sum appropriated under section 303(a) or 303(b)(1) for a particular covered fiscal year is greater than the sum appropriated under section 303(a) or 303(b)(1), respectively, for fiscal year 2019, the allotments to States from the sum appropriated for the particular year shall be calculated as follows:

“(I) From the portion equal to the corresponding sum appropriated for fiscal year 2019, amounts shall be allotted in accordance with paragraphs (1) and (2), and subparagraphs (A) through (C) as applicable, but no State shall be allotted an amount that is less than the percentage specified in clause (ii), for that particular year, of the corresponding sum appropriated for fiscal year 2019.

“(II) From the remainder, amounts shall be allotted in accordance with paragraph (1), subparagraphs (A) through (C) as applicable, and paragraph (2) to the extent needed to meet the requirements of those subparagraphs.”.

(b) REPEAL.—Section 304(a)(3)(D) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3024(a)(3)(D)) is repealed effective October 1, 2029.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oregon.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act of 2019. I introduced this bipartisan bill to reauthorize and update the Older Americans Act, or OAA, which was first passed in 1965 as part of President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society initiative.

For more than 50 years, OAA programs have helped older Americans maintain their independence and their dignity.

Today, the Older Americans Act serves about 11 million individuals each year, with 3 million of those Americans relying regularly on OAA programs to meet their basic needs. Unfortunately, funding for the Older Americans Act lags far behind the increasing demand for its services.

Although the population of Americans over age 60 has grown more than 60 percent since 2001, OAA funding has only grown by about 20 percent. Adjusting for inflation, this means that OAA funding has declined by about 16 percent.

That erosion of funding exacerbates the vast unmet need in my home State of Oregon and across the country. It means that every day in our communities there are seniors who do not have the care they need and deserve.

I have heard and read too many stories about seniors rationing medication or saving portions of their meal so they can stretch their resources just a bit further into the week. I will never forget the story I heard of an 80-year-old woman in Oregon who was living in her car. She did not know where to turn for help.

Far too many Americans continue to face poverty, discrimination, and barriers to basic necessities. This is, in part, because OAA programs are underfunded and not fully supported.

According to a 2015 GAO report, OAA services do not reach 83 percent of the low-income, older Americans who experience food insecurity. That is more than four out of every five seniors in need.

Today, we recommit to investing in OAA programs because we have an obligation, a moral obligation, to take care of those who cared for us.

The Dignity in Aging Act authorizes record levels of funding for OAA programs, which will help expand access to food assistance, transportation, and other basic services that the growing population of seniors needs to live independently.

Under this bill, all OAA programs are eligible to receive an immediate 7 percent increase in funding and a 6 percent increase each year thereafter.

This will result in a more than 35 percent total increase in program funding over the 5-year reauthorization program, restoring OAA funding to pre-recession baseline.

This is a good investment because OAA programs help seniors stay in their homes and out of costly facilities.

The bill also recognizes the need to support family caregivers and direct-care workers. It extends the RAISE Family Caregivers Act, which helps develop a national strategy to recognize and support those caring for their loved ones. My 91-year-old mother has Alzheimer's, so I know how important caregivers are.

H.R. 4334 strengthens our focus on combating social isolation, which greatly increases the risk of stroke, heart disease, dementia, and premature death. It does so by incorporating social isolation screening into the health and supportive services that seniors receive and by empowering local organizations to evaluate solutions for social isolation.

The Dignity in Aging Act also establishes a National Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center for the Aging Network. This center will be responsible for conducting, promoting, and coordinating research, including evaluation and demonstration projects and related technical assistance through the act. The center will increase the repository of information on evidence-based programs and interventions available to the Aging Network.

The bill improves economic opportunity and engagement for older Americans. It includes individuals who are justice-involved as a priority population for the Senior Community Service Employment Program.

The bill also encourages the inclusion of arts education and cultural experiences, among other supportive services, and further allows for demonstration funds to be used for multigenerational collaboration projects that provide opportunities for older individuals to participate in multigenerational activities and civic engagement activities.

Finally, this bipartisan legislation seeks to improve services for historically underserved and marginalized individuals, including Native Americans, Holocaust survivors, and LGBT seniors. For example, it will create a National Technical Assistance Center dedicated to expanding the Aging Network's capacity to deliver person-centered, trauma-informed services that meet the needs of aging trauma survivors.

The bill codifies the National Resource Center on Women and Retirement to recognize the ongoing importance of their work, and it improves data collection and outreach for all resource centers that focus on populations needing additional or unique services.

This bill provides a rare bipartisan opportunity to help millions of older Americans across the country spend

less of their limited income on costly care and, just as importantly, empowers every individual to age with dignity.

I would like to thank Education and Labor Committee Chairman BOBBY SCOTT and Ranking Member VIRGINIA FOXX, as well as my coleads on the bill—Representative ELISE STEFANIK; Subcommittee Ranking Member Representative JAMES COMER; and Representatives SUSIE LEE, SUSAN WILD, and DUSTY JOHNSON—for working together to bring this bipartisan bill to the floor.

I also want to thank the hardworking staff, especially Carrie Hughes and Ali Hard from the committee; my personal office staff: Jack Arriaga, Allison Smith, and Rachael Bornstein; and the staff on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation so we can better care for those who have cared for us, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

As the Representative of a district that has one of the largest constituencies of older Americans, I am proud to rise as a coauthor of H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act, bipartisan legislation that reauthorizes the Older Americans Act, which will directly benefit the seniors in my district and the seniors across the country.

Since 1965, this statute has provided a wide range of social and nutrition services for Americans aged 60 years or older. In addition to well-known programs like Meals on Wheels, the Older Americans Act supports services that include nutrition programs providing meals at senior centers, schools, and churches; care to prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation of seniors; family caregiver support systems; and community service employment opportunities for older Americans.

This legislation is full of bipartisan agreements and priorities, and during times of stark political divide, it is encouraging to be here today with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to speak in support of the Dignity in Aging Act, which is the product of a diligent, congenial effort that embodies the good that can come from working across the aisle.

The bill before us today provides States the flexibility to spend funds on the issues impacting their senior communities, which include support for older Americans who have become caregivers of younger relatives due to the devastating toll of the opioid epidemic on our communities.

It enhances the cost effectiveness of critical programs and ensures program accountability and integrity by prohibiting the renewal of grants that do not demonstrate effectiveness.

It assists formerly incarcerated, older individuals in reentering the workforce rather than re-offend and ensures that funded programs are evidence based and effectively serving seniors.

Additionally, this bill includes long-overdue updates from the Younger Onset Alzheimer's Act that I co-led with my friend and colleague from New York, Congresswoman KATHLEEN RICE.

Those under 60 with this heart-breaking disease face unique hardships, for themselves and for their families. The current support structures for individuals with Alzheimer's are focused almost exclusively on seniors, leaving the 200,000 Americans living with younger onset Alzheimer's without access to these critical services.

This bill ensures individuals of any age living with Alzheimer's receive full access to the services and support provided by the Older Americans Act.

I am also very proud to say that included in this bill is language from another bipartisan legislative proposal that I coauthored encouraging the use of caregiver assessments to identify the needs of family caregivers.

This individualized approach to care will ensure that both caregivers and those who require assistance are provided tailored support to achieve the best possible health outcomes.

There is another group of older Americans in this country we must not forget: the nearly 80,000 Holocaust survivors who live among us. As victims of the very worst of humanity, Holocaust survivors deserve devoted care and support to address the unimaginable, horrific trauma they experienced. Sadly, one-third of our country's Holocaust survivors live in poverty.

During the markup process in the House Committee on Education and Labor, I was honored to work with my friend and colleague, Representative BONAMICI, on a provision that works to address the needs of aging Holocaust survivors.

Institutional placement can present a unique challenge to those who have suffered the trauma of the Holocaust, so it is critical that these individuals are identified for the services necessary to support independent living. Our provision will ensure local outreach efforts place a special emphasis on Holocaust survivors and others at risk for institutional placement.

Additionally, the bill recognizes the specific needs of this community by ensuring that nutrition programs should meet the religious, cultural, or ethnic dietary requirements of all older Americans.

These men and women have survived unconscionable suffering, yet many continue to live with physical and emotional scars from the horror they faced. Together, we acknowledge their resilience and seek to offer opportunities that allow them to live healthy, dignified, and independent lives through their elder years.

Mr. Speaker, I am encouraged by the bipartisan effort from the Education and Labor Committee that has resulted in the meaningful legislation before us today. I strongly encourage all of my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act. In doing so,

we reaffirm our commitment to our Nation's older generation.

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

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), chairman of the Education and Labor Committee.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives BONAMICI, STEFANIK, LEE of Nevada, COMER, WILD, and JOHNSON of South Dakota for their work on this bipartisan bill.

I want to specifically recognize Ms. BONAMICI, who serves as the chair of the Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services for the Committee on Education and Labor. Because of her leadership, we are here today to consider the Dignity in Aging Act and to reauthorize the Older Americans Act and, thereby, support and invest in our Nation's seniors.

□ 1445

Congress first passed the Older Americans Act in 1965, along with Medicare, Medicaid, and other civil rights legislation as part of President Johnson's great society.

Fifty-four years later, this act continues to support a range of programs that now help 11 million aging Americans retain their independence and avoid costly institutional care. This includes 3 million Americans who regularly use OAA services to address their basic needs, especially food, transportation, and social interaction.

Unfortunately, the OAA funding has not kept pace with inflation and the growing population of aging Americans. In 2010, the annual funding was \$42.95 per senior in today's dollars. Today, it is not \$42.95, it is only \$27.25.

This disinvestment has weakened the OAA programs at a time when services are in high demand. According to a 2015 GAO report, OAA services fail to reach a vast majority of low-income Americans who experience food insecurity.

The investments we make through this legislation will not only allow us to help seniors, but also help us save money. OAA services allow older Americans to delay or altogether avoid costlier care by promoting healthier behaviors and promoting critical supportive services.

The bill funds OAA services at record levels. It focuses on the vital role of family caregivers, as well as direct care workers, and allows those with early onset Alzheimer's to benefit from the act.

As the number of older Americans continues to increase, the Dignity in Aging Act is an opportunity for us to strengthen essential services that allow millions of Americans across the country to age independently and with dignity. I urge my colleagues to support the Dignity in Aging Act of 2019.

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER), the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, today's life expectancy rate in our Nation is at a historic high, and that is great news. It also means we need to be doing all we can to ensure that Americans have access to quality, timely services which allow them to live independently in their homes as long as possible.

Since 1965, the Older Americans Act, or OAA, has governed the organization and delivery of services for senior citizens throughout the country. With more than 41 million Americans aged 65 and older, the social and nutritional programs offered by OAA are critical to helping them maintain independence.

The reach of this law is substantial and covers many aspects of elder care. In addition to well-known programs like Meals on Wheels, OAA supports services provided by more than 300 State organizations and approximately 20,000 local providers. Some of these services include: Nutrition programs providing meals at senior centers, schools and churches; care to prevent the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of seniors; family caregiver support systems; and community service employment opportunities for older Americans. These types of programs offer valuable assistance for America's seniors, and we must ensure the law is aging as well as the people it serves.

I am proud that our committee has worked together to produce bipartisan, effective legislation to support our Nation's seniors. Specifically, the Dignity in Aging Act we are considering today eliminates the arbitrary cap on the percentage of funding Area Agencies on Aging can use to provide services to older caregivers raising younger relatives. These provisions will be especially beneficial for my constituents in Kentucky where, in the midst of the opioid crisis, many older relatives have taken on the responsibilities of raising children whose parents are not present or unable to take care of them.

As an original cosponsor of this legislation, and the ranking member of the subcommittee of jurisdiction, I appreciate the work of Chairwoman BONAMICI, and my colleagues on the Committee on Education and Labor to advance the Dignity in Aging Act of 2019.

I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation to build upon the flexible policies found in the Older Americans Act to promote consumer-driven, independent living for our Nation's elderly population.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD), a member of the Education and Labor Committee.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act of 2019. This is a strong bipartisan bill to reauthorize the Older Americans Act, which provides vital services and support to seniors and their families in our community.

Reauthorization has been an important local priority in my community in northern Illinois.

During the August work period, I held a roundtable on the issue at the Fox Valley Older Adult Services with local stakeholders. Their priorities for reauthorization included increased funding, transportation, legal services, and support for seniors who age in place, and their caregivers.

That is why I am so proud that the bill that we are discussing today, among other improvements: Increases overall transportation program funding by 35 percent; improves access to that funding; increases availability and accessibility of meals for seniors; and strengthens support for family caregivers, including those caring for individuals with younger-onset Alzheimer's disease.

I am so proud that this bill includes my bipartisan amendment to ensure that programs that serve seniors are ready to respond to outbreaks or other public health emergencies.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the Dignity in Aging Act so that our seniors have the services and support they need.

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN), the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, 54 years ago, our country made a commitment to older Americans and their families. In 1965, the Older Americans Act was enacted to support a wide range of services and programs for individuals over the age of 60. By passing this legislation, Congress made a promise to help provide compassionate care to our Nation's most vulnerable adults who are sometimes exploited, abused, or neglected.

This legislation is vital to Georgia's seniors, and it supports many important community-based services like nutrition programs at churches and family caregiver support.

I have seen the benefits of these programs firsthand, as I have had several opportunities to deliver Meals on Wheels to those who are unable to grocery shop or prepare a warm meal for themselves. What a privilege, as a Member of Congress, to visit with these older adults and talk to them about their contribution to this great country as we delivered these meals.

This legislation upholds the dignity of those who are aging, and it has received bipartisan support for more than 50 years. Today should be no different, as we have a responsibility to uphold the promise that was made to support our Nation's seniors.

I urge my colleagues to, once again, reauthorize the Older Americans Act.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Miss RICE) who, along with Representative STEFANIK, were lead sponsors of the Younger Onset Alz-

heimer's Act, which was included in this legislation.

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act of 2019, which includes key provisions from our bill, the Younger Onset Alzheimer's Act.

This critical legislation will amend the Older Americans Act to ensure that the hundreds of thousands of Americans living with younger-onset Alzheimer's disease receive the care and support that they desperately need and deserve.

The Older Americans Act was originally enacted in 1965 and supports a range of home and community-based programs for Americans age 60 and older. These programs include nutritional services like Meals on Wheels, in-home and adult daycare, transportation services, legal aid, elder abuse prevention, and vital assistance and support for family caregivers. These programs have become absolutely essential to people living with Alzheimer's disease and their families.

However, today 5 percent of Americans living with Alzheimer's disease, approximately 250,000 people, are living with younger-onset Alzheimer's, a disease that has a particularly devastating effect on families, with diagnoses coming in individual's thirties, forties, or fifties, when they still have young children, new homes and growing careers. They are in the prime of their lives, and they don't always have the financial stability to leave the workforce, which is usually inevitable.

And because of their young age, they are currently ineligible for all OAA-funded programs. Virtually overnight, these families face unimaginable and unforeseen financial and emotional strain; and yet they are denied access to critical OAA programs, programs that we know work, and that so many people with Alzheimer's rely on every day.

By including major provisions from our bill, the Dignity in Aging Act will ensure that younger Alzheimer's patients and their families have access to critical programs and support.

Before I conclude, Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to acknowledge two of my constituents who helped bring this issue to my attention, Karen Henley and Connie Wasserman.

Karen lost her husband, Mike, to younger-onset Alzheimer's in 2012. He was diagnosed at the age of 36 and passed away at 47.

Karen, Mike, and their two children, Brandon and Courtney, experienced firsthand how challenging it is for people with this disease to find affordable and quality care.

Connie Wasserman is the Associate Executive Director of Social Services of the Sid Jacobson JCC in East Hills, New York. For years, she has played a crucial role in supporting people and families living with younger-onset Alzheimer's right on Long Island, families like the Henleys, who had nowhere to go.

But because the government does not fund Alzheimer's programs for people under the age of 60, Connie has had to start her own. And right now, she relies almost entirely on private funding.

Connie and Karen have become tireless advocates for those living with younger-onset Alzheimer's, and they worked closely with my office on this bill.

As fate should have it, today is Karen and Mike Henley's wedding anniversary and, in honor of them, I ask all of my colleagues to support the Dignity in Aging Act of 2019.

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), the Republican leader of the Committee on Education and Labor.

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking Representative STEFANIK for her leadership on this legislation before us today.

I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act, which will reauthorize the Older Americans Act through 2024.

For over 50 years, the Older Americans Act, or OAA, has helped provide social and nutrition services to older Americans. With more than 40 million Americans aged 65 and older, the programs and services offered by OAA are helping them maintain independence, and the data shows overwhelmingly that these programs help older Americans live higher-quality lives.

The reach of this law is substantial and covers many aspects of elder care beyond just well-known programs like Meals on Wheels. OAA supports services that include: Nutrition programs providing meals at senior centers, schools, and churches; care to prevent the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of seniors; family caregiver support systems; and services to help older Americans move into employment.

This reauthorization is the product of bipartisan hard work with Members of the Education and Labor Committee and shows the good that can come from working together. Through productive conversation and compromise, we have successfully authorized grants for States and Area Agencies on Aging, AAAs, responsible for coordinating local services for older individuals.

Specifically, the supportive services program funds a wide range of social services aimed at helping our older population remain independent in their own homes and communities. These services include, case management, adult daycare, and other numerous activities of senior centers. Additionally, States are required to devote a certain portion of funding to access services, home care, and legal assistance.

Furthermore, local agencies that implement the law on the ground will receive additional clarity about cost-sharing policies designed to increase the cost-effectiveness of OAA programs.

The bill also infuses additional accountability over hardworking taxpayer funds into these programs by requiring programs to demonstrate they met their stated goals prior to receiving a renewal of their grant.

In addition to funding for supportive services and nutrition services, H.R. 4334 also provides for caregiver support. The bill continues support for the National Family Caregiver Support Program, which provides funds to States to support Americans caring for aging family members.

□ 1500

The program provides a range of services, including information and assistance to caregivers about available services, counseling, organization of support groups and caregiver education, respite services to provide families temporary relief from care-giving responsibilities, and supplemental services to complement care provided by other caregivers.

The bill also provides increased flexibility to states by lifting a cap on the percentage of funds that can go to older relative caregivers, which will allow for additional support for those seniors who have taken responsibility for caring for family members due to the growing problem of opioids in our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I am very encouraged by the teamwork and bipartisanship that went into this bill. H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act, reflects Congress' commitment to our Nation's seniors and builds upon the law's flexible policies, allowing older Americans to age with health, dignity, and independence in the communities of their choosing.

I would like, again, to thank Representative STEFANIK for her diligent work on this legislation and Chairman SCOTT for his commitment to bipartisanship. I strongly urge all of my colleagues to support this reauthorization that will benefit an entire generation of older Americans.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. WILD), a member of the Education and Labor Committee and a passionate advocate for suicide prevention.

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, back in 1965, when President Lyndon Johnson signed the Older Americans Act, Congress codified into law an essential and universal truth, that each generation has a responsibility to protect and support those who raised and have cared for us.

These bonds of solidarity tie our society together. We are stronger both as individuals and as a Nation when we hold each other up.

The objectives of the Older Americans Act were to secure adequate income in retirement, the best possible physical and mental health services without regard to economic status, suitable housing and transportation, restorative services, and employment opportunities free of discrimination.

The programs funded through the OAA remain immensely popular, but funding has not kept pace. In 2010, OAA funding was approximately \$42.95 per senior in today's dollars. Today, it is just \$27.25 per senior.

Every time funding fails to meet demand, the foundation of our Great Society is chipped away. Every time funding fails to meet demand, we run the risk of malnutrition, unsafe living conditions, and social isolation for our seniors.

Fortunately, there is a solution, and that solution is the legislation we are voting on today. The Dignity in Aging Act of 2019 is a bipartisan reauthorization of the OAA, which gives all OAA programs an immediate 7 percent increase in fiscal year 2020 and a 6 percent increase every year thereafter.

Reflecting the fact that this is a national priority, transcending differences of party and politics, three of my Republican colleagues—Representative DUSTY JOHNSON, Representative STEFANIK, and Representative COMER—worked alongside me as original cosponsors of this legislation, which was introduced by my colleague Representative BONAMICI.

Critically, this legislation includes provisions that will guide OAA's nutrition programs, like Meals on Wheels, programs that meet an urgent need across our country, and it includes language that will benefit our seniors by ensuring access to nutritional services that are culturally sensitive and reflect the diverse needs of our communities.

I am particularly proud that this bill updates the OAA by putting a greater focus on countering social isolation, empowering local organizations to develop solutions that incorporate social isolation screening into mental health and supportive services that seniors receive.

That is why I proposed an amendment unanimously adopted by the Education and Labor Committee as part of the underlying legislation to add screening for suicide risk to the disease prevention and health promotion services offered under the OAA.

Older Americans are among the most at-risk members of our population when it comes to the suicide epidemic across our Nation. We must stand with these fellow Americans and offer them our support as we all work to break the stigma around suicide and mental health, and as we all work to build a society in which we prioritize mental health just as much as physical health.

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

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

I include in the RECORD letters of support from AARP supporting H.R. 4334, a letter from the Jewish Federation of North America supporting H.R. 4334, a letter from the Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer's Impact Movement supporting the legislation, a letter from 72 national organizations

representing older adults and caregivers across the country, and a letter from Meals on Wheels supporting H.R. 4334 and its attention to the impacts of social isolation.

AARP,

October 25, 2019.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of our nearly 38 million members and all older Americans nationwide, AARP is pleased to support H.R. 4334, the bipartisan Dignity in Aging Act of 2019, legislation to reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA). We urge you to pass this legislation that will maintain the critical service and information roles of OAA programs and promote greater responsiveness to the needs of older Americans.

Too often, advancing age and increasing frailty threaten the ability of older Americans to live independently in their own homes and communities. The fear of having to leave family behind and enter a nursing home weighs heavily on the minds of many. According to AARP's Home and Community Preferences Survey, the vast majority of adults age 50-plus—more than three out of four people—want to remain in their community as long as possible. Giving Americans the support they need to live at home with independence and dignity has always been a bedrock goal of OAA, and it has been remarkably successful.

For many older Americans, the key to being able to stay in their own homes is the dedication and commitment of family caregivers. An estimated 40 million family caregivers provide a staggering \$470 billion annually in unpaid care to their loved ones—ranging from bathing and dressing to paying bills and transportation and assisting with medical/nursing tasks. By supporting family caregivers, we can help people stay at home, helping to delay or prevent more costly nursing home care and unnecessary hospitalizations. Therefore, we are pleased the Dignity in Aging Act addresses AARP's family caregiving priorities, including further strengthening the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) and extending the bipartisan Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act (P.L. 115-119).

Specifically, the legislation includes H.R. 3782, the bipartisan Supporting Family Caregivers Act sponsored by Representatives Andy Levin and Elise Stefanik. This provision will help make sure that more caregivers can get their needs assessed when they turn to NFCSP for support. Understanding the family caregiving situation is a critical step in the process for linking the family caregiver to the most appropriate support services, as every family's needs are unique. Assessments of the caregiving situation provide information to help target services more effectively. Better targeting of support services can also help maintain the health and well-being of the caregiver, sustain their ability to provide care, produce better outcomes for their loved ones, and prevent or delay nursing home placement. H.R. 4334 also provides more time for implementation of the RAISE Family Caregivers Act. This will allow the Advisory Council to do its work and find additional meaningful solutions to better support the 40 million family caregivers nationwide.

Importantly, H.R. 4334 also provides increased funding levels for OAA programs. People age 80 and older are among the most likely to need assistance to live independently in their homes and communities. The population of Americans in this age group is projected to increase by 54 percent from 2019 to 2030. Additionally, over the next decade, the number of family caregivers is not expected to keep up with the large number of

older adults needing care, underscoring the need for greater investments in OAA programs. Increased funding levels will assist more older Americans and caregivers, thus helping more older adults remain at home and in better health, avoiding costlier services.

We urge you to vote for the Dignity in Aging Act. Prompt reauthorization of this law will help ensure the sustainability of OAA programs, and as a result, our loved ones can continue to turn to these vital services for their health and economic security as they age. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

BILL SWEENEY,  
*Senior Vice President,  
Government Affairs.*

THE JEWISH FEDERATIONS OF  
NORTH AMERICA,  
*Washington, DC, October 25, 2019.*

Chairman ROBERT C. SCOTT,  
*House Education and Labor Committee,  
Washington, DC.*  
Ranking Member VIRGINIA FOXX,  
*House Education and Labor Committee,  
Washington, DC.*  
Chairwoman SUZANNE BONAMICI,  
*House Education and Labor Committee, Sub-  
committee on Civil Rights and Human Serv-  
ices,  
Washington, DC.*  
Ranking Member JAMES R. COMER,  
*House Education and Labor Committee, Sub-  
committee on Civil Rights and Human Serv-  
ices,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN SCOTT, RANKING MEMBER FOXX, CHAIRWOMAN BONAMICI AND RANKING MEMBER COMER: The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) is proud to endorse H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act of 2019. JFNA represents 146 local Jewish Federations, 300 Network communities, and thousands of affiliated social service agencies across the continent. Our movement protects and enhances the well-being of Jews worldwide through the values of tikkun olam (repairing the world), tzedakah (charity and social justice) and torah (Jewish learning). Jewish social services provide support for more than one million vulnerable individuals each year, Jewish and non-Jewish alike, with our clients spanning the age range and including approximately 100,000 older adults.

For more than 50 years, the Older Americans Act (OAA) has been essential in developing, coordinating, and delivering home and community-based services that help older adults age with independence and dignity in their homes and communities. Without these crucial services, many individuals served by OAA-funded programs in our network are at significant risk of hunger, isolation, and losing their ability to live with health and independence.

The Jewish community is disproportionately older than the general population in this country with more than 25% of American Jews already over the age of 65, and the fastest growing demographic in the Jewish community is those over the age of 85. Jewish family service agencies, Jewish vocational service agencies and Jewish community centers are a key component of the country's Aging Services Network and, in a classic public-private partnership, provide many services funded through the OAA, including case management, transportation, congregate and home-delivered meals, adult day care, elder abuse prevention and intervention, family caregiver support, home care, legal conservatorship, and support groups.

This year's reauthorization process produced a bill that, if passed by the full House

of Representatives on Monday, will significantly move the ball forward in how our country and its Aging Services Network treat and care for seniors. The very first provision of the Dignity in Aging Act incorporates "person-centered, trauma-informed care" as a new objective of the Older Americans Act. This principle, which is subsequently defined in the bill, represents a new trend in service delivery that will positively impact both clients and agencies. It incorporates a holistic approach to service provision that promotes the dignity, strength, and empowerment of trauma victims by referencing knowledge about the role of trauma in trauma victims' lives. The inclusion of the PCTI approach in this bill is indicative of the forward and necessary progress embedded in the Dignity in Aging Act.

The Dignity in Aging Act authorizes a technical assistance center to serve older adults experiencing the long-term and adverse consequences of trauma, including but not limited to Holocaust survivors. Holocaust survivors are also specifically mentioned for the first time within the Older Americans Act in the context of providing additional outreach to older individuals "including Holocaust survivors" who are at risk of institutional placement. The bill also emphasizes cultural considerations (including religious and ethnic requirements) in the provision of congregate and home-delivered meals.

This Older American Act reauthorization incorporates new support for age-friendly communities, a major new focus on social isolation in older adults, recognition of the emergency confronting our direct care workforce, an updating of, recognition and support for multigenerational families, and assistance to family caregivers with an extension of the RAISE Family Caregivers Act. Each of these provisions and many others contained in the bill will serve our nation well. JFNA also commends the Education and Labor Committee for supporting a five year reauthorization period for the Older Americans Act, which helps safeguard support and removes uncertainty for the growing aging population.

Finally, and very importantly, this bill provides relatively robust funding increases of 7% for FY 2020 and 6% for each of the next four years.

While the Older American Act formally expired on September 30, 2019, this year's process to reauthorize it was the most efficient, transparent, bipartisan and productive of the five similar reauthorizations that I have worked on going back to 1999. The result is a reauthorization vehicle that is very worthy of support, and JFNA looks forward to the House of Representatives passage of the Dignity in Aging Act and the enactment of the reauthorization.

Sincerely,

STEPHAN O. KLINE,  
*Associate Vice President, Public Policy,  
The Jewish Federations of North America.*

ALZHEIMER'S IMPACT MOVEMENT,  
*October 25, 2019.*

Hon. BOBBY SCOTT,  
*Chairman, House Education and Labor Com-  
mittee, Washington DC.*

Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX,  
*Ranking Member, House Education and Labor  
Committee, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN SCOTT AND RANKING MEMBER FOXX: On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM), including our nationwide network of advocates, thank you for your continued leadership on issues and legislation important to Americans living with Alzheimer's and other dementias and to their caregivers. In addition, thank you for work-

ing together in a bipartisan manner to reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA). We are proud to support the Dignity in Aging Act of 2019 (H.R. 4334) and are pleased to highlight several provisions that are critical to persons living with dementia, their families and their caregivers.

We strongly support the inclusion of language codifying existing authority to provide services to individuals living with younger-onset Alzheimer's disease under the National Family Caregiver Support Program and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. We are very appreciative for the Committee's inclusion of parts of the Younger-Onset Alzheimer's Disease Act (S. 901/H.R. 1903).

There are approximately 5.8 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease. The vast majority of those individuals are over the age of 65; however, approximately 200,000 Americans are under the age of 65 living with younger-onset Alzheimer's disease. Individuals living with younger-onset face unique challenges when it comes to family, work, and finances. They may be parenting young children at home, or may still be working as the primary income provider for their families. Due to their young age, they may have more trouble receiving an accurate diagnosis, and even family and friends might question their diagnosis. The stigma associated with younger-onset Alzheimer's can have a significant impact on their well-being and quality of life.

Since 97 percent of all people living with Alzheimer's are age 65 or older, current Alzheimer's support infrastructure focuses exclusively on seniors. As a result, few supportive services are available to those with younger-onset. With other diseases—like heart disease, diabetes, and even cancer—many people living with them are middle-aged and there is a large support structure available to them. Those same support structures are not available for the individuals living with younger-onset Alzheimer's disease. The services provided under the OAA are particularly helpful for individuals with younger-onset Alzheimer's disease and related dementias who need assistance with activities of daily living.

The Younger-Onset Alzheimer's Disease Act is consistent with the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease. The Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services, which is responsible for updating and implementing the Plan, has noted that persons living with younger-onset Alzheimer's face unique challenges in accessing care. In the 2017 National Plan, the Advisory Council recommended that Congress amend the OAA to allow additional services to be provided to younger adults living with dementia.

The Alzheimer's Association and AIM also deeply appreciate the Committee's extension of the RAISE Family Caregivers Act from 3 to 4 years. We have been strong advocates for the RAISE Family Caregivers Act since it was introduced in Congress. There has been a delay in the implementation of the Act and the decision to extend the authorization allows the Department of Health and Human Services to better develop a national strategy for education and training, long-term services and supports, and financial stability and security for caregivers.

For millions of Americans caring for individuals with Alzheimer's and other dementias the emotional, physical, and financial costs can be overwhelming. Caregivers of people with dementia report higher levels of stress, depression, and worse health outcomes than those providing care to individuals without dementia. As a result, Alzheimer's caregivers incurred \$11.8 billion in

additional health costs last year. We appreciate the Committee prioritizing this important program.

We also applaud the Committee's strengthening of Caregiver Assessments. In 2018, more than 16 million unpaid caregivers provided 18.5 billion hours of care valued at nearly \$234 billion and face the challenges noted above. Eighty-three percent of the help provided to older adults in the United States comes from family members, friends, or other unpaid caregivers. Nearly half of all caregivers who provide help to older adults do so for someone living with Alzheimer's or another dementia. Alzheimer's takes a devastating toll on caregivers. Compared with caregivers of people without dementia, twice as many caregivers of those with dementia indicate substantial emotional, financial, and physical difficulties. Of the total lifetime cost of caring for someone with dementia, 70 percent is borne by families—either through out-of-pocket health and long-term care expenses or from the value of unpaid care.

These dedicated caregivers would greatly benefit from increased resources, training and support to help them navigate the strain of caregiving and improve their health and quality of life. The proposed changes would provide these caregivers much-needed resources, increase the use of caregiver assessments, and identify best practices relating to the programs. These important actions will enhance support for caregivers through skills building, increased resources and information, respite care, counseling, and other helpful benefits.

Finally, the Alzheimer's Association and AIM appreciate your commitment to supporting individuals facing social isolation. Social isolation is an issue within the aging community as a whole, and particularly in the Alzheimer's and related dementias community. Studies have found that support groups can decrease social isolation and increase social support, the ability to accept the diagnosis, cope with symptoms, improve quality of life, and enhance family communication. (Alzheimer's Association Dementia Care Practice Recommendations, 2018). Support programs offered through the National Family Caregiver Support Program can work to decrease social isolation. We appreciate the bill's inclusion of an advisory council dedicated to identifying the challenges, solutions, and best practices to address social isolation.

Again, thank you for your leadership in ensuring OAA's reauthorization, which will improve the quality of care for people living with Alzheimer's.

Sincerely,

ROBERT EGGE,  
*Chief Public Policy Officer, Executive Vice President, Government Affairs, Alzheimer's Association.*

OCTOBER 28, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI, *Speaker,*  
Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY, *Minority Leader,*  
*House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. BOBBY SCOTT, *Chairman,*  
Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX, *Ranking Member,*  
*Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI, LEADER MCCARTHY, CHAIRMAN SCOTT AND RANKING MEMBER FOXX: On behalf of the undersigned 72 national organizations with a vested interest in the well-being of America's older adults and caregivers, we write to you today in support of the House-proposed Dignity in Aging Act (H.R. 4334) to reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA). We urge Members of the

House to support this important five-year OAA reauthorization. Reauthorization of this critical Act, which expired on September 30, will ensure the sustainability of vital OAA programs, as well as the health, dignity, and independence of older Americans and their caregivers.

The OAA is essential to developing, coordinating, and delivering home and community-based services that help older adults age with independence and dignity. Many individuals served by OAA-funded programs are at significant risk of hunger, isolation, abuse, and losing their ability to live with health and independence. OAA-supported programs are provided to more than 11 million seniors and their caregivers annually. These vital supports include, but are not limited to, home-delivered and congregate nutrition services, in-home supportive services, multipurpose senior centers, transportation, caregiver support, disease prevention and health promotion, community service employment, the long-term care ombudsman program, and services to prevent the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults.

By keeping seniors healthy and in their communities for more than 50 years, OAA programs have delayed or prevented the need for more expensive institutional care for many older adults, which is often paid for through Medicare or Medicaid. OAA services can effectively save taxpayer, state, and federal dollars. In addition to helping older adults age in place where they most often want to be, OAA programs have improved our country's fiscal future and promoted efficiencies within the health care system by preventing unnecessary hospital stays, reducing readmission rates, coordinating care, and managing care transitions.

We appreciate that the Dignity in Aging Act, H.R. 4334 builds upon the early bipartisan Senate draft bill and incorporates a number of important priorities articulated by stakeholder organizations. Most importantly, the Dignity in Aging Act calls for much-needed and necessary investments in the OAA by increasing funding authorizations over the next five years—a top priority of the undersigned organizations and the most critical need of the Aging Services Network authorized by the OAA.

Other priority areas include research innovation and demonstrations, Native American services, local planning and development, supports for those suffering from dementias and social isolation, legal services, nutrition, in-home supportive services, disease prevention and health promotion, multigenerational collaboration, and family caregiver supports. We appreciate that the House proposal to reauthorize the OAA has preserved the numerous ways in which this Act works so well at the federal, state, and local levels, on behalf of the older adults and caregivers for whom it is a lifeline to dignity, independence, health, safety, and economic security.

Thank you for your commitment to this important issue. The undersigned organizations represent a diverse set of stakeholders, and we urge Members of the House to swiftly advance this bill to reauthorize the Older Americans Act.

Sincerely,

AARP, Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy, Advancing States, Aging and Vision Loss National Coalition, AHEPA Management Company (AMC), Alliance for Aging Research, Alliance for Retired Americans, Alliance to End Hunger, Allies for Independence, Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer's Impact Movement, American Association of Service Coordinators, American Association on Health and Disability, American Geriatrics Society, American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (Order

of AHEPA), American Music Therapy Association.

American Physical Therapy Association, American Public Health Association, American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP), American Society on Aging, Blinded Veterans Association, Bread for the World, Caregiver Action Network, Caregiver Voices United, Caring with Grace, LLC, CaringKind, the Heart of Alzheimer's Caregiving, Center for Medicare Advocacy, Center to Advance Palliative Care, Collective Action Lab, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces, Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH).

Daughters of Penelope, Dementia Alliance International, Easterseals, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Feeding America, Home Instead Senior Care, International Association for Indigenous Aging, Jewish Council for Public Affairs, Justice in Aging, Lakeshore Foundation, LeadingAge, Lutheran Services in America, MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger, Meals on Wheels America, Medicare Rights Center.

Mercy Housing, Inc., Michigan State College of Human Medicine Alzheimer's Alliance, National Adult Protective Services Association, National Alliance for Caregiving, National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA), National Association of Activity Professionals, National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), National Association of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs (NASOP), National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP), National Certification Council for Activity Professionals, National Council on Aging, National Health Council, National Recreation and Park Association, National Respite Coalition.

NETWORK Lobby, Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies, Inc., PHI, RESULTS, Society for the Blind, The Gerontological Society of America, The Jewish Federations of North America, United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries, United Spinal Association, USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute, Village to Village Network, VisionServe Alliance, Volunteers of America.

MEALS ON WHEELS AMERICA,  
*Arlington, VA, October 28, 2019.*

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,  
*Minority Leader, House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. BOBBY SCOTT,  
*Chairman, Committee on Education & Labor,*  
*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX,  
*Ranking Member, Committee on Education & Labor, House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI, LEADER MCCARTHY, CHAIRMAN SCOTT AND RANKING MEMBER FOXX: On behalf of Meals on Wheels America, the nationwide network of community-based senior nutrition programs and the individuals they serve, we write to express our support for H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act of 2019 and urge swift and bipartisan passage in the House of Representatives. We commend the efforts of the Education and Labor Committee for receiving unanimous approval following the September markup, as well as the leadership of Subcommittee Chairwoman Bonamici (D-OR) and Ranking Member Comer (R-KY), and Representatives Stefanik (R-NY), Lee (D-NV), Wild (D-PA) and Johnson (R-SD) in the introduction of this legislation.

For over five decades, the OAA has been the primary piece of federal legislation focused on establishing, coordinating and



strengthening community and home-based social and nutrition services for adults age 60 and older, their families and their caregivers. OAA services like Meals on Wheels, transportation, caregiver assistance, senior employment and training and elder rights protection are just some of the vital functions the OAA delivers to more than 11 million seniors annually.

As you and many of your colleagues know firsthand, OAA services and supports, including the three nutrition programs authorized under Title III of the Act, help keep our nation's most vulnerable, isolated and food insecure seniors healthier and in their own homes and communities longer. This in turn delays and/or prevents altogether the need for more expensive institutional care often paid for through Medicare or Medicaid. OAA programs are not only extremely cost-effective, but they are longstanding examples of public-private partnerships that help save taxpayers at the local, state and federal levels in reduced healthcare expenditures.

We specifically want to recognize the effort undertaken to increase authorization of appropriations in this legislation. With nearly half of our membership having a documented waiting list for nutrition services, the 7% increase in authorization of funding levels in Fiscal Year 2020—and 6% in subsequent years for all OAA programs over the five-year reauthorization period—will significantly improve the senior nutrition network's ability to address these gaps.

We also applaud the attention to and inclusion of additional research and innovation established through a new National Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center for aging services research and development. We already know the difference that OAA services and supports are making in the lives of those served each day, and this additional support will help identify where the greatest needs and opportunities are to produce substantial savings to Medicare and Medicaid and support our nation's most at-risk seniors.

Furthermore, we are grateful for the Dignity in Aging Act's acknowledgement of the components of our network's comprehensive service model, particularly around the areas of social isolation and loneliness; in-home safety; screenings and prevention; and community connections and support. This network has been addressing the social determinants of health (SDOH) for seniors long before it was a common definition used among policymakers, advocates and healthcare entities. Thanks to the foresight of this body in establishing the OAA Nutrition Program and its goals and purposes decades ago, the focus has transcended beyond just the meal to include an emphasis on socialization, overall health, well-being and safety.

As with each reauthorization, we have a new opportunity to evolve the OAA in ways that will help it better meet the inherent changes in our country's aging population and serve more of those in need. We are pleased that H.R. 4334, the Dignity in Aging Act of 2019, helps to address these shifts, and as such, we urge your support and swift passage in the House of Representatives. Meals on Wheels America and the network of senior nutrition programs across the country have appreciated contributing feedback and policy recommendations throughout this reauthorization process and look forward to continuing to work with you to build upon the ongoing successes of the OAA.

Thank you again for your leadership, public service and support for our nation's older adults.

Sincerely,

ELLIE HOLLANDER,  
President and CEO.

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

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, I would like to again thank my good friend, the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI), and our colleagues and our staff on the Education and Labor Committee for all of their work on this bipartisan bill that will help improve the lives of millions of seniors across the country.

As I said at the beginning of this debate, my district is home to one of the largest constituencies of older Americans, so I could not be prouder to have led the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, which will directly and tangibly benefit the seniors in New York's 21st District and seniors across the country.

Our Nation's seniors deserve to age with health, dignity, and independence in the communities of their choosing. Again, I urge a "yes" vote. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. I urge all of my colleagues to support the bipartisan Dignity in Aging Act of 2019. We know that the OAA programs—Meals on Wheels, community meal programs, caregiver support, protection against elder abuse—help older Americans live their lives with dignity.

Once again, I thank Representatives STEFANIK, LEE, COMER, WILD, and JOHNSON for joining me in leading this effort. Again, I thank Chairman SCOTT and Ranking Member FOXX for supporting this legislation as it moved through the committee process. The bipartisan engagement and the involvement of many committee members was crucial to achieving this legislation to successfully address many priorities and incorporate the input of numerous stakeholders.

I am sincerely grateful for the contributions of all involved, and I am eager to support the passage of this bill today so we can better empower every older American to age with dignity.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Dignity in Aging Act. As vice chair of the House Education and Labor Committee, I am honored to be a part of this bipartisan effort to respond to the challenges facing a generation of aging Americans.

I'm also proud that this package includes my bill, the Supporting Family Caregivers Act, which will facilitate the assessment of in-home caregivers' needs to determine what resources would help them provide care. I want to thank Congresswoman ELISE STEFANIK for partnering on this bipartisan legislation to support in-home caregivers.

Americans across the country rely on family caregivers, whose contributions range from bathing and dressing their loved ones, to coordinating care across multiple health care providers, to managing the payment of household and medical bills, and more. Each year, this adds up to roughly \$470 billion in unpaid care provided by 40 million family caregivers.

I believe one of the best ways to improve home health care is to protect the health and wellbeing of the caregivers who provide it. The Supporting Family Caregivers Act encourages the use of assessments to identify caregivers' individual needs and challenges, thereby allowing services to be targeted to each person more effectively and efficiently. Although resources are currently available to family caregivers, direct feedback through assessments would improve the quality of the support they receive.

I am so pleased to see this body take a needed step towards more person- and family-centered care. Again, I am grateful to my partner on this bill, Congresswoman STEFANIK, as well as Chairman SCOTT, Ranking Member FOXX and Dignity in Aging Act sponsor BONAMICI for their support.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting America's seniors, and to vote for the Dignity in Aging Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4334, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### FULL UTILIZATION OF THE HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND ACT

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2440) to provide for the use of funds in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for the purposes for which the funds were collected and to ensure that funds credited to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund are used to support navigation, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2440

*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 "Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act".

#### SEC. 2. USE OF HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND TO SUPPORT NAVIGATION.

Section 210 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2238) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking "AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS" and inserting "FUNDING FOR NAVIGATION"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(g) ADJUSTMENTS TO DISCRETIONARY SPENDING LIMITS.—Amounts made available from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund under this section or section 9505 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall be made available in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(H) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985."

#### SEC. 3. ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Section 330 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (26 U.S.C. 9505 note; 106 Stat. 4851) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “and annually thereafter,” and inserting “and annually thereafter concurrent with the submission of the President’s annual budget request to Congress.”; and

(B) by striking “Public Works and Transportation” and inserting “Transportation and Infrastructure”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(1) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) A description of the expected expenditures from the trust fund to meet the needs of navigation for the fiscal year of the budget request.”.

**SEC. 4. HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND DISCRETIONARY SPENDING LIMIT ADJUSTMENT.**

Section 251(b)(2) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(H) HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—If a bill or joint resolution making appropriations for a fiscal year is enacted that specifies an amount for harbor maintenance activities, then the adjustments for that fiscal year shall be the total of such amount in that Act for such purpose for that fiscal year, but may not exceed the total amount within the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund under subsection (a) of section 9505 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 on the last day of the fiscal year that is two years prior to that fiscal year.

“(ii) LIMITATION.—The adjustment under clause (i) with respect to an amount made available for harbor maintenance activities may only be made if such amount—

“(I) is derived solely from funds in such Trust Fund; and

“(II) is made available for expenditures described under subsection (c) of such section 9505.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DEFAZIO. 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. 2440, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this has been a long time coming. Ronald Reagan worked with the Democratic Congress and passed a tax, a tax paid by every American, Americans in Arkansas and every other State. Every time you buy an imported good that came through a container into our country, you pay a minuscule sales tax. Most Americans don’t know that, but Congress is well aware of it. And for decades, Congress has been stealing that money.

The money was intended to maintain our harbors and our ports, critical to a maritime nation, critical to our competitiveness in the world economy. And our ports are in pathetic condition around the Nation.

As we hear so much about our crumbling infrastructure, the surface bill that I am working on—our wastewater, our drinking water—we don’t have any money. Well, here we have the money. We actually have the money. We have taken it from the American people. They have paid that tax, but Congress is stealing it and not applying it to harbors.

This has been a bipartisan problem over the years. It was Republicans and Democrats who created this program, and it has been Democratic administrations and Republican administrations that have been diverting these needed funds.

On a daily basis, our largest ports have only about 38 percent of their authorized capacity. That means longer lines of ships out to sea and more costs in the movement of goods and particularly for our exports.

I will note that this bill is strongly supported by the Senator from Alabama, Senator SHELBY, and Senator SHELBY supports it because of the need to export from his State. And guess what? A bunch of those exports come from the State of Arkansas.

Why would someone from that State where half of their soybean crop is exported, where they have \$3.1 billion in agricultural exports, be opposed to more efficiently moving their goods out of the country and adding costs to their farmers? I don’t understand.

But there are some people inland who think ports don’t affect them. Ports affect every single American every day. Goods that are imported cost more when our harbors aren’t dredged properly. And our trade deficit grows when we are not competitive in the world economy.

I started working on this 23 years ago with a guy named Bud Shuster. His son, Bill Shuster, succeeded him as chairman of that committee over the last 6 years before we took back over the House. Twice we moved that bill out of the committee unanimously, including provisions to spend the harbor maintenance tax on harbor maintenance.

Now, that is a radical idea to some people inside the beltway in Washington, D.C., people who just have their focus right here in Washington. They are not focused on the Nation, the needs of the Nation, the needs of their farmers, the needs of others who are exporting and importing goods, about a great maritime Nation that is falling behind, that isn’t going to be ready to accept the largest new ships because we don’t have the money to dredge the harbors.

Well, we have the money. \$10 billion of it is sitting over in the Treasury, but there are those here who do not want to spend that money on its lawful purpose. They will say, oh, my God, it breaks the budget caps. Really? The budget caps?

The deficit this year was \$397 billion higher than when President Obama left office. Now, who has been in charge the

last 2 years? Who wrote those budgets to put us up to nearly \$1 trillion? And now we are going to say we can’t afford to dredge our harbors, that we should just shut them down.

Shut them down. Let them silt in. Let the jetties decay. No, we can’t afford it.

We can afford it. This is one place with bipartisan support where we can meet our infrastructure needs without raising a new tax on the American people.

This administration actually had some concern about the underspending of the tax and the diversion of the money to the Treasury, so the President’s budget proposed to cut the tax instead of dealing with our harbors and saying let’s spend the money. But that was written by Mick Mulvaney, the President’s Chief of Staff, and OMB.

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The President himself, when I was in a meeting with him discussing infrastructure and I said, “We have \$10 billion, Mr. President, sitting in the bank ready to be spent on infrastructure needs at our ports,” he turned to Larry Kudlow and he says, “Spend that money.”

That is where the President stands. That is where Senator SHELBY stands. He has been trying to get it into any and every bill moving into the Senate. Every one of these budget deals, he is trying to get it in.

So here today we are going to hear arguments that we can’t afford to spend the taxes that have been taken from the American people on the purpose for which it was intended. I do not agree with that argument.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,  
Washington, DC, June 26, 2019.

Hon. PETER A. DEFAZIO,  
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN DEFAZIO: I write to confirm our mutual understanding regarding H.R. 2440, the *Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act*. H.R. 2440 contains provisions that fall within the rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Budget. However, the committee agrees to waive formal consideration of the bill.

The Committee on the Budget takes this action with the mutual understanding that we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and the committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues within our jurisdiction. The committee also reserves the right to seek appointment to any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation or similar legislation and requests your support if such a request is made.

In particular, the committee should be involved in any discussions regarding creation of adjustments to discretionary spending limits and how they relate to the appropriate level for overall discretionary spending limits.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding,

and I ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the committee report on H.R. 2440 and in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 2440.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

JOHN YARMUTH,  
*Chairman.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington, DC, July 12, 2019.

Hon. JOHN YARMUTH,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Budget, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. YARMUTH: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 2440, the Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act. I appreciate your decision to waive formal consideration of the bill.

I agree that the Committee on the Budget has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I further agree that by forgoing formal consideration of the bill, the Committee on the Budget is not waiving any jurisdiction over any relevant subject matter. Additionally, I will support the appointment of conferees from the Committee on the Budget should a House-Senate conference be convened on this legislation. Finally, this exchange of letters will be included in the Congressional Record should the bill be considered on the floor.

Thank you again and I look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with the Committee on the Budget on this important issue.

Sincerely,

PETER A. DEFAZIO,  
*Chair.*

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the bill, to no surprise of my friend from Oregon. Let me help him a little bit with how I give opposition in context.

As the ranking member of the Budget Committee, Mr. Speaker, it is not possible for me just to consider how we are going to get soybeans out of Arkansas as the sole limiting factor on how we budget. It is important, it is important to my producers, but at the end of the day, we are \$23 trillion in debt. The deficit this year, to add to that \$23 trillion, is expected to approach \$1 trillion. H.R. 2440 would disrupt the recently enacted budget agreement.

Now, Mr. Speaker, you know that we did months of negotiation on some agreement to keep the government open and operating. This body established discretionary spending caps for the next 2 years with the passage of the bipartisan Budget Act of 2019. The bill before us today breaches that law; it increases that deficit.

So my question is: What was the point of us going through that arduous process of negotiating a bipartisan, bicameral agreement with the President so that, just 3 months later, we could shoot a \$10 billion hole in it?

This bill would increase the deficit by up to \$10 billion, which I believe is unacceptable, given our fiscal condition.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the annual deficit this year

will be \$1 trillion, adding to the already \$23 trillion in debt.

Now, let me be clear. I acknowledge that there are structural budgetary challenges associated with the harbor maintenance trust fund. They need to be fixed. I think everyone agrees that this is not fair that our shippers are required to pay a tax for harbor maintenance but then the funds can't be spent on the very service they are supposed to provide. That, we can agree on.

The work that is done on our ports is critical to both American jobs and the economy. We need to fix the flaws in the maintenance trust fund to ensure this essential work can be done; however, this bill is not the answer. It is not a long-term solution. It is just a quick fix.

I would like to work with Members on both sides of the aisle to assess not only the harbor maintenance trust fund, but also all government trust funds to evaluate their funding mechanisms to ensure they make sense and operate as intended.

H.R. 2440 is merely an effort to spend more money without offsets, bust the caps, resulting in an increase to the deficit of about \$10 billion.

There is also a determined opposition in the United States Senate. Senate Budget Committee Chairman ENZI and I have released the following joint statement in opposition to H.R. 2440. It reads:

The bipartisan Budget Act of 2019, which increased spending caps for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, was enacted less than 3 months ago. Instead of prioritizing additional funding for harbor maintenance activities under this agreement, H.R. 2440 would further increase spending by as much as \$10 billion over the next 2 years. This approach is irresponsible. It would not provide a lasting solution. With annual deficits in excess of \$1 trillion for the foreseeable future, Congress should be focused on reducing the deficit rather than increasing it.

Mr. Speaker, I believe H.R. 2440 is fiscally irresponsible, and I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

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

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

Mr. Speaker, "So we can't do it now. We would like to do it another time." I have heard that on the floor for the last 6 years when we did the Water Resources Development Act that came bipartisan and unanimous out of the Transportation Committee when the Republicans chaired it and this year when I chaired it, bipartisan out of the committee. "We will fix it later, because the technical Budget Act is going to be violated and the caps are going to be violated."

Well, I would observe that I believe the gentleman was here and the gentleman voted for the tax cuts. And in that, when Obama left office, we had a deficit of \$587 billion. This year, it is \$984 billion due to, principally, the tax cuts.

So waive all the rules when it comes to cutting taxes, but when it comes to

taking a tax—and it isn't just collected from the shippers. Every American pays more for every imported good that comes through a port, with the intention, in a bill signed by Ronald Reagan, that that money would be spent to maintain those harbors.

As I pointed out, this has been a bipartisan problem: Clinton, Bush, Obama, all of them. And even the budgets proposed by Mick Mulvaney in the name of the President would further cut harbor maintenance. So we would continue to collect the tax from the American people for harbor maintenance and continue to divert it over here.

How can you increase the deficit in any rational world when you are spending taxes that have already been collected, that are deposited in the Treasury of the United States and can only be spent on harbor maintenance, and you are not spending them? That is increasing the deficit? Seriously? Oh, come on.

Now, I would note that, in a rare moment, we have a list here of 70 organizations who support this legislation, including the Association of General Contractors of America, who are going to key-vote this issue. They realize how critical this is for the future of the American economy, a great maritime nation. The Association of General Contractors will key-vote this issue.

We also have the National Grain and Feed Association and a long list of others on here who support this.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a list of supporters of H.R. 2440.

SUPPORTERS OF H.R. 2440, THE "FULL UTILIZATION OF THE HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND ACT"

(Updated: October 28, 2019)

American Association of Port Authorities, American Association of State Highway, Transportation Officials, American Great Lakes Ports Association, American Petroleum Institute, American Society of Civil Engineers, Associated General Contractors of America, Association of Equipment Manufacturers, Big River Coalition, Boat U.S., Cedar Bayou (Texas) Navigation District, Columbia River Bar Pilots, Columbia River Pilots, Columbia River Steamship Operators Association, Dredging Contractors of America, Florida Ports Council, Great Lakes Small Harbors Coalition, Gulf Ports Association.

High Line Grain Growers, International Liquid Terminals Association, Lake Carriers' Association, National Association of Manufacturers, National Association of Waterfront Employers, National Conference of State Legislatures, National Grain and Feed Association, National Marine Manufacturers Association, New York Shipping Association, The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), Oregon Coastal Caucus, Oregon Public Ports Association, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association, Port of Alsea, OR; Port of Arlington, OR; Port of Astoria, OR; Port of Bandon, OR; Port of Brookings Harbor, OR.

Port of Cascade Locks, OR; Port of Chino, OR; Port of Cleveland, OH; Port of Columbia County, OR; Port of Coos Bay, OR; Port of Corpus Christi, TX; Port of Depot Bay, OR; Port of Garibaldi, OR; Port of Gold Beach, OR; Port of Hood River, OR; Port of Ilwaco, OR; Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District, TX; Port of Kalama, WA; Port

of Long Beach, CA; Port of Los Angeles, CA; Port of Morgan City, LA; Port of Morrow, OR; Port of Nehalem, OR.

Port of Newport, OR; Port of Oakland, CA; Port of Portland, OR; Port of Port Orford, OR; Port of Seattle, WA; Port of Skagit, WA; Port of Siuslaw, OR; Port of The Dalles, OR; Port of Toledo, OR; Port of Umatilla, OR; Port of Umpqua, OR; Port of Whitman County, WA; Portland Cement Association; Texas Ports Association; Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO, United Grain Co., WA; United States Maritime Alliance.

Mr. DEFAZIO. So, we can talk a lot about making a major investment in infrastructure. We have been hung up on how are we going to pay for service, transportation; 47,000 bridges need repair or replacement; 40 percent of the National Highway System is deteriorated to the point we have to rebuild it, not just recoat it; and there is a \$100 billion backlog in transit just to bring it up to a state of good repair.

Those are just the needs in surface. Then you go to wastewater. Then you go to airports. Then you go to drinking water.

But guess what? For every single one of those things, we are going to have to raise revenues one way or another.

But this one thing, the need to invest in our harbors, we have the money. It is sitting in the bank, and we are being told, because of the budget caps, it can't be spent. Seriously?

The President himself said, when I was there, "Spend that money." So if we get the bill through the House, if they don't derail it and it gets through the Senate, the President will sign it, plain and simple.

This is common sense outside the beltway, but just budget weirdness inside.

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

Mr. Speaker, in our process, it is not as simple as "just spend the money." It has to go through a process. We call it the appropriations process, Mr. Speaker. You are well aware of it, having served on the Appropriations Committee.

Here is the deal: The budget agreement is indifferent as to the source of that money, whether it is a harbor maintenance trust fund issue or whether it is spending that is borrowed from China or from the international bond market. It is indifferent to it. It goes through the same process.

This blows a \$10 billion hole in the deficit that is just 3 months away from the agreement that we had 3 months ago.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. STEWART), my friend and my colleague on the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise with my friend, Mr. WOMACK, to speak in opposition to H.R. 2440, the Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act.

And why? Because that is a fair thing to say. If you are going to impose

something, tell us why, because this bill would break the spending caps that this body agreed to just a few months ago.

Now, this is laughably unacceptable.

I also need to point out, and I know this is going to shock many people, that the budget caps we agreed to were hardly a model of fiscal discipline. Quite the contrary, they were very liberal, very generous.

Now, look, I have no problem with this particular funding. I want to be clear on that. I have no problem with this particular funding. It may be a very wise use of taxpayers' money, but if it is true, then have the courage to stand up and say: "This is how we are going to fund it. This is how we are going to pay for it."

Adjustments to the agreed spending caps adversely impact our ability to monitor discretionary spending by allowing funding to come outside of the caps rather than within the base budget.

Again, while it may be true that this trust fund needs to be fixed, this is not the way to address the issue, by adding nearly \$10 billion to what is a \$22.5 trillion deficit. For our children and our grandchildren, this is not the way to move forward.

Now, I want to mention one other final and, experience would show, certainly, a reasonable fear, and that is this: H.R. 2440 sets a dangerous precedent for other programs looking to operate also outside of the spending caps. If we bust the caps for this, then what other reasonable programs must we fund outside of the budget caps?

Everyone has a special program they want to fund. Everyone has got a sacred cow that they want to fund. Sadly, there are no more cows in Heaven, because all the sacred cows are down here in Congress trying to find a way to be funded.

We must remain defiant toward adding onto our already existing and, as it has been pointed out, including by our friend in the opposition, existential threat from runaway spending. I stand in opposition to that.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman from Utah (Mr. STEWART) would just stand there for a moment, I will yield him some time for a colloquy.

Name another program with a dedicated tax where we are diverting the money over to the Treasury instead of spending it on a well-documented need. Just name another program where we do that.

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to research that for the gentleman. There may be some.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I reclaim my time.

Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would research that. He can't name one.

Mr. Speaker, we are taking this money. It is a sales tax. The American people are paying it. It is like some of you live in sales tax States. I don't live in a sales tax State, but my people are

still paying this sales tax on imported goods, and they expect the money, as Ronald Reagan signed that bill, to be spent on maintaining our harbors. And I can list the needs in my harbors that aren't being met today because the Corps of Engineers are underfunded. But we are hearing, "We can't do this." And the other argument here is: This busts the caps and it breaks the agreement.

No. All of this money which has been taken from the American people and deposited in the Treasury is subject to appropriation. So it gives discretion to the appropriators to determine whether or not we will finally honor our compact with the American people and spend the harbor maintenance tax on harbor maintenance, not on illusory deficit reduction.

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS).

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to address the gentleman's question.

There are a number of different areas where we actually collect money. The LWCF is one of those. \$900 million a year comes from oil producers. It is supposed to be spent on something, but it goes back to the Treasury.

So if we went into a colloquy back and forth, I will be glad to do that with the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

That being said, Mr. Speaker, we have had this debate. The ranking member is exactly right. This is the only place you can exceed an unlimited budget by \$10 billion.

We have agreed to something, and all of a sudden what happens is now they start to push back. They start to push back because you know what? This priority wasn't included in the budget caps deal.

It is amazing that my colleague opposite now is, all of a sudden, becoming a fiscal conservative. So I will give him an honorary invitation to join the Freedom Caucus.

□ 1530

It is amazing how fiscally conservative some of the Members opposite get when it comes to some special project that they want to overlook.

Mr. Speaker, I would just say, the truth here today is that not only do we need to be fiscally responsible for the American taxpayer, but we need to start showing some fiscal restraints here in this body. Eventually, you run out of other people's money, and I think that day is now.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I always enjoy hearing from the gentleman. He is right that we are underspending the Land and Water Conservation Fund, but it is not a tax assessed individually on the American people as a sales tax. It is fees paid by the oil and gas industry, which you can say: Oh, they are having to pay a fee to use Federal land,

to take and extract a resource. Therefore, it is not quite the same thing.

Mr. MEADOWS. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DEFAZIO. I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman from Oregon is suggesting that we do not pay for that fee in the ultimate gas tax that we—you know, he is the chairman of the Transportation Committee. As anybody knows, he would know that it is embedded in part of that.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, the Federal gas and diesel tax hasn't changed since 1993, so the American people are not paying for that. The price of oil goes up and down according to speculation and wars and conflicts and all sorts of other things. But the fact is that is a fee paid by the oil companies that might or might not come out of their profits and goes into a fund, which is being underspent.

To be consistent, I fully support and have supported fully expending the Land and Water Conservation Fund on a permanent program, on its intended and legislated purpose, and that is the same thing here.

But this is, again, a little different. Anybody, today, who bought a good that came into a port in the United States of America in a container is paying a very small sales tax increment on that good on a bill signed by Ronald Reagan. That money is supposed to be spent to maintain our harbors.

Our harbors are silting in. Jetties are falling apart. We can't accommodate, in some harbors that want to accommodate them, the new largest class of ships in the world.

The most efficient way to move goods is on water. The least carbon-intensive way is to move goods on water. But we are impeding that by not spending this tax for the purpose for which it was intended and which is legislated in law. That is all we are asking to do here today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time, and I reserve the right to close.

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, listening to this debate, it is not hard to understand why things in this body don't ever get done.

Here is the deal. There are a lot of truths that are being spoken here. We do have a debt that is completely out of control. There is no question about it.

The gentleman from Arkansas, the gentleman from North Carolina, and the gentleman from Utah are exactly right: \$23 trillion we are leaving to our children and our grandchildren. It is outrageous.

But my friend from Oregon is also accurate in that we are charging a fee for a purpose that is being diverted. It is not right.

Mr. Speaker, if I ran a not-for-profit and decided that I was going to collect funds from the public, and I said I was collecting them for the purpose of providing healthcare to someone who needed it, and I decided to take those funds and spend them somewhere else, there is a word for that in the private sector. It is called embezzling, and people go to jail for it. In Congress, we call it budgeting, and it is wrong.

Let me go back and just summarize this. Absolutely, we need to have a balanced budget. I would support it every single day. I support Members of Congress not being paid until we have one. This needs to be in the budget caps. But this has been a discussion that has been going on for years and years and years.

As my friend from Oregon indicated, having a paper balance of \$9 billion or \$10 billion—and it is not like we don't have a need. We have channels that are shoaling up that we put draft restrictions on. We are not at the depths we need to be at to meet the new trends in shipping.

So, yes, I am concerned about the debt, and I want to make sure we address this. But this has been going on for far too long, that these dollars have been diverted or embezzled.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill because we have to figure this out and figure out how to get it up under the budget cap where it belongs.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, with the numbers we are facing—trillion-dollar deficits and \$23 trillion in debt—what is another \$10 billion?

Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that Congress needs to start making the tough decisions. The responsibility is at our feet. It is in Article I of the Constitution, that same Constitution we all took an oath to in January. And I am not talking about tough decisions regarding the harbor maintenance trust fund by itself. I am talking about a lot of programs, all programs, mandatory spending programs.

And an inconvenient truth, Mr. Speaker, is this: As a percentage of our economy, mandatory spending is going higher. Discretionary spending, the money we are talking about today, is getting lower.

I wish my friend from Oregon would bring the same passion to the floor that he brings on the harbor maintenance trust fund to actually righting the ship on spending in the country as a whole to include solutions to the mandatory spending programs that continue to skyrocket totally unchecked by the Congress.

I want more money for education. I want more money for science and healthcare. And I want more money for harbor maintenance. I have backlogs in my own district. But it needs to be prioritized.

This discussion should have taken place 3 months ago. In fact, it did. There were other issues addressed in the negotiation for the budget caps that we operate under today.

May I remind my friend from Oregon that we had a long talk about the Census. It made it in. We discussed harbor maintenance. We discussed VA MISSION, Mr. Speaker, and that was in excess of \$20 billion. But, somehow, we were able to get it beneath the caps.

At the end of the day, only one of those negotiating topics actually made it into the discussion. So now here we are, expected to relitigate the other cap adjustments.

What other types of spending will folks want to give special privilege to? Proponents are saying we don't get what we want so let's just bust the caps. That is a dangerous precedent. It should never be considered in the same context as overseas contingency and disaster spending, which we all know operate above the caps.

It would behoove us to take note of organizations that have expertise in the state of our Nation's fiscal well-being and their opinion.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a statement by the National Taxpayers Union that says, among other things, in urging a "no" vote on the Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act, the Congress of the United States should be asking for healthier trust funds, not weakening those trust funds.

NATIONAL TAXPAYERS UNION,  
Washington, DC, October 28, 2019.

NTU urges all Representatives to vote "NO" on H.R. 2440, the Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act. This legislation would lead to higher federal spending, exempt the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) from discretionary caps, and potentially draw down the \$9 billion surplus in the HMTF. Lawmakers should oppose this proposal, and pursue legislation that strengthens caps on discretionary spending rather than weakening them.

H.R. 2440 would add the HMTF to a special, narrow group of spending categories that are exempt from Budget Control Act (BCA) caps. Currently, that list is limited to emergency and overseas contingency operations (OCO) spending, disaster relief, continuing disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, reemployment services and eligibility assessments, and wildfire suppression. Despite the pending expiration of BCA caps on discretionary spending, the bill's supporters have failed to make the case that HMTF belongs in the same category of exempt spending as disaster relief and OCO.

CBO has scored H.R. 2440 as having no impact on direct spending, revenues, or the deficit, but this is a misleading analysis. As NTU Foundation pointed out in June, the sponsors of the legislation "wrote that it would provide for an additional \$34 billion in funds for harbors. Despite the obvious motivation to use HMTF as a vehicle for spending hikes, CBO's zero score reflects a myopic reading of the bill." This intention is also made clear in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee report on H.R. 2440, which states, "[t]his change would enable the investment of approximately \$34 billion over the next decade from the HMTF for the intended purpose of maintaining Federally-authorized harbors."

Policymakers should want strong surpluses in taxpayer-backed trust funds. At a time when the Social Security and Medicare Part A trust funds are facing insolvency, Congress should not be passing legislation that strains one of America's healthier trust funds. If lawmakers want to spend a higher portion of HMTF's annual revenues, they should do so by having harbor maintenance needs compete with other priorities considered by Congress each year, rather than carving out a caps exemption for HMTF. Passing this legislation will only encourage special interests to seek additional exemptions for their priorities.

NTU strongly urges Representatives to oppose H.R. 2440 in its current form.

Roll call votes on H.R. 2440 will be included in our annual Rating of Congress and a "NO" vote will be considered the pro-taxpayer position.

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I am reminded of an old saying, and my dad, who grew up on a Yellow County, Arkansas, farm says it to me often. He says: Son, when you find yourself in a hole, quit digging.

Mr. Speaker, if we pass H.R. 2440, we will have added yet another shovel full of deficit to our Nation's fiscal situation. I urge a "no" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oregon has 7 minutes remaining.

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

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman said he wants healthy trust funds. Well, we got a heck of a healthful trust fund when it comes to harbor maintenance, but we also have a massive deficit in harbor maintenance.

We are projecting that we are going to need an extra \$15.8 billion between now and just 2020 to meet the demands of larger and heavier ships that are going to come through the Panama Canal and come here. How are we going to meet that? Well, we could spend the harbor maintenance trust fund on harbor maintenance, but, no, it wasn't part of the budget caps.

Go out and tell that to people who are dependent upon getting their goods in and out of the Nation's ports and say: Oh, well. Sorry. We can't do that jetty. We can't dredge that harbor because we can't spend the money that we took from you and put in the bank, even though the need is not being met.

I don't think that is a real winning subject outside the beltway. But inside the beltway, it resonates with certain people.

Again, I am pleased to hear from the National Taxpayers Union. The Association of General Contractors will key vote this issue.

This is a program created during the Reagan administration, signed by Ronald Reagan. The money has been diverted by both Democratic Presidents and Republican Presidents for years. It is time to stop doing that.

This President expressed personally to me, in a meeting, that he wants to

stop diverting that money. Mick Mulvaney, following the line of arguing we are having here, keeps trying to cut the spending on harbor maintenance so they can divert more of the tax paid by the American people to create illusory deficit reduction by putting the money in the bank.

How does that reduce the deficit? It doesn't reduce the deficit. It doesn't.

In the real world, it is the Budget Act and its definitions that we are talking about here, not the real needs of the American people, not the real needs of the American ports, not the real needs of our shippers, and not the real needs of our exporters. That is what we are talking about here today.

We can hear tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow. "We will get to it some other time." Twenty-three years ago, I started working on this with Republican Chairman Bud Shuster—23 years, a quarter of a century.

This is something we can do for the American people. The President ran on providing trillions of dollars of infrastructure investment. So far, all the budgets written by Mick Mulvaney and that hench-person he has over at OMB now actually have proposed reductions in transportation spending and have proposed reductions in harbor maintenance, even though we have a dedicated tax that can pay for it.

In any sensible world, we would take the dedicated tax and spend it on its lawful purpose, and the only lawful purpose is to get into our ports and rebuild the jetties and dredge for the larger ships that are coming to America so we can be more competitive as a maritime nation and maybe reduce the trade deficit.

There was a lot of discussion about the deficit. Again, I would just recall that the deficit is up almost \$400 billion in 2 years—2 years during which the Republicans controlled the House, the Senate, and the White House.

□ 1545

I think it had something to do with a tax cut, \$3 trillion. Didn't hear much about budget caps or deficit concerns.

Oh, wait a minute. It is going to pay for itself. It was going to raise revenues. It didn't raise revenues. Revenues didn't get raised. And, oh, by the way, it didn't pay for itself.

So I would hope that Members here will realize that the vast number of Americans—I bet if you went out and polled them, saying, "You are paying a little tax here for harbor maintenance, and it is being deposited in the Treasury to make the deficit look smaller; do you think that is a good idea?" I think that would be one thing that people on both sides of the aisle, all across America would say, no, spend the money on our ports.

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

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2440, the Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act.

First, I want to recognize the leadership of my Chairman, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) for his leadership on this issue and shepherding H.R. 2440 through the legislative process. His tenacity on this issue is one of the main reasons why we are here today, and will, hopefully be successful in moving this bill through the House.

I also want to thank the Ranking Member of the Full Committee, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES); the Subcommittee Ranking Member, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN); and the gentleman from Pennsylvania, (Mr. KELLY) for their support of this legislation as original cosponsors.

H.R. 2440 authorizes a discretionary cap adjustment for the full-utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). This change would enable the investment of approximately \$34 billion over the next decade from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for the intended purpose of maintaining Federally-authorized harbors. This will allow the Corps to dredge all Federal harbors to their constructed widths and depths.

In 1986, Congress enacted the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund as a user fee by taxing importers and domestic shippers at our harbors in order to pay for the maintenance of our harbors. The problem is that the trust fund collects more revenue than the President's Budget requests and Congress has appropriated to maintain our harbors.

According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund will collect an additional \$24.5 billion in new revenue over the next decade but federal appropriations from the trust fund will only be \$19.4 billion. This discrepancy is in addition to the estimated \$9.3 billion in previously collected but unspent revenue.

During the Subcommittee's hearing on April 10th, representatives from ports both big and small all agreed that Congress must fully spend the trust fund on harbor needs. H.R. 2440 would provide this authority to spend the \$24.5 billion in new revenue as intended on harbor maintenance.

As we pass this responsible budgeting bill today, I also look forward to working with my colleagues as we move forward with a Water Resources Development Act this Congress to address inequities in how these funds are spent.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2440, 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. WOMACK. 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.

#### FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE COORDINATION ACT

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 1306) to amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act to develop a study regarding streamlining and consolidating information collection and preliminary damage assessments, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1306

*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 Disaster Assistance Coordination Act”.

**SEC. 2. STUDY TO STREAMLINE AND CONSOLIDATE INFORMATION COLLECTION AND PRELIMINARY DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1223 of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-254) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 1223. STUDY TO STREAMLINE AND CONSOLIDATE INFORMATION COLLECTION AND PRELIMINARY DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS.**

“(a) INFORMATION COLLECTION.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator, in coordination with the Small Business Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Disaster Assistance Working Group of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, and other appropriate agencies, shall—

“(1) conduct a study and develop a plan, consistent with law, under which the collection of information from disaster assistance applicants and grantees will be modified, streamlined, expedited, efficient, flexible, consolidated, and simplified to be less burdensome, duplicative, and time consuming for applicants and grantees; and

“(2) develop a plan for the regular collection and reporting of information on Federal disaster assistance awarded, including the establishment and maintenance of a website for presenting the information to the public.

“(b) PRELIMINARY DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator, in consultation with the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, shall convene a working group on a regular basis with the Secretary of Labor, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, the Secretary of Transportation, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, and other appropriate agencies as the Administrator considers necessary, to—

“(1) identify and describe the potential areas of duplication or fragmentation in preliminary damage assessments after disaster declarations;

“(2) determine the applicability of having 1 Federal agency make the assessments for all agencies; and

“(3) identify potential emerging technologies, such as unmanned aircraft systems, consistent with the requirements established in the FEMA Accountability, Modernization and Transparency Act of 2017 (42 U.S.C. 5121 note), to expedite the administration of preliminary damage assessments.

“(c) COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.—The Administrator shall submit 1 comprehensive report that comprises the plans developed under subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) and a report of the findings of the working group convened under subsection (b), which may include recommendations, to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

“(d) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The comprehensive report developed under subsection (c) shall be made available to the public and posted on the website of the Federal Emergency Management Agency—

“(1) in pre-compressed, easily downloadable versions that are made available in all appropriate formats; and

“(2) in machine-readable format, if applicable.

“(e) SOURCES OF INFORMATION.—In preparing the comprehensive report, any publication, database, or web-based resource, and any information compiled by any government agency, nongovernmental organization, or other entity that is made available may be used.

“(f) BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days after submission of the comprehensive report, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or a designee, and a member of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, or a designee, shall brief, upon request, the appropriate congressional committees on the findings and any recommendations made in the comprehensive report.”

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 1223 in the table of contents of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-254) is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 1223. Study to streamline and consolidate information collection and preliminary damage assessments.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DEFAZIO. 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. 1306, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be standing on the floor here with my colleague, Mr. MEADOWS, at this time, perhaps a bit more in agreement.

So this bill, H.R. 1306, the Federal Disaster Assistance Coordination Act, was introduced by Representatives MEADOWS and PETERS. It amends the Disaster Recovery Reform Act, DRRA, so-called, to help Federal agencies streamline and consolidate information, collection, and preliminary damage assessments following disasters.

When a disaster occurs, Americans don't have time to wait around for the bureaucracy to get the assistance that they are entitled to. Today, there are too many barriers that stand between emergency response and Americans in crisis due to a disaster, whether it is a flood, a hurricane, a wildfire, or an earthquake. Whatever the disaster might be, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other Federal

agencies are supposed to be there to help.

Currently, the implementation of those recovery efforts and that disaster assistance is hampered by inefficient information collection and assessments conducted by multiple agencies. Some of them even come in like a year after the fact and say: Wait a minute. We didn't authorize that. That kind of thing has got to stop.

So this will remove information collection barriers that currently impede disaster aid. It creates a working group to identify duplicative assessments—we don't need to waste money on those—and it proposes getting rid of them by administrative rule or, if necessary, by legislation.

Further, it would streamline Federal disaster recovery efforts by concluding that a single agency is sufficient to conduct damage assessments to account for the needs of disaster victims.

Again, we have multiple agencies with conflicting opinions and numbers, and sometimes they come back to communities and want money back. Really? The other agency approved the money. Oh, but you didn't think—this has got to be done better, more efficiently, in coordination with a single lead. So I am pleased that this bill is before us today.

Mr. Speaker, I obviously recommend an “aye” vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his kind comments. I have often wondered, on the pharmaceutical commercials that you see on TV, who is the individual who can speak as fast as the narrator and puts in the disclaimers. I have now found the gentleman from Oregon to be that individual, so it is a good day for me.

I thank the gentleman for his support. Certainly, I rise in support of H.R. 1306, the Federal Disaster Assistance Coordination Act.

As the chairman was noting, this is a bipartisan, commonsense piece of legislation that would amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act and establish a process to identify ways to streamline it and consolidate the collection of certain disaster information.

I would be remiss, Mr. Speaker, if I didn't mention the work of the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), along with the gentleman from California (Mr. PETERS), in terms of really trying to make sure that, when we allocate dollars, they get to those people who are suffering most. The last thing we need is for them to be caught up in a bureaucracy that was not of their own making.

Following a disaster, many times, damage assessment needs are to be done quickly. In North Carolina, even most recently, some of those get into a lot of finger-pointing back and forth, Mr. Speaker.

Just last week, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure received testimony from State and local

emergency managers on how that cumbersome process is and what it is now.

So, while FEMA is certainly the lead Federal agency on disasters, there is often an alphabet soup of Federal agencies that have to get involved in the disaster response, and it is the local Federal coordinators that actually have to work in this recovery.

So it is critical that we look throughout all of our agencies to minimize the overlap, certainly as it relates to assessments, and consider the use of newer technologies and how to streamline the process.

Specifically, this bill will establish a Federal working group, led by FEMA, that would work with the Council of the Inspectors General on integrity and efficiency to determine how the damage assessment process can be streamlined and whether new technologies can be used to speed up the process.

Mr. Speaker, this is just a good-government bill that will improve disaster recovery. As the gentleman knows, being from the great State of Texas, as well as I do, when people are hurting from disasters, what they want are fast, efficient recovery efforts. Hopefully, this bipartisan effort will do that.

I encourage support of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I don't see any additional speakers, so I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from North Carolina for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, there are two sorts of Members: There are Members who have experienced and been through the devastation of disaster and the constituents they represent, and there are people who will. Those are the two types of Members we have in this body.

The gentleman from North Carolina is one of those folks who has been through this. The people he represents have been through this. The current disaster process that we use oftentimes revictimizes the very disaster victims that we are trying to help, that we are trying to save.

This legislation is very important and it is insightful. It is insightful because, number one, it brings newer ideas and newer technologies to the table on how we are actually going to quantify the damage associated with disasters.

Let's not use these technologies and these techniques from the 1950s and 1960s when it is 2019 and 2020. We need to be taking advantage of these new technologies.

What that does, Mr. Speaker, is it results in better, more accurate damage assessments where we are not contributing to the debt and wasting money, as we discussed in previous legislation; it results in faster recovery, faster re-

sponse to those disaster victims who are out there.

This legislation helps to ensure that instead of—we have had it in my home State of Louisiana. We have had our assessors out there doing work. We have had our State Homeland Security officials out there doing assessments. We have had SBA, we have had HUD, and we have had FEMA, and they all come up with different numbers, which is shocking to learn.

The most efficient thing to do, the right thing to do, is to come up with a common set of principles: use new technology, quantify the disasters, inform how much money is needed and where it is needed, and let's help get response and recovery activities moving much faster, much better, and much more efficiently.

Let me say it again. We have got to continue to stay focused on these disaster victims. So the faster, better, cheaper, that ends up benefiting them. We have had all of these disconnects in different programs because they are using different metrics and milestones.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from North Carolina and I want to thank my friend from Oregon for working together on this. It is an important, insightful piece of legislation that is going to result in saving taxpayer funds; a better, more efficient response; stopping the tripping over each other; and, ultimately, moving in a direction where you have seamless sequencing of response and recovery activities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Louisiana for his comments. When you think of disaster recovery and think of a champion who has been wanting to address this, not just on this bill, but each and every bill that he looks at, there is no greater advocate than the American people have than the gentleman from Louisiana.

In closing, I want to thank the chairman. Many times we can have different opinions on different particular pieces of legislation, but the gentleman has always been thoughtful, and certainly, under his leadership, in his chairmanship, he has worked in a bipartisan manner to advance legislation.

I appreciate the gentleman's willingness to allow this bill to come to the floor, and I urge its adoption.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, just in reference to what the gentleman said earlier, once, when Barney Frank used to serve here, I was friendly with one of the recording clerks, and she would rate how many words per minute people could talk. Barney was faster than me. Sometimes I would be sitting here and people would say: What did he say? And I said: Oh, I can translate that. So I grew up in that era.

But, returning to this bill, this is important, and this is not the end of our reforms. As the gentleman from Louisiana pointed out, just think of it this way: We had a very rare, bizarre snow event last winter, and I had five trees fall on my house. The insurance adjuster came out and said okay. We agreed on what it would take to fix the house.

Now, imagine if that company had sent five different adjusters on different days and they all came up with different figures. The house was just finished last weekend. It took 9 months, but I would still be waiting, probably, for the repairs to start.

That is what happens to people in some of these disasters. They are still waiting for the approvals they need to go forward and do the repairs, or they got funding from one agency for emergency housing assistance and then they are being told they can't get housing assistance or they can't get their home repaired because they took that money, even though no one told them when they took that money that that was going to disqualify them from some other agency.

It has got to get straightened out. The Federal Government needs to coordinate this response, and this is just, I believe, the beginning of reforming these disaster assistance programs.

And, oh, by the way, the National Flood Insurance Program is broke, and we have got to do something about that, too, including some reforms.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman DEFAZIO, and thank Congressman MEADOWS, for working with me to improve the federal government's transparency on disaster assistance spending and the government's efficiency on providing communities with relief funding.

As fires burn across California and hurricanes continue to hit the Southeast, it is clear that disasters are becoming larger, more dangerous and frequent, and significantly more expensive. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), there have been more than 2,400 federally declared disasters since 2000, totaling hundreds of billions of dollars in federal relief aid.

Multiple federal agencies help communities recover from these disasters. However, they do not coordinate when conducting damage assessments, which creates duplicative work across agencies.

That's why I joined Congressman MEADOWS in introducing the Federal Disaster Assistance Coordination Act. This bill is commonsense: it requires FEMA to create an interagency working group to determine any areas of overlap across agencies when conducting assessments used to administer disaster assistance. It also requires the working group to assess new technologies that may accelerate damage assessments following disasters.

This bill, in coordination with two other disaster assistance bills Mr. MEADOWS and I introduced together—the DISASTER Act and the Post-Disaster Assistance Online Accountability Act—allow the federal government to efficiently provide communities with disaster relief aid.



I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation today, and I look forward to the Senate acting on all three of our disaster transparency bills.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1306, 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 amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 to develop a study regarding streamlining and consolidating information collection and preliminary damage assessments, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1600

NOTICE TO AIRMEN  
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2019

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1775) to establish a task force on NOTAM improvements, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1775

*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 "Notice to Airmen Improvement Act of 2019".

**SEC. 2. FAA TASK FORCE ON NOTAM IMPROVEMENT.**

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall establish a special task force to be known as the FAA Task Force on NOTAM Improvement (in this section referred to as the "Task Force").

(b) **COMPOSITION.**—The Task Force shall consist of members appointed by the Administrator and shall include the following:

- (1) Air carrier representatives.
- (2) Labor union representatives.
- (3) General and business aviation representatives.

(4) Aviation safety experts with knowledge of international and domestic regulatory requirements for notices to airmen (in this section referred to as "NOTAMs").

(5) Human factors experts.

(c) **DUTIES.**—The duties of the Task Force shall include—

- (1) reviewing existing methods for presenting NOTAMs and flight operations information to pilots;
- (2) reviewing regulations and policies relating to NOTAMs, including their content and presentation to pilots;
- (3) evaluating and determining best practices to organize, prioritize, and present flight operations information in a manner that optimizes pilot review and retention of relevant information; and
- (4) providing recommendations in the following areas:

(A) Improving the presentation of NOTAM information in a manner that prioritizes or highlights the most important information, and optimizes pilot review and retention of relevant information.

(B) Ways to ensure that NOTAMs are complete, accurate, and contain the proper information.

(C) Any other best practices that the FAA should consider to improve the accuracy and understandability of NOTAMs and the display of flight operations information.

(D) Ways to work with air carriers, other airspace users, and aviation service providers to implement solutions that are aligned with the recommendations under this paragraph.

(d) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the establishment of the Task Force, the Task Force shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report detailing—

(1) the results of the reviews and evaluations of the Task Force under subsection (c);

(2) the best practices identified and recommendations provided by the Task Force under subsection (c);

(3) any recommendations of the Task Force for additional regulatory or policy actions to improve the presentation of NOTAMs; and

(4) the degree to which implementing the recommendations of the Task Force will address National Transportation Safety Board Safety Recommendation A-18-024.

(e) **APPLICABLE LAW.**—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Task Force.

(f) **SUNSET.**—The Task Force shall terminate on the earlier of—

(1) the date on which the Task Force submits the report required under subsection (d); or

(2) the date that is 18 months after the date on which the Task Force is established under subsection (a).

(g) **AUTHORITY.**—The Administrator shall have the authority to carry out the recommendations of the Task Force outlined in the report required under subsection (d).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DEFAZIO. 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. 1775.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of the bill introduced by the gentleman from Minnesota, Representative STAUBER. H.R. 1775 would create a task force to review existing methods for presenting notices to airmen and -women, or NOTAMs—maybe we have to add a W after the M, we will work on that—to pilots. NOTAMs provide pilots with essential real-time information regarding abnormalities or issues in the National Airspace System. For example, NOTAMs alert pilots to potential hazards in the airspace or at an airport, such as, more mundanely, closed runways or taxiways. They are also used during space launches and things like that.

While pilots are required to review all NOTAMs before flight, there has been concern about the lengthiness and

completeness of the critical information contained in NOTAMs and how the information is displayed to and organized for pilots.

Under H.R. 1775 the task force will determine best practices for organizing and presenting flight operations information to pilots in the most optimal manner and make recommendations to improve the presentation of NOTAM information while ensuring their accuracy and completeness.

Recommendations from the task force could help prevent future aviation accidents and near accidents. We saw that in July 2017 an Air Canada A320 almost landed on top of five jetliners with more than 1,000 people on-board awaiting take-off at San Francisco International Airport before executing an emergency go-around. The aircraft came as close as 60 feet above one of the planes on the ground. That would have been catastrophic if that plane had just descended a little bit more.

There were no injuries, but this could have been catastrophic, as I said. The National Transportation Safety Board determined the probable cause of the incident was the pilots' misidentification of the taxiway for a runway based in part on their ineffective review of NOTAMs.

NOTAMs can and must be better and more clear for pilots. I expect the task force established under H.R. 1775 will lead to good work and recommendations that will improve safety, hopefully, in the near future without any sort of lengthy rulemaking process.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting the legislation. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this is how legislation is supposed to work. I want to thank my friend from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) and I want to thank Congressman DESAULNIER from California for introducing this bipartisan legislation and legislation that is in direct response to an NTSB, National Transportation Safety Board, recommendation.

Mr. Speaker, as you have just heard the committee chair cover a story back at the San Francisco International Airport in 2017, there was an Air Canada flight that was coming in on an occupied—on an occupied—taxiway. They had been given a notice they misread and didn't fully understand what they had been given or didn't fully abide by it, and there were four to five fully loaded airliners on that taxiway.

Mr. Speaker, you can imagine the disaster that would have happened if there had not been a last-minute diversion of the disaster that was imminent in this case. There were four to five fully loaded planes waiting for departure with the Air Canada flight coming in. This area had been closed. They had been notified that it had been closed, but it was not a message that they had properly either understood or received.

After the NTSB investigation, they found that we have got to find a better way of communicating to airmen under the NOTAM or, Notice to Airmen, alerts. So in direct response to what we have seen from the NTSB and in direct response to what we have seen in this incident, what this does is it brings together a group of experts in this field to ensure that we can find a better way to apply lessons learned to make sure that we get better and to make sure that these close calls do not happen again.

So, Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this legislation. I want to reiterate the great thanks that I have to my friend from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) for leading this and Congressman DESAULNIER from California for working together in a bipartisan way to ensure that we are applying lessons learned. We are applying common sense. And that we are ensuring the safety of air passengers across the United States and the globe.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER).

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, before I begin, I want to thank Chairman DEFAZIO and Ranking Member GRAVES for their great leadership on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

I am pleased to rise in support of my bipartisan legislation that improves the safety of air travel. I would also like to thank my colleague, Mr. DESAULNIER, for his support and leadership on this legislation as well.

Notice to Airmen, or NOTAMs, are extremely important to safety in our skies. NOTAMs are critical as they relay safety information to pilots that allow them to understand the possible hazards and conditions of airports and runways before actually getting to the destination. The current system simply is not working as well as it should. NOTAMs are often buried in lengthy reports conflating important safety information with more common alerts. These inefficiencies have the potential to create life-threatening situations.

My bill creates a task force at the FAA with important input from safety experts and industry professionals to address what changes need to be made to NOTAMs to make air travel even safer than it already is.

Mr. Speaker, I am looking forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle on future legislation that directly helps the American people, and I urge support for my bipartisan bill, the Notice to Airmen Improvement Act.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, just in closing, once again, I want to thank the bipartisan work on this legislation from Mr. STAUBER and Mr. DESAULNIER. I want to thank the full committee Ranking Member SAM GRAVES and Mr. DEFAZIO, the chairman, for all working together.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I regret that Representative DESAULNIER couldn't be here today because he partnered with Representative STAUBER on this legislation. He has been very concerned and has been raising this issue with me repeatedly because of the incident at San Francisco and general concerns he had about runway intrusions and other problems. So he is on an airplane, as we speak, flying here, hopefully, safely. That is unfortunate since he won't be here to actually get credit on the floor, but I want to extend that to him.

I want to thank Ranking Member GRAVES for his support on this and the other Ranking Member GRAVES for his support on this and Representative LARSEN who is probably also on an airplane somewhere. It is rare that I would be here on a Monday, but the harbor maintenance bill attracted me to be here.

Mr. Speaker, I urge that this be adopted, and I urge a "yes" vote. This is one more little bit of an addition, or a major addition, to our safety culture in aviation in this country with the largest and most complex airspace in the world, and this is a necessary step to make it safer.

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 Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1775.

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.

#### TRANSPARENCY IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS PROJECTS ACT OF 2019

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2502) to amend title 40, United States Code, to require certain prospectuses for public buildings to be made publicly available, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2502

*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 "Transparency in Federal Buildings Projects Act of 2019".

##### SEC. 2. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF BUILDING PROJECT INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### "SEC. 3318. AVAILABILITY OF FEDERAL BUILDING PROJECT INFORMATION.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, and, at a minimum, on a quarterly basis thereafter, the Administrator shall make publicly available on a subpage of the

website of the General Services Administration all prospectuses submitted pursuant to sections 3307 and 3316, and associated information subject to the following requirements:

"(1) The Administrator shall maintain such information in an easily accessible and readable, organized, downloadable, and searchable format.

"(2) The Administrator shall ensure the information is current and prospectuses and associated information updated on a regular basis.

"(3) The information required under this section shall be inclusive for a period of not less than 10 years.

"(4) The information shall include—

"(A) the last date on which the relevant webpage was updated;

"(B) approval dates of respective authorizing resolutions by each committee of jurisdiction, if applicable;

"(C) copies of respective committee of jurisdiction resolutions authorizing such prospectuses, as appropriate;

"(D) cross-references to any resubmitted or amended prospectuses and associated resolutions; and

"(E) such other information as determined by the Administrator.

"(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

"(1) PROSPECTUS.—The term 'prospectus' means prospectuses, building surveys, and factsheets submitted to the committees of jurisdiction pursuant to sections 3307 and 3316.

"(2) COMMITTEES OF JURISDICTION.—The term 'committees of jurisdiction' means the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate.

"(3) ASSOCIATED INFORMATION.—The term 'associated information' means resolutions approved by the committees of jurisdiction and other information as required pursuant to subsection (a)."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"3318. Availability of Federal building project information."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DEFAZIO. 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. 2502.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in strong support of H.R. 2502, the Transparency in Federal Buildings Projects Act of 2019, introduced by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. PALMER).

It is simple, but it is important. It is also common sense and contributes to government transparency.

Mr. Speaker, you know that the Federal Government through the GSA is

the largest lessor or owner of commercial office space in the United States of America.

The program can use some improvement, and this will help shine a light on some of the issues and concerns we have as we look for some reforms in the way we acquire property in the most cost-effective manner for the American taxpayer. Sometimes GSA does things that make little or no sense when they get into lease agreements, like they did with the Department of Transportation, a beautiful new building. We are now going to buy the building for the second time, essentially, by having paid for the lease for a number of years. These things can be done more effectively and more efficiently, and this legislation will help set a path to that kind of cost savings.

It requires the General Services Administration to publish on its website all prospectuses for leasing, design, or construction activity; update the information quarterly, and maintain the information for no less than 10 years in a readable, accessible, and—this is key—a searchable form, not just post it and it is like, oh, sorry, there is no index. It has to be searchable.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good-government bill designed to provide taxpayers with information regarding the GSA's leasing, design, and construction projects for Federal agencies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2502, the Transparency in Federal Buildings Projects Act. As the chairman just mentioned, it is a common-sense piece of legislation.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. PALMER) for his leadership on this bill. I am pleased that I am actually a cosponsor of this particular legislation.

H.R. 2502 does provide for greater transparency to the taxpayers on the public buildings projects and leases. It actually would require the General Services Administration, or what we refer to as GSA, to include on its websites all project proposals and associated information and submit that to Congress under the Public Buildings Act for approval.

This is a simple action, but it can have a significant impact on improving the accountability and transparency that all American taxpayers yearn for.

While GSA includes some information on its website, that information provided is somewhat limited. This bill would ensure that taxpayers know what projects have been proposed, how much they will cost, and which have been actually approved.

In 2013 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure began filling this void by posting this information on its website. Since that time the committee's website has become a critical resource not only for the public

and private sector but also for Federal agencies. However, to ensure the continuity and that this information continues to be regularly updated and maintained, this bill would place that responsibility on GSA.

□ 1615

As I mentioned, this is a common-sense, straightforward bill. I thank Chairman DEFAZIO and Ranking Member GRAVES for their willingness to address efficient and effective government agency.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. PALMER), the sponsor of this particular piece of legislation.

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), the ranking member, and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) for their work on the issue, and Chairman DEFAZIO for his support.

The General Services Administration is required to submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works prospectuses that contain information on proposed public projects for committee consideration.

In recent years, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, as has been mentioned, has posted this information about these projects on its website to provide access to the public and private entities. While the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has become a resource for the public, and even for Federal agencies, this bill, the Transparency in Federal Buildings Projects Act, would require the GSA to make publicly available on its website all prospectuses and associated information, pursuant to the Public Buildings Act.

This sensible reform will ensure that taxpayers have more information about how their hard-earned dollars are being spent and managed. The bill would strengthen transparency and accountability in Federal construction, renovation, and leasing projects, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I am assuming that the gentleman opposite is. As we close, I thank the chairman once again for his support, and I thank the sponsor of this particular bill.

We do believe that GSA, in posting this information in a searchable fashion, will provide for a more open and transparent government.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support that, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, again, I congratulate the gentleman from Alabama

(Mr. PALMER) for proposing this new transparency legislation. I am certain, in the end, it is ultimately going to save the taxpayers money and lead to GSA, perhaps, performing in a more efficient manner.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2502.

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.

#### VETERAN TREATMENT COURT COORDINATION ACT OF 2019

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 886) to direct the Attorney General to establish and carry out a Veteran Treatment Court Program, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 886

*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 "Veteran Treatment Court Coordination Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that veterans treatment courts are a successful program aimed at helping veterans charged with non-violent crimes receive the help and the benefits for which the veterans are entitled.

#### SEC. 3. VETERAN TREATMENT COURT PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Attorney General shall establish and carry out a Veteran Treatment Court Program to provide grants and technical assistance to court systems that—

(1) have adopted a Veterans Treatment Court Program; or

(2) have filed a notice of intent to establish a Veterans Treatment Court Program with the Secretary.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Veterans Treatment Court Program established under subsection (a) is to ensure the Department of Justice has a single office to coordinate the provision of grants, training, and technical assistance to help State, local, and Tribal governments to develop and maintain veteran treatment courts.

(c) PROGRAMS INCLUDED.—The Veterans Treatment Court Program established under subsection (a) shall include the grant programs relating to veterans treatment courts carried out by the Attorney General pursuant to sections 2901, 2991, and 3021 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10581, 10651, and 10701) or any other provision of law.

(d) REGULATIONS.—The Attorney General shall promulgate regulations to carry out this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days 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 gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 886, the Veteran Treatment Court Coordination Act. This bill stands as a testament to the commitment Congress has to veterans, those who have service-connected mental health disabilities and become involved in the criminal justice system.

By establishing a grant program office called the Veteran Treatment Court Program Office in the Department of Justice, the bill makes permanent our support for the hundreds of local veteran treatment court programs around the country that successfully rehabilitate veterans.

The Veterans Treatment Court Program Office would build upon the success of the hundreds of veterans courts programs in the United States by standardizing data reporting methods, serving as a repository for resources, providing training to veterans court administrators, and distributing information nationwide on best practices on how to improve the administration of veterans courts.

Despite efforts to welcome veterans home and ease their transition to civilian life, many veterans continue to face hardships after completing their military service. One study reports that approximately 9 percent of veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan have been arrested since returning home.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics estimates that approximately 180,000 veterans were incarcerated in State and Federal prisons between 2011 and 2012. Of those incarcerated veterans surveyed, 48 percent of veterans in prison and 55 percent of veterans in jail reported that they had been told by a mental health professional that they had a mental health disorder.

Veterans treatment courts can provide an effective means by which communities can rehabilitate veterans who commit crimes and support victims by ensuring veteran-defendants pay restitution before they may receive a dismissal or expungement.

Empirical studies show that veterans courts provide more effective means of rehabilitating justice-involved veterans. Although 20 percent of veterans court participants received jail sanctions during their participation in the veterans court program, only 14 percent experienced a new incarceration during an average of nearly 1 year in the program. This rate of recidivism is

substantially less than the 23 to 46 percent 1-year recidivism rate found among nonveteran prisoners. Most programs report less than five dropouts in the 2017 calendar year.

There are over 500 veteran treatment courts operated by State, local, and Tribal governments. This bill ensures existing programs will continue their mission to serve our veterans and make it easier for jurisdictions to start new veterans court programs and adopt best practices.

I thank our colleague, Representative CHARLIE CRIST, for his leadership in authoring this bill and for his continuing dedication to supporting our veterans.

This is a thoughtful and important bill that will help veterans who need our assistance.

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I appreciate the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS). She did a great job explaining this bill. This is an easy bill. This is one that we should come to. This is exactly why suspensions exist, to do something like this.

On a personal note, as a member of the Air Force Reserve, someone who has been both in the Navy and Air Force, serving in Iraq and others, this is something that is very good.

In my home of Hall County, Georgia, the veterans courts have been set up for several years now. We see the mentoring aspect, the peer activity, something that we gained in the military and something that is very important and vital for these individuals who have gone through run-ins with the law on many occasions, on different ideas, especially if it has to do with things that came out of their service. We owe them no greater debt than we do others, to make sure that they have a chance to get their lives back straight.

Veteran treatments court do that, and this coordination act puts the emphasis on it from a Federal level.

I could not think of a better way to start this week. Hopefully, holding a good bill together, that we could get this to the Senate as quickly as possible, and get it, even more importantly, to the President's desk so that it becomes more than a political statement but actually a law.

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

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRIST).

Mr. CRIST. Mr. Speaker, after 9/11, thousands of America's best had to offer to sign up for our freedom. They served their country with honor to keep all of us here and our loved ones safe. Many of these heroes suffered greatly with wounds that you can see and, in many cases, wounds that you cannot.

Too many veterans face mental and physical disabilities. Too many vet-

erans come home without support structures. Too many veterans lack opportunities. And too many veterans self-medicate, find themselves in the criminal justice system, and are forgotten.

In 2008, the first veteran treatment court was established in Buffalo, New York. The idea is that veterans face unique challenges that require veteran-specific care.

While the VA can be an option for a veteran in crisis, including at the C.W. Bill Young Medical Center in my district, not every veteran in crisis goes to the VA, and if they do, they may not have somebody to check on them and make sure they are okay.

Veterans treatment courts are diversion programs. Working with justice outreach specialists at their local VA medical centers, social workers and counselors at the local level, and veterans service organizations, vet courts get nonviolent veterans who qualify into treatment and counseling instead of just locking them up.

After they complete the requirements, the veteran can even have their record expunged, preserving housing and employment opportunities.

Just over 10 years after the first court, there are now hundreds all around the country, including one in my home of Pinellas County, Florida.

Each vet court is different, starting in the community from scratch and coordinating the people and organizations that will help rehabilitate veterans in their program.

Congress, recognizing the importance of these courts in our districts, has provided funding for vet courts for a few years now, including a record \$25 million in the House-passed Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

However, unlike other justice grant programs, like juvenile justice programs, there is still not adequate coordination at the Department of Justice to provide best practices, support, as well as technical assistance to communities that have vet court or want to start one.

The Veteran Treatment Court Coordination Act fixes this, establishing the Veteran Treatment Court Program in the Office of Justice Programs.

I am thankful to my colleagues on the Committee on Appropriations, of which I am a member, particularly the gentlewoman from New York, Chairwoman LOWEY, and the gentleman from New York, Chairman SERRANO, for their steadfast support of the veteran treatment court funding.

However, the Department of Justice, which administers the grants, needs an office dedicated to helping and guiding communities that want to access grants or want to set up their own veterans court.

I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK) for her work over this past year, as well as the gentleman from New York, Chairman NADLER, and the gentlewoman from California, Chairwoman BASS, for their

leadership on the Committee on the Judiciary, fighting for criminal justice reforms as well as diversion programs.

Lastly, I thank all the organizations, both veterans service organizations and criminal justice professionals, that have helped build support for this over the past 2 years and that have worked tirelessly in our districts to make veterans treatment courts so successful.

This includes the National Military and Veterans Alliance, the National Veterans Court Alliance, and the National District Attorneys Association, all of which have endorsed the legislation, along with 19 veteran groups total.

When a veteran suffering because of their service makes a mistake, we have a duty as a country to do all we can to give them the very best possible outcome. We have a duty to fight for those who fought for our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, if the gentlewoman has no more speakers, I am prepared to close.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill. I appreciate everybody and all the hard work that has gone into it.

When we take time to come together and lock arms to do these kinds of bills, these are things that actually move the needle for people back home, the reason we are here. This is very easy to support. This should be a simple voice vote. Get it done, and get this done.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentlewoman from California, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for his brevity.

Mr. Speaker, this bill would help provide support to more than 1 million veterans diagnosed with service-connected disabilities, as well as the thousands who are undiagnosed who have been and will be exposed to the criminal justice system.

Supporting rehabilitative veterans courts programs is the least we can do to acknowledge their sacrifice and treat our veterans involved with the criminal justice system with compassion and care.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of H.R. 886, the Veteran Treatment Court Coordination Act of 2019.

Our men and women in uniform often struggle with physical and mental remnants of their time in service. According to the VA, over 1.7 million veterans received treatment through a VA mental health specialty program in 2018.

Additionally, close to 20 percent of service members returning from Iraq or Afghanistan experience depression or have a Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder diagnosis.

Mr. Speaker, we want our veterans to thrive. They listened to their Nation's call and served when needed. It is now our responsibility to address every single issue that stops them

from living a full life and continue to contribute to their country as a civilian.

Veterans' Treatment Courts are a valuable tool that assists veterans facing non-violent criminal charges resulting from mental illness, substance abuse or other adverse behavior.

They provide alternatives at the state and county level that focus on rehabilitation and reintegration in part by facilitating programs that provide support and resources to veterans.

H.R. 886 directs the Department of Justice to establish a Veterans Treatment Court Program that provides grants and technical assistance for local governments to develop and maintain veteran treatment courts.

State circuits that have either adopted a Veterans Treatment Court or have filed a notice of intent to establish a Veterans Treatment Court would be eligible.

I am a proud cosponsor of this bill. I genuinely believe veterans are an asset to our communities and as such should be given all available help and assistance.

I thank my colleague, Mr. CRIST from Florida for his leadership on this issue and encourage my colleagues to vote in favor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 886, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1630

**PREVENTING ONLINE SALES OF E-CIGARETTES TO CHILDREN ACT**

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3942) to apply requirements relating to delivery sales of cigarettes to delivery sales of electronic nicotine delivery systems, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3942

*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 "Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act".

**SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE JENKINS ACT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Act entitled "An Act to assist States in collecting sales and use taxes on cigarettes", approved October 19, 1949 (commonly known as the "Jenkins Act") (15 U.S.C. 375 et seq.), is amended—

(1) in section 1 (15 U.S.C. 375)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(A)(ii)—

(i) by striking "includes roll-your-own tobacco" and inserting the following: "includes—

"(I) roll-your-own tobacco";

(ii) in subclause (I), as so designated, by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

"(II) an electronic nicotine delivery system.";

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through (14) as paragraphs (8) through (15), respectively; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following:

"(7) ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEM.—The term 'electronic nicotine delivery system'—

"(A) means any electronic device that, through an aerosolized solution, delivers nicotine, flavor, or any other substance to the user inhaling from the device;

"(B) includes—

"(i) an e-cigarette;

"(ii) an e-hookah;

"(iii) an e-cigar;

"(iv) a vape pen;

"(v) an advanced refillable personal vaporizer;

"(vi) an electronic pipe; and

"(vii) any component, liquid, part, or accessory of a device described in subparagraph (A), without regard to whether the component, liquid, part, or accessory is sold separately from the device; and

"(C) does not include a product that is—

"(i) approved by the Food and Drug Administration for—

"(I) sale as a tobacco cessation product; or

"(II) any other therapeutic purpose; and

"(ii) marketed and sold solely for a purpose described in clause (i)."; and

(2) in section 2A(b)(1) (15 U.S.C. 376a(b)(1)), by inserting "NICOTINE/" after "CIGARETTES".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section, and the amendments made by this section, shall take effect on the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 3. NONMAILABILITY OF ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS.**

(a) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the United States Postal Service shall promulgate regulations to clarify the applicability of the prohibition on mailing of cigarettes under section 1716E of title 18, United States Code, to electronic nicotine delivery systems, in accordance with the amendment to the definition of "cigarette" made by section 2.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The prohibition on mailing of cigarettes under section 1716E of title 18, United States Code, shall apply to electronic nicotine delivery systems on and after the date on which the United States Postal Service promulgates regulations under subsection (a) of this section.

**SEC. 4. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS) and the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. ARMSTRONG) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BASS. 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 gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3942, the Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act, is an important bill to protect our young people. I applaud the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) for taking the lead on this issue and introducing this bipartisan legislation.

This bill addresses a very serious public health crisis in our country, one which is tragically affecting our children. Since last summer, a mysterious and severe pulmonary disease associated with the use of e-cigarettes and the practice of vaping has sickened over 1,000 mostly young and otherwise healthy people, 18 of whom have died.

Public health advocates place the blame for this crisis on the aggressive marketing of vaping products that appeal to kids, including e-liquids with fruit, bubble gum, or even cotton candy flavors in packaging that features superhero or cartoon characters. Advocates also cite the mushrooming popularity of USB flash drive-like e-cigarettes, which have a high nicotine content, appealing flavors, and can easily be concealed.

Evidence of the attractiveness of these products to young people is reflected in some staggering statistics. According to the 2018 National Youth Tobacco Survey, between 2017 and 2018 there was a 78 percent increase in e-cigarette use among high school students and a 48 percent increase among middle school students. H.R. 3942 will play an important role in addressing this crisis.

Congress regulates the sales of tobacco products via interstate shipment through the 1949 Jenkins Act. In 2010, Congress extended the Jenkins Act to regulate delivery sales of tobacco products over the internet through the Prevent All Cigarette Trafficking Act, or PACT Act.

Among other things, the PACT Act curbed internet sales of cigarettes to underage people by encouraging and requiring that delivery agents check identification in person when the product is delivered.

H.R. 3942 amends current law to curb online sales of e-cigarettes to minors. It amends the definition of "cigarette" to extend to any electronic nicotine delivery system, which includes e-cigarettes, vape pens, and other electronic devices.

A violation of the provisions of the Jenkins Act is a Federal felony, punishable by up to 3 years in prison. Amending current law to extend these protections to e-cigarettes is the right thing to do.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM,  
Washington, DC, October 28, 2019.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 3942, the Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act. There are certain provisions in the legislation which fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

In the interest of permitting your Committee to proceed expeditiously on this bill, I am willing to waive this Committee's right to sequential referral. I do so with the understanding that by waiving consideration of the bill, the Committee on Oversight and Reform does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill which fall within its Rule X jurisdiction. I request that you urge the Speaker to name Members of this Committee to any conference committee which is named to consider such provisions.

Please place this letter into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective Committees.

Sincerely,

CAROLYN B. MALONEY,  
Acting Chairwoman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3942, the Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act.

This bill can be summarized in this way: If minors can't buy e-cigarettes in a store, they shouldn't be able to buy e-cigarettes online.

Today, anyone who purchases alcohol or tobacco at a brick-and-mortar retail store is subject to age verification requirements. Online retailers of alcohol must also verify a purchaser's age to ensure the sales comply with State and Federal law. However, online retailers of e-cigarettes are exempted from verifying the age of their customers.

When the PACT Act was passed in 2010, it did a great job of curbing youth smoking. Unfortunately, e-cigarettes were not in existence yet.

This loophole exists at a time when youth vaping is at epidemic levels. Today, one in five high school students is using e-cigarettes. Kids can have e-cigarettes delivered right to their door without requiring an adult signature.

Teen vaping rates have doubled since 2017, and over 3 million minors used e-cigarettes last year. The lack of age verification requirements is hurting kids.

The Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act would require age verification upon delivery of online purchases of e-cigarettes and other vapor products. It closes the online delivery loophole and will prevent the underage purchase of e-cigarettes online.

This bill has a broad coalition of support.

I thank Representative ROSA DELAURO for her partnership on this legislation to protect the next generation, as well as House Judiciary Committee Ranking Member DOUG COLLINS.

This bill also has bipartisan support in the Senate, with Senators DIANNE FEINSTEIN, JOHN CORNYN, and CHRIS VAN HOLLEN all on board.

Patient advocacy organizations like the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network and the American Lung Association also support this legislation.

Business and trade associations like the National Association of Convenience Stores, the Petroleum Marketer Association of America, and the Convenience Distribution Association all also support this bill.

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

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I notice that there are a number of young people who are in the gallery, so I am hoping that they pay close attention to this debate since it is all about you guys.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members to avoid referencing occupants of the gallery.

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL).

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 3942, the Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act.

The spread of e-cigarettes is a public health crisis. I have had multiple conversations with parents who are seeing their children become addicted to tobacco products, and, as a mom, I refuse to stand idly by as a new generation of children become addicted to this substance.

We have seen multiple deaths from the use of vaping products and several hundred lung disease cases in Florida alone. Approximately 5,600 kids in Florida are becoming new daily smokers each year. This is affecting children regardless of ZIP Code or income level.

For years, e-cigarette companies have targeted our children using specialty flavors like cotton candy and made their products easy to purchase online without any age verification.

We have the responsibility to do everything we can to keep this addictive substance out of the hands of our kids, including requiring online and in-person verification for e-cigarette purchases.

The health of our Nation's children is at risk because of e-cigarettes and vaping products. The time to act is now.

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

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3942 is an important measure to address a threat to the health of our children and young people.

For the reasons discussed here today, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Mr. Speaker, I have a 12-year-old daughter; I have a 9-year-old son. There are schools across the country that are removing doors on bathroom stalls and banning hoodies. Teen vaping and youth vaping is a real

issue. This bill is a small step forward to start canceling that.

At its simplest, this bill works to modernize Federal law to treat e-cigarettes the same as any other nicotine product, and that is a good thing.

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

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3942, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**CROWDFUNDING AMENDMENTS ACT**

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4860) to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to subject crowdfunding vehicles to the jurisdiction of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4860

*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 ‘‘Crowdfunding Amendments Act’’.

**SEC. 2. CROWDFUNDING VEHICLES.**

(a) AMENDMENTS TO THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933.—The Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 2(a) (15 U.S.C. 77b(a)), by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(20) The term ‘crowdfunding vehicle’ has the meaning given the term in section 3(c)(15)(B) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3(c)(15)(B)).’’;

(2) in section 4(a)(6) (15 U.S.C. 77d(a)(6))—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by inserting ‘‘, other than a crowdfunding vehicle,’’ after ‘‘sold to all investors’’; and

(ii) by inserting ‘‘other than a crowdfunding vehicle,’’ after ‘‘the issuer,’’; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting ‘‘, other than a crowdfunding vehicle,’’ after ‘‘any investor’’; and

(3) in section 4A(f) (15 U.S.C. 77d-1(f))—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘Section 4(6)’’ and inserting ‘‘Section 4(a)(6)’’; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting ‘‘by any of paragraphs (1) through (14) of’’ before ‘‘section 3(c)’’.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940.—Section 3(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(15)(A) Any crowdfunding vehicle.

‘‘(B) For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘crowdfunding vehicle’ means a company—

‘‘(i) the purpose of which (as set forth in the organizational documents of the company) is limited to acquiring, holding, and disposing of securities issued by a single company in one or more transactions made under section 4(a)(6) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77d(a)(6));

‘‘(ii) that issues only 1 class of securities;

‘‘(iii) that receives no compensation in connection with the acquisition, holding, or disposition of securities described in clause (i);

‘‘(iv) no investment adviser or associated person of which receives any compensation on the basis of a share of capital gains upon, or capital appreciation of, any portion of the funds of an investor of the company;

‘‘(v) the securities of which have been issued in a transaction made under section 4(a)(6) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77d(a)(6)), where both the crowdfunding vehicle and the company whose securities the crowdfunding vehicle holds are co-issuers;

‘‘(vi) that is current with respect to ongoing reporting requirements under section 227.202 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation;

‘‘(vii) that holds securities of a company that is subject to ongoing reporting requirements under section 227.202 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation;

‘‘(viii) that is advised by an investment adviser that is—

‘‘(I) registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b-1 et seq.); and

‘‘(II) required to—

‘‘(aa) disclose to the investors of the company any fees charged by the investment adviser; and

‘‘(bb) obtain approval from a majority of the investors of the company with respect to any increase in the fees described in item (aa); and

‘‘(ix) that meets such other requirements as the Commission may, by rule, determine necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors.’’.

(c) AMENDMENTS TO THE INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940.—The Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b-1 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 202(a) (15 U.S.C. 80b-2(a))—

(A) by redesignating the second paragraph (29) as paragraph (31); and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(32) The term ‘crowdfunding vehicle’ has the meaning given the term in section 3(c)(15)(B) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3(c)(15)(B)).

‘‘(33)(A) The term ‘crowdfunding vehicle adviser’ means an investment adviser that acts as an investment adviser solely with respect to crowdfunding vehicles.

‘‘(B) A determination, for the purposes of subparagraph (A), regarding whether an investment adviser acts as an investment adviser solely with respect to crowdfunding vehicles shall not include any consideration of the activity of any affiliate of the investment adviser.’’;

(2) in section 203 (15 U.S.C. 80b-3), by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(o) CROWDFUNDING VEHICLE ADVISERS.—

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—A crowdfunding vehicle adviser shall be required to register under this section.

‘‘(2) TAILORED REQUIREMENTS.—As necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors, and to promote efficiency, competition, and capital formation, the Commission shall tailor the requirements under section 275.206(4)-2 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, with respect to the application of those requirements to a crowdfunding vehicle adviser.’’; and

(3) in section 203A(a) (15 U.S.C. 80b-3a(a))—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ‘‘or’’ at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting ‘‘; or’’; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following: ‘‘(C) is a crowdfunding vehicle adviser.’’; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ‘‘a crowdfunding vehicle adviser,’’ after ‘‘unless the investment adviser is’’; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(ii), in the matter preceding subclause (1), by inserting ‘‘except with respect to a crowdfunding vehicle adviser,’’ before ‘‘has assets’’.

**SEC. 3. CROWDFUNDING EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION.**

Section 12(g)(6) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78l(g)(6)) is amended—

(1) by striking ‘‘The Commission’’ and inserting the following:

‘‘(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission’’;

(2) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, by striking ‘‘section 4(6)’’ and inserting ‘‘section 4(a)(6)’’; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(B) TREATMENT OF SECURITIES ISSUED BY CERTAIN ISSUERS.—

‘‘(i) IN GENERAL.—An exemption under subparagraph (A) shall be unconditional for securities offered by an issuer that had a public float of less than \$75,000,000, as of the last business day of the most recently completed semiannual period of the issuer, which shall be calculated in accordance with clause (ii).

‘‘(ii) CALCULATION.—

‘‘(I) IN GENERAL.—A public float described in clause (i) shall be calculated by multiplying the aggregate worldwide number of shares of the common equity securities of an issuer that are held by non-affiliates by the price at which those securities were last sold (or the average bid and asked prices of those securities) in the principal market for those securities.

‘‘(II) CALCULATION OF ZERO.—If a public float calculation under subclause (I) with respect to an issuer is zero, an exemption under subparagraph (A) shall be unconditional for securities offered by the issuer if the issuer had annual revenues of less than \$50,000,000, as of the most recently completed fiscal year of the issuer.’’.

**SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act may be construed to allow an issuer or a crowdfunding vehicle to offer or sell securities in excess of the limitation described under section 4(a)(6) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77d(a)(6)).

**SEC. 5. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ‘‘Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation’’ for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative

days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous materials therein.

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

There was no objection.

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

First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank our ranking member of the Financial Services Committee, Representative MCHENRY, for his efforts in crafting this very important piece of legislation to help startups finance their operations while still protecting the investors who entrust their hard-earned funds to those companies.

Equity crowdfunding is a high-risk, high-reward investment that allows hundreds, or even thousands, of retail investors to invest in startup companies. But because of the unique and heightened risks posed by crowdfunding, Congress and the Securities and Exchange Commission have put in place guardrails to prevent these less-sophisticated investors from suffering financial ruin while still being able to access this area of the market.

Now, in 2012, Congress cautiously approached equity crowdfunding by creating a number of investor protections in the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act, or the JOBS Act.

The SEC followed our directions and finalized a crowdfunding rule that protects investors by setting reasonable investment limits based on income and provides helpful disclosures for investors to weigh the risks.

This bill aims to enhance the investor and company experience in crowdfunding by authorizing crowdfunding vehicles to pool investors together, allowing them to make joint investments totaling \$1 million in a single business.

These vehicles would be advised by a registered investment adviser with a fiduciary duty to act in the best interests of the fund. Importantly, the investors would have the same rights to sue companies as if they had directly invested in the company itself—a very, very important point, Mr. Speaker.

□ 1645

This bill also clarifies that as long as a crowdfunding company continues to make ongoing disclosures to investors required under SEC's rule, it would not have to make the more detailed public reports until it had either a \$75 million value or \$50 million in revenue. This change is consistent with the levels set under Regulation A, another exempt offering sold to retail investors.

I am very pleased that the bill also incorporates targeted improvements to crowdfunding for all investors and start-ups and lacks problematic provisions that were opposed by consumer advocates like the Consumer Federation of America in previous Congresses, including additional changes that Chairwoman WATERS and our ranking member agreed on this Congress.

Although crowdfunding should be viewed as highly risky in terms of investment, especially for retail investors, this bill will ensure a larger choice of high-quality crowdfunding companies and a higher degree of finance savvy for investors. And, in addition, it may help to ensure compliance with regulation crowdfunding.

Mr. MCHENRY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for his support, and I want to thank the chairwoman of the House Financial Services Committee for her support as well. I am grateful for the work of Chairwoman WATERS and her Financial Services Committee staff for the hard work they have put in to protect investors and help small businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I will include in the RECORD a letter from Republic in support of the bill.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I include the remainder of my statement in the RECORD.

I am pleased the House is taking up my legislation and I would like to thank the gentleman from California, the Chairwoman of the Financial Services Committee, for her sponsorship of this bill.

We have worked together on this bill for three Congresses now.

I appreciate all the hard work that she and her staff have done to make this a bill that works to protect investors and promote small businesses, particularly in communities that are being left behind.

We all agree small businesses and entrepreneurs are America's true job creators.

This is especially true in communities I represent in western North Carolina.

But today, America's small businesses are still struggling to find capital. Small business lending from traditional banks continues to decline, and small business loans in America's small towns are less than half it was merely fifteen years ago.

Investment crowdfunding is one way we can reverse this concerning trend.

In 2012, I wrote the original bill to legalize investment-based crowdfunding, making it easier for businesses to raise capital.

That bill became part of the JOBS Act. Unfortunately, the SEC's final rule contained serious structural flaws that require Congress's immediate attention.

In particular, crowdfunding is suffering from the so-called "12-g problem." The "12 g problem" refers to a section of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which subjects crowdfunding companies to requirements similar to a public company, but at a very low asset threshold.

Our proposed amendment fixes the "12-g problem" by raising the asset threshold for both small businesses that already have revenue, and for those startups that do not. This makes it more likely that high-growth companies will consider crowdfunding as an option for raising capital.

Another significant problem for crowdfunding is that, under the SEC rule, single purpose funds are not permitted.

Single purpose funds allow Main street investors to invest along with more sophisticated

lead investors who have an obligation to advocate for their best interests.

That means better terms and greater transparency for the investors.

A single purpose fund also improves the capitalization table for companies that hope to attract venture capital in the future.

Although the bill does not include everything I would have hoped, we worked hard to find a compromise that addresses the most urgent problems with investment crowdfunding that need correcting now.

To that end, I want to thank Chairwoman WATERS again for her continued support on this important, bipartisan compromise.

This bill shows that we can work together in a bipartisan way to help American small businesses in seeking to raise capital by connecting folks not just in their local communities, but across America.

I am pleased that this legislation enjoys support from my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

I urge my colleagues to join us in support of this bill.

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

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to vote for this bill, and I want to commend the ranking member for his excellent work.

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. DAVID SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4860, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### COORDINATING OVERSIGHT, UPGRADING AND INNOVATING TECHNOLOGY, AND EXAMINER REFORM ACT OF 2019

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2514) to make reforms to the Federal Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering laws, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2514

*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 "Coordinating Oversight, Upgrading and Innovating Technology, and Examiner Reform Act of 2019" or the "COUNTER Act of 2019".

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

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
  - Sec. 2. Bank Secrecy Act definition.
  - Sec. 3. Determination of Budgetary Effects.
- TITLE I—STRENGTHENING TREASURY
- Sec. 101. Improving the definition and purpose of the Bank Secrecy Act.
  - Sec. 102. Special hiring authority.
  - Sec. 103. Civil Liberties and Privacy Officer.



- Sec. 104. Civil Liberties and Privacy Council.
- Sec. 105. International coordination.
- Sec. 106. Treasury Attachés Program.
- Sec. 107. Increasing technical assistance for international cooperation.
- Sec. 108. FinCEN Domestic Liaisons.
- Sec. 109. FinCEN Exchange.
- Sec. 110. Study and strategy on trade-based money laundering.
- Sec. 111. Study and strategy on de-risking.
- Sec. 112. AML examination authority delegation study.
- Sec. 113. Study and strategy on Chinese money laundering.

**TITLE II—IMPROVING AML/CFT OVERSIGHT**

- Sec. 201. Pilot program on sharing of suspicious activity reports within a financial group.
- Sec. 202. Sharing of compliance resources.
- Sec. 203. GAO Study on feedback loops.
- Sec. 204. FinCEN study on BSA value.
- Sec. 205. Sharing of threat pattern and trend information.
- Sec. 206. Modernization and upgrading whistleblower protections.
- Sec. 207. Certain violators barred from serving on boards of United States financial institutions.
- Sec. 208. Additional damages for repeat Bank Secrecy Act violators.
- Sec. 209. Justice annual report on deferred and non-prosecution agreements.
- Sec. 210. Return of profits and bonuses.
- Sec. 211. Application of Bank Secrecy Act to dealers in antiquities.
- Sec. 212. Geographic targeting order.
- Sec. 213. Study and revisions to currency transaction reports and suspicious activity reports.
- Sec. 214. Streamlining requirements for currency transaction reports and suspicious activity reports.

**TITLE III—MODERNIZING THE AML SYSTEM**

- Sec. 301. Encouraging innovation in BSA compliance.
- Sec. 302. Innovation Labs.
- Sec. 303. Innovation Council.
- Sec. 304. Testing methods rulemaking.
- Sec. 305. FinCEN study on use of emerging technologies.
- Sec. 306. Discretionary surplus funds.

**SEC. 2. BANK SECRECY ACT DEFINITION.**

Section 5312(a) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(7) **BANK SECRECY ACT.**—The term ‘Bank Secrecy act’ means—

“(A) section 21 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act;

“(B) chapter 2 of title I of Public Law 91-508; and

“(C) this subchapter.”.

**SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

**TITLE I—STRENGTHENING TREASURY**

**SEC. 101. IMPROVING THE DEFINITION AND PURPOSE OF THE BANK SECRECY ACT.**

Section 5311 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting “to protect our national security, to safeguard the integrity of the international financial system, and” before “to require”; and

(2) by inserting “to law enforcement and” before “in criminal”.

**SEC. 102. SPECIAL HIRING AUTHORITY.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 310 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (g); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) **SPECIAL HIRING AUTHORITY.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of the Treasury may appoint, without regard to the provisions of sections 3309 through 3318 of title 5, candidates directly to positions in the competitive service (as defined in section 2102 of that title) in FinCEN.

“(2) **PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES.**—The primary responsibility of candidates appointed pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be to provide substantive support in support of the duties described in subparagraphs (A), (B), (E), and (F) of subsection (b)(2).”.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 360 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter for 7 years, the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network shall submit a report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate that includes—

(1) the number of new employees hired since the preceding report through the authorities described under section 310(d) of title 31, United States Code, along with position titles and associated pay grades for such hires; and

(2) a copy of any Federal Government survey of staff perspectives at the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, including findings regarding the Office and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network from the most recently administered Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey.

**SEC. 103. CIVIL LIBERTIES AND PRIVACY OFFICER.**

(a) **APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.**—Not later than the end of the 3-month period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, a Civil Liberties and Privacy Officer shall be appointed, from among individuals who are attorneys with expertise in data privacy laws—

(1) within each Federal functional regulator, by the head of the Federal functional regulator;

(2) within the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, by the Secretary of the Treasury; and

(3) within the Internal Revenue Service Small Business and Self-Employed Tax Center, by the Secretary of the Treasury.

(b) **DUTIES.**—Each Civil Liberties and Privacy Officer shall, with respect to the applicable regulator, Network, or Center within which the Officer is located—

(1) be consulted each time Bank Secrecy Act or anti-money laundering regulations affecting civil liberties or privacy are developed or reviewed;

(2) be consulted on information-sharing programs, including those that provide access to personally identifiable information;

(3) ensure coordination and clarity between anti-money laundering, civil liberties, and privacy regulations;

(4) contribute to the evaluation and regulation of new technologies that may strengthen data privacy and the protection of personally identifiable information collected by each Federal functional regulator; and

(5) develop metrics of program success.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this section:

(1) **BANK SECRECY ACT.**—The term “Bank Secrecy Act” has the meaning given that term under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code.

(2) **FEDERAL FUNCTIONAL REGULATOR.**—The term “Federal functional regulator” means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the National Credit Union Administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**SEC. 104. CIVIL LIBERTIES AND PRIVACY COUNCIL.**

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established the Civil Liberties and Privacy Council (hereinafter in this section referred to as the “Council”), which shall consist of the Civil Liberties and Privacy Officers appointed pursuant to section 103.

(b) **CHAIR.**—The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network shall serve as the Chair of the Council.

(c) **DUTY.**—The members of the Council shall coordinate on activities related to their duties as Civil Liberties Privacy Officers, but may not supplant the individual agency determinations on civil liberties and privacy.

(d) **MEETINGS.**—The meetings of the Council—

(1) shall be at the call of the Chair, but in no case may the Council meet less than quarterly;

(2) may include open and partially closed sessions, as determined necessary by the Council; and

(3) shall include participation by public and private entities, law enforcement agencies, and a representative of State bank supervisors (as defined under section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813)).

(e) **REPORT.**—The Chair of the Council shall issue an annual report to the Congress on the program and policy activities, including the success of programs as measured by metrics of program success developed pursuant to section 103(b)(5), of the Council during the previous year and any legislative recommendations that the Council may have.

(f) **NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACAA.**—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Council.

**SEC. 105. INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of the Treasury shall work with the Secretary’s foreign counterparts, including through the Financial Action Task Force, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the United Nations, to promote stronger anti-money laundering frameworks and enforcement of anti-money laundering laws.

(b) **COOPERATION GOAL.**—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury may work directly with foreign counterparts and other organizations where the goal of cooperation can best be met.

(c) **INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND.**—

(1) **SUPPORT FOR CAPACITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND TO PREVENT MONEY LAUNDERING AND FINANCING OF TERRORISM.**—Title XVI of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262p et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 1629. SUPPORT FOR CAPACITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND TO PREVENT MONEY LAUNDERING AND FINANCING OF TERRORISM.**

“The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund to support the increased use of the administrative budget of the Fund for technical assistance that strengthens the capacity of Fund members to prevent money laundering and the financing of terrorism.”.

(2) NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Chairman of the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Policies shall include in the report required by section 1701 of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262r) a description of—

(A) the activities of the International Monetary Fund in the most recently completed fiscal year to provide technical assistance that strengthens the capacity of Fund members to prevent money laundering and the financing of terrorism, and the effectiveness of the assistance; and

(B) the efficacy of efforts by the United States to support such technical assistance through the use of the Fund's administrative budget, and the level of such support.

(3) SUNSET.—Effective on the date that is the end of the 4-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, section 1629 of the International Financial Institutions Act, as added by paragraph (1), is repealed.

#### SEC. 106. TREASURY ATTACHÉS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 315 the following:

##### “§ 316. Treasury Attachés Program

“(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established the Treasury Attachés Program, under which the Secretary of the Treasury shall appoint employees of the Department of the Treasury, after nomination by the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (‘FinCEN’), as a Treasury attaché, who shall—

“(1) be knowledgeable about the Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering issues;

“(2) be co-located in a United States embassy;

“(3) perform outreach with respect to Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering issues;

“(4) establish and maintain relationships with foreign counterparts, including employees of ministries of finance, central banks, and other relevant official entities;

“(5) conduct outreach to local and foreign financial institutions and other commercial actors, including—

“(A) information exchanges through FinCEN and FinCEN programs; and

“(B) soliciting buy-in and cooperation for the implementation of—

“(i) United States and multilateral sanctions; and

“(ii) international standards on anti-money laundering and the countering of the financing of terrorism; and

“(6) perform such other actions as the Secretary determines appropriate.

“(b) NUMBER OF ATTACHÉS.—The number of Treasury attachés appointed under this section at any one time shall be not fewer than 6 more employees than the number of employees of the Department of the Treasury serving as Treasury attachés on March 1, 2019.

“(c) COMPENSATION.—Each Treasury attaché appointed under this section and located at a United States embassy shall receive compensation at the higher of—

“(1) the rate of compensation provided to a Foreign Service officer at a comparable career level serving at the same embassy; or

“(2) the rate of compensation the Treasury attaché would otherwise have received, absent the application of this subsection.

“(d) BANK SECRECY ACT DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘Bank Secrecy Act’ has the meaning given that term under section 5312.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for chapter 3 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 315 the following:

“316. Treasury Attachés Program.”.

#### SEC. 107. INCREASING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024 to the Secretary of the Treasury for purposes of providing technical assistance that promotes compliance with international standards and best practices, including in particular those aimed at the establishment of effective anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism regimes, in an amount equal to twice the amount authorized for such purpose for fiscal year 2019.

(b) ACTIVITY AND EVALUATION REPORT.—Not later than 360 days after enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter for five years, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue a report to the Congress on the assistance (as described under subsection (a)) of the Office of Technical Assistance of the Department of the Treasury containing—

(1) a narrative detailing the strategic goals of the Office in the previous year, with an explanation of how technical assistance provided in the previous year advances the goals;

(2) a description of technical assistance provided by the Office in the previous year, including the objectives and delivery methods of the assistance;

(3) a list of beneficiaries and providers (other than Office staff) of the technical assistance;

(4) a description of how technical assistance provided by the Office complements, duplicates, or otherwise affects or is affected by technical assistance provided by the international financial institutions (as defined under section 1701(c) of the International Financial Institutions Act); and

(5) a copy of any Federal Government survey of staff perspectives at the Office of Technical Assistance, including any findings regarding the Office from the most recently administered Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey.

#### SEC. 108. FINCEN DOMESTIC LIAISONS.

Section 310 of title 31, United States Code, as amended by section 102, is further amended by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) FINCEN DOMESTIC LIAISONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of FinCEN shall appoint at least 6 senior FinCEN employees as FinCEN Domestic Liaisons, who shall—

“(A) each be assigned to focus on a specific region of the United States;

“(B) be located at an office in such region (or co-located at an office of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in such region); and

“(C) perform outreach to BSA officers at financial institutions (including non-bank financial institutions) and persons who are not financial institutions, especially with respect to actions taken by FinCEN that require specific actions by, or have specific effects on, such institutions or persons, as determined by the Director.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) BSA OFFICER.—The term ‘BSA officer’ means an employee of a financial institution whose primary job responsibility involves compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act, as such term is defined under section 5312.

“(B) FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term ‘financial institution’ has the meaning given that term under section 5312.”

#### SEC. 109. FINCEN EXCHANGE.

Section 310 of title 31, United States Code, as amended by section 108, is further amended by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) FINCEN EXCHANGE.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The FinCEN Exchange is hereby established within FinCEN, which shall consist of the FinCEN Exchange program of FinCEN in existence on the day before the date of enactment of this paragraph.

“(2) PURPOSE.—The FinCEN Exchange shall facilitate a voluntary public-private information sharing partnership among law enforcement, financial institutions, and FinCEN to—

“(A) effectively and efficiently combat money laundering, terrorism financing, organized crime, and other financial crimes;

“(B) protect the financial system from illicit use; and

“(C) promote national security.

“(3) REPORT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter for the next five years, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a report containing—

“(i) an analysis of the efforts undertaken by the FinCEN Exchange and the results of such efforts;

“(ii) an analysis of the extent and effectiveness of the FinCEN Exchange, including any benefits realized by law enforcement from partnership with financial institutions; and

“(iii) any legislative, administrative, or other recommendations the Secretary may have to strengthen FinCEN Exchange efforts.

“(B) CLASSIFIED ANNEX.—Each report under subparagraph (A) may include a classified annex.

“(4) INFORMATION SHARING REQUIREMENT.—Information shared pursuant to this subsection shall be shared in compliance with all other applicable Federal laws and regulations.

“(5) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing under this subsection may be construed to create new information sharing authorities related to the Bank Secrecy Act (as such term is defined under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code).

“(6) FINANCIAL INSTITUTION DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘financial institution’ has the meaning given that term under section 5312.”

#### SEC. 110. STUDY AND STRATEGY ON TRADE-BASED MONEY LAUNDERING.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall carry out a study, in consultation with appropriate private sector stakeholders and Federal departments and agencies, on trade-based money laundering.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue a report to the Congress containing—

(1) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a); and

(2) proposed strategies to combat trade-based money laundering.

(c) CLASSIFIED ANNEX.—The report required under this section may include a classified annex.

(d) CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may contract with a private third party to carry out the study required under this section. The authority of the Secretary to enter into contracts under this subsection shall be in effect for each fiscal year only to the extent and in the amounts as are provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

#### SEC. 111. STUDY AND STRATEGY ON DE-RISKING.

(a) REVIEW.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with appropriate private

sector stakeholders, examiners, the Federal functional regulators (as defined under section 103), State bank supervisors, and other relevant stakeholders, shall undertake a formal review of—

(1) any adverse consequences of financial institutions de-risking entire categories of relationships, including charities, embassy accounts, money services businesses (as defined under section 1010.100(ff) of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations) and their agents, countries, international and domestic regions, and respondent banks;

(2) the reasons why financial institutions are engaging in de-risking;

(3) the association with and effects of de-risking on money laundering and financial crime actors and activities;

(4) the most appropriate ways to promote financial inclusion, particularly with respect to developing countries, while maintaining compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act, including an assessment of policy options to—

(A) more effectively tailor Federal actions and penalties to the size of foreign financial institutions and any capacity limitations of foreign governments; and

(B) reduce compliance costs that may lead to the adverse consequences described in paragraph (1);

(5) formal and informal feedback provided by examiners that may have led to de-risking;

(6) the relationship between resources dedicated to compliance and overall sophistication of compliance efforts at entities that may be experiencing de-risking versus those that have not experienced de-risking; and

(7) any best practices from the private sector that facilitate correspondent bank relationships.

(b) **DE-RISKING STRATEGY.**—The Secretary shall develop a strategy to reduce de-risking and adverse consequences related to de-risking.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Federal functional regulators, State bank supervisors, and other relevant stakeholders, shall issue a report to the Congress containing—

(1) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a); and

(2) the strategy developed pursuant to subsection (b).

(d) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **DE-RISKING.**—The term “de-risking” means the wholesale closing of accounts or limiting of financial services for a category of customer due to unsubstantiated risk as it relates to compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act.

(2) **BSA TERMS.**—The terms “Bank Secrecy Act” and “financial institution” have the meaning given those terms, respectively, under section 5312 off title 31, United States Code.

(3) **STATE BANK SUPERVISOR.**—The term “State bank supervisor” has the meaning given that term under section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).

**SEC. 112. AML EXAMINATION AUTHORITY DELEGATION STUDY.**

(a) **STUDY.**—The Secretary of the Treasury shall carry out a study, in consultation with State bank supervisors (as defined under section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813)), and other relevant stakeholders, on the Secretary’s delegation of examination authority under the Bank Secrecy Act, including—

(1) an evaluation of the efficacy of the delegation, especially with respect to the mission of the Bank Secrecy Act;

(2) whether the delegated agencies have appropriate resources to perform their delegated responsibilities; and

(3) whether the examiners in delegated agencies have sufficient training and support to perform their responsibilities.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a report containing—

(1) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a); and

(2) recommendations to improve the efficacy of delegation authority, including the potential for de-delegation of any or all such authority where it may be appropriate.

(c) **BANK SECRECY ACT DEFINED.**—The term “Bank Secrecy Act” has the meaning given that term under section 5312 off title 31, United States Code.

**SEC. 113. STUDY AND STRATEGY ON CHINESE MONEY LAUNDERING.**

(a) **STUDY.**—The Secretary of the Treasury shall carry out a study on the extent and effect of Chinese money laundering activities in the United States, including territories and possessions of the United States, and worldwide.

(b) **STRATEGY TO COMBAT CHINESE MONEY LAUNDERING.**—Upon the completion of the study required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall, in consultation with such other Federal departments and agencies as the Secretary determines appropriate, develop a strategy to combat Chinese money laundering activities.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue a report to Congress containing—

(1) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a); and

(2) the strategy developed under subsection (b).

**TITLE II—IMPROVING AML/CFT OVERSIGHT**

**SEC. 201. PILOT PROGRAM ON SHARING OF SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTS WITHIN A FINANCIAL GROUP.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—

(1) **SHARING WITH FOREIGN BRANCHES AND AFFILIATES.**—Section 5318(g) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) **PILOT PROGRAM ON SHARING WITH FOREIGN BRANCHES, SUBSIDIARIES, AND AFFILIATES.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of the Treasury shall issue rules establishing the pilot program described under subparagraph (B), subject to such controls and restrictions as the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network determines appropriate, including controls and restrictions regarding participation by financial institutions and jurisdictions in the pilot program. In prescribing such rules, the Secretary shall ensure that the sharing of information described under such subparagraph (B) is subject to appropriate standards and requirements regarding data security and the confidentiality of personally identifiable information.

“(B) **PILOT PROGRAM DESCRIBED.**—The pilot program required under this paragraph shall—

“(i) permit a financial institution with a reporting obligation under this subsection to share reports (and information on such reports) under this subsection with the institution’s foreign branches, subsidiaries, and af-

filates for the purpose of combating illicit finance risks, notwithstanding any other provision of law except subparagraphs (A) and (C);

“(ii) terminate on the date that is five years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, except that the Secretary may extend the pilot program for up to two years upon submitting a report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate that includes—

“(I) a certification that the extension is in the national interest of the United States, with a detailed explanation of the reasons therefor;

“(II) an evaluation of the usefulness of the pilot program, including a detailed analysis of any illicit activity identified or prevented as a result of the program; and

“(III) a detailed legislative proposal providing for a long-term extension of the pilot program activities, including expected budgetary resources for the activities, if the Secretary determines that a long-term extension is appropriate.

“(C) **PROHIBITION INVOLVING CERTAIN JURISDICTIONS.**—In issuing the regulations required under subparagraph (A), the Secretary may not permit a financial institution to share information on reports under this subsection with a foreign branch, subsidiary, or affiliate located in—

“(i) the People’s Republic of China;

“(ii) the Russian Federation; or

“(iii) a jurisdiction that—

“(I) is subject to countermeasures imposed by the Federal Government;

“(II) is a state sponsor of terrorism; or

“(III) the Secretary has determined cannot reasonably protect the privacy and confidentiality of such information or would otherwise use such information in a manner that is not consistent with the national interest of the United States.

“(D) **IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES.**—Not later than 360 days after the date rules are issued under subparagraph (A), and annually thereafter for three years, the Secretary, or the Secretary’s designee, shall brief the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate on—

“(i) the degree of any information sharing permitted under the pilot program, and a description of criteria used by the Secretary to evaluate the appropriateness of the information sharing;

“(ii) the effectiveness of the pilot program in identifying or preventing the violation of a United States law or regulation, and mechanisms that may improve such effectiveness; and

“(iii) any recommendations to amend the design of the pilot program.

“(E) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as limiting the Secretary’s authority under provisions of law other than this paragraph to establish other permissible purposes or methods for a financial institution sharing reports (and information on such reports) under this subsection with the institution’s foreign headquarters or with other branches of the same institution.

“(F) **NOTICE OF USE OF OTHER AUTHORITY.**—If the Secretary, pursuant to any authority other than that provided under this paragraph, permits a financial institution to share information on reports under this subsection with a foreign branch, subsidiary, or affiliate located in a foreign jurisdiction, the

Secretary shall notify the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of such permission and the applicable foreign jurisdiction.

“(6) TREATMENT OF FOREIGN JURISDICTION-ORIGINATED REPORTS.—A report received by a financial institution from a foreign affiliate with respect to a suspicious transaction relevant to a possible violation of law or regulation shall be subject to the same confidentiality requirements provided under this subsection for a report of a suspicious transaction described under paragraph (1).”

(2) NOTIFICATION PROHIBITIONS.—Section 5318(g)(2)(A) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting after “transaction has been reported” the following: “or otherwise reveal any information that would reveal that the transaction has been reported”; and

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting after “transaction has been reported,” the following: “or otherwise reveal any information that would reveal that the transaction has been reported.”

(b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than the end of the 360-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue regulations to carry out the amendments made by this section.

#### SEC. 202. SHARING OF COMPLIANCE RESOURCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5318 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) SHARING OF COMPLIANCE RESOURCES.—

“(1) SHARING PERMITTED.—Two or more financial institutions may enter into collaborative arrangements in order to more efficiently comply with the requirements of this subchapter.

“(2) OUTREACH.—The Secretary of the Treasury and the appropriate supervising agencies shall carry out an outreach program to provide financial institutions with information, including best practices, with respect to the sharing of resources described under paragraph (1).”

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) may not be construed to require financial institutions to share resources.

#### SEC. 203. GAO STUDY ON FEEDBACK LOOPS.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall carry out a study on—

(1) best practices within the United States Government for providing feedback (“feedback loop”) to relevant parties (including regulated private entities) on the usage and usefulness of personally identifiable information (“PII”), sensitive-but-unclassified (“SBU”) data, or similar information provided by such parties to Government users of such information and data (including law enforcement or regulators); and

(2) any practices or standards inside or outside the United States for providing feedback through sensitive information and public-private partnership information sharing efforts, specifically related to efforts to combat money laundering and other forms of illicit finance.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 18-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall issue a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives containing—

(1) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a);

(2) with respect to each of paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a), any best practices

or significant concerns identified by the Comptroller General, and their applicability to public-private partnerships and feedback loops with respect to U.S. efforts to combat money laundering and other forms of illicit finance; and

(3) recommendations to reduce or eliminate any unnecessary Government collection of the information described under subsection (a)(1).

#### SEC. 204. FINCEN STUDY ON BSA VALUE.

(a) STUDY.—The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network shall carry out a study on Bank Secrecy Act value.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date the study under subsection (a) is completed, the Director shall issue a report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate containing all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under this section.

(c) CLASSIFIED ANNEX.—The report required under this section may include a classified annex, if the Director determines it appropriate.

(d) BANK SECRECY ACT DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term “Bank Secrecy Act” has the meaning given that term under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code.

#### SEC. 205. SHARING OF THREAT PATTERN AND TREND INFORMATION.

Section 5318(g) of title 31, United States Code, as amended by section 201(a)(1), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(7) SHARING OF THREAT PATTERN AND TREND INFORMATION.—

“(A) SAR ACTIVITY REVIEW.—The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network shall restart publication of the ‘SAR Activity Review – Trends, Tips & Issues’, on not less than a semi-annual basis, to provide meaningful information about the preparation, use, and value of reports filed under this subsection by financial institutions, as well as other reports filed by financial institutions under the Bank Secrecy Act.

“(B) INCLUSION OF TYPOLOGIES.—In each publication described under subparagraph (A), the Director shall provide financial institutions with typologies, including data that can be adapted in algorithms (including for artificial intelligence and machine learning programs) where appropriate, on emerging money laundering and counter terror financing threat patterns and trends.

“(C) TYPOLOGY DEFINED.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘typology’ means the various techniques used to launder money or finance terrorism.”

#### SEC. 206. MODERNIZATION AND UPGRADING WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS.

(a) REWARDS.—Section 5323(d) of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(d) SOURCE OF REWARDS.—For the purposes of paying a reward under this section, the Secretary may, subject to amounts made available in advance by appropriation Acts, use criminal fine, civil penalty, or forfeiture amounts recovered based on the original information with respect to which the reward is being paid.”

(b) WHISTLEBLOWER INCENTIVES.—

Chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting after section 5323 the following:

#### “§ 5323A. Whistleblower incentives

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COVERED JUDICIAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION.—The term ‘covered judicial or administrative action’ means any judicial or

administrative action brought by FinCEN under the Bank Secrecy Act that results in monetary sanctions exceeding \$1,000,000.

“(2) FINCEN.—The term ‘FinCEN’ means the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

“(3) MONETARY SANCTIONS.—The term ‘monetary sanctions’, when used with respect to any judicial or administrative action, means—

“(A) any monies, including penalties, disgorgement, and interest, ordered to be paid; and

“(B) any monies deposited into a disgorgement fund as a result of such action or any settlement of such action.

“(4) ORIGINAL INFORMATION.—The term ‘original information’ means information that—

“(A) is derived from the independent knowledge or analysis of a whistleblower;

“(B) is not known to FinCEN from any other source, unless the whistleblower is the original source of the information; and

“(C) is not exclusively derived from an allegation made in a judicial or administrative hearing, in a governmental report, hearing, audit, or investigation, or from the news media, unless the whistleblower is a source of the information.

“(5) RELATED ACTION.—The term ‘related action’, when used with respect to any judicial or administrative action brought by FinCEN, means any judicial or administrative action that is based upon original information provided by a whistleblower that led to the successful enforcement of the action.

“(6) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of the Treasury.

“(7) WHISTLEBLOWER.—The term ‘whistleblower’ means any individual who provides, or 2 or more individuals acting jointly who provide, information relating to a violation of laws enforced by FinCEN, in a manner established, by rule or regulation, by FinCEN.

“(b) AWARDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In any covered judicial or administrative action, or related action, the Secretary, under such rules as the Secretary may issue and subject to subsection (c), shall pay an award or awards to 1 or more whistleblowers who voluntarily provided original information to FinCEN that led to the successful enforcement of the covered judicial or administrative action, or related action, in an aggregate amount equal to not more than 30 percent, in total, of what has been collected of the monetary sanctions imposed in the action.

“(2) SOURCE OF AWARDS.—For the purposes of paying any award under paragraph (1), the Secretary may, subject to amounts made available in advance by appropriation Acts, use monetary sanction amounts recovered based on the original information with respect to which the award is being paid.

“(c) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF AWARD; DENIAL OF AWARD.—

“(1) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF AWARD.—

“(A) DISCRETION.—The determination of the amount of an award made under subsection (b) shall be in the discretion of the Secretary.

“(B) CRITERIA.—In responding to a disclosure and determining the amount of an award made, FinCEN staff shall meet with the whistleblower to discuss evidence disclosed and rebuttals to the disclosure, and shall take into consideration—

“(i) the significance of the information provided by the whistleblower to the success of the covered judicial or administrative action;

“(ii) the degree of assistance provided by the whistleblower and any legal representative of the whistleblower in a covered judicial or administrative action;

“(iii) the mission of FinCEN in deterring violations of the law by making awards to whistleblowers who provide information that lead to the successful enforcement of such laws; and

“(iv) such additional relevant factors as the Secretary may establish by rule.

“(2) DENIAL OF AWARD.—No award under subsection (b) shall be made—

“(A) to any whistleblower who is, or was at the time the whistleblower acquired the original information submitted to FinCEN, a member, officer, or employee of—

“(i) an appropriate regulatory agency;

“(ii) the Department of Justice;

“(iii) a self-regulatory organization; or

“(iv) a law enforcement organization;

“(B) to any whistleblower who is convicted of a criminal violation, or who the Secretary has a reasonable basis to believe committed a criminal violation, related to the judicial or administrative action for which the whistleblower otherwise could receive an award under this section;

“(C) to any whistleblower who gains the information through the performance of an audit of financial statements required under the Bank Secrecy Act and for whom such submission would be contrary to its requirements; or

“(D) to any whistleblower who fails to submit information to FinCEN in such form as the Secretary may, by rule, require.

“(3) STATEMENT OF REASONS.—For any decision granting or denying an award, the Secretary shall provide to the whistleblower a statement of reasons that includes findings of fact and conclusions of law for all material issues.

“(d) REPRESENTATION.—

“(1) PERMITTED REPRESENTATION.—Any whistleblower who makes a claim for an award under subsection (b) may be represented by counsel.

“(2) REQUIRED REPRESENTATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any whistleblower who anonymously makes a claim for an award under subsection (b) shall be represented by counsel if the whistleblower anonymously submits the information upon which the claim is based.

“(B) DISCLOSURE OF IDENTITY.—Prior to the payment of an award, a whistleblower shall disclose their identity and provide such other information as the Secretary may require, directly or through counsel for the whistleblower.

“(e) APPEALS.—Any determination made under this section, including whether, to whom, or in what amount to make awards, shall be in the discretion of the Secretary. Any such determination, except the determination of the amount of an award if the award was made in accordance with subsection (b), may be appealed to the appropriate court of appeals of the United States not more than 30 days after the determination is issued by the Secretary. The court shall review the determination made by the Secretary in accordance with section 706 of title 5.

“(f) EMPLOYEE PROTECTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall issue regulations protecting a whistleblower from retaliation, which shall be as close as practicable to the employee protections provided for under section 1057 of the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010.”; and

(2) in the table of contents for such chapter, by inserting after the item relating to section 5323 the following new item:

“5323A. Whistleblower incentives.”.

**SEC. 207. CERTAIN VIOLATORS BARRED FROM SERVING ON BOARDS OF UNITED STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**

Section 5321 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) CERTAIN VIOLATORS BARRED FROM SERVING ON BOARDS OF UNITED STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An individual found to have committed an egregious violation of a provision of (or rule issued under) the Bank Secrecy Act shall be barred from serving on the board of directors of a United States financial institution for a 10-year period beginning on the date of such finding.

“(2) EGREGIOUS VIOLATION DEFINED.—With respect to an individual, the term ‘egregious violation’ means—

“(A) a felony criminal violation for which the individual was convicted; and

“(B) a civil violation where the individual willfully committed such violation and the violation facilitated money laundering or the financing of terrorism.”.

**SEC. 208. ADDITIONAL DAMAGES FOR REPEAT BANK SECRECY ACT VIOLATORS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5321 of title 31, United States Code, as amended by section 208, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) ADDITIONAL DAMAGES FOR REPEAT VIOLATORS.—In addition to any other fines permitted by this section and section 5322, with respect to a person who has previously been convicted of a criminal provision of (or rule issued under) the Bank Secrecy Act or who has admitted, as part of a deferred- or non-prosecution agreement, to having previously committed a violation of a criminal provision of (or rule issued under) the Bank Secrecy Act, the Secretary may impose an additional civil penalty against such person for each additional such violation in an amount equal to up three times the profit gained or loss avoided by such person as a result of the violation.”.

(b) PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION OF AMENDMENT.—For purposes of determining whether a person has committed a previous violation under section 5321(g) of title 31, United States Code, such determination shall only include violations occurring after the date of enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 209. JUSTICE ANNUAL REPORT ON DEFERRED AND NON-PROSECUTION AGREEMENTS.**

(a) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Attorney General shall issue an annual report, every year for the five years beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, to the Committees on Financial Services and the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Judiciary of the Senate containing—

(1) a list of deferred prosecution agreements and non-prosecution agreements that the Attorney General has entered into during the previous year with any person with respect to a violation or suspected violation of the Bank Secrecy Act;

(2) the justification for entering into each such agreement;

(3) the list of factors that were taken into account in determining that the Attorney General should enter into each such agreement; and

(4) the extent of coordination the Attorney General conducted with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network prior to entering into each such agreement.

(b) CLASSIFIED ANNEX.—Each report under subsection (a) may include a classified annex.

(c) BANK SECRECY ACT DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term “Bank Secrecy Act” has the meaning given that term under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code.

**SEC. 210. RETURN OF PROFITS AND BONUSES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5322 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) RETURN OF PROFITS AND BONUSES.—A person convicted of violating a provision of (or rule issued under) the Bank Secrecy Act shall—

“(1) in addition to any other fine under this section, be fined in an amount equal to the profit gained by such person by reason of such violation, as determined by the court; and

“(2) if such person is an individual who was a partner, director, officer, or employee of a financial institution at the time the violation occurred, repay to such financial institution any bonus paid to such individual during the Federal fiscal year in which the violation occurred or the Federal fiscal year after which the violation occurred.”.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) may not be construed to prohibit a financial institution from requiring the repayment of a bonus paid to a partner, director, officer, or employee if the financial institution determines that the partner, director, officer, or employee engaged in unethical, but non-criminal, activities.

**SEC. 211. APPLICATION OF BANK SECRECY ACT TO DEALERS IN ANTIQUITIES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5312(a)(2) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (Y), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (Z) as subparagraph (AA); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (Y) the following:

“(Z) a person trading or acting as an intermediary in the trade of antiquities, including an advisor, consultant or any other person who engages as a business in the solicitation of the sale of antiquities; or”.

(b) STUDY ON THE FACILITATION OF MONEY LAUNDERING AND TERROR FINANCE THROUGH THE TRADE OF WORKS OF ART OR ANTIQUITIES.—

(1) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in coordination with Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Attorney General, and Homeland Security Investigations, shall perform a study on the facilitation of money laundering and terror finance through the trade of works of art or antiquities, including an analysis of—

(A) the extent to which the facilitation of money laundering and terror finance through the trade of works of art or antiquities may enter or affect the financial system of the United States, including any qualitative data or statistics;

(B) whether thresholds and definitions should apply in determining which entities to regulate;

(C) an evaluation of which markets, by size, entity type, domestic or international geographical locations, or otherwise, should be subject to regulations, but only to the extent such markets are not already required to report on the trade of works of art or antiquities to the Federal Government;

(D) an evaluation of whether certain exemptions should apply; and

(E) any other points of study or analysis the Secretary determines necessary or appropriate.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue a report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate containing all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under paragraph (1).

(c) RULEMAKING.—Not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date the Secretary issues the report required under subsection (b)(2), the Secretary shall issue

regulations to carry out the amendments made by subsection (a).

#### SEC. 212. GEOGRAPHIC TARGETING ORDER.

The Secretary of the Treasury shall issue a geographic targeting order, similar to the order issued by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network on November 15, 2018, that—

(1) applies to commercial real estate to the same extent, with the exception of having the same thresholds, as the order issued by FinCEN on November 15, 2018, applies to residential real estate; and

(2) establishes a specific threshold for commercial real estate.

#### SEC. 213. STUDY AND REVISIONS TO CURRENCY TRANSACTION REPORTS AND SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTS.

(a) CURRENCY TRANSACTION REPORTS.—

(1) CTR INDEXED FOR INFLATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Every 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall revise regulations issued with respect to section 5313 of title 31, United States Code, to update each \$10,000 threshold amount in such regulation to reflect the change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Department of Labor, rounded to the nearest \$100. For purposes of calculating the change described in the previous sentence, the Secretary shall use \$10,000 as the base amount and the date of enactment of this Act as the base date.

(B) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary may make appropriate adjustments to the threshold amounts described under subparagraph (A) in high-risk areas (e.g., High Intensity Financial Crime Areas or HIFCAs), if the Secretary has demonstrable evidence that shows a threshold raise would increase serious crimes, such as trafficking, or endanger national security.

(2) GAO CTR STUDY.—

(A) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall carry out a study of currency transaction reports. Such study shall include—

(i) a review (carried out in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, the United States Attorney General, the State Attorneys General, and State, Tribal, and local law enforcement) of the effectiveness of the current currency transaction reporting regime;

(ii) an analysis of the importance of currency transaction reports to law enforcement; and

(iii) an analysis of the effects of raising the currency transaction report threshold.

(B) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall issue a report to the Secretary of the Treasury and the Congress containing—

(i) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) recommendations for improving the current currency transaction reporting regime.

(b) MODIFIED SARs STUDY AND DESIGN.—

(1) STUDY.—The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network shall carry out a study, in consultation with industry stakeholders (including money services businesses, community banks, and credit unions), the Federal functional regulators, State bank supervisors, and law enforcement, of the design of a modified suspicious activity report form for certain customers and activities. Such study shall include—

(A) an examination of appropriate optimal SARs thresholds to determine the level at which a modified SARs form could be employed;

(B) an evaluation of which customers or transactions would be appropriate for a modified SAR, including—

(i) seasoned business customers;

(ii) financial technology (Fintech) firms;

(iii) structuring transactions; and

(iv) any other customer or transaction that may be appropriate for a modified SAR; and

(C) an analysis of the most effective methods to reduce the regulatory burden imposed on financial institutions in complying with the Bank Secrecy Act, including an analysis of the effect of—

(i) modifying thresholds;

(ii) shortening forms;

(iii) combining Bank Secrecy Act forms;

(iv) filing reports in periodic batches; and

(v) any other method that may reduce the regulatory burden.

(2) STUDY CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out the study required under paragraph (1), the Director shall seek to balance law enforcement priorities, regulatory burdens experienced by financial institutions, and the requirement for reports to have a “high degree of usefulness to law enforcement” under the Bank Secrecy Act.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall issue a report to Congress containing—

(A) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a); and

(B) sample designs of modified SARs forms based on the study results.

(4) CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.—The Director may contract with a private third-party to carry out the study required under this subsection. The authority of the Director to enter into contracts under this paragraph shall be in effect for each fiscal year only to the extent and in the amounts as are provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) BANK SECRECY ACT.—The term “Bank Secrecy Act” has the meaning given that term under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code.

(2) FEDERAL FUNCTIONAL REGULATOR.—The term “Federal functional regulator” has the meaning given that term under section 103.

(3) REGULATORY BURDEN.—The term “regulatory burden” means the man-hours to complete filings, cost of data collection and analysis, and other considerations of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Paperwork Reduction Act).

(4) SAR; SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORT.—The term “SAR” and “suspicious activity report” mean a report of a suspicious transaction under section 5318(g) of title 31, United States Code.

(5) SEASONED BUSINESS CUSTOMER.—The term “seasoned business customer”, shall have such meaning as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe, which shall include any person that—

(A) is incorporated or organized under the laws of the United States or any State, or is registered as, licensed by, or otherwise eligible to do business within the United States, a State, or political subdivision of a State;

(B) has maintained an account with a financial institution for a length of time as determined by the Secretary; and

(C) meet such other requirements as the Secretary may determine necessary or appropriate.

(6) STATE BANK SUPERVISOR.—The term “State bank supervisor” has the meaning given that term under section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).

#### SEC. 214. STREAMLINING REQUIREMENTS FOR CURRENCY TRANSACTION REPORTS AND SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTS.

(a) REVIEW.—The Secretary of the Treasury (in consultation with Federal law enforcement agencies, the Director of National Intelligence, the Federal functional regulators, and State bank supervisors and in consultation with other relevant stakeholders) shall undertake a formal review of the current financial institution reporting requirements under the Bank Secrecy Act and its implementing regulations and propose changes to further reduce regulatory burdens, and ensure that the information provided is of a “high degree of usefulness” to law enforcement, as set forth under section 5311 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) CONTENTS.—The review required under subsection (a) shall include a study of—

(1) whether the timeframe for filing a suspicious activity report should be increased from 30 days;

(2) whether or not currency transaction report and suspicious activity report thresholds should be tied to inflation or otherwise periodically be adjusted;

(3) whether the circumstances under which a financial institution determines whether to file a “continuing suspicious activity report”, or the processes followed by a financial institution in determining whether to file a “continuing suspicious activity report” (or both) can be narrowed;

(4) analyzing the fields designated as “critical” on the suspicious activity report form and whether the number of fields should be reduced;

(5) the increased use of exemption provisions to reduce currency transaction reports that are of little or no value to law enforcement efforts;

(6) the current financial institution reporting requirements under the Bank Secrecy Act and its implementing regulations and guidance; and

(7) such other items as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the one year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with law enforcement and persons subject to Bank Secrecy Act requirements, shall issue a report to the Congress containing all findings and determinations made in carrying out the review required under subsection (a).

(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) FEDERAL FUNCTIONAL REGULATOR.—The term “Federal functional regulator” has the meaning given that term under section 103.

(2) STATE BANK SUPERVISOR.—The term “State bank supervisor” has the meaning given that term under section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).

(3) OTHER TERMS.—The terms “Bank Secrecy Act” and “financial institution” have the meaning given those terms, respectively, under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code.

#### TITLE III—MODERNIZING THE AML SYSTEM

##### SEC. 301. ENCOURAGING INNOVATION IN BSA COMPLIANCE.

Section 5318 of title 31, United States Code, as amended by section 202, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(p) ENCOURAGING INNOVATION IN COMPLIANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal functional regulators shall encourage financial institutions to consider, evaluate, and, where appropriate, responsibly implement innovative approaches to meet the requirements of this subchapter, including through the use of innovation pilot programs.

“(2) EXEMPTIVE RELIEF.—The Secretary, pursuant to subsection (a), may provide exemptions from the requirements of this subchapter if the Secretary determines such exemptions are necessary to facilitate the testing and potential use of new technologies and other innovations.

“(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This subsection may not be construed to require financial institutions to consider, evaluate, or implement innovative approaches to meet the requirements of the Bank Secrecy Act.

“(4) FEDERAL FUNCTIONAL REGULATOR DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘Federal functional regulator’ means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the National Credit Union Administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.”

#### SEC. 302. INNOVATION LABS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

##### “§ 5333. Innovation Labs

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Department of the Treasury and each Federal functional regulator an Innovation Lab.

“(b) DIRECTOR.—The head of each Innovation Lab shall be a Director, to be appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury or the head of the Federal functional regulator, as applicable.

“(c) DUTIES.—The duties of the Innovation Lab shall be—

“(1) to provide outreach to law enforcement agencies, State bank supervisors, financial institutions, and other persons (including vendors and technology companies) with respect to innovation and new technologies that may be used to comply with the requirements of the Bank Secrecy Act;

“(2) to support the implementation of responsible innovation and new technology, in a manner that complies with the requirements of the Bank Secrecy Act;

“(3) to explore opportunities for public-private partnerships; and

“(4) to develop metrics of success.

“(d) FINCEN LAB.—The Innovation Lab established under subsection (a) within the Department of the Treasury shall be a lab within the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(1) FEDERAL FUNCTIONAL REGULATOR.—The term ‘Federal functional regulator’ means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the National Credit Union Administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

“(2) STATE BANK SUPERVISOR.—The term ‘State bank supervisor’ has the meaning given that term under section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“5333. Innovation Labs.”

#### SEC. 303. INNOVATION COUNCIL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 53 of Title 31, United States Code, as amended by section 302, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

##### “§ 5334. Innovation Council

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Innovation Council (hereinafter in this section referred to as the ‘Council’), which shall consist of each Director of an Innovation Lab established under section 5334, a

representative of State bank supervisors (as defined under section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813)), and the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

“(b) CHAIR.—The Director of the Innovation Lab of the Department of the Treasury shall serve as the Chair of the Council.

“(c) DUTY.—The members of the Council shall coordinate on activities related to innovation under the Bank Secrecy Act, but may not supplant individual agency determinations on innovation.

“(d) MEETINGS.—The meetings of the Council—

“(1) shall be at the call of the Chair, but in no case may the Council meet less than semi-annually;

“(2) may include open and closed sessions, as determined necessary by the Council; and

“(3) shall include participation by public and private entities and law enforcement agencies.

“(e) REPORT.—The Council shall issue an annual report, for each of the 7 years beginning on the date of enactment of this section, to the Secretary of the Treasury on the activities of the Council during the previous year, including the success of programs as measured by metrics of success developed pursuant to section 5334(c)(4), and any regulatory or legislative recommendations that the Council may have.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“5334. Innovation Council.”

#### SEC. 304. TESTING METHODS RULEMAKING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5318 of title 31, United States Code, as amended by section 301, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) TESTING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the head of each agency to which the Secretary has delegated duties or powers under subsection (a), shall issue a rule to specify—

“(A) with respect to technology and related technology-internal processes (‘new technology’) designed to facilitate compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act requirements, the standards by which financial institutions are to test new technology; and

“(B) in what instances or under what circumstance and criteria a financial institution may replace or terminate legacy technology and processes for any examinable technology or process without the replacement or termination being determined an examination deficiency.

“(2) STANDARDS.—The standards described under paragraph (1) may include—

“(A) an emphasis on using innovative approaches, such as machine learning, rather than rules-based systems;

“(B) risk-based back-testing of the regime to facilitate calibration of relevant systems;

“(C) requirements for appropriate data privacy and security; and

“(D) a requirement that the algorithms used by the regime be disclosed to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, upon request.

“(3) CONFIDENTIALITY OF ALGORITHMS.—If a financial institution or any director, officer, employee, or agent of any financial institution, voluntarily or pursuant to this subsection or any other authority, discloses the institution’s algorithms to a Government agency, such algorithms and any materials associated with the creation of such algorithms shall be considered confidential and not subject to public disclosure.”

(b) UPDATE OF MANUAL.—The Financial Institutions Examination Council shall ensure—

(1) that any manual prepared by the Council is updated to reflect the rulemaking required by the amendment made by subsection (a); and

(2) that financial institutions are not penalized for the decisions based on such rulemaking to replace or terminate technology used for compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act (as defined under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code) or other anti-money laundering laws.

#### SEC. 305. FINCEN STUDY ON USE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (‘FinCEN’) shall carry out a study on—

(A) the status of implementation and internal use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence (‘AI’), digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies within FinCEN;

(B) whether AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies can be further leveraged to make FinCEN’s data analysis more efficient and effective; and

(C) how FinCEN could better utilize AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies to more actively analyze and disseminate the information it collects and stores to provide investigative leads to Federal, State, Tribal, and local law enforcement, and other Federal agencies (collective, ‘Agencies’), and better support its ongoing investigations when referring a case to the Agencies.

(2) INCLUSION OF GTO DATA.—The study required under this subsection shall include data collected through the Geographic Targeting Orders (‘GTO’) program.

(3) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study required under this subsection, FinCEN shall consult with the Directors of the Innovations Labs established in section 302.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall issue a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives containing—

(1) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a);

(2) with respect to each of subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C) of subsection (a)(1), any best practices or significant concerns identified by the Director, and their applicability to AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies with respect to U.S. efforts to combat money laundering and other forms of illicit finance; and

(3) any policy recommendations that could facilitate and improve communication and coordination between the private sector, FinCEN, and Agencies through the implementation of innovative approaches, in order to meet their Bank Secrecy Act (as defined under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code) and anti-money laundering compliance obligations.

#### SEC. 306. DISCRETIONARY SURPLUS FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The dollar amount specified under section 7(a)(3)(A) of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 289(a)(3)(A)) is reduced by \$27,000,000.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on September 30, 2029.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation, and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

In recent weeks, we have had the opportunity to discuss the valuable anti-money laundering aspects of the COUNTER Act of 2019, H.R. 2514, introduced by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER).

This important piece of legislation is the first major reform in the United States anti-money laundering regime since 2001 and makes critical changes to close loopholes and ensure better enforcement of this country's AML and Bank Secrecy Act laws.

Today, I would like to highlight how this bill also addresses the costs and burdens of the Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering compliance for smaller financial institutions, including credit unions and community banks.

This bill includes multiple avenues to improve information-sharing and feedback loops, including new programs of domestic liaisons for the Financial Crime Enforcement Network of FinCEN, sending FinCEN officials to the field to connect directly with financial institutions.

It also makes permanent the FinCEN Exchange program, allowing for more robust exchange of threat information and analysis among participants. It revives the popular "SAR Activity Review," which was a FinCEN publication that provided timely threat detection information, which will help banks to better direct their resources, and result in more efficient and effective collection of information from both banks and law enforcement.

The COUNTER Act also codifies the Federal financial regulators' guidance to encourage resource-sharing among similar institutions.

Mr. Speaker, we heard from many smaller institutions that they were more apt to invest in resource-sharing if they knew that the permission to do so wouldn't change with new directors or administrations.

The bill also raises the Currency Transaction Reports threshold, increasing it every 5 years, pegged to inflation. This is a key issue for smaller institutions and addresses their concerns, while balancing the investigative needs of law enforcement.

Further focused on the compliance burden, this bill requires FinCEN,

working with industry and law enforcement, to consider the design of a shortened, modified Suspicious Activity Report, or SAR, form for certain customers and activities.

These reforms are among the reasons that the National Association of Federally Insured Credit Unions, the Independent Community Bankers of America, the Credit Union National Association, all of the State banking associations, and many, many others have expressed support for this important bill.

Overall, I believe that the COUNTER Act of 2019 is a significant step forward for small businesses, law enforcement, and other stakeholders.

I want to thank Mr. CLEAVER for introducing this bill, and I want to thank our Republican colleagues for working collaboratively with a team effort to refine this legislation, for this is truly a bipartisan bill, ensuring that this bill passed out of the Financial Services Committee with a unanimous 55-0 vote.

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

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

I appreciate the majority moving H.R. 2514, the COUNTER Act of 2019, again, this week, as a standalone piece of legislation.

Both Republicans and Democrats agree, protecting the financial system from bad actors is a priority. We must give financial institutions the tools and resources they need to fight these bad actors.

According to a 2016 report by the U.S. Government Accountability Office, from January 2009 to December 2015, Federal agencies assessed roughly \$5.1 billion in fines, forfeitures, and penalties for violations of the Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering regulations, often referred to as BSA/AML.

A separate 2016 analysis of anti-money laundering enforcement found that penalties and fines for BSA violations significantly increased since the 2008 financial crisis. This report concluded that regulators had become more aggressive in pursuing BSA violations in the wake of the crisis.

However, this data is from 2016. We know that the current enforcement regime is outdated. Technology has outpaced the tools and resources available to Federal agencies to pursue these bad actors.

H.R. 2514 makes important changes to strengthen BSA and AML enforcement. The bill includes key aspects of the BSA/AML reform package from last Congress, including a provision that allows for tailored information-sharing by financial institutions with their foreign branches to better identify suspicious activity.

The bill also includes important updates to the reporting thresholds for Suspicious Activities Reports, or SARs.

H.R. 2514 reforms the SAR framework by requiring the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to carry out a

study examining whether the current SAR thresholds are adequate.

This study will provide the necessary data to alter the current SAR filing regime in the future. There is clearly a recognition on both sides of the aisle that the status quo is unacceptable.

The bill also encourages greater innovation, ensures efficiency, and requires treasury to play a prominent role in coordinating AML policy. These measures will help ensure that the most effective AML policies are being used to stop terrorists and bad actors.

I want to thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STIVERS) for all their hard work and effort on this bill.

Additionally, I want to thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER), the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. RIGGLEMAN), and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ).

Mr. Speaker, their priorities have made the bill stronger, and more focused, which will enable the Treasury Department and other Federal agencies to carry out critical anti-money laundering processes.

I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 2514, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This is a very critical piece of legislation for our financial services industry that will help close loopholes in existing law, and prevent criminals, prevent terrorists, and other bad state actors from escaping the United States Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Threat Finance laws; it is badly needed, and that is why this is so important.

I am proud to stand up to support small businesses here today, while we are making important and necessary updates to these regimes.

I would especially like to congratulate my colleague from Missouri, Mr. CLEAVER, the chairman of the House Committee on Financial Services, National Security, International Development, and Monetary Policy Subcommittee for introducing this bill.

A champion of small business himself, Mr. CLEAVER has diligently engaged stakeholders, including government, industry, nongovernmental organizations, and Members from across the political spectrum on the text that we vote on here today. The result is this comprehensive bill with broad bipartisan support.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

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

□ 1700

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2514, as amended.



The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN  
BANKING ACT OF 2019**

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4067) to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to direct the Office of Community Affairs to identify causes leading to, and solutions for, under-banked, un-banked, and underserved consumers, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4067

*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 “Financial Inclusion in Banking Act of 2019”.

**SEC. 2. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS DUTIES WITH RESPECT TO UNDER-BANKED, UN-BANKED, AND UNDERSERVED CONSUMERS.**

Section 1013(b)(2) of the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5493(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking “The Director shall establish a unit” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall establish a unit to be known as the ‘Office of Community Affairs’”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) DUTIES RELATED TO UNDER-BANKED, UN-BANKED, AND UNDERSERVED CONSUMERS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Office of Community Affairs shall—

“(I) lead coordination of research to identify any causes and challenges contributing to the decision of individuals who, and households that, do not initiate or maintain on-going and sustainable relationships with depository institutions, including consulting with trade associations representing depository institutions, trade associations representing minority depository institutions, organizations representing the interests of traditionally underserved consumers and communities, organizations representing the interests of consumers (particularly low- and moderate-income individuals), civil rights groups, community groups, consumer advocates, and the Consumer Advisory Board about this matter;

“(II) identify subject matter experts within the Bureau to work on the issues identified under subclause (I);

“(III) lead coordination efforts between other Federal departments and agencies to better assess the reasons for the lack of, and help increase the participation of, under-banked, un-banked, and underserved consumers in the banking system; and

“(IV) identify and develop strategies to increase financial education to under-banked, un-banked, and underserved consumers.

“(ii) COORDINATION WITH OTHER BUREAU OFFICES.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Office of Community Affairs shall consult with and coordinate with the research unit established under subsection (b)(1) and such other offices of the Bureau as the Director may determine appropriate.

“(iii) REPORTING.—

“(J) IN GENERAL.—The Office of Community Affairs shall submit a report to Congress,

within two years of the date of enactment of this subparagraph and every 2 years thereafter, that identifies any factors impeding the ability of, or limiting the option for, individuals or households to have access to fair, on-going, and sustainable relationships with depository institutions to meet their financial needs, discusses any regulatory, legal, or structural barriers to enhancing participation of under-banked, un-banked, and underserved consumers with depository institutions, and contains recommendations to promote better participation for all consumers with the banking system.

“(II) TIMING OF REPORT.—To the extent possible, the Office shall submit each report required under subclause (I) during a year in which the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation does not issue the report on encouraging use of depository institutions by the unbanked required under section 49 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.”.

**SEC. 3. DISCRETIONARY SURPLUS FUNDS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The dollar amount specified under section 7(a)(3)(A) of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 289(a)(3)(A)) is reduced by \$10,000,000.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on September 30, 2029.

**SEC. 4. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. LAWRENCE). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, my bill, H.R. 4067, is a response to a national crisis that we have in terms of taking better financial care of the American people.

This bill is called the Financial Inclusion in Banking Act, and almost the entirety of what we are doing is included in those two words, “financial inclusion.” It truly reflects the key focus of this legislation, which is ensuring that, in this Nation, consumers of all backgrounds, of all races, of all income levels have access to our great financial system and our financial products that are affordable, that are safe, and that meet their needs.

The benefits of traditional banking and financial inclusion may not be im-

mediately apparent, Madam Speaker, until one considers the cost and the long-term struggles of financial exclusion. Imagine, we have people, millions of households, without even a checking account. Simple tasks suddenly become more challenging without a checking account, more time-consuming, more expensive. Without a bank account, the simple act of accessing their own paychecks causes millions of consumers in this country to rely on costly check-cashing services or high-fee money orders.

Take paying a utility bill, just paying your light bill or your gas bill means a trip across town and a lengthy wait in line to pay your bill in cash if you find a place where you can even cash your paycheck without a bank account.

When the 31st or the 30th of each month arrives, and the financial ends don’t meet, families are out there, millions of our families in America who are forced to payday lenders, to pawn shops for loans, to predatory bad actors, to loan sharks, just to make do. In the event of a tragedy, a hospital trip, a family emergency, these challenges are multiplied many times over.

The reality is that, in our increasingly highly technical electronic online banking system and broadband, and in an increasingly credit-based economy, unbanked and underbanked consumers are being left behind. They are being abandoned to the predators that are out there.

The FDIC gave some very valuable statistics from a report just a few months ago. It reported that 8.4 million American households—that is not the individuals; it is just the households. Nobody in these households is considered in a way that they have a checking or a savings account. 8.4 million American households, nobody in the house, not mama, not daddy, not grandmama, not uncle, not cousin, nobody in that household has even a bank account.

Then, according to the FDIC, an additional 24.2 million American households are underbanked, which means that that household has limited access to traditional banking but has to rely on the use of risky alternative financial services to manage just basic maneuvers in their financial lives.

I want to take a moment, Madam Speaker, to fully explain and describe the nature of this problem. I hope the American people who are listening will understand now why I say we have a national crisis and this is why we need my bill. The Financial Inclusion in Banking Act, a bill I was proud to introduce earlier this year, gets to the heart of this issue. This is what it does.

It directs the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to: one, research factors standing in the way of financial inclusion of the American people so we can understand the hurdles that these individuals and our consumers face; two, the bill will also direct the CFPB to recommend best practices to increase participation in the formal

banking sectors to bring our consumers out of the shadows of risky, predatory, alternative financial services; and, three, my bill will direct the CFPB to work with minority depository banks, African American-owned banks and institutions, consumer advocates, and civil rights groups to make sure that their recommendations—they are out there grappling day to day with the unbanked and underbanked.

They need to be brought to the table so we can learn from these groups what we must do in order to reflect the needs of the most marginalized and unbanked consumers among us and the most underserved communities across our Nation while also simultaneously strengthening and growing many of the minority-owned banking institutions, African American institutions particularly.

Madam Speaker, do you know that there has not been a new African American-owned bank in the last 25 years and that we are losing minority banking ownership? What better opportunity? Who knows best this group that is marginalized?

We will be able to solve two problems, enrich and grow our minority depository institutions while at the same time providing a way to get nearly 58 million Americans out of the grasp of these predators and into our great banking system.

Finally, H.R. 4067 will direct the CFPB to promote strategies to improve financial education. You cannot have consumer financial protection for the American people if you don't have consumer financial education for the American people. That is an integral part that will empower them with the tools necessary to manage their financial lives.

Personal financial education is the key, especially for our young people. But you know how terribly critical this issue is? Only 17 of 50 States in our Nation's public school systems even require a course in financial education, only 17.

We can do much better. This bill will start the wheel moving. And we are going to be bringing another bill so that we can be able to give the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau grant-making authority.

Madam Speaker, we are the richest Nation in the world. We need to apply our resources, and we need to pass legislation that will mandate the teaching of financial education in all 50 States, not just 17.

I have to thank a lot of people who have been working with me for my bill. First, I thank our chairwoman, Ms. MAXINE WATERS, who has been working with us and her staff and my staff as we tackle this issue. I also thank my friends from the other side, the Republicans who are working with us, as well, for this is not a Democratic issue or a Republican issue. This is an American issue. And we will bring the energy to make sure that we are able to pass this bill.

I am proud to put the bill forth, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of it.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank and congratulate the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT), my good friend, on so much heavy lifting and the work that he has done to bring this bipartisan piece of legislation to the floor, along with our former colleague from Wisconsin (Mr. Duffy) who was also very involved with you, Madam Speaker, on this bipartisan piece of legislation, H.R. 4067.

According to the most recent FDIC survey of unbanked and underbanked households, 6.5 percent of U.S. households were unbanked in 2017, meaning no one in the household had a checking or savings account. That equates to approximately 8.4 million American households.

□ 1715

The same survey showed that an additional 18.7 percent of households were underbanked, meaning that the household had a bank account but also obtained financial services outside the mainstream banking system. That is more than 24 million U.S. households composed of nearly 50 million adults and 15 million children, Madam Speaker.

These statistics point to the staggering number of Americans who have limited access to traditional banking services.

While these numbers have, thankfully, declined since the financial crisis, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Office of Community Affairs has and continues to engage in efforts to examine the unbanked and underbanked, as well as allocate resources to Americans who remain credit invisible.

The Office of Community Affairs works with the CFPB's Office of Research and the Office of Fair Lending to examine credit deserts and equip communities with tools for financial education.

The Bureau's Your Money, Your Goals program offers a variety of materials to help consumers pursue financial empowerment and resources for organizations aimed at helping financially vulnerable individuals.

Despite the progress that has been made, this remains an important issue that merits our attention. By further directing the CFPB's Office of Community Affairs to focus its work toward the underserved, we are working to assure these consumers are not overlooked.

This bill reaffirms our intent to engage in efforts to examine the unbanked and underbanked and identify solutions to deliver resources to Americans who remain credit invisible.

All Americans deserve access to the basic financial tools that will help them achieve financial independence,

and this bill takes an important step in promoting financial inclusion and providing access to all Americans.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) for all of his tireless efforts on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support the Financial Inclusion in Banking Act.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, first, I would like to inquire if the gentlewoman has any more speakers.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I am ready to yield back if the gentleman is ready to close.

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

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am so glad that the gentlewoman mentioned Sean Duffy. I thank Mrs. WAGNER for doing that.

Madam Speaker, Sean Duffy literally—to tell you the truth, I told him in committee, when he didn't show up, when we found out so we couldn't give our great speeches for him, I told him he broke my heart when I heard he wasn't coming back. I said here we are working on this monumental bill, he was the lead Republican sponsor on it and has brought it a mighty long way. But a great American has decided to retire from the Congress, Madam Speaker, and that is Sean Duffy of Wisconsin.

He and I served on that committee for years, and he has played a monumental role with us in this bill. We wouldn't be here with it on the floor with the strong bipartisan support we have if it weren't for the leadership of Sean Duffy.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER).

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I share the gentleman from Georgia's sentiment completely, and we are grateful to Sean Duffy. We wish him and his family the very, very best in making the choice to choose to put his family first and retire from this wonderful institution.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) for yielding to me to say a word or two about my friend, Mr. Duffy.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this wonderful, bipartisan piece of legislation, H.R. 4067.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am urging that we get a unanimous vote on this, that every single Member of Congress will send a powerful message that we are no longer going to stand by and have 58 million Americans out there waiting for the pawns of these predatory lenders, these loan sharks, and others. No. We want to bring them out of the shadows and bring them into our great American financial system.

Madam Speaker, I urge everyone to vote for the bill, and I hope we have a unanimous vote.

Madam 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. DAVID SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4067, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MUSEUM COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT**

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1865) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the opening of the National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1865

*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 “National Law Enforcement Museum Commemorative Coin Act”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

The Congress finds the following:

(1) In 2000, Congress passed and President William J. Clinton signed into law the National Law Enforcement Museum Act (Public Law 106-492), which authorized the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, Inc., to build the National Law Enforcement Museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia to honor and commemorate the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers in the United States.

(2) In April 2016, construction began on the National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia across the street from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Judiciary Square.

(3) The National Law Enforcement Museum formally opened in October of 2018.

(4) The National Law Enforcement Museum’s mission is—

(A) to honor and commemorate the extraordinary service and sacrifice of America’s law enforcement officers;

(B) to serve as an important bridge between law enforcement’s past and present, between the heroes of yesteryear and those who have followed in their footsteps, and between America’s peace officers and the public they serve;

(C) increase public understanding and support for law enforcement and to promote law enforcement safety; and

(D) strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve with thought-provoking programs at the Museum and around the country that promote dialogue on topics of current interest.

**SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coin:

(1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 8.359 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and
- (C) contain not less than 90 percent gold.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (C) contain not less than 90 percent silver.

(3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

- (A) weigh 11.34 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and
- (C) be minted to the specifications for half-dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

**SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the National Law Enforcement Museum and the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers throughout the history of the United States.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

- (A) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (B) an inscription of the year “2021”; and
- (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, Inc.; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

**SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) MINT FACILITIES.—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year period beginning on January 1, 2021.

**SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (1) the face value of the coins;
- (2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with respect to such coins; and
- (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

**SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of—

- (1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin;

(2) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and

(3) \$5 per coin for the half-dollar coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f)(1) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, Inc., for educational and outreach programs and exhibits.

(c) AUDITS.—The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, Inc., shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

**SEC. 8. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, in 2000, Congress passed and President Clinton signed into law the National Law Enforcement Museum Act. That bill authorized the construction of the National Law Enforcement Museum to commemorate the service and sacrifices of our U.S. law enforcement officers, a very, very important piece of legislation.

The National Law Enforcement Museum opened its doors in October of 2018 with a mission to honor the lives of service and sacrifice of America’s law enforcement officers, serve as an important bridge between law enforcement’s past and present, and strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the communities that they serve.

This bipartisan legislation authorizes the Department of the Treasury to mint \$5 gold coins, \$1 silver coins, and half-dollar coins in 2021 to commemorate the National Law Enforcement Museum and the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers throughout history. Proceeds from the sales of these coins will go toward funding the museum's educational and outreach programs and exhibits.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. PASCRELL of New Jersey—as I affectionately refer to him, the mayor of Paterson, New Jersey, a great town—for introducing this bill this Congress, and I urge Members to vote “yes.”

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1865, the National Law Enforcement Museum Commemorative Coin Act.

I would like to also thank the gentleman from New Jersey, Representative PASCRELL, and my colleague, Senator BLUNT from Missouri, for all of their hard work on this important, bipartisan piece of legislation.

Madam Speaker, in 2000, Congress authorized the creation of the National Law Enforcement Museum, and just 18 years later, the museum was formally opened on October 13, 2018, in Washington, D.C., across the street from the National Law Enforcement Memorial.

Every day, our Nation's law enforcement officers put their uniforms on and go to work not knowing if they will make it home. They selflessly protect us while asking nothing in return.

The establishment of this museum serves as a reminder of the great sacrifices that law enforcement officers make. By educating the public on their work, the museum serves as a vital resource in sharing the daily experiences of our men and women in uniform.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 1865, the National Law Enforcement Museum Commemorative Coin Act, directs the U.S. Treasury to mint a coin in 2021 in commemoration of the opening of the National Law Enforcement Museum here in Washington, D.C.

Additionally, the proceeds of this important commemorative coin will go to support the National Law Enforcement Museum and to ensure that it is able to maintain a robust and diverse level of programming.

Madam Speaker, the passage of H.R. 1865 will greatly honor our Nation's law enforcement and further support this remarkable institution. We should do our part by passing this bipartisan piece of legislation to create this commemorative coin.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL), a distinguished gentleman

and the sponsor of this important piece of legislation.

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. SCOTT for his comments.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of our brave men and women in blue who put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities.

In recognition of their service, my co-chair, the co-chair of first responders and our police, he and I go beyond which side of the aisle we sit on to do what is right.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Mr. RUTHERFORD, JOHN RUTHERFORD, for his bipartisan work in this area, a former long-time sheriff. So I am really talking about the gentleman also in this bill, because he put his life on the line for quite a few years in Duval County, I believe.

So in recognition of their service, I helped pass the National Law Enforcement Museum Act very early when I got to Congress. It was signed into law by President Bill Clinton. He signed it faster than I was able to get it passed. He signed it on November 9, 2000.

This museum honors the service of local, State, and Federal law enforcement officers in the United States.

A decade later, construction of the museum began at Judiciary Square in this great city, right across the street from the National Law Enforcement Memorial. Construction was just completed last year. This museum serves as a tribute to the lives, the sacrifices, and the service of our Nation's law enforcement.

□ 1730

This museum will play a vital role, as was mentioned before by the gentleman, in educating the public on the varied work of our Nation's law enforcement officers—which I contend most people in the Congress are ignorant of—as well as promoting the safety of the men and women in uniform.

To build on this support, I introduced H.R. 1865, the National Law Enforcement Museum Commemorative Coin Act, to direct the Department of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the opening of this great museum.

Proceeds from the sale of the commemorative coins will provide a much-needed funding stream to the nonprofit National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund for educational and outreach programs and exhibits at the National Law Enforcement Museum. This will ensure our Nation's finest are recognized properly for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment now to recognize those officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their communities. In 2018 and so far in 2019, we have mourned the loss of 266 men and women who died in the line of duty, three of whom served in the State of New Jersey.

The first officer that I will mention is Tamby Yagan of the Paterson Police

Department—my town—who spent 13 years of service in the police department. Officer Yagan tragically died in an automobile crash on April 22, 2018.

Lieutenant Christopher Robateau from the Jersey City Police Department passed on January 5, 2018, after being struck by a vehicle.

And New Jersey State Police Trooper Robert Emmet Nagle, who passed on November 26, 2018, because of a 9/11-related illness.

I grieve for their families and loved ones. I know the House does also.

I thank Majority Leader STENY HOYER and Chairwoman MAXINE WATERS for bringing this legislation to the floor. I also thank my good friend and partner in chairing the bipartisan House Law Enforcement Caucus, Congressman JOHN RUTHERFORD, a former sheriff, as I said before. He co-authored this bill.

Finally, I thank Marcia Ferranto, the CEO of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, for her and her colleagues' work on this bill and the efforts to make the National Law Enforcement Museum a success.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PASCRELL. This bill has strong support from several law enforcement groups, including Concerns of Police Survivors, the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Police Organizations, the National Sheriffs' Association, and the Police Foundation.

Madam Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 1865, and I look forward to its passage and into law.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, it is now my privilege to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD), the Republican lead and co-chair of the Law Enforcement Caucus.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, I thank my kind colleague from Missouri for this opportunity.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1865, which will give our law enforcement officers and their long honorable history the recognition that they so deserve.

The National Law Enforcement Museum Commemorative Coin Act will have the Treasury, as was mentioned earlier, mint a commemorative coin in recognition of the newly opened National Law Enforcement Museum here in Washington, D.C. The proceeds collected from the sale of this coin will be given to the museum to support its operations.

As you know, Madam Speaker, millions come from around the world to visit our Nation's Capital every year. They learn about our culture, our history, and our founding principles. Now, they may also visit the National Law Enforcement Museum to learn about our heroic police officers who dedicated

their lives and, in too many instances, made the supreme sacrifice laying down their lives in order to keep their community safe.

As a former sheriff of Jacksonville, Florida, I saw the personal sacrifices and brave actions by countless officers under my command. Law enforcement officers around the country put on the uniform every day and they head out to protect their community, willing to sacrifice their life for their friends and neighbors. Sadly, too many of those officers do not return home from their shift.

So far this year, 99 officers have lost their lives in the line of duty, offering their full measure of devotion to their community. This bill will ensure that their stories be told for generations to come.

I thank my good friend, Congressman PASCRELL from New Jersey, co-chair of the Law Enforcement Caucus. His support, respect, and true concern for law enforcement across this country is greatly appreciated by all of those organizations and men and women that he just listed.

Madam Speaker, I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in supporting our brave law enforcement officers across this country and pass this important bill.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam 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. DAVID SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1865, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2423) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2423

*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 "Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott organized the first Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York. 68 women and 32 men signed the Declaration of Sentiments at the Convention in July 1848.

(2) The Declaration of Sentiments was modeled after the Declaration of Independence and declared that "all men and women are created equal", linking women's rights directly to the founding ideals of the United States.

(3) Suffrage activists, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Ida B. Wells, Jovita Idar, Inez Millholland, Mary Church Terrell, Anne Dallas Dudley, Carrie Chapman Cat, Alice Paul, Lucy Burns, Esther Hobart Morris, and many others, conducted over 900 local, State, and Federal campaigns over a 72-year time span to win women the right to vote.

(4) On November 6, 1917, New York granted women the right to vote, which was an act that created momentum for the national movement that culminated in the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States 3 years later.

(5) The 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States ("The Susan B. Anthony Amendment") guarantees all United States women the right to vote and was passed by the 66th Congress of the United States on June 4, 1919.

(6) On August 9, 1920, right before the ratification period was set to expire, Governor Albert H. Roberts called a special session of the Tennessee General Assembly to consider the amendment. Pro-suffrage and anti-suffrage activists from around the country descended on Nashville, Tennessee, intent on influencing the legislature.

(7) After the amendment was defeated in a 48–48 tie vote, Tennessee State Representative Harry T. Burn from McMinn County cast the deciding favorable vote after receiving a note from his mother, Phoebe Ensminger Burn, imploring him to vote yes for ratification.

(8) On August 18, 1920, Tennessee became the 36th and final State needed to pass the 19th Amendment, ensuring its ratification pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States.

(9) The 19th Amendment was ratified on August 26, 1920, when Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby issued a proclamation announcing it has become part of the Constitution of the United States.

(10) The ratification of the 19th Amendment marked the single largest extension of voting rights in United States history, enfranchising 27,000,000 American women in the United States.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is—

(1) to honor and commemorate the work of women suffrage activists in the late 19th and early 20th centuries;

(2) to increase public awareness and appreciation for the history of the women's suffrage movement; and

(3) to encourage all women in the United States to exercise their hard-won franchise and to become involved in civic life if they so choose.

#### SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;

(2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(3) contain at least 90 percent silver.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United

States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

#### SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COIN.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the women who played a vital role in rallying support for the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

(2) DESIGNATIONS AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year "2020"; and

(C) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum."

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall—

(1) contain motifs that honor Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Carrie Chapman Catt, Harriet Tubman, Mary Church Terrell, Alice Paul, Lide Meriwether, Ida B. Wells, and other suffrage activists of the late 19th century and early 20th centuries;

(2) be selected by the Secretary, after consultation with the Smithsonian Institution's American Women's History Initiative, and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(3) be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

#### SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) MINT FACILITIES.—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins under this Act only during the period beginning on January 1, 2020, and ending on December 31, 2020.

#### SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

(1) the face value of the coins;

(2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with respect to such coins; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

#### SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin described under section 3(a).

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, and section 8(2), all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Smithsonian Institution's American Women's History Initiative for the purpose of—

(1) collecting, studying, and establishing programs relating to women's contributions to various fields and throughout different periods of history that have influenced the direction of the United States; and

(2) creating exhibitions and programs that recognize diverse perspectives on women's history and contributions.

(c) AUDITS.—The Smithsonian Institution's American Women's History Initiative shall

be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

#### SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, shall be disbursed to any recipient designated in section 7(b) until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

#### SEC. 9. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PASCRELL). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, 2020 marks the centennial anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote. This historic centennial offers an unparalleled opportunity to commemorate a milestone of democracy, and to honor the legacy of pioneers and patriots who blazed a trail to lead women to the voting booth.

This bipartisan, bicameral legislation authorizes the Department of the Treasury to mint \$1 silver coins in 2020 to commemorate the work of women suffrage activists in the late 19th and early 20th century and increase public awareness and appreciation for the history of the women's suffrage movement. Proceeds from sales of these coins will go towards supporting the Smithsonian Institution's American Women's History Initiative for the purpose of collecting, studying, and establishing programs recognizing diverse perspectives on women's history and women's contributions that have influenced the direction of our great Nation.

I thank Ms. STEFANIK for introducing this bill, and I urge all Members to vote "yes."

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2423, the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act.

I thank the gentlewoman from New York, Congresswoman STEFANIK, my good friend, who has introduced and brought this bill forward to the floor, as well as the gentlewoman from Tennessee, Senator BLACKBURN, for their tireless work on this commemorative coin bill. Congresswoman STEFANIK, Senator BLACKBURN, and all of the women in our conference have been tireless supporters of this issue. 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment guaranteeing and protecting a woman's constitutional right to vote in this country.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize and honor the work of the late Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin. Congresswoman Rankin founded the Committee on Woman Suffrage, which led the fight in the House of Representatives for the constitutional amendment that would grant women, nationwide, the right to vote. It is these efforts for equality that we are commemorating today.

This historic centennial offers an unparalleled opportunity to commemorate a milestone of democracy and to shed light on and honor the legacy of pioneers and patriots who blazed new trails to lead women to the voting booth.

Beginning in July of 1848, the first women's rights convention was held in Seneca Falls, New York. Yet, it was not until August of 1920, 140 years after signing the Declaration of Independence, that the fight for a woman's right to vote concluded in Nashville, Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, Tennessee became the 36th and final State needed to ratify the 19th Amendment, marking the single largest extension of voting rights in our Nation's history, enfranchising 27 million American women.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will help ensure that the upcoming anniversary, and the 72 years of tireless perseverance by three generations of dedicated suffragists who sought to overturn centuries of law and millennia of tradition, are commemorated and celebrated throughout the United States.

□ 1745

Mr. Speaker, additionally, the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act will not cost any taxpayer dollars. All funding will come from the sale of the coins to private citizens, with proceeds from the coin going to support the Smithsonian Institution's American Women's History Initiative.

This initiative is intended to be the Nation's most comprehensive under-

taking to document, research, collect, display, and share the rich and compelling story of women in America.

Mr. Speaker, passage of H.R. 2423 will honor this unforgettable movement and support educating our future generations about the fight for women's equality. We should do our part by passing this legislation to create this commemorative coin.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE), who is a national leader in the fight for women's voting rights and is the lead Democratic sponsor of this historic and important piece of legislation.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be here and to have the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) sitting in that seat.

I want to thank my colleague, Representative SCOTT, and I want to start by thanking our chairwoman, MAXINE WATERS, for bringing this legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2423, the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act introduced by my colleague, Ms. STEFANIK, and myself.

As co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues and the co-chair of the Democratic Women's Caucus, I strongly support this measure which honors the legacy of suffragists who played a vital role in rallying support for the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

The suffragists began their organized fight for women's empowerment in 1848 in Seneca Falls, New York. They were tireless and never gave up the fight. For 72 years, the women leaders lobbied, marched, picketed, and protested for the right to the ballot.

More importantly, proceeds from the sales of these coins will support the Smithsonian Institution's American Women's History Initiative for the purpose of collecting, studying, and establishing programs recognizing diverse perspectives on women's history and women who have influenced the direction of this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I like to always remind people that women are 51 percent of the population in this great country, and we are now 106 strong Members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

I also want to note that, on May 21 of this year, the House celebrated its 100th anniversary of the House passage of the 19th Amendment with the passage of H.R. 354, legislation I introduced and which was supported by all women Members of Congress. The Senate followed 2 weeks later, in June, with the passage of the Senate resolution.

Today, over 68 million women participate in elections, which would not be possible without the suffragists who

never gave up the fight for equal rights. Because of their hard work, glass ceilings were broken and progress prevailed.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the gentleman stands today recognizing that women are so important to the lives of so many in this country and to our strong government and democracy. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK), the author of this piece of legislation.

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentlewoman from Missouri, for yielding her time.

The first women's rights convention was held in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848, marking the official debut of the women's suffrage movement, which would extend over the course of the next 72 years.

During this tumultuous time, generations of brave suffragists dedicated their lives, refusing to give up in their fight for a better and more equitable future.

It wasn't until August of 1920, 140 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed, that this fight culminated with the adoption of the 19th Amendment. Ratification of the 19th Amendment marked the single largest expansion of voting rights in United States history, enfranchising over 27 million American women.

Mr. Speaker, 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, and I was proud to introduce legislation with my colleague and friend from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) and my friend, Senator BLACKBURN from Tennessee, to celebrate this historic and monumental movement.

The Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act is bipartisan, bicameral legislation that authorizes the Department of the Treasury to mint \$1 silver coins in 2020 to commemorate the tremendous work of women suffrage activists in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

This bill ensures that, on the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, the suffragists who dedicated their lives fighting to extend this fundamental right to women are commemorated and celebrated throughout the United States.

I am looking forward to celebrating the 100th anniversary next year in my district, where one of the most vocal advocates for women's suffrage, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, was born and raised in Johnstown, New York.

I would not have the opportunity to serve in this body today were it not for the bravery and determination of generations of suffragists.

Mr. Speaker, this is a unique opportunity to commemorate a milestone of democracy, and it is my hope that this bipartisan bill will encourage women across our country to continue to be active participants in civic life. I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK) and Congresswoman LAWRENCE, also, for their tremendous work on this, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, as I stand here at this moment and listen to the comments, I am reminded of a woman whose name was Isabella. But in New York City, one day, the Lord changed her name because she had a vision from God, and God changed her name from Isabella to Sojourner Truth. She was a pioneer in women's rights and was at the forefront of the battle coming out in the 19th century for women's rights, a fearless leader.

Today, we have a statue honoring Sojourner Truth right here in the Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, I ask everyone to support this bill, and, hopefully, again, we will have a unanimous vote on this 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 Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2423, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### EDUCATING MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS AND OPTIMIZING WORKFORCE EFFICIENCY AND READINESS FOR HEALTH ACT OF 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2781) to amend title VII of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs relating to the health professions workforce, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2781

*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 "Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness for Health Act of 2019" or the "EMPOWER for Health Act of 2019".*

##### SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS WORKFORCE PROGRAMS.

(a) **CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.**—Subsection (i) of section 736 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 293) is amended to read as follows:

*"(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$24,897,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024."*

(b) **HEALTH PROFESSIONS TRAINING FOR DIVERSITY.**—Section 740 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 293d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "\$51,000,000 for fiscal year 2010, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2011

through 2014" and inserting "\$51,419,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024";

(2) in subsection (b), by striking "\$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2010 through 2014" and inserting "\$1,250,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024"; and

(3) in subsection (c), by striking "\$60,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2011 through 2014" and inserting "\$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024".

(c) **PRIMARY CARE TRAINING AND ENHANCEMENT.**—Section 747(c)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 293k(c)(1)) is amended by striking "\$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2010, and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2014" and inserting "\$51,371,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024".

(d) **TRAINING IN GENERAL, PEDIATRIC, AND PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY.**—Section 748(f) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 293k-2(f)) is amended by striking "\$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015" and inserting "\$42,707,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024".

(e) **AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS.**—Section 751(j)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 294a(j)(1)) is amended by striking "\$125,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2010 through 2014" and inserting "\$42,075,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024".

(f) **NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE ANALYSIS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 761(e)(1)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 294n(e)(1)(A)) is amended by striking "\$7,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014" and inserting "\$5,947,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024".

(2) **TECHNICAL CORRECTION.**—Section 761(e)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 294n(e)(2)) is amended by striking "subsection (a)" and inserting "paragraph (1)".

(g) **PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE.**—Section 770(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 295e(a)) is amended by striking "\$43,000,000 for fiscal year 2011, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2012 through 2015" and inserting "\$17,850,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024".

##### SEC. 3. EDUCATION AND TRAINING RELATING TO GERIATRICS.

Section 753 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 294c) is amended to read as follows: "**SEC. 753. EDUCATION AND TRAINING RELATING TO GERIATRICS.**

*"(a) GERIATRICS WORKFORCE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMS.—*

*"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants or contracts under this subsection to entities described in paragraph (1), (3), or (4) of section 799B, section 801(2), or section 865(d), or other health professions schools or programs approved by the Secretary, for the establishment or operation of geriatrics workforce enhancement programs that meet the requirements of paragraph (2).*

*"(2) REQUIREMENTS.—A geriatrics workforce enhancement program meets the requirements of this paragraph if such program supports the development of a health care workforce that maximizes patient and family engagement and improves health outcomes for older adults by integrating geriatrics with primary care and other appropriate specialties. Special emphasis should be placed on providing the primary care workforce with the knowledge and skills to care for older adults and collaborating with community partners to address gaps in health care for older adults through individual, system, community, and population level changes. Areas of programmatic focus may include the following:*

*"(A) Transforming clinical training environments to integrated geriatrics and primary care delivery systems to ensure trainees are well prepared to practice in and lead in such systems.*

“(B) Developing providers from multiple disciplines and specialties to work interprofessionally to assess and address the needs and preferences of older adults and their families and caregivers at the individual, community, and population levels with cultural and linguistic competency.

“(C) Creating and delivering community-based programs that will provide older adults and their families and caregivers with the knowledge and skills to improve health outcomes and the quality of care for such adults.

“(D) Providing Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (ADRD) education to the families and caregivers of older adults, direct care workers, health professions students, faculty, and providers.

“(3) DURATION.—The Secretary shall award grants and contracts under paragraph (1) for a period not to exceed five years.

“(4) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant or contract under paragraph (1), an entity described in such paragraph shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including the specific measures the applicant will use to demonstrate that the project is improving the quality of care provided to older adults in the applicant’s region, which may include—

“(A) improvements in access to care provided by a health professional with training in geriatrics or gerontology;

“(B) improvements in family caregiver capacity to care for older adults;

“(C) patient outcome data demonstrating an improvement in older adult health status or care quality; and

“(D) reports on how the applicant will implement specific innovations with the target audience to improve older adults’ health status or the quality of care.

“(5) EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—The Secretary may award grants and contracts under paragraph (1) in a manner which will equitably distribute such grants among the various regions of the United States.

“(6) QUALIFICATIONS.—In awarding grants and contracts under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall consider programs that—

“(A) have the goal of improving and providing comprehensive coordinated care of older adults, including medical, dental, and psychosocial needs;

“(B) demonstrate coordination with other programmatic efforts funded under this program or other public or private entities;

“(C) support the training and retraining of faculty, preceptors, primary care providers, and providers in other specialties to increase their knowledge of geriatrics and gerontology;

“(D) provide clinical experiences across care settings, including ambulatory care, hospitals, post-acute care, nursing homes, federally qualified health centers, and home and community-based services;

“(E) emphasize education and engagement of family caregivers on disease self-management, medication management, and stress reduction strategies;

“(F) provide training to the health care workforce on disease self-management, motivational interviewing, medication management, and stress reduction strategies;

“(G) provide training to the health care workforce on social determinants of health in order to better address the geriatric health care needs of diverse populations with cultural and linguistic competency;

“(H) integrate geriatrics competencies and interprofessional collaborative practice into health care education and training curricula for residents, fellows, and students;

“(I) substantially benefit rural or underserved populations of older adults or conduct outreach to communities that have a shortage of geriatric workforce professionals;

“(J) integrate behavioral health competencies into primary care practice, especially with re-

spect to elder abuse, pain management, and advance care planning; or

“(K) offer short-term intensive courses that—

“(i) focus on geriatrics, gerontology, chronic care management, and long-term care that provide supplemental training for faculty members in medical schools and other health professions schools or graduate programs in psychology, pharmacy, nursing, social work, dentistry, public health, allied health, or other health disciplines, as approved by the Secretary; and

“(ii) are open to current faculty, and appropriately credentialed volunteer faculty and practitioners, to upgrade their knowledge and clinical skills for the care of older adults and adults with functional and cognitive limitations and to enhance their interdisciplinary teaching skills.

“(7) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under paragraph (1), particularly with respect to awarding, in fiscal year 2020, any amount appropriated for such fiscal year for purposes of carrying out this subsection that is in excess of the amount appropriated for the most previous fiscal year for which appropriations were made for such purposes, the Secretary may give priority to entities that operate—

“(A) in communities that have a shortage of geriatric workforce professionals; and

“(B) in States in which no entity has previously received an award under such paragraph (including as in effect before the date of enactment of the Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness for Health Act of 2019).

“(8) AWARD AMOUNTS.—Awards under paragraph (1) shall be in an amount determined by the Secretary. Entities that submit applications under this subsection that describe a plan for providing geriatric education and training for home health workers and family caregivers are eligible to receive \$100,000 per year more than entities that do not include a description of such a plan.

“(9) REPORTING.—Each entity awarded a grant under paragraph (1) shall submit an annual report to the Secretary on financial and programmatic performance under such grant, which may include factors such as the number of trainees, the number of professions and disciplines, the number of partnerships with health care delivery sites, the number of faculty and practicing professionals who participated in continuing education programs, and such other factors as the Secretary may require.

“(b) GERIATRIC ACADEMIC CAREER AWARDS.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish a program to award grants, to be known as Geriatric Academic Career Awards, to eligible entities applying on behalf of eligible individuals to promote the career development of such individuals as academic geriatricians or other academic geriatrics health professionals.

“(2) ELIGIBILITY.—

“(A) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘eligible entity’ means—

“(i) an accredited school of allopathic medicine, osteopathic medicine, nursing, social work, psychology, dentistry, pharmacy, or allied health; or

“(ii) another type of accredited health professions school or graduate program deemed by the Secretary to be eligible under this subsection.

“(B) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘eligible individual’ means an individual who—

“(I) has a junior, nontenured, faculty appointment at an accredited school of allopathic medicine, osteopathic medicine, nursing, social work, psychology, dentistry, pharmacy, or allied health or at another type of accredited health professions school or graduate program described in subparagraph (A)(ii);

“(II)(aa) is board certified or board eligible in internal medicine, family practice, psychiatry, or licensed dentistry, or has completed the training required for the individual’s discipline; and

“(bb) is employed at an eligible entity; or

“(III) has completed an approved fellowship program in geriatrics or gerontology, or has completed specialty training in geriatrics or gerontology as required for the individual’s discipline and any additional geriatrics or gerontology training as required by the Secretary.

“(ii) SPECIAL RULE.—If during the period of an award under this subsection respecting an eligible individual, the individual is promoted to associate professor and thereby no longer meets the criteria of clause (i)(I), the individual may continue to be treated as an eligible individual through the term of the award.

“(3) LIMITATIONS.—An eligible entity may not receive an award under paragraph (1) on behalf of an eligible individual unless the eligible entity—

“(A) submits to the Secretary an application, at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, and the Secretary approves such application;

“(B) provides, in such form and manner as the Secretary may require, assurances that the eligible individual on whose behalf an application was submitted under subparagraph (A) will meet the service requirement described in paragraph (8); and

“(C) provides, in such form and manner as the Secretary may require, assurances that such individual has a full-time faculty appointment in an accredited health professions school or graduate program and documented commitment from such school or program to spend 75 percent of the individual’s time that is supported by the award on teaching and developing skills in interprofessional education in geriatrics.

“(4) REQUIREMENTS.—In awarding grants under this subsection, the Secretary—

“(A) shall give priority to eligible entities that apply on behalf of eligible individuals who are on the faculty of institutions that integrate geriatrics education, training, and best practices into academic program criteria;

“(B) may give priority to eligible entities that operate a geriatrics workforce enhancement program under subsection (a);

“(C) shall ensure that grants are equitably distributed across the various geographical regions of the United States, including rural and underserved areas;

“(D) shall pay particular attention to geriatrics health care workforce needs among underserved populations, diverse communities, and rural areas;

“(E) may not require an eligible individual, or an eligible entity applying on behalf of an eligible individual, to be a recipient of a grant or contract under this part; and

“(F) shall pay the full amount of the award to the eligible entity.

“(5) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—An eligible entity receiving an award under paragraph (1) on behalf of an eligible individual shall provide assurances to the Secretary that funds provided to such individual under this subsection will be used only to supplement, not to supplant, the amount of Federal, State, and local funds otherwise expended by such individual.

“(6) AMOUNT AND TERM.—

“(A) AMOUNT.—The amount of an award under this subsection for eligible individuals who are physicians shall equal \$100,000 for fiscal year 2020, adjusted for subsequent fiscal years to reflect the increase in the Consumer Price Index. The Secretary shall determine the amount of an award under this subsection for individuals who are not physicians.

“(B) TERM.—The term of any award made under this subsection shall not exceed 5 years.

“(7) SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—An eligible individual on whose behalf an application was submitted and approved under paragraph (3)(A) shall provide training in clinical geriatrics or gerontology, including the training of interprofessional teams of health care professionals.

“(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be



appropriated \$51,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, no funds shall be made available to carry out subsection (b) for a fiscal year unless the amount made available to carry out this section for such fiscal year is more than the amount made available to carry out this section for fiscal year 2017.”.

**SEC. 4. INVESTMENT IN TOMORROW'S PEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE.**

Section 775 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 295f) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 775. INVESTMENT IN TOMORROW'S PEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE.**

“(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a program of entering into pediatric specialty loan repayment agreements with qualified health professionals under which—

“(1) the qualified health professional agrees to a period of not less than 2 years of obligated service during which the professional will—

“(A) participate in an accredited pediatric medical subspecialty, pediatric surgical specialty, child and adolescent psychiatry subspecialty, or child and adolescent mental and behavioral health residency or fellowship; or

“(B) be employed full-time in providing pediatric medical subspecialty care, pediatric surgical specialty care, child and adolescent psychiatry subspecialty care, or child and adolescent mental and behavioral health care, including substance use disorder prevention and treatment services, in an area with—

“(i) a shortage of health care professionals practicing in the pediatric medical subspecialty, the pediatric surgical specialty, the child and adolescent psychiatry subspecialty, or child and adolescent mental and behavioral health, as applicable; and

“(ii) a sufficient pediatric population, as determined by the Secretary, to support the addition of a practitioner in the pediatric medical subspecialty, the pediatric surgical specialty, the child and adolescent psychiatry subspecialty, or child and adolescent mental and behavioral health, as applicable; and

“(2) the Secretary agrees to make payments on the principal and interest of undergraduate, graduate, or graduate medical education loans of the qualified health professional of not more than \$35,000 a year for each year of agreed upon service under paragraph (1) for a period of not more than 3 years.

“(b) *ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.*—

“(1) *PEDIATRIC MEDICAL SPECIALISTS AND PEDIATRIC SURGICAL SPECIALISTS.*—For purposes of loan repayment agreements under this section with respect to pediatric medical subspecialty and pediatric surgical specialty practitioners, the term ‘qualified health professional’ means a licensed physician who—

“(A) is entering or receiving training in an accredited pediatric medical subspecialty or pediatric surgical subspecialty residency or fellowship; or

“(B) has completed (but not prior to the end of the calendar year in which the *Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness for Health Act of 2019* is enacted) the training described in subparagraph (A).

“(2) *CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY AND MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH.*—For purposes of loan repayment agreements under this section with respect to child and adolescent mental and behavioral health care, the term ‘qualified health professional’ means a health care professional who—

“(A) has received specialized training or clinical experience in child and adolescent mental health in psychiatry, psychology, school psychology, or psychiatric nursing;

“(B) has a license or certification in a State to practice allopathic medicine, osteopathic medicine, psychology, school psychology, or psychiatric nursing; or

“(C) is a mental health service professional who has completed (but not before the end of the calendar year in which the *Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness for Health Act of 2019* is enacted) specialized training or clinical experience in child and adolescent mental health described in subparagraph (A).

“(3) *ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.*—The Secretary may not enter into a loan repayment agreement under this section with a qualified health professional unless—

“(A) the professional agrees to work in, or for a provider serving, an area or community with a shortage of eligible qualified health professionals (as defined in paragraphs (1) and (2));

“(B) the professional is a United States citizen, a permanent legal United States resident, or lawfully present in the United States; and

“(C) if the professional is enrolled in a graduate program, the program is accredited, and the professional has an acceptable level of academic standing (as determined by the Secretary).

“(c) *PRIORITY.*—In entering into loan repayment agreements under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants who—

“(1) have familiarity with evidence-based methods and cultural and linguistic competence in health care services; and

“(2) demonstrate financial need.

“(d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—There are authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024—

“(1) \$30,000,000 to carry out this section with respect to loan repayment agreements with qualified health professionals described in subsection (b)(1); and

“(2) \$20,000,000 to carry out this section with respect to qualified health professionals described in subsection (b)(2).”.

**SEC. 5. INCREASING WORKFORCE DIVERSITY IN THE PROFESSIONS OF PHYSICAL THERAPY, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, AUDIOLOGY, AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY.**

Title VII of the Public Health Service Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating part G (42 U.S.C. 295j et seq.) as part H; and

(2) by inserting after part F (42 U.S.C. 294n et seq.) the following new part:

**“PART G—INCREASING WORKFORCE DIVERSITY IN THE PROFESSIONS OF PHYSICAL THERAPY, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, AUDIOLOGY, AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY**

**“SEC. 783. SCHOLARSHIPS AND STIPENDS.**

“(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary may award grants and contracts to eligible entities to increase educational opportunities in the professions of physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology, and speech-language pathology for eligible individuals by—

“(1) providing student scholarships or stipends, including for—

“(A) completion of an accelerated degree program;

“(B) completion of an associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degree program; and

“(C) entry by a diploma or associate’s degree practitioner into a bridge or degree completion program;

“(2) providing assistance for completion of prerequisite courses or other preparation necessary for acceptance for enrollment in the eligible entity; and

“(3) carrying out activities to increase the retention of students in one or more programs in the professions of physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology, and speech-language pathology.

“(b) *CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS.*—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall take into consideration the recommendations of national organizations representing the

professions of physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology, and speech-language pathology, including the American Physical Therapy Association, the American Occupational Therapy Association, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, the American Academy of Audiology, and the Academy of Doctors of Audiology.

“(c) *REQUIRED INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS FOR AWARD RECIPIENTS.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary may require recipients of awards under this section to report to the Secretary concerning the annual admission, retention, and graduation rates for eligible individuals in programs of the recipient leading to a degree in any of the professions of physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology, and speech-language pathology.

“(2) *FALLING RATES.*—If any of the rates reported by a recipient under paragraph (1) fall below the average for such recipient over the two years preceding the year covered by the report, the recipient shall provide the Secretary with plans for immediately improving such rates.

“(3) *INELIGIBILITY.*—A recipient described in paragraph (2) shall be ineligible for continued funding under this section if the plan of the recipient fails to improve the rates within the 1-year period beginning on the date such plan is implemented.

“(d) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

“(1) *ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.*—The term ‘eligible entity’ means an education program that—

“(A) is accredited by—

“(i) the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology or the Accreditation Commission for Audiology Education;

“(ii) the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; or

“(iii) the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education; and

“(B) is carrying out a program for recruiting and retaining students underrepresented in the professions of physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology, and speech-language pathology (including racial or ethnic minorities, or students from disadvantaged backgrounds).

“(2) *ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.*—The term ‘eligible individual’ means an individual who—

“(A) is a member of a class of persons who are underrepresented in the professions of physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology, and speech-language pathology (including individuals who are racial or ethnic minorities, or are from disadvantaged backgrounds);

“(B) has a financial need for a scholarship or stipend; and

“(C) is enrolled (or accepted for enrollment) at an audiology, speech-language pathology, physical therapy, or occupational therapy program as a full-time student at an eligible entity.

“(e) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. 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. 2781.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2781, the EMPOWER for Health Act of 2019, or Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness for Health Act, which I introduced with my colleague, Congressman BURGESS, in May. This legislation advanced out of the Committee on Energy and Commerce by unanimous vote.

By 2032, the United States may see a shortage of up to 122,000 physicians, but we already have a significant physician shortage. If healthcare access were equitable across all races, socioeconomic statuses, and geographic locations, the United States would need almost 100,000 more doctors immediately.

This legislation is one solution to this real problem. The EMPOWER for Health Act will spur growth in our healthcare workforce and ensure increased funding for several title VII health, education, and training programs over the next 5 years.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

As an author of the Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness for Health Act of 2019, also known as the EMPOWER for Health Act, I rise in support of this bill, H.R. 2781. This moved with strong bipartisan support through regular order in the Energy and Commerce Committee and its Health Subcommittee.

As the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee in the last Congress, I made it a priority to get this bill to the House floor. While I succeeded in doing so, the Senate did not take up the legislation; so I hope, this year, with plenty of time and plenty of runway, the Senate will reauthorize these critically important programs.

This legislation reauthorizes the title VII health professions workforce programs for fiscal years 2020 through 2024.

Title VII programs have expired, but they continue to receive appropriations. In fact, in fiscal year 2018, the appropriations levels for these programs actually increased. Reauthorizing these physician workforce programs will provide the needed stability to those who depend upon this funding.

□ 1800

Title VII of the Public Health Service Act includes programs that are vital to building and maintaining a well-educated, well-trained physician workforce. The EMPOWER Act reauthorizes the funding for Area Health Education Centers at more than \$40 million a year. These centers are critical in providing both medical education and healthcare services to medically underserved areas.

The bill also reauthorizes programs that incentivize diversity in the physician workforce, including the Centers of Excellence program which this bill authorizes at a level of \$24 million per year. This particular program provides grants to medical schools that have a disproportionate number of minority students for the purpose of expanding the school's capacity or to improve curriculum.

Primary care is an important aspect of our Nation's healthcare system, and now many Americans receive the majority of their healthcare services through primary care centers. H.R. 2781 reauthorizes funding for our Primary Care Training and Enhancement Program at more than \$50 million a year. This program provides grants to hospitals and other professional schools to develop and operate supplemental primary training programs.

Lastly, this bill aims to strengthen our workforce that cares for our geriatric population. This bill makes strides towards modernizing the Geriatric Workforce Enhancement program and the Geriatric Academic Career Awards. With an aging population, our workforce needs to be adequately trained in handling the unique needs of our seniors. These two programs enable physicians and other providers to be able to achieve that training.

I want to thank Representative SCHAKOWSKY and the staff of the Energy and Commerce Committee for their work on this legislation. Reauthorizing title VII is long overdue, especially in a time when our existing physician workforce is struggling to keep up with the demand for healthcare services.

Madam Speaker, I urge support of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, for decades title VII programs have assisted students from minority and economically disadvantaged backgrounds to enter the health professions by focusing on development, retention, matriculation, and graduation, but we still have a lot of work to do.

In 1998 about 7 percent of the medical school matriculants were Black, and 5 percent were Hispanic and Latino. In 2016 those numbers only increased to 8.2 percent for African Americans and 6.2 percent for Hispanics and Latinos. I believe the extreme racial health disparities in this country are directly linked to the lack of underrepresented minorities in medicine. This legislation reflects our commitment to a diverse workforce by authorizing higher funding levels for these diversity programs.

We also have a rapidly growing population of older Americans, as Mr. BURGESS mentioned. This legislation will address the extreme shortage of health professionals expertly trained for care of the rapidly growing and diverse population of older Americans.

As well, the pediatric workforce is at a crisis point right now. In my home State of Illinois, for example, we face severe shortages of child and adolescent psychiatrists. Children with special or complex health issues often have to wait months before a specialist can see them, and this is unacceptable. So this legislation will encourage physicians to specialize in pediatric care by authorizing funding for this critical program for the first time since 2010.

Finally, this bill also creates a new program to increase diversity in the professions of physical therapists, occupational therapists, audiologists, and speech-language pathologists. This was a section that was added by my colleague from Illinois, BOBBY RUSH, and we appreciate that.

This bill assures almost \$2 billion in funding over the next 5 years for these essential programs.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers and am prepared to close.

This is a good bill. It was a good bill last Congress when we passed it then and sent it over to the Senate. The authorization on these programs has expired. They are continuing to receive funding. The people who depend upon these programs deserve the certainty that reauthorization would allow.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I will close with this: I thank all the Members who worked together to produce this great legislation, especially my colleague, Congressman MICHAEL BURGESS, who has been a champion of these issues and introduced the bill along with me and the chairman of our Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. PALLONE.

I also would like to give a quick thank you to the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee staff on both sides of the aisle and my health policy advisor, Osaremen Okolo.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to include in the RECORD a few letters and statements from the Association of American Medical Colleges, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Eldercare Workforce Alliance, the American Geriatrics Society, the National Association for Geriatric Education and the National Hispanic Medical Association all urging strong support for this legislation.

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL COLLEGES

"The HRSA Title VII programs improve access to care for rural and underserved communities and create a diverse and culturally competent health workforce, which can enhance patients' health outcomes," said the AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges). "We applaud the House of Representatives for passing bipartisan Title VII reauthorization and recognizing the need to increase federal funding in our nation's health workforce infrastructure."

## AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY

“The future we’re working for at the AGS—a future when all older Americans have access to high-quality, person-centered care—begins by building the workforce to make that possible, and by ensuring that workforce can connect us to the tools and supports we need as we grow older together,” observed Nancy E. Lundebjerg, MPA, CEO of the AGS. “The EMPOWER for Health Act will make that possible by supporting two training programs that are as critical to our future as they are widely supported, thanks in large part to the bipartisan efforts that will make this bill law.”

## ELDERCARE WORKFORCE ALLIANCE

“Our nation faces a severe and growing shortage of eldercare professionals with the skills and training to meet the unique healthcare needs of older adults,” said Amy York, Executive Director of the Eldercare Workforce Alliance. “EWA supports the EMPOWER for Health Act of 2019 because it expands the only federal geriatrics training program. That’s an investment in an eldercare workforce that can support well-coordinated, high-quality care for all older Americans.”

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR GERIATRIC EDUCATION

“NAGE is please to support the EMPOWER Act which will enable the GWEP and GACA programs to continue to train health care professionals and caregivers across the nation to care for older adults with the most effective and efficient practices. We are particularly indebted to Representative Schakowsky who is a true leader in aging and health care policy.”

## AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

“Across the country, there are significant shortages of pediatric subspecialists, which lead to long commutes for parents seeking care for their children and appointment wait times that can last more than three months. For a child with a complex, serious health condition, three months can seem like a lifetime. Children with complex medical conditions are among the most vulnerable; their ability to see the right doctor in a reasonable amount of time should not be determined by where they live. The EMPOWER for Health Act reauthorizes the Pediatric Subspecialty Loan Repayment Program, which is an important step toward addressing the shortage and geographic disparities that impact a child’s ability to access subspecialty care. The American Academy of Pediatrics thanks Rep. Schakowsky (D-Ill.) and Rep. Mike Burgess (R-Texas) for their leadership advancing this important legislation.”—American Academy of Pediatrics President Kyle Yasuda, MD, FAAP

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR GERIATRIC EDUCATION, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GERIATRIC EDUCATION CENTERS,

October 28, 2019.

Hon. JAN SCHAKOWSKY,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE SCHAKOWSKY: On behalf of the HRSA Title VII and Title VIII funded Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Programs (GWEPs) across the country, thank you for your past support of geriatric education and for introducing the EMPOWER for Health Act of 2019, which is scheduled to come to the floor of the House for consideration today. The National Association for Geriatric Education (NAGE) is pleased to offer our full support for the EMPOWER Act, which will reauthorize the GWEP and once again make the Geriatrics Academic Career Award program (GACA) a

part of the effort to prepare the geriatrics workforce for the aging of our population. We and the growing numbers of older adults, caregivers, and clinicians caring for elders are pleased that you have been able to move this bill forward and will urge the Senate to follow this lead and provide the resources to address our nation’s growing demand for geriatric care.

We appreciate the many discussions that your staff facilitated with NAGE, as well as with the Eldercare Workforce Alliance, the American Geriatrics Society, and The Gerontological Society of America during the process of developing this legislation. This authorization and related funding are needed for the development of a health care workforce specifically trained to care for older adults and to support their family caregivers. The modest increase in the authorization in your bill will have an important impact on training in geriatric care. Likewise, the funds you have authorized for the GACA program complement the GWEP, and support faculty that will teach and lead geriatrics programs. The bill will also assist in ensuring that rural and underserved areas will have geriatrics education programs.

NAGE is a non-profit membership organization representing GWEP sites, Centers on Aging, and Geriatric Education Centers that provide education and training to health professionals in the areas of geriatrics and gerontology. Our mission is to help America’s healthcare workforce be better prepared to render age-appropriate care to today’s older Americans and those of tomorrow.

Thank you for your continued support for geriatric education programs.

Sincerely,

CATHERINE CARRICO, PHD,  
President NAGE/  
NAGEC; Associate  
Director, Wyoming  
Geriatric Workforce  
Enhancement Pro-  
gram, Wyoming Cen-  
ter on Aging; Clin-  
ical Assistant Pro-  
fessor, College of  
Health Sciences,  
University of Wyo-  
ming.

NATIONAL HISPANIC  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION,  
Washington, DC, July 21, 2019.

Hon. JAN SCHAKOWSKY,  
Committee on Energy & Commerce, House of  
Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN SCHAKOWSKY: On behalf of the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) Board of Directors, we strongly support H.R. 2781 “Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness for Health (EMPOWER for Health) Act of 2019”.

We support the amendment of Title VII of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs relating to the health professions workforce from FY 2020 through FY 2024. Critical health professional development programs revolving around the underserved, Hispanic communities of this country have been a staple of our organization. The programs listed in this document are essential to furthering patient population, physician parity.

The Centers of Excellence program award recipients, who recruit, train, and retain underrepresented minority students and faculty at health professional schools, achieve the ultimate goal of producing a quality healthcare workforce whose racial and ethnic diversity is representative of the U.S. populations.

Health Professionals Training for Diver- sity has provided scholarships for disadvan-

tagged students, loan repayments, and fellowships regarding faculty positions. These programs have assisted students from minority and economically disadvantaged back- grounds to enter the health professions for decades by focusing on student development, retention, matriculation, and graduation.

Past health professional school, graduate medical education enjoys funds and accreditation authorized by this legislation. The Primary Care Training and Enhancement program accredits and funds residency and internship programs in the fields of family medicine, general internal medicine, and general pediatrics, and provides a need-based financial assistance.

The National Hispanic Medical Association strongly supports H.R. 2781 “Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness for Health (EMPOWER for Health) Act of 2019”. We are especially supportive since this bill reauthorizes the aforementioned programs and generally furthers a healthcare workforce that represents the U.S. patient population.

Sincerely,

ELENA RIOS, MD, MSPH, FACP,  
President & CEO.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Madam Speaker, I certainly urge all my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TITUS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2781, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## TITLE VIII NURSING WORKFORCE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 728) to amend title VIII of the Public Health Service Act to extend advanced education nursing grants to support clinical nurse specialist programs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 728

*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 “Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019”.

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

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.  
Sec. 2. General provisions.  
Sec. 3. Nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, and other advanced education nurses.  
Sec. 4. Increasing nursing workforce diversity.  
Sec. 5. Strengthening capacity for basic nurse education and practice.  
Sec. 6. Student loans.  
Sec. 7. National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice.  
Sec. 8. Other provisions.

**SEC. 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

(a) **APPLICATION.**—Section 802(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296a(c)) is amended by striking “shall address relevant national

nursing needs that the project will meet” and inserting “shall address relevant national nursing needs that the project will address and how the project aligns with the national nursing service goals referred to in section 806(a)”.

(b) **USE OF FUNDS.**—Section 803 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) **SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.**—Funds awarded as a grant under this title for a project or activity shall be used to supplement, not supplant, the non-Federal funds that would otherwise be made available for such project or activity.”.

(c) **GENERALLY APPLICABLE PROVISIONS.**—Section 806 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296e) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) **EVALUATIONS.**—The Secretary shall establish procedures to ensure the annual evaluation of programs and projects operated by recipients of grants under this title. Such procedures shall ensure that continued funding for such programs and projects will be conditioned upon the submission of—

“(A) data demonstrating that satisfactory progress has been made by the program or project in meeting the performance outcome standards (as described in section 802) of such program or project; and

“(B) a detailed description of activities conducted by such program or project to meet such performance outcome standards.”;

(2) in subsection (e)(2), by inserting “, and have relevant expertise and experience” after “who are not officers or employees of the Federal Government”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(i) **ANNUAL REPORT ON NURSING WORKFORCE PROGRAMS.**—Annually, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, a report containing an assessment of the programs and activities of the Department of Health and Human Services related to enhancing the nursing workforce, including the extent to which programs and activities under this title meet identified goals and performance measures developed for the respective programs and activities.”.

**SEC. 3. NURSE PRACTITIONERS, NURSE MIDWIVES, NURSE ANESTHETISTS, AND OTHER ADVANCED EDUCATION NURSES.**

Section 811 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296j) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking “R.N./Master’s” and inserting “R.N./graduate”; and

(B) by inserting “clinical nurse leaders,” before “or public health nurses”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsections (g) and (h), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) **AUTHORIZED CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST PROGRAMS.**—Clinical nurse specialist programs eligible for support under this section are education programs that—

“(1) provide registered nurses with full-time clinical nurse specialist education; and

“(2) have as their objective the education of clinical nurse specialists who will upon completion of such a program be qualified to effectively provide care through the wellness and illness continuum to inpatients and outpatients experiencing acute and chronic illness.”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(i) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$77,585,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.”.

**SEC. 4. INCREASING NURSING WORKFORCE DIVERSITY.**

Section 821 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296m) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$18,037,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.”.

**SEC. 5. STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR BASIC NURSE EDUCATION AND PRACTICE.**

(a) **NURSE EDUCATION, PRACTICE, QUALITY, AND RETENTION GRANTS.**—Section 831 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “**AND QUALITY**” and inserting “**QUALITY, AND RETENTION**”;

(2) in subsection (b), by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) providing care for underserved populations and high-risk groups, which may include the elderly, individuals with HIV/AIDS, individuals with mental health or substance use disorders, individuals who are homeless, and victims and survivors of domestic violence.”;

(3) in subsection (c), by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

“(1) **GRANTS FOR CAREER LADDER PROGRAMS.**—The Secretary may award grants to and enter into contracts with eligible entities for programs—

“(A) to promote career advancement for—

“(i) nursing personnel in a variety of training settings, cross training or specialty training among diverse population groups, and the advancement of individuals, including to become professional registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, and nurses with graduate nursing education; and

“(ii) individuals, including licensed practical nurses, licensed vocational nurses, certified nurse assistants, and diploma degree or associate degree nurses, to become baccalaureate-prepared registered nurses or nurses with graduate nursing education;

“(B) to assist individuals in obtaining education and training required to enter the nursing profession and advance within such profession, such as by providing career counseling and mentoring; and

“(C) to develop and implement internships, accredited fellowships, and accredited residency programs in collaboration with one or more accredited schools of nursing to encourage mentoring and development of specialties.”;

(4) by striking subsection (e) (relating to preference);

(5) by redesignating subsections (f) through (h) as subsections (e) and (g), respectively;

(6) in subsection (e), as so redesignated, by striking “The Secretary shall submit to the Congress before the end of each fiscal year a” and inserting “As part of the report on nursing workforce programs described in section 806(i), the Secretary shall”;

(7) by amending subsection (f), as redesignated by paragraph (5), to read as follows:

“(f) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this section:

“(1) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term ‘eligible entity’ includes an accredited school of nursing, a health care facility, a partnership of such a school and facility, a federally qualified health center, or a nurse-managed health clinic.

“(2) **NURSE-MANAGED HEALTH CLINIC.**—The term ‘nurse-managed health clinic’ means a nurse-practice arrangement, managed by advanced practice nurses, that provides primary care or wellness services to underserved or vulnerable populations that is associated with a school, college, university or department of nursing, federally qualified health center, or independent nonprofit health or social services agency.”; and

(8) in subsection (g), as redesignated by paragraph (5), by striking “such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014” and inserting “\$43,590,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024”.

(b) **NURSE RETENTION GRANTS.**—Section 831A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p-1) is repealed.

**SEC. 6. STUDENT LOANS.**

(a) **LOAN REPAYMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS.**—Section 846 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 297n) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “he began such practice” and inserting “the individual began such practice”;

(2) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “(for fiscal years 2003 and 2004) and may (for fiscal years thereafter)”;

(3) in subsection (h), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Not later than” through “regarding” and inserting “The annual report on nursing workforce programs, as required by section 806(i), shall include information regarding the programs carried out under this section, including”; and

(4) in subsection (i)(1), by striking “such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007” and inserting “\$90,620,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024”.

(b) **NURSE FACULTY LOAN PROGRAM.**—Section 846A(f) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 297n-1(f)) is amended by striking “such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014” and inserting “\$29,640,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024”.

**SEC. 7. NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON NURSE EDUCATION AND PRACTICE.**

Section 851 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 297t) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)(A)(iv), by striking “and nurse anesthetists” and inserting “nurse anesthetists, and clinical nurse specialists”;

(2) in subsection (d), by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

“(3) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019, and every 2 years thereafter, prepare and submit to the Secretary, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, a report describing the activities of the Council, including findings and recommendations made by the Council concerning the activities under this title.”; and

(3) in subsection (g), by striking “under this title” and inserting “for carrying out parts B, C, and D of this title”.

**SEC. 8. OTHER PROVISIONS.**

(a) **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS.**—Part G of title VIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 297w et seq.) is repealed.

(b) **FUNDING.**—Part I of title VIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 298d) is repealed.

(c) **ELIMINATING LIMITATION ON ASSIGNMENT.**—Section 846(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 297n(a)) is amended, in the matter following paragraph (3), by striking “After fiscal year 2007,” and all that follows through the period at the end.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam 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. 728.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I rise today in support of H.R. 728, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act and to highlight the importance of title VIII programs, a critical lifeline for America's nursing workforce and the patients they serve.

Demand for healthcare services provided by nurses continues to grow, so we must expand and support these programs to maintain a highly educated nursing workforce. Title VIII programs support more than 61,000 students in almost every State, but there are still significant nursing shortages in north-west Oregon and across the country.

Title VIII programs increase the nursing pipeline and also create a culturally diverse workforce to make sure that our increasingly diverse patient population is cared for by culturally aware providers. Title VIII programs prepare nurses to serve the most vulnerable communities and regions, such as rural areas, that are in desperate need of providers.

Title VIII programs also provide crucial support for our nursing educators, greater diversity in the nursing workforce, and more successful careers for nurses who work tirelessly on the front lines of patient care.

Our nurses are critical to the health and well-being of our communities. That is why I am honored to serve as a leader on the Nursing Caucus along with several other cosponsors of this legislation, Representatives JOYCE, DAVIS, and GABBARD.

I thank them and the Energy and Commerce Committee for their leadership on this bill. I look forward to our continued bipartisan effort in advocating for the title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this legislation.

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

Madam Speaker, I support H.R. 728, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019 which was introduced by Mr. JOYCE, our Republican lead of Ohio. This bill reauthorizes the title VIII nursing workforce programs for fiscal years 2020 through 2024. Title VIII programs, in addition to the title VII physician workforce programs, have actually expired, but they have continued to receive appropriations.

According to a Health Resource and Services Administration report on nursing workforce projections in 2017, the future supply of and demand for nurses will be affected by a host of factors, including population growth, aging of the Nation's population, overall economic conditions, expanded health insurance coverage, changes in healthcare reimbursement, geographic location, and health workforce availability. The demands for RNs are projected to increase by nearly 800,000 between 2014 and 2030.

Texas is projected to face a shortage of all types of nurses by 2030. Registered nurses, nurse practitioners, cer-

tified nurse anesthetists, and certified nurse-midwives will fall short of demand year after year from now until 2030. This is an issue that we are facing across the country, and H.R. 728 can help fix that.

While our appropriations process has continued to fund these programs, without authorization there remains uncertainty regarding how much money the program will receive each year. These programs range from providing our advanced practice nurses with additional educational opportunities to increasing nursing workforce diversity.

In the midst of a nursing shortage, we must ensure that our healthcare system has the capacity to educate and retain a qualified workforce and also allows for career advancement. This bill includes grants for nurses of different levels of education to obtain further education to advance within their profession. Additionally, this legislation reauthorizes loan repayments, scholarships, and grants for education, practice, quality, and retention. These provisions are essential in educating and retaining a qualified nursing workforce.

Madam Speaker, I urge support of H.R. 728, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in great support of H.R. 728, the Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act introduced by Representatives JOYCE, GABBARD, DAVIS, BONAMICI, MATSUI, CASTOR, MCKINLEY, and UNDERWOOD.

The title VIII nursing workforce program ensures that we have a skilled, competent, and diverse nursing workforce, and the Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act will go a long way in strengthening these programs.

This bill provides grants to nursing schools, academic health centers, and other entities to help in training graduate-level nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse-midwives and certified registered nurse anesthetists and public health nurses. The bill also reauthorizes the successful Nursing Workforce Diversity grant program which has been shown to reduce health disparities and improve outcomes for patients.

As our population ages we are seeing a growing demand for qualified nursing. H.R. 728 helps us prepare for the future by training the next generation of nurses and nurse educators.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE), who is the Republican lead on this bill.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 728, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019.

With 4 million registered nurses nationwide, nurses are more than just the largest healthcare workforce in the United States. They are the backbone of the healthcare system.

As a proud husband of a nurse and as co-chair of the Congressional Nursing Caucus, it is easy for me to understand why nursing is the most trusted profession in America. I can personally attest to the amount of dedication nurses put into caring for their patients each and every day. The bottom line is that any challenge facing our Nation's nurses hurts the health and well-being of the American people.

Unfortunately, despite the importance of nurses to the well-being of patients, we are facing a nursing shortage that will leave far too many patients without the care that they need. The demand for nurses varies State by State, but it is estimated that the national need for nurses will increase by 28 percent by 2030. On top of that, it is reported that roughly 10,000 baby boomers turn 65 every day—10,000 every single day.

To meet this increased demand, Congress must address the issues impacting nursing recruitment, education, and retention. My bill accomplishes exactly that by reauthorizing title VIII nursing workforce development programs.

These programs are designed to address specific needs within the nursing workforce in America's patient population. Importantly, they also provide targeted support for the institutions that educate nurses for practice in rural and medically underserved communities.

By passing this legislation, Congress can ensure that those interested in pursuing a career in nursing have access to the high-quality education and training opportunities necessary to do so. By passing this legislation, Congress can make a direct investment in our Nation's health.

Before I close, I thank the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the American Nurses Association, and my fellow co-chairs of the Congressional Nursing Caucus who have joined me in this effort: Representative TULSI GABBARD, Representative RODNEY DAVIS, and Representative SUZANNE BONAMICI.

I also thank Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member WALDEN, as well as Subcommittee on Health Chair ESHOO and Ranking Member BURGESS, for recognizing the importance of this legislation and moving it through the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful for the overwhelming bipartisan support this bill has received. On behalf of the Nation's nurses, I urge all of my colleagues to support its passage.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close with this. Nurses are the backbone of our healthcare system. It looks like, in a bipartisan way, everybody loves nurses. They provide frontline care in a

variety of settings and often work to supervise and coordinate care for patients. We couldn't live without them, and so we are helping them today.

Madam Speaker, I urge the passage of this legislation with all of my colleagues, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Again, this is one of those bills that passed out of the Subcommittee on Health last Congress, passed on the floor of the House, and, for some reason, didn't see action over in the Senate. This year, it needs to, for all the reasons we have heard articulated here today.

I also am obligated to mention that my district in Texas is home to one of the largest and best nursing education programs in the country at Texas Woman's University.

I would also be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the work done in the last Congress by Lois Capps, who was our colleague at the time, who is no longer in Congress, but it was always her passion to see this bill passed.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in support of H.R. 728, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019.

As the first registered nurse elected to Congress, I know how essential the federal nursing workforce development grant programs are to the development of the next generation of our nursing leaders. These Title VIII programs, administered through the Health Resources and Services Administration, have supported the recruitment, retention, and distribution of our nation's nursing workforce for over five decades.

Title VIII programs have supported nursing education at all levels, from entry level preparation through graduate study. They have provided support for institutions that educate nurses for practice in rural and medically underserved communities, thus representing a direct investment in our nation's health.

With the support of our House and Senate colleagues, we must continue to elevate and strengthen our nursing workforce for the wellbeing of our nation. I wholeheartedly urge my colleagues to support the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 728, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF DRUG DISCOUNTS AND REAL-TIME BENEFICIARY DRUG COST ACT

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2115) to amend title XI of

the Social Security Act to provide greater transparency of discounts provided by drug manufacturers, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2115

*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 "Public Disclosure of Drug Discounts and Real-Time Beneficiary Drug Cost Act".

#### SEC. 2. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF DRUG DISCOUNTS.

Section 1150A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-23) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting "(other than as permitted under subsection (e))" after "disclosed by the Secretary"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(e) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to allow the comparison of PBMs' ability to negotiate rebates, discounts, direct and indirect remuneration fees, administrative fees, and price concessions and the amount of such rebates, discounts, direct and indirect remuneration fees, administrative fees, and price concessions that are passed through to plan sponsors, beginning January 1, 2020, the Secretary shall make available on the Internet website of the Department of Health and Human Services the information with respect to the second preceding calendar year provided to the Secretary on generic dispensing rates (as described in paragraph (1) of subsection (b)) and information provided to the Secretary under paragraphs (2) and (3) of such subsection that, as determined by the Secretary, is with respect to each PBM.

"(2) AVAILABILITY OF DATA.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure the following:

"(A) CONFIDENTIALITY.—The information described in such paragraph is displayed in a manner that prevents the disclosure of information, with respect to an individual drug or an individual plan, on rebates, discounts, direct and indirect remuneration fees, administrative fees, and price concessions.

"(B) CLASS OF DRUG.—The information described in such paragraph is made available by class of drug, using an existing classification system, but only if the class contains such number of drugs, as specified by the Secretary (but not fewer than three drugs), to ensure confidentiality of proprietary information or other information that is prevented to be disclosed under subparagraph (A)."

#### SEC. 3. REQUIRING PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN SPONSORS TO INCLUDE REAL-TIME BENEFIT INFORMATION AS PART OF SUCH SPONSOR'S ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.

Section 1860D-4(e)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-104(e)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D), by striking "To the extent" and inserting "Except as provided in subparagraph (F), to the extent"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(F) REAL-TIME BENEFIT INFORMATION.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2021, the program shall implement real-time benefit tools that are capable of integrating with a prescribing health care professional's electronic prescribing or electronic health record system for the transmission of for-

mulary and benefit information in real time to prescribing health care professionals. With respect to a covered part D drug, such tools shall be capable of transmitting such information specific to an individual enrolled in a prescription drug plan. Such information shall include the following:

"(I) A list of any clinically-appropriate alternatives to such drug included in the formulary of such plan.

"(II) Cost-sharing information for such drug and such alternatives, including a description of any variance in cost sharing based on the pharmacy dispensing such drug or such alternatives.

"(III) Information relating to whether such drug is included in the formulary of such plan and any prior authorization or other utilization management requirements applicable to such drug and such alternatives so included.

"(ii) ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION.—The provisions of subclauses (I) and (II) of clause (ii) of subparagraph (E) shall apply to an electronic transmission described in clause (i) in the same manner as such provisions apply with respect to an electronic transmission described in clause (i) of such subparagraph.

"(iii) SPECIAL RULE FOR 2021.—The program shall be deemed to be in compliance with clause (i) for 2021 if the program complies with the provisions of section 423.160(b)(7) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation), for such year.

"(iv) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed as to allow a real-time benefits tool to steer an individual, without the consent of the individual, to a particular pharmacy or pharmacy setting over their preferred pharmacy setting nor prohibit the designation of a preferred pharmacy under such tool."

#### SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE NEED TO EXPAND COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE DRUG PRICING COMPARISON PLATFORMS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) commercially available drug pricing comparison platforms can, at no cost, help patients find the lowest price for their medications at their local pharmacy;

(2) such platforms should be integrated, to the maximum extent possible, in the health care delivery ecosystem; and

(3) pharmacy benefit managers should work to disclose generic and brand name drug prices to such platforms to ensure that—

(A) patients can benefit from the lowest possible price available to them; and

(B) overall drug prices can be reduced as more educated purchasing decisions are made based on price transparency.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam 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. 2115.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. SPANBERGER), an author and supporter of this bill.

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 2115, the Public Disclosure of Drug Discounts Act.

First, I thank my colleagues Congressman ARRINGTON and Congressman BOYLE for their partnership on this bipartisan legislation. I thank Congresswoman SLOTKIN for her cooperation and commitment to our efforts. And I thank Congresswoman SCHAKOWSKY for her work here today.

Madam Speaker, if we are going to make substantial long-term progress on the issue of prescription drugs, we can't be afraid to work in a bipartisan manner, and I thank my colleagues for joining me in this fight.

I also thank Chairman PALLONE and Chairman NEAL for their dedicated work on tackling prescription drug costs and the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Ways and Means for voting to advance our bill and making this floor vote possible.

This bipartisan bill would help address the number one concern facing central Virginia's working families, chronically ill, and seniors—the rising cost of healthcare.

In every community in the Seventh District of Virginia, from Chesterfield to Culpeper, the extremely personal effects of rising prescription drug costs are on full display. Whether at a coffee shop, town hall, or street fair, I always hear yet another heartbreaking story from a mother, a father, a grandparent, or a young adult struggling to afford their prescription drugs. People genuinely feel helpless, and it is due to no fault of their own.

In many cases, steep costs have forced them to make nearly impossible decisions. A costly, lifesaving medication could mean buying fewer groceries for their family. It could mean reluctantly selling their home. It could mean saving less, or nothing at all, for their retirement or their kids' education. And even for those who are healthy, there is an overwhelming fear: What if I get sick, or what if a loved one gets sick, and we can't afford the medication?

Back in August, I held a roundtable with patients, pharmacists, and healthcare providers in Henrico County to discuss this community-wide issue. Together, we talked about the financial challenges caused by overpriced drugs, but we also discussed the issue of pharmacy benefit managers, PBMs.

To those in the healthcare industry, PBMs are known as the middlemen between drugmakers, health insurers, and pharmacies. But for many Americans, PBMs remain a mysterious player within the prescription drug marketplace.

Operating in the murky world of drug negotiation, there are few windows into the value of the rebates and discounts PBMs receive from drug companies. Effectively, they are a black box in the long supply chain from the pharmaceutical company to the patient.

During our roundtable in Henrico, one local pharmacist described how PBMs continue to enjoy record profits thanks to the pharmaceutical industry, while patients and pharmacists get stuck with unsustainable costs.

Right now, the three largest PBMs control three-quarters of the U.S. prescription drug market. There seems to be little transparency. And where there is zero transparency, there is rarely room for accountability or oversight.

If we don't cast sunlight into this black box, patients will continue to be left in the dark about the effect of PBMs on the prices of specific drugs. The Public Disclosure of Drug Discounts Act would be a step toward bringing greater transparency to this broken system.

The principle behind my bill is simple. Let's take the information already provided to the Federal Government and make it public.

PBMs are already required to declare rebate data, discounts, and generic dispensing rates to HHS, but under my bill, this information would be posted publicly for the general public to see.

Beyond the principle of my bill, the goal is even simpler: lowering drug costs for our neighbors.

By sharing this information online with American consumers and businesses, we would give seniors, families, and pharmacists a better sense of how PBMs could be influencing excessive prices. And we would start to address one of the root causes of our prescription drug affordability crisis.

In central Virginia and across the country, families should not be racked by a constant uneasiness about their financial well-being simply due to rising drug costs. They shouldn't be forced to accept silently the undisclosed results of PBM negotiations that could be bankrupting them.

We need to show the American people that we want to see progress on this vital economic issue and that we are hearing their stories, seeing the problems that exist, and actually moving to reform a prescription drug marketplace that too often seems to be working against the best interests of American patients.

Today, I call on my colleagues to pass the Public Disclosure of Drug Discounts Act because we are long overdue for meaningful actions that can turn the tide.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 2115, the Public Disclosure of Drug Discounts and Real-Time Beneficiary Drug Cost Act.

This bill includes three provisions that passed through the Committee on Energy and Commerce in July as part of a larger transparency package, at that time called the METRIC Act.

The first provision aims to hold pharmacy benefit managers accountable in the negotiation of rebates by requiring the Secretary of the Department of

Health and Human Services to make rebates, discounts, direct and indirect remuneration fees, and other information available on a public website. This policy includes a requirement that this information be displayed in such a way that it maintains the confidentiality of individual drugs and plans.

What I believe is the most important provision is the one that requires prescription drug plan sponsors to include real-time benefits information in electronic prescribing in Medicare. As a physician, I recognize how important it is for doctors to have as much information at their disposal in prescribing appropriate medications for their patients.

Madam Speaker, I thank my fellow Texans, JOEY ARRINGTON as well as PETE OLSON, for bringing forth this policy.

In the past few years, we have begun to see the success of the 21st Century Cures Act actually come to life. New treatments and new cures are coming to the market at an exciting pace, providing great promise for America's patients.

It is important that doctors be able to see and compare the prices of these medications so that they can help their patients assess their options. Price transparency at the point of prescribing will provide physicians with information regarding what would or would not be covered under their patients' insurance and would help them discuss what would be the most affordable options that are available to their patients.

While there are a lot of factors that doctors must consider when prescribing their patients' medications, medication adherence is essential. If patients cannot afford their drugs, the stage is set for a lack of adherence to the recommended regimen.

We have all heard the stories of patients showing up at the pharmacy counter to pick up their prescriptions, at which point they learn it is unaffordable. This policy would help reduce the number of prescriptions left at the pharmacy counter, not picked up due to cost concerns.

The American Medical Association testified at our drug supply hearing in May that "access to accurate patient coverage and cost-sharing information at the point-of-care would streamline the process, reduce burden for the physician and the patient, and speed delivery of the most appropriate care."

I agree with that statement, and I am pleased this legislation would improve access to real-time benefits data, further informing quality and doctor-patient decisionmaking and improving patient access to affordable medications.

Madam Speaker, I urge Members to support H.R. 2115, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) on this legislation.

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman SCHAKOWSKY and Congresswoman SPANBERGER.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of my bill, the Real-Time Benefits Act, which has been incorporated into the bill before us today.

The bill started with a very simple request from seniors in my district. People want to know how much a prescription will cost before they pick it up at the drugstore, and they deserve to know that it is the best possible price that they can get.

This bill does that very thing. It provides Medicare patients with the information they need about the cost of the prescription and whether there are generic alternatives, as well as the best pharmacy for the best deal before they even leave the doctor's office.

Right now, here is how the system works. A patient goes to the doctor, gets a prescription, and walks out. Then they take it to a local pharmacy, fill it, and pick it up. It is right then, at the counter, in front of everyone else, that they actually find out the price of their bill.

There is no advanced warning, no comparison shopping, no offer of generics, and no way of knowing if a different pharmacy could have it cheaper. By the time you get to the pharmacy, they have you over a barrel. This bipartisan bill would fix that.

Here is how it works. Insurers would be required to provide information to a common system, a real-time benefits tool, which doctors would access through their electronic prescribing program. Doctors and patients could then sit together to receive real-time updates, right in the doctor's office, on the price of the drug based on the patient's insurance plan, as well as the price of any other cheaper drugs available.

This real-time benefits tools will also list the price differences at each pharmacy—Rite Aid versus CVS—to allow physicians to make sure that the patients are getting the lowest possible prices.

□ 1830

This not only lowers out-of-pocket costs for seniors, but it increases much-needed price transparency into our system.

Imagine if, every time you went to the doctor, both you and your physician could see the differences in the prices of drugs. This is the kind of all-American competition we need when it comes to our prescription drugs.

To be clear, the cost of prescription drugs is the number one issue I get asked about in my district. People come up to me in the grocery store. They grab my arm. They ask me why their medication has increased by 200 percent in cost in the past 5 years.

Connie, a constituent of mine in Brighton, spends \$10,000 a year on Humira for her Crohn's disease, even though she is on Medicare.

Joanna, who lives in my hometown of Holly, Michigan, was hospitalized for several days due to complications because she could not afford her inhaler. Her complex health needs require a number of medicines, so she literally rations her medicines in order to keep them manageable, and she still spends hundreds of dollars each month.

This is wrong, and our constituents, regardless of party, are asking us to do something about it.

Democrats and Republicans have both said the right things about the cost of prescription drugs. They have talked the talk. They now must walk the walk.

I am incredibly proud to have brought forth this bipartisan legislation tonight. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" to promote transparency and competition.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), a pharmacist by profession and a very valuable member of the Health Subcommittee of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise to speak in support of H.R. 2115, the Public Disclosure of Drug Discounts Act. I am very glad to see this bill, which was part of the METRIC Act Representative SCHAKOWSKY and I passed out of Energy and Commerce, being moved through the House floor. This is important legislation that brings desperately needed transparency to our drug supply chain.

So much of the debate around how we can lower drug prices in this country has been focused on drug manufacturers. This bill highlights the need for reforms throughout our entire drug supply system. Specifically, this bill shines a spotlight on the middlemen in our drug supply chain: the pharmacy benefit managers, or PBMs.

For context, three PBMs control almost 80 percent of the marketplace, and while originally designed to primarily process claims data, these companies are now some of the largest corporations in the country. For the year 2019, the major PBM companies had a higher projected revenue than Facebook, Amazon, Apple, Netflix, and Google combined.

Again, for this year, 2019, the major PBM companies had a higher projected revenue than Facebook, Amazon, Apple, Netflix, and Google combined.

In a time where patients are facing higher and higher drug costs, it is clear that more transparency of these middlemen is desperately needed, at the very least. This bill, H.R. 2115, will require PBMs to report information on all of the rebates, fees, and discounts they extract before a drug ever reaches patients.

PBMs argue that it is actually better for patients that the PBMs extract all of these increasingly high rebates and fees because they pass those discounts on to the insurance plans to lower premiums.

While I completely disagree with that premise, this bill will finally allow all of us to see for ourselves exactly how much of a cut these middlemen are taking out of the system.

Transparency is absolutely critical if we are going to lower drug prices for patients, and this bill is a big step in the right direction.

I applaud Representatives SPANBERGER, ARRINGTON, and BOYLE for their leadership on this bill, as well as my Energy and Commerce counterpart, Congresswoman SCHAKOWSKY.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2115.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close now just by saying the cost of prescription drugs is an issue on the minds of all of our constituents, in a bipartisan way, all across the country, and this bill will provide much-needed transparency around the activity of pharmacy benefit managers, or PBMs.

You heard very eloquent statements from our colleagues on this issue. I am going to close now and just say I hope that all of our colleagues will vote for this legislation.

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

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON), coauthor of this legislation.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend and fellow Texan, Dr. BURGESS, for yielding me time to speak.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2115, legislation I was proud to help lead and support, alongside Congresswoman SPANBERGER, which will provide greater transparency to the discounts negotiated between insurance companies and drug manufacturers through what are known as pharmacy benefit managers, or PBMs.

One of the reasons why drug costs have spiraled out of control is because discounts negotiated by PBMs are shrouded in secrecy. Americans are left in the dark about the rebates, and we have no idea where the value of those rebates go.

But we know this: We know they are not going to our seniors. We know they are not going to them at the point of sale. This has created a system that is confusing and overly complicated, particularly for our seniors.

My greatest concern is that the value, again, of these rebates is being passed to our seniors, who need the relief desperately.

The answer to this drug affordability crisis is not to impose more government control, which would only further distort the market, further confuse our seniors, and increase costs on all Americans. Instead, we need to activate the forces of competition and provide patients with more transparency in this process so that they are empowered to know exactly what their options are and what they are paying for each time they visit the pharmacy.



This legislation will help ensure that rebates go toward reducing the cost of drugs for our seniors as well as the cost to the American taxpayer.

Additionally, I am thankful this legislation includes the text of my bill, the Shop Rx Act. This provision, which I carried in committee with the support of both Republicans and Democrats, requires drug plans for seniors to offer realtime information regarding the various options of drugs and their associated costs.

By providing seniors with access to the readily available and relevant information they need in order to be real consumers, we will empower them with the knowledge to choose the options that best fit their needs and their budget. Once consumers have more information, they will have more choices, and insurers will have to actually compete for their business, which will ultimately bring down the cost of drugs.

Madam Speaker, I believe this legislation will help transform the system from one in which patients are often powerless victims to one in which they have true bargaining power and real control over their healthcare needs. I am proud to support it, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE), a valuable member of the Health Subcommittee.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Far too many Montanans can't afford the prescription drugs they need. They shouldn't have to leave the pharmacy counter empty-handed because costs are too high. Montanans need access to affordable medications, which is why reducing drug prices is one of my top priorities.

To lower costs, we need more transparency in our healthcare system. We need to shine a light onto the opaque drug pricing process. Our common-sense, bipartisan bill before the House today will shine that much-needed light.

The Payment Commission Data Act gives Congress' nonpartisan think tanks MedPAC and MACPAC greater access to drug pricing data. Armed with this data, they can better advise Congress about who is being a bad actor in the drug supply chain. It will help Congress address prescription drug prices more effectively.

We all want to ensure the American people can buy more affordable prescription drugs. I believe the bipartisan approach we have here should be a working model for how to move forward, not simply ramming through partisan bills.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this common-sense reform to lower drug prices.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2115, the "Public Dis-

closure of Drug Discounts Act" introduced from my friend and colleague, Ms. SPANBERGER.

While I believe something must be done to bring down the cost of drugs, I also know that unless we have a better view into the process of how a patient's cost is calculated, we will continue to struggle to address the problem. That's why I support this important piece of legislation that requires PBMs to report on all the price concessions and factors that contribute to determining the net cost of a drug.

PBMs play an important role in our healthcare system as the intermediary negotiating drug prices in the current marketplace. But only if we understand the actual cost of the drug can we ensure that consumers are getting a fair shake. The bill before you today is comprehensive, as it requires PBMs to report the amount of rebates, discounts, direct and indirect remuneration fees, administrative fees, and any other price concessions. The Secretary will make this information available publicly in a way that aggregates the information by class of a drug to protect the negotiation process but also provide insight into any discrepancy between the negotiated drug's net cost and the price a patient pays for that drug.

Addressing any healthcare problem requires a comprehensive approach. There is no one entity that is solely responsible for the high cost of drugs. We need transparency in our healthcare system. This bill had bipartisan support throughout the Committee process and similar measures have had support in the Senate. I am proud that we continue to work on measures that will help address one of the most concerning issues of our time, the exorbitant price of prescription drugs, and I thank leadership for bringing this measure to the floor today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2115, 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.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 2440; and

H.R. 2115.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

FULL UTILIZATION OF THE HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2440) to provide for the use of funds in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for the purposes for which the funds were collected and to ensure that funds credited to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund are used to support navigation, 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 Oregon (Mr. DEFazio) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 296, nays 109, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 585]

YEAS—296

Abraham	Davis, Danny K.	Jeffries
Adams	Davis, Rodney	Johnson (GA)
Aguilar	Dean	Johnson (LA)
Allred	DeFazio	Johnson (TX)
Amodei	DeGette	Joyce (OH)
Axne	DeLauro	Kaptur
Babin	DelBene	Katko
Bacon	Delgado	Keating
Baird	Demings	Kelly (IL)
Balderson	DeSaulnier	Kelly (PA)
Barragan	Deutch	Khanna
Bass	Dingell	Kildee
Bera	Doggett	Kilmer
Bergman	Dunn	Kim
Beyer	Emmer	Kind
Bilirakis	Engel	King (NY)
Bishop (GA)	Escobar	Kinzinger
Blumenauer	Eshoo	Kirkpatrick
Blunt Rochester	Espallat	Krishnamoorthi
Bonamici	Evans	Kuster (NH)
Bost	Finkenauer	LaMalfa
Boyle, Brendan	Fitzpatrick	Lamb
F.	Fletcher	Langevin
Brindisi	Foster	Larsen (WA)
Brooks (IN)	Frankel	Larson (CT)
Brown (MD)	Fudge	Lawrence
Brownley (CA)	Gabbard	Lawson (FL)
Buchanan	Gallagher	Lee (CA)
Bucshon	Gallego	Lee (NV)
Bustos	Garamendi	Levin (CA)
Butterfield	Garcia (IL)	Levin (MI)
Byrne	Garcia (TX)	Lewis
Calvert	Gibbs	Lieu, Ted
Carbajal	Golden	Lipinski
Cárdenas	Gomez	Loeb
Carson (IN)	Gonzalez (OH)	Loftgren
Case	Gonzalez (TX)	Lowenthal
Casten (IL)	Gottheimer	Lowe
Castor (FL)	Graves (LA)	Lucas
Castro (TX)	Graves (MO)	Lujan
Chu, Judy	Green, Al (TX)	Luria
Cicilline	Grijalva	Lynch
Cisneros	Haaland	Malinowski
Clark (MA)	Hagedorn	Maloney
Clarke (NY)	Harder (CA)	Carolyn B.
Clay	Hartzler	Maloney, Sean
Cleaver	Hastings	Mast
Cloud	Hayes	Matsui
Clyburn	Heck	McBath
Cohen	Herrera Beutler	McCaul
Connolly	Higgins (LA)	McCollum
Cook	Higgins (NY)	McGovern
Cooper	Himes	McKinley
Correa	Hollingsworth	McNerney
Courtney	Horn, Kendra S.	Miller
Craig	Horsford	Mitchell
Crenshaw	Houlihan	Moore
Crist	Hoyer	Morelle
Crow	Huizenga	Moulton
Cuellar	Hunter	Mucarsel-Powell
Cunningham	Hurd (TX)	Mullin
Davids (KS)	Jackson Lee	Murphy (FL)
Davis (CA)	Jayapal	Murphy (NC)

Nadler  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Neguse  
Newhouse  
Norcross  
O'Halleran  
Ocasio-Cortez  
Olson  
Palazzo  
Pallone  
Panetta  
Pappas  
Pascrell  
Payne  
Pence  
Perlmutter  
Peters  
Peterson  
Phillips  
Pingree  
Porter  
Posey  
Pressley  
Price (NC)  
Quigley  
Raskin  
Reschenthaler  
Rice (NY)  
Richmond  
Rodgers (WA)  
Rose (NY)  
Rouda  
Rouzer  
Roybal-Allard  
Ruiz  
Ruppersberger

Rush  
Rutherford  
Sánchez  
Sarbanes  
Scalise  
Scanlon  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schneider  
Schrader  
Schrier  
Scott (VA)  
Scott, David  
Serrano  
Sewell (AL)  
Shalala  
Sherman  
Sherrill  
Shimkus  
Simpson  
Sires  
Slotkin  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (WA)  
Soto  
Spanberger  
Spano  
Speier  
Stanton  
Staubert  
Stefanik  
Stevens  
Suoizzi  
Swalwell (CA)  
Takano  
Thompson (MS)  
Thompson (PA)

Titus  
Tlaib  
Tonko  
Torres (CA)  
Torres Small (NM)  
Trahan  
Trone  
Underwood  
Upton  
Van Drew  
Vargas  
Veasey  
Vela  
Velázquez  
Visclosky  
Walberg  
Walden  
Walorski  
Waltz  
Wasserman  
Schultz  
Waters  
Watson Coleman  
Weber (TX)  
Webster (FL)  
Welch  
Westerman  
Wexton  
Wild  
Wilson (FL)  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Yarmuth  
Yoho  
Young  
Zeldin

NAYS—109

Aderholt  
Allen  
Amash  
Armstrong  
Arrington  
Banks  
Barr  
Biggs  
Bishop (NC)  
Bishop (UT)  
Brady  
Brooks (AL)  
Buck  
Budd  
Burchett  
Burgess  
Carter (GA)  
Chabot  
Cheney  
Cline  
Cole  
Collins (GA)  
Comer  
Conaway  
Crawford  
Curtis  
Davidson (OH)  
DesJarlais  
Diaz-Balart  
Duncan  
Estes  
Ferguson  
Fleischmann  
Flores  
Fortenberry  
Foxx (NC)  
Fulcher

Gaetz  
Gianforte  
Gooden  
Granger  
Graves (GA)  
Green (TN)  
Griffith  
Grothman  
Guest  
Guthrie  
Harris  
Hern, Kevin  
Hill (AR)  
Holding  
Hudson  
Johnson (OH)  
Johnson (SD)  
Jordan  
Joyce (PA)  
Keller  
Kelly (MS)  
King (IA)  
Kustoff (TN)  
LaHood  
Latta  
Lathrop  
Lesko  
Long  
Loudermilk  
Luetkemeyer  
Marshall  
Massie  
McAdams  
Walker  
Watkins  
McClintock  
McHenry  
Meadows  
Meuser

Moolenaar  
Mooney (WV)  
Norman  
Nunes  
Palmer  
Perry  
Ratcliffe  
Reed  
Rice (SC)  
Riggleman  
Roe, David P.  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rose, John W.  
Roy  
Schweikert  
Scott, Austin  
Sensenbrenner  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smucker  
Steil  
Steube  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Taylor  
Thornberry  
Tipton  
Turner  
Wagner  
Walker  
Watkins  
Wenstrup  
Womack  
Woodall

NOT VOTING—26

Beatty  
Carter (TX)  
Cartwright  
Costa  
Cox (CA)  
Doyle, Michael  
F.  
Gohmert  
Gosar

Hice (GA)  
Hill (CA)  
Huffman  
Kennedy  
Lamborn  
Marchant  
McEachin  
Meeks  
Meng

Omar  
Pocan  
Roby  
Rooney (FL)  
Ryan  
Thompson (CA)  
Timmons  
Williams  
Wright

□ 1906

Messrs. DUNCAN, CRAWFORD, ADERHOLT, RATCLIFFE, STIVERS, and FLORES changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Messrs. BAIRD, WALDEN, ROSE of New York, HAGEDORN, and ABRAHAM 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.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF DRUG DISCOUNTS AND REAL-TIME BENEFICIARY DRUG COST ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2115) to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide greater transparency of discounts provided by drug manufacturers, 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 gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 403, nays 0, not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 586]

YEAS—403

Abraham  
Adams  
Aderholt  
Aguilar  
Allen  
Allred  
Amash  
Amodei  
Armstrong  
Arrington  
Axne  
Babin  
Bacon  
Baird  
Balderson  
Banks  
Barr  
Barragán  
Bass  
Bera  
Bergman  
Beyer  
Biggs  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (NC)  
Bishop (UT)  
Blumenauer  
Blunt Rochester  
Bonamici  
Bost  
Boyle, Brendan  
F.  
Brady  
Brindisi  
Brooks (AL)  
Brooks (IN)  
Brown (MD)  
Brownley (CA)  
Buchanan  
Buck  
Bucshon  
Budd  
Burchett  
Burgess  
Bustos  
Butterfield  
Byrne  
Calvert  
Carbajal  
Cárdenas  
Carson (IN)  
Carter (GA)  
Case  
Casten (IL)  
Castor (FL)

Castro (TX)  
Chabot  
Cheney  
Chu, Judy  
Cicilline  
Cisneros  
Clark (MA)  
Clarke (NY)  
Clay  
Cleaver  
Cline  
Cloud  
Clyburn  
Cohen  
Cole  
Collins (GA)  
Comer  
Conaway  
Connolly  
Cook  
Cooper  
Correa  
Courtney  
Craig  
Crawford  
Crenshaw  
Crist  
Crow  
Cuellar  
Cunningham  
Curtis  
Davids (KS)  
Davidson (OH)  
Davis (CA)  
Davis, Danny K.  
Davis, Rodney  
Dean  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
Delgado  
Demings  
DeSaulnier  
DesJarlais  
Deutch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Duncan  
Dunn  
Emmer  
Engel  
Escobar  
Eshoo  
Española

Estes  
Evans  
Ferguson  
Finkenauer  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Fletcher  
Flores  
Fortenberry  
Foster  
Foxx (NC)  
Frankel  
Fudge  
Fulcher  
Gabbard  
Gaetz  
Gallagher  
Gallego  
Garamendi  
Garcia (IL)  
Garcia (TX)  
Gianforte  
Gibbs  
Golden  
Gomez  
Gonzalez (OH)  
Gonzalez (TX)  
Gooden  
Gottheimer  
Granger  
Graves (GA)  
Graves (LA)  
Graves (MO)  
Green (TN)  
Green, Al (TX)  
Grijalva  
Grothman  
Guest  
Guthrie  
Haaland  
Hagedorn  
Harder (CA)  
Harris  
Hartzler  
Hastings  
Hayes  
Heck  
Hern, Kevin  
Herrera Beutler  
Higgins (LA)  
Higgins (NY)  
Hill (AR)  
Himes  
Holding  
Hollingsworth  
Horn, Kendra S.

Horsford  
Houlahan  
Hoyer  
Hudson  
Huizenga  
Hunter  
Hurd (TX)  
Jackson Lee  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson (LA)  
Johnson (OH)  
Johnson (SD)  
Johnson (TX)  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Joyce (PA)  
Katko  
Keating  
Keller  
Kelly (IL)  
Kelly (MS)  
Kelly (PA)  
Khanna  
Kildee  
Kilmer  
Kim  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kinzinger  
Kirkpatrick  
Krishnamoorthi  
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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.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to amend titles XI and XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide greater transparency for discounts provided by manufacturers, to include real-time benefit information as part of a prescription drug plan's electronic prescription program under the Medicare program, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AFFIRMATION OF H.R. 296, AFFIRMING THE UNITED STATES RECORD ON THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE**

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-263) on the resolution (H. Res. 655) providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 296) affirming the United States record on the Armenian Genocide, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

**REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 823, COLORADO OUTDOOR RECREATION AND ECONOMY ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1373, GRAND CANYON CENTENNIAL PROTECTION ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2181, CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE AREA PROTECTION ACT OF 2019; AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2019, THROUGH NOVEMBER 11, 2019**

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-264) on the resolution (H. Res. 656) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 823) to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1373) to protect, for current and future generations, the watershed, ecosystem, and cultural heritage of the Grand Canyon region in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2181) to provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico; and providing for proceedings during the period from November 1, 2019, through November 11, 2019, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

**REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3495**

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to

remove my name as a cosponsor for H.R. 3495.

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

There was no objection.

**REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3495**

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 3495.

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

There was no objection.

**REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3495**

Mr. HARDER of California. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor for H.R. 3495.

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

There was no objection.

**PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACT**

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 647) to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 647

*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 "Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act".

**SEC. 2. PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE EDUCATION AND TRAINING.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part D of title VII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 294 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 759 the following:

**"SEC. 759A. PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE EDUCATION AND TRAINING.**

"(a) PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE EDUCATION CENTERS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants or contracts under this section to entities described in paragraph (1), (3), or (4) of section 799B, and section 801(2), for the establishment or operation of Palliative Care and Hospice Education Centers that meet the requirements of paragraph (2).

"(2) REQUIREMENTS.—A Palliative Care and Hospice Education Center meets the requirements of this paragraph if such Center—

"(A) improves the interprofessional team-based training of health professionals in pal-

liative care, including residencies, traineeships, or fellowships;

"(B) develops and disseminates interprofessional team-based curricula relating to the palliative treatment of the complex health problems of individuals with serious or life-threatening illnesses;

"(C) supports the training and retraining of faculty to provide instruction in interprofessional team-based palliative care;

"(D) supports interprofessional team-based continuing education of health professionals who provide palliative care to patients with serious or life-threatening illness;

"(E) provides students (including residents, trainees, and fellows) with clinical training in interprofessional team-based palliative care in appropriate health settings, including hospitals, hospices, home care, long-term care facilities, and ambulatory care centers;

"(F) establishes traineeships for individuals who are preparing for advanced education nursing degrees, social work degrees, or advanced degrees in physician assistant studies, with a focus in interprofessional team-based palliative care in appropriate health settings, including hospitals, hospices, home care, long-term care facilities, and ambulatory care centers;

"(G) supports collaboration between multiple specialty training programs (such as medicine, nursing, social work, physician assistant, chaplaincy, and pharmacy) and clinical training sites to provide training in interprofessional team-based palliative care; and

"(H) does not duplicate the activities of existing education centers funded under this section or under section 753 or 865.

"(3) EXPANSION OF EXISTING CENTERS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to—

"(A) prevent the Secretary from providing grants to expand existing education centers, including geriatric education centers established under section 753 or 865, to provide for education and training focused specifically on palliative care, including for non-geriatric populations; or

"(B) limit the number of education centers that may be funded in a community.

"(b) PALLIATIVE MEDICINE PHYSICIAN TRAINING.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make grants to, and enter into contracts with, schools of medicine, schools of osteopathic medicine, teaching hospitals, and graduate medical education programs for the purpose of providing support for projects that fund the training of physicians (including residents, trainees, and fellows) who plan to teach palliative medicine.

"(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Each project for which a grant or contract is made under this subsection shall—

"(A) be staffed by full-time teaching physicians who have experience or training in interprofessional team-based palliative medicine;

"(B) be based in a hospice and palliative medicine fellowship program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education;

"(C) provide training in interprofessional team-based palliative medicine through a variety of service rotations, such as consultation services, acute care services, extended care facilities, ambulatory care and comprehensive evaluation units, hospices, home care, and community care programs;

"(D) develop specific performance-based measures to evaluate the competency of trainees; and

"(E) provide training in interprofessional team-based palliative medicine through one or both of the training options described in paragraph (3).

“(3) TRAINING OPTIONS.—The training options referred to in subparagraph (E) of paragraph (2) are as follows:

“(A) 1-year retraining programs in hospice and palliative medicine for physicians who are faculty at schools of medicine and osteopathic medicine, or others determined appropriate by the Secretary.

“(B) 1- or 2-year training programs that are designed to provide training in interprofessional team-based hospice and palliative medicine for physicians who have completed graduate medical education programs in any medical specialty leading to board eligibility in hospice and palliative medicine pursuant to the American Board of Medical Specialties.

“(4) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘graduate medical education’ means a program sponsored by a school of medicine, a school of osteopathic medicine, a hospital, or a public or private institution that—

“(A) offers postgraduate medical training in the specialties and subspecialties of medicine; and

“(B) has been accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or the American Osteopathic Association through its Committee on Postdoctoral Training.

“(C) PALLIATIVE MEDICINE AND HOSPICE ACADEMIC CAREER AWARDS.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish a program to provide awards, to be known as the ‘Palliative Medicine and Hospice Academic Career Awards’, to eligible individuals to promote the career development of such individuals as academic hospice and palliative care physicians.

“(2) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—To be eligible to receive an award under paragraph (1), an individual shall—

“(A) be board certified or board eligible in hospice and palliative medicine; and

“(B) have a junior (non-tenured) faculty appointment at an accredited (as determined by the Secretary) school of medicine or osteopathic medicine.

“(3) LIMITATIONS.—No award under paragraph (1) may be made to an eligible individual unless the individual—

“(A) has submitted to the Secretary an application, at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, and the Secretary has approved such application;

“(B) provides, in such form and manner as the Secretary may require, assurances that the individual will meet the service requirement described in paragraph (6); and

“(C) provides, in such form and manner as the Secretary may require, assurances that the individual has a full-time faculty appointment in a health professions institution and documented commitment from such institution to spend a majority of the total funded time of such individual on teaching and developing skills in education in interprofessional team-based palliative care.

“(4) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—An eligible individual who receives an award under paragraph (1) shall provide assurances to the Secretary that funds provided to the eligible individual under this subsection will be used only to supplement, not to supplant, the amount of Federal, State, and local funds otherwise expended by the eligible individual.

“(5) AMOUNT AND TERM.—

“(A) AMOUNT.—The amount of an award under this subsection shall be equal to the award amount provided for under section 753(c)(5)(A) for the fiscal year involved.

“(B) TERM.—The term of an award made under this subsection shall not exceed 5 years.

“(C) PAYMENT TO INSTITUTION.—The Secretary shall make payments for awards under this subsection to institutions, including schools of medicine and osteopathic medicine.

“(6) SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—An individual who receives an award under this subsection shall provide training in palliative care and hospice, including the training of interprofessional teams of health care professionals. The provision of such training shall constitute a majority of the total funded obligations of such individual under the award.

“(d) PALLIATIVE CARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants or contracts under this subsection to entities that operate a Palliative Care and Hospice Education Center pursuant to subsection (a)(1).

“(2) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for an award under paragraph (1), an entity described in such paragraph shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

“(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts awarded under a grant or contract under paragraph (1) shall be used to carry out the fellowship program described in paragraph (4).

“(4) FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to paragraph (3), a Palliative Care and Hospice Education Center that receives an award under this subsection shall use such funds to offer short-term intensive courses (referred to in this subsection as a ‘fellowship’) that focus on interprofessional team-based palliative care that provide supplemental training for faculty members in medical schools and other health professions schools with programs in psychology, pharmacy, nursing, social work, physician assistant education, chaplaincy, or other health disciplines, as approved by the Secretary. Such a fellowship shall be open to current faculty, and appropriately credentialed volunteer faculty and practitioners, who do not have formal training in palliative care, to upgrade their knowledge and clinical skills for the care of individuals with serious or life-threatening illness and to enhance their interdisciplinary and interprofessional teaching skills.

“(B) LOCATION.—A fellowship under this paragraph shall be offered either at the Palliative Care and Hospice Education Center that is sponsoring the course, in collaboration with other Palliative Care and Hospice Education Centers, or at medical schools, schools of nursing, schools of pharmacy, schools of social work, schools of chaplaincy or pastoral care education, graduate programs in psychology, physician assistant education programs, or other health professions schools approved by the Secretary with which the Centers are affiliated.

“(C) CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT.—Participation in a fellowship under this paragraph shall be accepted with respect to complying with continuing health profession education requirements. As a condition of such acceptance, the recipient shall subsequently provide a minimum of 18 hours of voluntary instruction in palliative care content (that has been approved by a palliative care and hospice education center) to students or trainees in health-related educational, home, hospice, or long-term care settings.

“(5) TARGETS.—A Palliative Care and Hospice Education Center that receives an award under paragraph (1) shall meet targets approved by the Secretary for providing training in interprofessional team-based palliative care to a certain number of faculty or practitioners during the term of the award, as well as other parameters established by the Secretary.

“(6) AMOUNT OF AWARD.—Each award under paragraph (1) shall be in the amount of \$150,000. Not more than 24 Palliative Care and Hospice Education Centers may receive an award under such paragraph.

“(7) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—A Palliative Care and Hospice Education Center that receives an award under paragraph (1) shall provide assurances to the Secretary that funds provided to the Center under the award will be used only to supplement, not to supplant, the amount of Federal, State, and local funds otherwise expended by such Center.

“(e) PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE CAREER INCENTIVE AWARDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants or contracts under this subsection to individuals described in paragraph (2) to foster greater interest among a variety of health professionals in entering the field of palliative care.

“(2) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—To be eligible to receive an award under paragraph (1), an individual shall—

“(A) be an advanced practice nurse, a social worker, physician assistant, pharmacist, chaplain, or student of psychology who is pursuing a doctorate, masters, or other advanced degree with a focus in interprofessional team-based palliative care or related fields in an accredited health professions school; and

“(B) submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

“(3) CONDITIONS OF AWARD.—As a condition of receiving an award under paragraph (1), an individual shall agree that, following completion of the award period, the individual will teach or practice palliative care in health-related educational, home, hospice, or long-term care settings for a minimum of 5 years under guidelines established by the Secretary.

“(4) PAYMENT TO INSTITUTION.—The Secretary shall make payments for awards under paragraph (1) to institutions that include schools of medicine, osteopathic medicine, nursing, social work, psychology, chaplaincy or pastoral care education, dentistry, and pharmacy, or other allied health discipline in an accredited health professions school or program (such as a physician assistant education program) that is approved by the Secretary.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, \$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2020 through 2024.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall be effective beginning on the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

### SEC. 3. HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE NURSING.

(a) NURSE EDUCATION, PRACTICE, AND QUALITY GRANTS.—Section 831(b)(3) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p(b)(3)) is amended by inserting “hospice and palliative nursing,” after “coordinated care.”

(b) PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS.—Part D of title VIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

#### “SEC. 832. PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

“(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities to develop and implement, in coordination with programs under section 759A, programs and initiatives to train and educate individuals in providing interprofessional team-based palliative care in health-related educational, hospital, hospice, home, or long-term care settings.

“(b) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under subsection (a) shall use funds under such grant to—

“(1) provide training to individuals who will provide palliative care in health-related educational, hospital, home, hospice, or long-term care settings;

“(2) develop and disseminate curricula relating to palliative care in health-related educational, hospital, home, hospice, or long-term care settings;

“(3) train faculty members in palliative care in health-related educational, hospital, home, hospice, or long-term care settings; or

“(4) provide continuing education to individuals who provide palliative care in health-related educational, home, hospice, or long-term care settings.

“(c) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity desiring a grant under subsection (a) shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

“(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘eligible entity’ shall include a school of nursing, a health care facility, a program leading to certification as a certified nurse assistant, a partnership of such a school and facility, or a partnership of such a program and facility.

“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.”.

#### SEC. 4. DISSEMINATION OF PALLIATIVE CARE INFORMATION.

Part A of title IX of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 299 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### “SEC. 904. DISSEMINATION OF PALLIATIVE CARE INFORMATION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Under the authority under section 902(a) to disseminate information on health care and on systems for the delivery of such care, the Director may disseminate information to inform patients, families, and health professionals about the benefits of palliative care throughout the continuum of care for patients with serious or life-threatening illness.

“(b) INFORMATION DISSEMINATED.—

“(1) MANDATORY INFORMATION.—If the Director elects to disseminate information under subsection (a), such dissemination shall include the following:

“(A) PALLIATIVE CARE.—Information, resources, and communication materials about palliative care as an essential part of the continuum of quality care for patients and families facing serious or life-threatening illness (including cancer; heart, kidney, liver, lung, and infectious diseases; as well as neurodegenerative disease such as dementia, Parkinson’s disease, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis).

“(B) PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES.—Specific information regarding the services provided to patients by professionals trained in hospice and palliative care, including pain and symptom management, support for shared decisionmaking, care coordination, psychosocial care, and spiritual care, explaining that such services may be provided starting at the point of diagnosis and alongside curative treatment and are intended to—

“(i) provide patient-centered and family-centered support throughout the continuum of care for serious and life-threatening illness;

“(ii) anticipate, prevent, and treat physical, emotional, social, and spiritual suffering;

“(iii) optimize quality of life; and

“(iv) facilitate and support the goals and values of patients and families.

“(C) PALLIATIVE CARE PROFESSIONALS.—Specific materials that explain the role of professionals trained in hospice and palliative care in providing team-based care (including pain and symptom management, support for shared decisionmaking, care coordination, psychosocial care, and spiritual care) for patients and families throughout the continuum of care for serious or life-threatening illness.

“(D) RESEARCH.—Evidence-based research demonstrating the benefits of patient access to palliative care throughout the continuum of care for serious or life-threatening illness.

“(E) POPULATION-SPECIFIC MATERIALS.—Materials targeting specific populations, including patients with serious or life-threatening illness who are among medically underserved populations (as defined in section 330(b)(3)) and families of such patients or health professionals serving medically underserved populations. Such populations shall include pediatric patients, young adult and adolescent patients, racial and ethnic minority populations, and other priority populations specified by the Director.

“(2) REQUIRED PUBLICATION.—Information and materials disseminated under paragraph (1) shall be posted on the Internet websites of relevant Federal agencies and departments, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and the Administration on Aging.

“(c) CONSULTATION.—The Director shall consult with appropriate professional societies, hospice and palliative care stakeholders, and relevant patient advocate organizations with respect to palliative care, psychosocial care, and complex chronic illness with respect to the following:

“(1) The planning and implementation of the dissemination of palliative care information under this section.

“(2) The development of information to be disseminated under this section.

“(3) A definition of the term ‘serious or life-threatening illness’ for purposes of this section.”.

#### SEC. 5. CLARIFICATION.

None of the funds authorized under this Act (or an amendment made by this Act) may be used to provide, promote, or provide training with regard to any item or service for which Federal funding is unavailable under section 3 of Public Law 105-12 (42 U.S.C. 14402).

#### SEC. 6. ENHANCING NIH RESEARCH IN PALLIATIVE CARE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part B of title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### “SEC. 409K. ENHANCING RESEARCH IN PALLIATIVE CARE.

“The Secretary, acting through the Director of the National Institutes of Health, shall develop and implement a strategy to be applied across the institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health to expand and intensify national research programs in palliative care in order to address the quality of care and quality of life for the rapidly growing population of patients in the United States with serious or life-threatening illnesses, including cancer; heart, kidney, liver, lung, and infectious diseases; as well as neurodegenerative diseases such as dementia, Parkinson’s disease, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.”.

(b) EXPANDING TRANS-NIH RESEARCH REPORTING TO INCLUDE PALLIATIVE CARE RESEARCH.—Section 402A(c)(2)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282a(c)(2)(B)) is amended by inserting “and, beginning January 1, 2020, for conducting or supporting research with respect to palliative care” after “or national centers”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STANTON). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) and the gentleman from TEXAS (Mr. BURGESS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. 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 materials on H.R. 647.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), the author of this important legislation.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to sponsor H.R. 647, the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act, which has 296 bipartisan cosponsors and endorsements from 54 national organizations, including the American Cancer Society and the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

The goal of palliative care is to provide patients relief from the symptoms of a serious illness. This form of medical care can accompany treatments and even cures. Often, an interdisciplinary team of healthcare providers consisting of doctors, nurses, social workers, and chaplains provide palliative care. In this capacity, these professionals often help patients with medical decisionmaking and care coordination.

Palliative and hospice care has been shown to improve health outcomes for patients, but not many people are aware of the benefits. Furthermore, our Nation has a shortage of qualified palliative and hospice care professionals.

The Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act will help remedy these issues. This bill will create programs to train the next generation of providers of palliative and hospice care. It will also better educate patients, families, and health professionals about palliative care’s benefits, and it encourages the National Institutes of Health to expand research in this field.

Nearly every one of us has felt the pain and stress of a serious illness, either personally or standing beside a loved one. By passing this bill, we will take an important step forward in bringing relief to patients suffering from serious illnesses.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member WALDEN for their leadership on this issue and Congressman REED and Congressman CARTER, who coauthored this bill with me.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter of support from 54 national organizations and 35 State organizations.

MAY 6, 2019.

Hon. ELIOT ENGEL,  
*House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. FRANK PALLONE, JR.,  
*Chair, Energy & Commerce Committee,*  
*House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. YVETTE D. CLARKE,  
*House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. TOM REED  
*House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. GREG WALDEN,  
*Ranking Member, Energy & Commerce Com-*  
*mittee, House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. BUDDY CARTER,  
*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Re: Support for the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA)

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES ENGEL, REED, AND CARTER, CHAIRMAN PALLONE, RANKING MEMBER WALDEN, AND VICE CHAIR CLARKE: The undersigned organizations write to express our support for H.R. 647, the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA). This bipartisan legislation will make a difference in the lives of millions of patients living with serious or life-threatening illness and their caregivers.

Despite a high intensity of medical treatment, many seriously ill individuals still experience troubling symptoms, unmet psychological and personal care needs, fragmented care, poor communication with their health care providers, and enormous strains on their family caregivers. However, numerous studies have shown that adding palliative care can improve pain and symptom control, quality of life, and patient and family satisfaction.

Palliative care is an interdisciplinary model of care focused on relief of the pain, stress and other debilitating symptoms of serious illness, such as cancer, cardiac disease, respiratory disease, kidney failure, Alzheimer's, AIDS, ALS, and MS. Its goal is to relieve suffering and provide the best possible quality of life for patients and their families. Palliative care can be offered simultaneously with life-prolonging and curative therapies for persons living with serious, complex, and eventually terminal illness and includes hospice care. By its very nature, palliative care is patient-centered care—translating patient goals to appropriate treatments.

We appreciate your leadership in recognizing the significant role palliative care and hospice can play in creating lasting change across the health care system. With PCHETA's focus on expanding the interdisciplinary palliative care workforce, promoting awareness of the benefits of palliative care among patient and providers, and improving the evidence base for this care, you have demonstrated a strong commitment to addressing key barriers to palliative care access for the growing number of Americans with serious or life-threatening illness.

Delivery of high-quality palliative care cannot take place without sufficient numbers of health care professionals with appropriate training and skills. Students graduating from medical, nursing or health care professional schools today have very little, if any, training in the core precepts of pain and symptom management, advance care planning, communication skills, and care coordination for patients with serious or life-threatening illness. Further, there is a large gap between the number of health care professionals with palliative care training and the number required to meet the needs of the expanding population of seriously ill pa-

tients. PCHETA would go a long way towards bridging this gap by establishing education centers and career incentive awards to improve the training of doctors, nurses, physician assistants, social workers and other health professionals in palliative care.

PCHETA also aims to strengthen clinical practice and improve health care delivery for patients living with serious or life-threatening illness, as well as their families, by directing funding toward palliative care research. Research funding for palliative care and pain and symptom management comprises less than 0.1 percent of the National Institutes of Health annual budget. PCHETA would direct an expansion and intensification of research in these important areas.

At the same time, more must be done to ensure patients and providers are aware of the benefits of palliative care. According to the Institute of Medicine, there is a "need for better understanding of the role of palliative care among both the public and professionals across the continuum of care." PCHETA would direct the implementation of a national education and awareness campaign so that patients, families, and health professionals understand the essential role of palliative care in ensuring high-quality care for individuals facing serious or life-threatening illness.

Through your leadership last Congress, PCHETA passed the House of Representatives with overwhelming bi-partisan support. We appreciate your continued support and dedication to this important issue. We look forward to working with you toward quick passage of this legislation in the 116th Congress.

Sincerely,

Alzheimer's Association, Alzheimer's Impact Movement, American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, American Academy of Physician Assistants, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer, American Geriatrics Society, American Heart Association | American Stroke Association, American Psychological Association, American Psychosocial Oncology Society, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Association of Oncology Social Work, Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses, Association of Professional Chaplains, The California State University Institute for Palliative Care.

Cambia Health Solutions, Cancer Support Community, Catholic Health Association of the United States, Center to Advance Palliative Care, Children's National Health System, Coalition for Compassionate Care of California, Colorectal Cancer Alliance, Compassus, Courageous Parents Network, ElevatingHOME | Visiting Nurses Associations of America, The Gary and Mary West Health Institute, The George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health, HealthCare Chaplaincy Network, Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Lung Cancer Alliance, Motion Picture & Television Fund, National Alliance for Caregiving, National Association for Home Care & Hospice, National Association of Social Workers, National Brain Tumor Society, National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship, National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care, National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, National Palliative Care Research Center, National Patient Advocate Foundation, National POLST Paradigm, Oncology Nursing Society, Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition, Physician Assistants in Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

Prevent Cancer Foundation, Resolution-Care Network, Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network, Society of Palliative Care Pharmacists, St. Baldrick's Founda-

tion, Supportive Care Matters, Susan G. Komen, Supportive Care Coalition, Trinity Health.

STATE ASSOCIATIONS SUPPORTING PCHETA

Arizona Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, Home Care Association of Arkansas, California Association for Health Services at Home (CAHSAH), Home Care Association of Colorado, Connecticut Association for Health Care at Home, Home Care Association of Florida, Georgia Association for Home Health Agencies, Illinois HomeCare & Hospice Council, Indiana Association for Home Care and Hospice, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Kansas Home Care & Hospice Association, Kentucky Home Care Association.

HomeCare Association of Louisiana, Home Care & Hospice Alliance of Maine, Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts, Michigan HomeCare and Hospice Association, Minnesota HomeCare Association, Nebraska Home Care Association, Home Care, Hospice and Palliative Care Alliance of New Hampshire, Home Care Association of New York State (HCA), New York State Association of Healthcare Providers, Association for Home & Hospice Care of North Carolina, LeadingAge Ohio, Ohio Council for Home Care & Hospice.

Oklahoma Association for Home Care & Hospice, Oregon Association for Home Care, Pennsylvania HomeCare Association, Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care, South Carolina Home Care and Hospice Association, Tennessee Association for Home Care, Texas Association for Home Care & Hospice, VNAs of Vermont, Virginia Association for Home Care & Hospice, Home Care Association of Washington, West Virginia Council of Home Care Agencies.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 647, the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act, by Representatives ENGEL and TOM REED and cosponsored by many Members of the House. This helps build our palliative and hospice care workforce by establishing and supporting palliative care and hospice education centers through Federal grants, while enhancing research in palliative care at the National Institutes of Health.

1.5 million Medicare beneficiaries were enrolled in hospice care for some time during 2017. With the American population aging, we need to be sure that our workforce is prepared to handle the influx of patients transitioning into palliative and hospice care.

The bill's sponsors and advocates have worked hard for the past few years to get this legislation to the President's desk. As the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee last year, I made it a priority to move this bill.

I also think that this bill complements the House of Representatives' work on the opioid crisis. It is appropriate that we are passing this bill now as we come to the 1-year anniversary of passage of the SUPPORT Act.

The bill before us today could address the issue from a different angle. With the growing scrutiny on doctors prescribing opioids in the midst of the

opioid crisis, we must remember that there are patients with legitimate chronic pain. While the use of opioids can lead to substance use disorder, these patients still need access to their pain medications, particularly if they have been successfully maintained and managed on opioids in close consultation with their doctors.

This bill will ensure that we have a palliative and hospice care workforce that is adequately trained to manage patients with serious illness, which frequently includes some aspect of chronic pain or the need for pain relief.

I am disappointed that we did not include a provision that stakeholders believe is necessary in order for this bill to become law. Senate language included this small but necessary change, and I expect that this issue will be resolved prior to the bill's arrival at the President's desk.

Mr. Speaker, with a commitment to including this legislative language, I urge Members to support H.R. 647, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 647, the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act.

This bill, introduced by Representatives ENGEL, REED, CLARKE, and CARTER, would establish palliative care and hospice education centers to improve training of interdisciplinary professionals and faculty members in palliative care.

The bill would promote career development of physicians who practice hospice and palliative medicine. It also helps train the next generation of practitioners by authorizing funds to train and retain nurses, social workers, pharmacists, and others who are pursuing advanced degrees in palliative care and related fields.

H.R. 647 will help patients facing serious conditions at the end of their lives and improve hospice care availability and treatment.

I just want to say this bill is personal to me. My father, who lived with me at the end of his life, we were the beneficiaries of hospice, and it made all the difference in the final days of his life.

This bill has the support of 294 bipartisan cosponsors, as well as 89 different organizations. I would certainly urge all of my colleagues to endorse, support, and vote for this important piece of legislation.

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

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Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED), the co-author of the bill.

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, first, I thank my colleagues, Mr. ENGEL and the members of the Energy and Commerce Committee, for their leadership on this bill, as well as, in particular, my colleague, Mr. CARTER, for helping push this bill through, and Dr. BURGESS for his assistance in leading the floor debate.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the bill before us, because as we all know, when loved ones become deathly ill, we are often left feeling helpless, wanting to step in and somehow ease the burden, but not sure how.

When my own mother became sick, there was nothing I wouldn't have done, Mr. Speaker, to cure her. The woman who taught me how to live, taught me how to die. She taught me that what truly mattered to her in those times at the end of her life was the comfort of her home, the comfort of her family, and that quality time spent with her loved ones and her friends. Surrounded by a wonderful team of family, friends, but, in particular, hospice care providers, we watched as her wishes were met.

Physicians, nurses, social workers, and aides made sure her symptoms were managed and that she was physically comfortable. But just as important, if not more so, were the hospice volunteers who stepped in to give mom companionship, normalcy at the end of her illness, and a much-needed break by the loved ones who were caring for her, such as myself and my brothers and sisters.

The experience changed my perspective on death and dying. Even now, I am enormously thankful to the hospice staff and volunteers who stepped in to give my mom, and countless others in the community and folks across the country, quality of life when their days and her days were limited.

We must ensure that there is a properly trained workforce to care for those closest to us as they increase in age and become chronically and terminally ill. Estimates show that there will be no more than 1 percent growth in the palliative care and hospice physician workforce in the next 20 years, while the number of people eligible for palliative care will increase by over 20 percent, Mr. Speaker.

Without a boost for palliative care education and training, there will only be one palliative physician for every 26,000 seriously ill patients by 2030. This bill promotes a strong American workforce when it comes to our palliative and hospice volunteers and caregivers and advanced training for those healthcare providers providing those services amongst us.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation and vote "yes" this evening.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I think what you heard from Mr. REED and myself, and those people who have experienced the use of hospice care, what a great and wonderful blessing it can be to our families.

Mr. Speaker, I support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), a valuable member of the Health Subcommittee of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 647, the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act. I am proud to be a co-lead on this much-needed piece of legislation.

In my years as a pharmacist working in long-term care, I saw how patients with all types of illnesses face the challenges of end-of-life care. Whether you are talking about patients with cancer, Alzheimer's, or some other ailment, critical to our healthcare system is valuing a patient's quality of life. That is why palliative and hospice care are an important piece of our healthcare system.

As our population ages, the need for quality, well-trained hospice and palliative providers is only growing. The George Washington University Health Workforce Institute projects the number of patients who could benefit from palliative care could increase by 20 percent over the next 20 years. By establishing palliative care and hospice education centers to train and educate new providers, this bill is a critical step in meeting the needs of future patients.

Additionally, this bill enhances the NIH's research into palliative care, improving our capability to care for patients in even more effective ways.

Finally, PCHETA also establishes a nationwide campaign to better inform patients, their families, and their healthcare providers about palliative care services. This is critical to ensuring patients have a clear picture of all of their options so they and their families can make informed decisions of the care that they want.

This bill is an important investment towards a patient-centered healthcare system that values and improves a patient's quality of life.

I applaud Representatives ENGEL, REED, CLARKE, PALLONE, and WALDEN for their leadership on this bill, and I urge my fellow Members to support H.R. 647.

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I think you could hear from the factual and the heartfelt testimony you have heard about this bill that will make hospice and palliative care more available that we all here urge passage of this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 647, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PAYMENT COMMISSION DATA ACT  
OF 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1781) to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission and the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission with access to certain drug payment information, including certain rebate information, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.  
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1781

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 "Payment Commission Data Act of 2019".

**SEC. 2. PROVIDING THE MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION AND MEDICAID AND CHIP PAYMENT AND ACCESS COMMISSION WITH ACCESS TO CERTAIN DRUG PAYMENT INFORMATION, INCLUDING CERTAIN REBATE INFORMATION.**

(a) ACCESS TO CERTAIN PART D PAYMENT DATA.—Section 1860D–15(f) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–115(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

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

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

(C) by inserting at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(C) by the Executive Director of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission for purposes of monitoring, making recommendations, and analysis of the program under this title and by the Executive Director of the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission for purposes of monitoring, making recommendations, and analysis of the Medicaid program established under title XIX and the Children's Health Insurance Program under title XXI."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(3) ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.—The Executive Directors described in paragraph (2)(C) shall not disclose any of the following information disclosed to such Executive Directors or obtained by such Executive Directors pursuant to such paragraph, with respect to a prescription drug plan offered by a PDP sponsor or an MA–PD plan offered by an MA organization:

"(A) The specific amounts or the identity of the source of any rebates, discounts, price concessions, or other forms of direct or indirect remuneration under such prescription drug plan or such MA–PD plan.

"(B) Information submitted with the bid submitted under section 1860D–11(b) by such PDP sponsor or under section 1854(a) by such MA organization.

"(C) In the case of such information from prescription drug event records, in a form that would not be permitted under section 423.505(m) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation, if made by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services."

(b) ACCESS TO CERTAIN REBATE AND PAYMENT DATA UNDER MEDICARE AND MEDICAID.—Section 1927(b)(3)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r–8(b)(3)(D)) is amended—

(1) in the matter before clause (i), by striking "subsection (a)(6)(A)(ii)" and inserting "subsection (a)(6)(A)";

(2) in clause (iv), by striking "and" at the end;

(3) in clause (v), by striking the period at the end and inserting ", and";

(4) by inserting after clause (v) the following new clause:

"(vi) to permit the Executive Director of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission and the Executive Director of the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission to review the information provided.";

(5) in the matter at the end, by striking "1860D–4(c)(2)(E)" and inserting "1860D–4(c)(2)(G)"; and

(6) by adding at the end the following new sentence: "Any information disclosed to the Executive Director of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission or the Executive Director of the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission pursuant to this subparagraph shall not be disclosed by either such Executive Director in a form which discloses the identity of a specific manufacturer or wholesaler or prices charged for drugs by such manufacturer or wholesaler."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. 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. 1781.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1781, the Payment Commission Data Act of 2019.

This bill will provide the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, otherwise known as MedPAC, and the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, MACPAC, with access to drug pricing and rebate data under Medicare parts B and D, as well as under Medicaid. MedPAC and MACPAC are independent, nonpartisan commissions that advise Congress on issues affecting the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Currently, MedPAC and MACPAC lack access to this drug pricing data and are limited in their ability to provide information to Congress on the skyrocketing costs of prescription drugs.

H.R. 1781 is a simple but critical fix to ensure that the commissions have access to this data in order to analyze and report to Congress on these urgent issues.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1781, the Payment Commission Data Act of 2019, which was introduced by my colleague, Representative CARTER of Georgia. This bill provides the Medi-

care Payment Advisory Commission, colloquially known as MedPAC, and the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, affectionately known as MACPAC, with access to certain drug payment information.

MedPAC is an independent congressional agency that serves to advise Congress on issues affecting the Medicare program. And MACPAC is a nonpartisan legislative branch agency that provides policy and data analysis and makes recommendations to Congress on issues affecting Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

The issue was brought to our attention that despite getting similar data, such as plan bid data, we were surprised to learn that while this data could be shared by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services with the Government Accountability Office and the Congressional Budget Office, it could not be shared with MedPAC or MACPAC, leading us to this effort to correct this in a bipartisan way through H.R. 1781.

By providing these entities with drug payment and drug rebate information, MedPAC and MACPAC will be better able to analyze the drug cost data in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Therefore, these commissions will be able to make better recommendations to Congress on how to address drug pricing based on accurate and factual data.

In a letter from MedPAC to Chairman PALLONE, Chairwoman ESHOO, Republican Leader WALDEN, and myself in March, MedPAC said that "a statutory change giving us access to these data would enhance our capabilities for assisting the Congress on issues relating to prescription drug costs." The letter further outlines a number of ways that this data would help MedPAC support Congress and serve the commission's intended purpose.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD their letter.

MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY  
COMMISSION,

Washington, DC, March 26, 2019.

Re: Drug pricing and rebate data

Hon. FRANK PALLONE, Jr.,

Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. ANNA G. ESHOO,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Health, Committee  
on Energy and Commerce,

House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. GREG WALDEN,

Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and  
Commerce,

House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. MICHAEL C. BURGESS, M.D.,

Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health,  
Committee on Energy and Commerce,

House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMEN AND RANKING MEMBERS: The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) is an independent, legislative branch agency established by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (P.L. 105–33) to provide expert policy and technical advice to the Congress on issues affecting the Medicare program. Medicare spending has grown substantially over the last decade, particularly for



prescription drugs, placing an increasing financial burden on the taxpayers and beneficiaries who finance it. Congress plays a vital role in overseeing Medicare and solving these fiscal challenges so that the program remains secure for current and future beneficiaries. MedPAC serves as an important source of information and advice to the Congress as it exercises that oversight. To enable MedPAC to best advise the Congress on how to address the problems stemming from the high and rising costs of prescription drugs, I am writing to request a narrow change in law that would grant MedPAC staff access to important drug pricing and rebate data that other congressional agencies are already able to use. The change in statute is necessary because MedPAC is unable to access the data under existing statutory authority.

MedPAC uses a wide variety of data in order to support the Congress' oversight of Medicare, and the Commission has a strong track record of protecting different types of proprietary and confidential information. For example, MedPAC uses and keeps secure the bids that private insurance plans submit under Medicare Parts C and D, data that Medicare Advantage plans submit on encounters between beneficiaries and their health care providers, and data on beneficiaries' use of prescription drugs.

To ensure that the Congress has comprehensive and up-to-date information, MedPAC strives to use all available data pertinent to our analyses. The Commission uses these data to provide information to the Congress on spending by Medicare and its beneficiaries and to help the Congress develop policies to improve the value of taxpayer dollars used to finance the program. MedPAC delivers this information in mandated reports, congressional testimony, and frequent briefings to congressional staff.

The large growth in drug spending has been a key contributor to the financial strain on Medicare and its beneficiaries. Today, Medicare spends more than \$100 billion annually on prescription drugs under Parts B and D, and beneficiaries are exposed to more than \$20 billion in cost sharing liability. Of particular concern is the growing number of beneficiaries who are exposed to very large cost sharing amounts when they take extremely high-priced drugs.

Despite broad data access under its authorizing statute, MedPAC is unable to access important drug pricing and rebate information under Medicare Parts B and D, and under Medicaid, because of how specific places of the Social Security Act are constructed (for example, MedPAC is not specifically named in Section 1927(b)(3)(D) of the Social Security Act as one of the entities with access to certain data detailing how much the Medicare program and its beneficiaries pay for prescription drugs). Because we lack these important data, we have been limited in the analysis and information we can provide to the Congress as it grapples with how to bring down the prices of drugs for beneficiaries and taxpayers. A statutory change giving us access to these data would enhance our capabilities for assisting the Congress on issues related to prescription drug costs.

With these data, MedPAC staff could:

Assist Congress in understanding the true costs (net of rebates) of prescription drugs to beneficiaries and taxpayers under the Medicare program.

Evaluate different policy options that aim to bring down the prices of drugs and the cost sharing that beneficiaries face for their medicines at the point of sale.

Provide insight into how Part D plans manage the growth in drug prices.

Analyze the effects of market entry and competition on drug prices.

MedPAC looks forward to continuing to support the Congress in developing approaches to payment that ensure beneficiary access to important therapies, while reducing costs for the Medicare program and its beneficiaries. I very much appreciate your consideration of this request for this statutory change, and I also appreciate the support that the Congress has long given to the Commission.

Sincerely,

FRANCIS J. CROSSON, M.D.,  
*Chairman.*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, this bill continues the work of the Energy and Commerce Committee last Congress where we marked up a discussion draft of this very bill at the Health Subcommittee, which I chaired. Drug pricing remains an issue for patients in the United States and this bill will allow the House to act on factual analysis and recommendations to help lower drug prices for Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge fellow Members to support H.R. 1781, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), the principal author of this bill and a valuable member of the Health Subcommittee of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of my bill, H.R. 1781, the Payment Commission Data Act.

Last year, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, MedPAC, and the Medicaid and CHIP Payment Advisory Commission, MACPAC, who serve as nonpartisan advisory panels to Congress, came to us with a problem: They did not have the data needed to fully study prescription drug rebates.

This bill ensures MedPAC and MACPAC have access to the data they need to make informed recommendations to Congress. This increase in transparency is extremely helpful in allowing MedPAC and MACPAC to analyze how competition in our drug market is currently working and how part D plans are managing the growth in drug prices. They will be able to turn that new knowledge into improved policy recommendations on how we, as Congress, can bring down the price of drugs for patients.

Simply put, this bill is just good governance.

Importantly, I think this bill, as well as the bill we just spoke about, H.R. 2115, are shining examples of what is possible when Republicans and Democrats are working together to lower the cost of drugs for patients.

In the Energy and Commerce Committee, we have worked all year to advance a number of good, bipartisan drug policies that could make a difference for patients.

□ 1945

Looking across the Capitol, there are dozens more bipartisan reforms that I

think could get robust support here in the House.

The issue of prescription drug costs is simply too important to be sacrificed in the name of electoral politics. Today is proof that we can, in fact, pass bipartisan drug pricing reforms.

So I call on my colleagues on the other sides of the aisle: Let's build on today and continue advancing the bipartisan policies we know can become law and actually make a difference for patients in the country.

I want to thank my friend and colead, Representative TOM O'HALLERAN, as well as Representatives RICE, PANETTA, GIANFORTE, and WELCH for their leadership on this bill.

I urge my fellow Members to support transparency in our drug supply chain and to support H.R. 1781.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I urge support of the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that this evening, early evening and now, we have passed a total of five pieces of legislation, a couple of which were also out of the Ways and Means Committee. I think it is a tremendous success and a bipartisan success.

So I want to thank Chairman FRANK PALLONE and the chair of the Health Subcommittee, ANNA ESHOO; Ranking Member WALDEN and ranking member of the Health Subcommittee, Mr. BURGESS, for their hard work.

But I also do want to just take a moment to thank the staff on both sides of the aisle. On the Democratic staff we have: Stephen Holland, Jacquelyn Bolen, Kimberlee Trzeciak, Una Lee, Tiffany Guarascio, and Waverly Gordon.

These bills will strengthen our healthcare workforce and increase transparency in prescription drug prices. They are all critical. I am very proud that we were able to work in a bipartisan way to, hopefully, right now, have them pass.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1781, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HONORING ANITA CLARK

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anita Clark, the 2019 Reverend Fred Handy In-Service Award winner.

Ms. Clark was honored on October 25 by the Montclair, New Jersey, branch of the NAACP. Few honorees have been more dedicated to serving the public good.

Ms. Clark has spent her entire life helping the underserved and the most vulnerable residents of Essex County. She started in child development at the Newark Day Care Center. She has worked for social services and served as the director of a needs-based youth summer camp.

During her 30 years in the Essex County judicial system, she helped single mothers get child support and worked to keep juveniles from becoming criminals.

She is a respected and beloved resident of my district, as well as a great friend and family member and a loved one, and this honor is well-deserved.

We are very proud of the work that Ms. Anita Clark has done for her community throughout her time in Essex County.

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#### RECOGNIZING HANCOCK DAY SCHOOL ON WINNING THE BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARD

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hancock Day School for being recognized by the Department of Education as a Blue Ribbon School for 2019. This prestigious award recognized around 350 schools across the country for their commitment to academic excellence and closing the achievement gap among diverse groups of students.

To commemorate this award, Hancock Day School will receive a flag that is a symbol of excellence in teaching and learning. Recognized throughout the Savannah community as a stalwart of quality education, I am proud to see Hancock receive the national recognition it deserves.

The school was founded in 1953 and serves pre-K through eighth grade students. Using the "Hancock Way," teachers are given autonomy to teach free of busywork and red tape while they push their students to succeed and refuse to water down any part of the curriculum.

The school's founder once said that students need to "grow a little new wood each day," and they are certainly succeeding.

To teachers, students, and staff alike at Hancock Day School: Congratulations on your award, and keep up the good work.

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#### SURFSIDE-SUNSET BEACH NOURISHMENT PROJECT

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

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the importance of

the Surfside-Sunset Beach Nourishment Project to the residents of Orange County, California.

Due to flood control measures and other shore protection and harbor works made by the Federal Government, the 17-mile-long shoreline between Anaheim Bay and Newport Bay no longer receives a natural supply of sand.

As a result, Congress authorized the Surfside-Sunset project in 1962 to provide for artificial beach nourishment to stabilize affected shoreline. Stage 13 of this project will combat continued coastline erosion and protect coastal property.

Unfortunately, the Federal Government has neglected the Surfside-Sunset project in recent years, which has prevented stage 13 from moving forward. This project has not been funded by the Federal Government for 11 years. Let me repeat—11 years.

As the Surfside-Sunset project is one of many more Army Corps projects for the people of Orange County, I will continue to advocate for its prioritization by the Army Corps and Congress.

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#### RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

(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, last week, we celebrated Timber Innovation Day and National Forest Products Week.

The forest products industry plays an important role in many communities around the Nation, including Pennsylvania, which is blessed with some of the finest hardwoods in the world. In 2018, U.S. hardwood exports were valued at \$135 billion and employed roughly 700,000 people, nationwide.

In addition to its significant economic footprint, the industry also provides numerous environmental benefits because managed forests support proactive stewardship.

Unfortunately, times have been difficult for many timber producers in recent years. While the industry continues to diversify and trade negotiations progress, identifying new markets for American forest products remains essential.

The Timber Renovation Act, which was included in the 2018 farm bill, is one initiative I have been proud to support that does just that. It encourages new markets by supporting research for wood products in construction.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank our producers for the work that they do.

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#### RECOGNIZING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY IN SALEM COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

(Mr. VAN DREW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to draw attention to the Habitat for Humanity organization of Salem County in south Jersey.

Habitat for Humanity in Salem County, south Jersey, has been active since its creation in 1982. As one of the oldest branches, they have built over 40 homes, with many more in progress.

In addition, Habitat for Humanity in Salem County has a branch of ReStore, which promotes sustainability in home improvement by selling new and gently used materials and furniture.

I want to acknowledge their dedication to our community and to the welfare of those around them. The Habitat for Humanity nonprofit organization has made great strides in our district by building and renovating homes so that more citizens can have access to affordable housing.

We are all proud of them in south Jersey, proud of what they have done. They are truly stars and truly have made a difference in individuals' lives.

May God bless them.

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#### CELEBRATING OXI DAY

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition and celebration of Oxi Day.

Seventy-nine years ago today, the Greek Prime Minister, Ioannis Metaxas, replied, "oxi," or "no," to the fascist forces looking to enter Greece initially in their quest for total conquest of the continent. With this historic response, Greece rejected submission to the Axis Powers, proving it would not go easy.

Though the invasion of the Greek homeland ultimately happened, the fascist forces could not contend with the ferocity of the Greek resistance. The delayed invasion marked the first Axis setback in the entire war and actually precipitated a fatal delay in the German invasion of Russia, serving as the turning point for Allied Powers during World War II.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the bravery and resistance of Greek warriors, which serves as an example for all freedom-loving people.

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#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN CONYERS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus and the many Members of the United States Congress in honoring John Conyers.

I look forward, over the next couple of weeks, to paying tribute to him on this floor, for he is deserving of the

honor and recognition of the service of 53 years in the United States Congress.

John Conyers, throughout newspapers across America, is called a civil rights icon, a man who won reelection time after time with 80 percent of the vote.

I offer my deepest sympathy to his beautiful wife, Monica, and his sons, John and Carl, but most of all, I say to America: Those who are voiceless, John Conyers was there; but those who were silenced, who tried to be heard, John Conyers was there.

In every important piece of legislation for the last half century, John Conyers was there: voting rights, fair housing, the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act.

Yes, he is an icon, but he is a person of this Nation. An honored servant and former military, he is to be honored, and I look forward to saluting him in days to come.

May he rest in peace.

VETERAN SUICIDE CRISIS

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, as we approach Veterans Day, I rise to bring awareness again to the alarming rate of veteran suicide.

This country owes all of our veterans and armed services personnel a limitless debt of gratitude for their sacrifices, so many that they made on our behalf. Our country simply wouldn't be the Nation it is today, of course, were it not for the many ways in which they have valiantly served.

Very sadly, veteran suicide remains an urgent crisis that devastates too many families across our Nation every single day. The statistics are staggering. We know now that we lose up to 6,000 veterans to this unspeakable tragedy every year.

For far too long, our country's brave men and women who fought abroad for our freedoms fall victim to suicide when they return home, and, of course, they leave families without fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters.

There are few things more heart-breaking than to hear of another brave

soldier taking their own life, and we naturally ask the questions: How could this one have happened? Is there more that we could have done to intervene?

I just want to say this. Here in Congress, we have a moral obligation to ensure that our veterans are given top priority and the resources and quality healthcare they need and truly deserve.

We will continue to work on that priority. We will continue to advocate for all of those who served, and we will continue to draw attention to this terrible crisis in America.

May God bless and watch over all of our troops and all those who have served the call of freedom.

□ 2000

INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today the House approved H.R. 2440, the Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act of 2019. Nearly every segment of our Nation's infrastructure is in disrepair due to chronic underfunding, including our Nation's water infrastructure, a true lifeblood of our economy.

This year, as he did last year, President Trump proposed drastic cuts to the Army Corps of Engineers' budget. Unbelievable. But our Appropriations Committee rejected his proposals and those cuts. Today I stand with my colleagues on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to call for greater investment in our water infrastructure.

For our part, the House passed the FY20 Energy and Water Appropriations bill that included \$1.6 billion from the harbor maintenance trust fund, an increase of \$147 million above fiscal year 2019 and \$732 million above President Trump's paltry and unrealistic budget request.

Big, medium, and small ports across our country are efficient economic engines that anchor jobs and progress. They are hubs of production for communities everywhere. And, yes, they rely on leadership from this Congress to fund their maintenance.

I congratulate Representative DEFazio for his hard work in writing H.R.

2440 and hope we continue the momentum to utilize the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from the Port of Cleveland.

PORT OF CLEVELAND,  
October 28, 2019.

Hon. MARCY KAPTUR,  
Congresswoman, 9th District of Ohio,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN KAPTUR: The Port of Cleveland is pleased to know that an important bill will be considered on the House floor on Monday, October 28. The bill, H.R. 2440, the Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, has bipartisan support on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and I urge your support for the measure.

As you know, the Port of Cleveland and others in our state depend on the Corps of Engineers' civil works program. Our port relies on the maintenance dredging work each and every year. Around \$8 million is needed every year to keep the Cuyahoga River Federal shipping channel, the port's breakwater and related infrastructure in a condition that enables the safe navigation of ships and mariners. Major American industry and U.S. exports rely on maintenance dredging that occurs twice each year.

Since 1986, when Congress created the Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) and Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF), most cargo in American ports is charged an ad valorem tax for the purpose of covering Federal channel maintenance-related costs in U.S. seaports. In the first years, the tax revenue was fully spent on Federal channel maintenance but soon revenues increased and a surplus was allowed to accumulate in the trust fund, even as many shipping channels in the country were not fully maintained to their design depths and widths. Overtime, the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund balance has been allowed to grow to over \$9 billion while Congress has continued to under-spend on the infrastructure that is our national navigation system.

In more recent years, the House and Senate became more alert to the inadequately maintained American ports and the existence of the HMT and HMTF. Targets for maintenance spending were approved in WRDA 2014 and appropriations have increased. We ports have appreciated that improvement, but the fact is that the unused HMT revenue continues to accumulate while maintenance dredging in many parts of the country, including on the Great Lakes, is insufficient. The graph below, prepared in 2016, provides a snapshot of spending versus tax revenue. (In the years since, the trend is much the same with a projected HMTF balance (per FY 2020 budget) of as much as \$10.4 billion.

20 YEARS OF THE HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND

(Dollars in millions)

HMTF Cash Flow:	1998 Actual	1999 Actual	2000 Actual	2001 Actual	2002 Actual	2003 Actual	2004 Actual	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Actual
BOY Balance .....	1,106	1,246	1,556	1,621	1,777	1,850	2,001	2,299	2,695	3,234
Receipts & Interest .....	651	607	767	816	730	737	946	1,102	1,337	1,427
Outlays .....	-511	-297	-702	-660	-657	-586	-648	-706	-798	-910
EOY Balance .....	1,246	1,556	1,621	1,777	1,850	2,001	2,299	2,695	3,234	3,751

  

HMTF Cash Flow:	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Est.	2017 Request
BOY Balance .....	3,751	4,559	5,003	5,474	6,280	6,958	7,806	8,316	8,684	9,064
Receipts & Interest .....	1,594	1,253	1,299	1,629	1,587	1,696	1,617	1,517	1,662	1,802
Outlays .....	-786	-808	-828	-823	-909	-848	-1,107	-1,149	-1,282	-986
EOY Balance .....	4,559	5,003	5,474	6,280	6,958	7,806	8,316	8,684	9,064	9,980

Again, these are collected taxes for which, by law, only authorized Federal navigation maintenance work is eligible. That the unspent balance has been allowed to accumulate and sit in the Federal Treasury as ballast against budget deficits is especially disturbing at a time when Congress and the White House have rightly talked about the importance of tending to the county's essential infrastructure. In the case of port channels, the money exists. That is an important consideration. No new revenue stream is required.

As a final note, and for clarity sake, this issue is unrelated to the funding of the inland waterway system. There vessels, including as tug and towboats, are charged an excise tax on fuel expenses. That revenue is accounted for in the Inland Waterways Trust Fund and is spent on construction work such as lock and dam improvements. It is noteworthy that unlike the case with the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, the Inland Waterways Trust Fund resources are fully spent on that system's navigation projects.

Please vote for the Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund legislation.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM D. FRIEDMAN,  
*President & Chief Executive Officer.*

#### EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR FLORIDA'S SEASONAL GROWERS

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness about an issue that is important to our Nation and essential to my district. Strawberry growers in Plant City, Florida, are under attack.

For years Mexico has spent millions subsidizing their strawberry production. This has allowed them to export strawberries at a cost our local growers cannot compete with. Consequently, imports of Mexican strawberries have increased by approximately 80 percent since 2010. Furthermore, current trade agreements don't allow seasonal growers to bring antidumping claims. This means our growers are left with a right against unlawful dumping but no means of enforcing it.

Plant City, Florida, is known as the Winter Strawberry Capital of the World and produces more than 85 percent of all the winter strawberries grown here in our Nation. It is imperative for Congress to correct the situation and pass legislation that gives our growers the protections that they need and deserve.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JOHN CONYERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. LAWRENCE. 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 subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Congressman John Conyers. He was one of the 13 founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus. I stand here today joining the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, KAREN BASS, in recognizing that he served for 53 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, making him one of the longest-serving House Members in history and the first African American to hold the title of dean.

Congressman Conyers was born in Detroit on May 16, 1929, the eldest of four sons of John and Lucille. He attended Detroit public schools and graduated from Northwestern High School. After graduating he served in the National Guard and then joined the U.S. Army.

He was inspired by his friend, Dr. Martin Luther King, to run for office and was elected to the House of Representatives in 1964. His first hire was civil rights hero, Rosa Parks.

As a human rights and civil rights champion, Mr. Conyers opposed the death penalty and fought police brutality. He also co-led and was a cosponsor for the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Mr. Conyers also assisted in passing the Help America Vote Act, the Violence Against Women Act, the motor vehicle bill, the National Jazz Preservation, Education and Promulgation Act, and the Martin Luther King Federal Holiday Commission Extension Act.

Today I am joined by a number of my colleagues who will be giving remarks.

Mr. Speaker, it is with honor that I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE). My colleague and my colleague's father both served with John Conyers.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, let me first thank the gentlewoman from Detroit for her leadership on this issue tonight. We felt it was only fitting that she lead us in this Special Order hour for Mr. Conyers.

I rise to honor the former Congressman, John James Conyers, after his passing on October 27, 2019. I would like to start by offering my thoughts and prayers to his wife, Monica, and his sons, John and Carl, during this time of loss.

Mr. Conyers spent 53 years as a Congressman from Michigan, mostly from districts in and around the Detroit area. Mr. Conyers was the third longest-serving Congressman and the longest-serving African American Congressman in United States history.

He helped found the Congressional Black Caucus with some of our Nation's most prominent civil rights leaders and colleagues such as Shirley Chisholm and William Lacy Clay, Sr., the father of my esteemed colleague, WILLIAM LACY CLAY, Jr., from Missouri's First District.

During his life he had several accomplishments in and out of Congress. He

joined voter registration drives in Selma, Alabama, in 1963, a year before the landmark 1964 Civil Rights Act even became law. As a Congressman, he led the drive to help make Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday a national holiday and succeeded through perseverance and continued efforts to make that happen despite insurmountable odds. He helped calm revolters in his district during Detroit's racial strife of 1967. He was a vocal opponent of apartheid in South Africa, a political system of legal racial discrimination that he just—as many of us in this great Nation—would not tolerate. He fought for restrictions on gun ownership to prevent violence, because he knew what it meant in so many of our communities to have these lax laws.

At one point Mr. Conyers was called the leading Black voice in Congress. He was also known as one of the best dressers on Capitol Hill and a lover of jazz. He even got the Congress to declare jazz a national American treasure in 1987.

He was a dedicated public servant, an honored Korean war veteran, a champion of racial equality, and a strong figure in this House for half a century. His legacy will be remembered long after his passing. The work that he has done on this floor and in these Halls is second to none. He cared about this Nation, he cared about his colleagues, and he cared about his constituents in his district.

We will miss him dearly. Mr. Conyers was one of a kind. We are saddened by his loss, so we are here to honor him in the manner in which he should be as an esteemed former Member of this House.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, there are so many facts that we need to share about John Conyers, including the fact that in his 52 years in office he represented Michigan's First Congressional District, Michigan's 14th Congressional District, and Michigan's 13th Congressional District. Also during his time in Congress he chaired the House Oversight and Reform Committee and also the House Judiciary Committee and served as dean of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) who is my amazing colleague and who will have comments about the passing and honoring of our colleague whom we all are mourning, John Conyers, who impacted so many of us in this country.

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the young lady from Michigan—Mrs. LAWRENCE. I love that.

Mr. LEWIS. Well, you are still very young—for bringing us together to honor John Conyers.

The former dean of the House of Representatives and the cofounder of the Congressional Black Caucus, John Conyers, was born at a time when we needed someone to stand up and to speak up and speak out and to get in the way of getting what I call good trouble, necessary trouble.

As a matter of fact, John Conyers and Martin Luther King, Jr. were born

the same year, so maybe history, faith, and maybe God Almighty placed the two of them here to work together.

Before being elected to Congress, Mr. Conyers served in the Korean war and on the staff of Representative John Dingell. When the people of Michigan elected Mr. Conyers in 1964, he brought Congress to the front lines of the civil rights movement, and he took civil rights, voting rights, labor rights, and human rights to the United States Congress.

John Conyers, perhaps more than any other Member of Congress, made trips over and over and over again to the South to identify with the struggle going on in the South. He came to Alabama, to Georgia, Mississippi, and other parts of the Deep South.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Conyers was one of two Members of Congress, both from Michigan, who voted on the original and every single reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act. He could give us the backstory of every major law from the Civil Rights Act of 1968 to the 20-year effort to establish a National Day of Service honoring my friend and leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

When Rosa Parks, a person I got to know so well, was forced to leave her home State of Alabama after the Montgomery bus boycott, Mr. Conyers more than anyone else gave her a position on his staff, and she was very proud and pleased to work in the office of John Conyers. She served in his district office for 23 years.

The record should be clear: John Conyers loved music, but he loved jazz. He loved jazz more than any other form of music.

□ 2015

He loved this institution, and he dedicated his life to realizing the dream of what our Nation could be. He was of the people, and he was for the people.

On this difficult day, I offer my deepest condolences to his beloved wife, sons, family, and the people of Michigan who mourn his loss.

May he rest in peace and in power.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman LEWIS.

Some other facts that people may not know about John Conyers: He worked for the Lincoln auto factory and was a member of the UAW. He became the director of education for UAW Local 900. He was the first African American to chair the House Committee on the Judiciary. He also sponsored the Racial Justice Act and the Police Accountability Act during that time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS), a Member of Congress who has fought many fights and has stood up and knows the story of justice in our country.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentlewoman, first of all, for organizing this

Special Order that gives all the rest of us the opportunity to come to pay tribute to my hero.

As a matter of fact, I am old enough to remember in a very vivid way the late 1950s and early 1960s with people like John Conyers, Martin Luther King, JOHN LEWIS, Whitney Young, and other heroes of the period.

Although John was elected in Michigan, he was really all of our Congressman. He was the Representative for all of us. We didn't have 55 African American or Black Members of Congress at that time, but we had those voices that were strong and vibrant, those voices that gave hope.

There was so much hope and possibility being expressed during that period that those of us who were emerging had no idea that there was anything that we couldn't accomplish, any changes that we couldn't bring about, any possibilities that did not exist. And that, to me, was the true essence of John Conyers.

I was tremendously impressed with John because he was always for the underdog. He was always for the little guy, always for the little person, always representing those who were left out, those who were unheard, even those who were unheard of.

I don't think there was any place in America where action was going on that John didn't go. As a matter of fact, at the time when we were electing the first African American mayor in the city of Chicago, John was there every week. We thought he had moved to Chicago, that he didn't live in Detroit. I mean, every week, from the time, I guess, he left here, in churches and churches and block parties and everywhere that you could possibly turn, there was John Conyers.

John has given the very best that you can give.

To his wife and sons and other members of his family, we say thank you for lending John to all of us.

I guess the poet Walter Foss maybe had John in mind when he penned these words that I end with.

There are hermit souls that live withdrawn  
in the peace of their self-content;  
There are souls, like stars, that dwell apart,  
in a fellowless firmament;  
There are pioneer souls that blaze their  
paths where highways never ran;  
But let me live by the side of the road and be  
a friend to man.

Let me live in a house by the side of the  
road, where the race of men go by;  
The men who are good and the men who are  
bad, as good and as bad as I.

I would not sit in the scorners' seat, or hurl  
the cynic's ban;

Let me live in my house by the side of the  
road and be a friend to man.

I see from my house by the side of the road,  
by the side of the highway of life,

The men who press with the ardor of hope,  
the men who are faint with the strife.

But I turn not away from their smiles nor  
their tears, both parts of an infinite  
plan;

Let me live in my house by the side of the  
road and be a friend to man.

So let me live in my house by the  
side of the road where the race of men

go by, men who are good, men who are  
bad, wise, foolish, but then so am I.

So why would I sit in the scorner's  
seat or hurl the cynic's ban? Let me  
live in my house by the side of the  
road, like John Conyers, and be a  
friend to man.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I  
thank the gentleman. That was beau-  
tiful.

We continue in our effort to capture  
the life of a great man who served in  
this House.

Again, another fact: Since 1989, John  
Conyers had introduced H.R. 40, the  
Commission to Study Reparation Pro-  
posals for African Americans Act. This  
bill would establish a commission to  
examine the institution of slavery in  
the United States. The legislation has  
now been taken up by our colleague  
from Texas, Congresswoman SHEILA  
JACKSON LEE.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman  
from Pennsylvania (Mr. EVANS), my  
colleague who has shown to be a voice  
of reason, hard work, and compassion  
in his service to Congress.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my  
honorable friend, Congresswoman LAW-  
RENCE, for her leadership on someone  
who really set a tone, not just in De-  
troit and Michigan, but the entire Na-  
tion. I thank her for her leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I knew Chairman Con-  
yers, not as well as some of the Mem-  
bers who have spoken, but I did know  
him. We each represented the largest  
city in a large northern industrial  
State. Philadelphia and Detroit have  
many of the same problems, such as  
poverty, gun violence, a loss of good  
manufacturing jobs, and access to  
healthcare.

I didn't tell my colleague, Congress-  
woman LAWRENCE, that when she men-  
tioned May 16, I was born on that same  
day, so there is that connection there.

The chairman was one of the 12  
founders of the Congressional Black  
Caucus. From Pennsylvania, the person  
who was one of them was Robert N.C.  
Nix, who was elected in 1958.

So 48 years ago, as a result of the  
chairman, we have built on the backs  
of those founders. Today, there are 54  
of us in the caucus, including the  
House majority whip, two Senators,  
four chairs of House committees, and  
one of our former members who became  
a two-term President of the United  
States.

The chairman helped to lay the  
groundwork for this progress. When he  
cosponsored the Voting Rights Act of  
1965, I was 10 years of age. In 1965, the  
Voting Rights Act banned discrimina-  
tion at the ballot box. He was a fierce  
critic of the Vietnam war that led to a  
clash with President Lyndon Johnson.  
It even won him a spot on President  
Nixon's enemy list.

It is rather interesting to have this  
conversation today because, as I recall,  
he played an important role in the im-  
peachment proceedings. Mr. Speaker, I  
want my colleagues to know that I saw  
that on my black-and-white TV.

Once again, we are building on the back of the work that he and other Members did in 1973 and 1974.

We should thank the chairman for his leading role in creating the Federal holiday that honors Martin Luther King. He introduced a bill 4 days after Dr. King was murdered. When Congressman LEWIS talks about that, he knows what he is talking about. The fight took 15 years, but he succeeded.

The chairman also played a leading role in another long fight, the struggle to end apartheid in South Africa, with a Congressman from Pennsylvania by the name of William Gray. I recall, Mr. Speaker, meeting President Mandela.

I say all of these things because there is a connection to all of us who are here today. I think that we should honor the chairman for all that he has contributed to this Nation.

I want to close with how I recall the chairman urging skeptical African Americans to get involved in politics. He used to say, "Register, vote, run for office. It is power that counts."

He used to say, "Register, vote, run for office. It is power that counts."

There is an election, Mr. Speaker, 8 days from now. An important way for all of us to honor the legacy of Chairman Conyers, to honor everyone who has worked for civil rights, is to vote.

I recall him loving music so much. I heard him talk about John Coltrane.

I think it is important to recognize that the chairman did so much for all of us. I feel really a sincere obligation and a commitment to add my voice to the foundation that he has laid.

As a person who has been a Member of the Congress for only 3 years, because of the foundation he laid, I have the opportunity to stand here today. So many of us not just in the Congressional Black Caucus but Members who are in this House, he has contributed to all of us.

I want you to use your voice and be heard. As he would say, "Vote."

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for mentioning so many of the accomplishments that John Conyers had.

I want to add to that his legislative record extends to introducing the Medicare for All Act, legislation to establish a government-sponsored single-payer healthcare option to control costs. Additionally, he championed the issues of reparations to establish a commission that I had mentioned earlier.

He fought for justice that also extended to international issues. He was an early leader in the anti-Vietnam war movement in addition to the anti-Iraq war movement.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), my colleague and a hardworking freshman. It is hard to recognize that he is a freshman.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair and the anchor for this Special Order hour, Congresswoman BRENDA LAWRENCE, for her commit-

ment, dedication, and service, not just to the people of Detroit but to the people of this great Nation.

□ 2030

I join with my colleagues, not only in the Congressional Black Caucus, but this body of government as a whole, in mourning a giant in the legacy of Representative John Conyers.

Representative John Conyers was a force to be reckoned with, a leader of the civil rights movement who stood tall in the House of Representatives for more than a half century, the longest serving African American Congressman.

During his 53 years as the Representative for the part of Michigan encompassing Detroit, Congressman Conyers fought for the people of his State tooth and nail.

Congressman Conyers was known as the dean of the House of Representatives, and he paved the way for all of us who are here this evening. I really believe that we stand on his shoulders.

Speaking to his legacy, he was a co-founder of the Congressional Black Caucus. So, the fact that we are now 54 members in number representing more than 84 million people across the country, it was the vision of people like Congressman Conyers and others that allowed the Congressional Black Caucus to come forward.

He also led the charge to declare, as has been stated, a national holiday in honor of the great Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., a day Congressman Conyers fought for tirelessly that we now hold in our hearts as a day of remembrance for the legacy of another fearless leader.

He also served on two powerful committees as chairman: the House Committee on Oversight and Reform—and we just mourned the passing of the chairman of that great committee, Chairman Cummings—and the House Judiciary Committee, which has great responsibility; and, in both, he never shied away from speaking truth to power.

As has been stated by my good friend Congressman EVANS, one of his early mottos was: Register, vote, run for office. It is power that counts.

So we will continue to harness this power to promote the ideals that Congressman Conyers espoused during his career.

I want to note, and I don't think I shared this with Congresswoman LAWRENCE, but there is a group called the Detroit Connection. Because so many people tend to come to Las Vegas to retire, we have a big contingency of Detroit people, and they have an event every year called the Detroit Connection. They raise money. They provide scholarships.

I was so honored one year to have Congressman Conyers come to Las Vegas and attend the event for the Detroit Connection, and it made that group feel so good to know that their champion and their Representative was still there.

So, we will use the privilege of serving—I know I will as one of the new, younger Members—to continue to fight for equality and justice for all, just as Congressman Conyers did during his 53 years here on Capitol Hill.

Tonight, we honor him with our words, but tomorrow we must honor him with our actions.

Congressman Conyers, we will continue the good work you started all those years ago. May you rest in power.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to read a statement by the Honorable EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON about the Congressman.

She said: I pay tribute to the life and legacy of a distinguished public servant and colleague, John James Conyers Jr., who passed away this weekend, and she asked that her colleagues join her in extending sympathies to Congressman Conyers' wife, Monica; Conyers' sons, John Conyers III and Carl Edward Conyers; and all whom he influenced over the course of his life. May he rest in peace.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring forth my Michigan delegation colleague. It is significant to note that RASHIDA TLAIB, Congresswoman TLAIB, actually represents the seat from which John Conyers retired.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan, RASHIDA TLAIB.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart in joining my beloved colleague, who also represents the city of Detroit, in paying tribute to our wonderful, late Congress Member John Conyers, the longest serving African American in the United States Congress, a true civil rights icon and visionary, and the man who will forever be our Congressman.

The Honorable John Conyers Jr.'s mission to make sweeping changes in civil rights by fighting on behalf of the people started well before he ever stepped onto the United States House floor. One of the things that he said at the passing of Rosa Parks, his dear friend, was: "We've got a tremendous legacy to fulfill. You can't maintain a democracy and an empire simultaneously." And he said, "Rosa, you taught me that."

But, when he first was sworn in to the Congress in 1965 during a time of great social unrest in our country's history, he embarked on what would become a 50-year tenure of service to our people that would result in that mission being accomplished, and then some.

Indeed, his more than 50 years of service brought forth the vision of reparations for African Americans, the centering of voting rights, a continued push for universal healthcare, the creation of the Congressional Black Caucus, and the inspiration of not just those in Detroit for whom he worked tirelessly, but he directly impacted many, many countless Americans across the country.

When I first was elected to succeed Congressman Conyers, I knew that I

had a tremendous legacy to carry. It is that tremendous legacy that propels my work on behalf of Michigan's 13th Congressional District that I fight for every single day.

I remember when I was in his presence of greatness, he never exhibited anything less than grace and kindness. He always paused and took time to talk to the residents. He taught me that.

Sadly, the last time I spoke to him was at his 90th birthday celebration in Detroit. He was joyful and, yes, he still had the presence of greatness, as Congresswoman BRENDA LAWRENCE saw for herself as well.

Detroit and our district will sorely miss him.

May he rest in peace as we continue to fight for what he fought for for so long with unwavering strength: for jobs, justice, and peace.

I pray that his wife, Monica Conyers, and the family find strength during this difficult time.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman as we share the amazing honor of representing the city of Detroit, a place that John Conyers loved and gave his life to.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also read from a statement from our chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, KAREN BASS. Her statement outlines his life and his history.

It also talks about how he fought apartheid and that he confronted President Nixon about imposing sanctions against South Africa; and, when it became clear that the President wouldn't act, he joined Congressman Dellums in introducing legislation to that end and was even arrested at a protest, in front, of South Africa.

He impacted so many people in his district and throughout the country. America is a better country today because of the legislative and advocacy work of Representative John Conyers Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring forth a chair of this amazing body—a chair, a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, and an amazing leader, Congressman SCOTT.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for holding this Special Order and recognizing the legacy of Congressman John Conyers. I want to join those who are honoring his legacy.

He served in Congress longer than any other African American. He represented Michigan and the Nation for over 50 years. He was a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus, and he served as dean of the House.

He was a giant in civil rights. He often bragged about being the only candidate for elective office ever endorsed by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Also, for many years Rosa Parks worked in his Detroit district office.

As a legislator, he was a true champion of civil rights and leaves behind a

legacy of fighting for transformative change that continues today. His five decades of service in Congress are marked by a core fundamental belief in equity and justice for all.

For many years, I worked with Congressman Conyers on the Judiciary Committee, and most recently, we worked together to address segregation in our public schools. We also fought together for equity in education, as well as criminal justice reform, voting rights, and breaking down barriers to employment.

I want to send my condolences to his family, his loved ones, the entire Detroit community, and all who are mourning the loss of a lifelong champion for a better America.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for those kind words and informative message.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to bring forth a woman in our Congress, the longest serving woman in Congress, MARCY KAPTUR, who served with the dean of Congress and would like to reflect.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman BRENDA LAWRENCE for inviting us to come to the floor this evening to share our sorrow with the Conyers family and the people of Greater Detroit that Congressman Conyers represented here so forcefully throughout his entire career.

I would like to extend sympathy to his wife, Monica, and to his sons, John and Carl, that he used to come walk through Congress, even when they were small. He would take them on the train from one side of the Capitol to the other. I can still see him doing that.

As others have mentioned, he served from 1965 to 2017. So, from the civil rights movement at its apex, that fervor came into this Chamber, and John served over half a century in furtherance of America's betterment.

He was the 44th dean of the House. He became its most senior member and, certainly, the longest serving African American in the history of the United States of America.

I think most Members would agree, he truly was a drum major for justice and also a drum major for jobs and fair wages for all workers.

His service was anchored by those parallel visions, and I can still remember coming as a new Member to Congress. There were three men who were serving at that time: John; another John, John Dingell; and a man named William Ford.

The three of them together, in my mind, actually formed the northern apex of the civil rights and labor rights movement in this country, and America was bettered by all of their services. They worked in tandem.

They had been forged by the same set of experiences and came to us from what we in the Midwest call Motown, Motor City. That is a place that is unlike any other in the United States of America.

It has a rich history. It has a history of struggle. It produced famous singing groups like The Supremes, contemporaneous with John's adulthood, the Detroit Tigers, and lots of jazz. John loved jazz.

If you think about what he represented, Detroit is not really a tea and crumpets city. My apologies to all those who enjoy tea and crumpets. It is really a heavy-duty town, a very pluralistic community where the fight for organized labor was rooted and, something that we know well in our region, the strike at a place called River Rouge that began the work in our country to value labor through contract—not just happenstance, but by an actual contract.

And John Conyers was a part of the development of the law that allowed for the dignity of labor, but it was born out of the struggle in Detroit, a very rough-and-tumble world.

One of his early jobs was with the United Auto Workers, in which our family has had members for many generations now, and he and I shared that affinity.

□ 2045

He was not an arrogant man, but he was rooted, again, in the fight for justice during the best years of his life.

When he arranged for the funeral in Detroit of Rosa Parks—and the history of the Montgomery Bus Boycott is written, I don't think a lot of people really know that he actually had hired Rosa Parks in his office from 1965 to 1988. I can recall, in 2005, attending the funeral of Rosa Parks—what a central role John Conyers played in that magnificent ceremony. But through it was the continuing education of the people of the United States of America as to what the civil rights struggle, and our struggle as a people, has actually been comprised of, a constant struggle.

I have to say, on the humorous side, he loved cars that drove fast. I happened to be in one of those cars one time, 90 miles an hour on I-75. I don't know how we ever didn't get a ticket.

But he was always moving forward. I would guess we shared thousands—I started adding it up today—thousands of airplane flights between Washington and Michigan, as we went to our respective hometowns. And I always found him to be very cordial, very friendly, full of good humor.

He was a perpetual anchor for us on moving American forward, a leading strategist in that endeavor.

So I hope it is of some comfort to his loved ones and to the people that he represented that his being and his indefatigable spirit are now freed from Earth's binds; and that his soul may rise high and shower our precious world with peace and justice from sea to shining sea.

With heavy heart, golden memories, and abiding gratitude may I extend deepest sympathies on the passing of Congressman John Conyers of Detroit, Michigan to his family, his loving wife Monica, sons John and Carl, his

constituents and colleagues who honor his life of service to our nation.

An accomplished lawyer and passionate civil rights and labor leader, Rep. Conyers rose through the ranks of Congress to become Chair of the powerful House Judiciary Committee. In 2015, he became Dean of the U.S. House of Representatives. His contributions to advancing the cause minority and labor rights as intertwined is legendary. He was a founding member of the Black Caucus, along with Rep. Bill Clay of Missouri and Rep. Louis Stokes of Ohio now 54 members strong. When Rep. Conyers arrived in Congress, and helped create The Congressional Black Caucus, there were only 13 African American Members. He authored and passed legislation creating the Martin Luther King holiday in 1983, and by 2000—17 years later—all 50 states had adopted it.

John Conyers served as a perpetual anchor in the North for the burgeoning Civil Rights movement of the 1960's and became a leading strategist. His deep commitment accompanied by an affable nature drew people to his cause. A lover of jazz and the arts, Rep. Conyers never lost his joy of living despite the serious obstacles he confronted. Along with his Michigan barrister colleagues Rep. William Ford and Rep. John Dingell, the three formed a triumvirate that defined the value set and meaning of "Democrat" from the industrial, pluralistic cities of middle America.

May it be of comfort to his loved ones that his being and indefatigable spirit are now freed from earth's binds, May his soul rise high and shower our precious world with peace, and justice from sea to shining sea.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) for his remarks.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, when I was a freshman, in 2007, I was the only Member of the House who chose Judiciary as their first committee choice, at least the only Democrat. That gave me the opportunity to be on John Conyers' committee, him being my chairman for 10-plus years, and that was a blessing to me.

He taught me much. I would consider him my mentor. He taught me about life; he taught me about Judiciary issues in the Congress. He taught me about life.

John Conyers was a spirit. I sometimes thought of him kind of as like a hippie because he had these ethereal thoughts about the way people ought to be, and about caring about people, and about justice, and about civil rights that was unlike thoughts you would hear from most people.

But he was ahead of the hippies. He was ahead of BERNIE SANDERS. He was ahead of so many people.

And we talk here today, so many people, about him being—which is all true—the longest serving African American Member of Congress. But it was more than that. He was a voice for truth on this floor before people realized the truth was the truth. He was a voice for truth when people just thought it was an African American guy talking about African American issues. But it wasn't African American issues, it was human issues. It was the

essence of America, about justice, and freedom, and opportunity, and right, and he espoused it at an early time, when a lot of people didn't get it. People get it now.

Dr. King got a holiday. Dr. King was great, but people hated Dr. King for years.

People didn't know about Rosa Parks, per se. He gave her a job, and he put her on a pedestal, which she deserved to be.

I will tell you a story about John Conyers. When I was a freshman, and I have an African American district, and some people weren't so crazy about me being up here. John Conyers took me under his wing from day 1.

I had a resolution to apologize for slavery and Jim Crow. I had that resolution because I had suggested it to Bill Clinton in 1997 and wrote him a letter when I was a State Senator and suggested he should sponsor such a thing and have a dialogue about race in America. I got a response from Bill Clinton, but it was gibberish and he didn't act upon it.

But when I got elected to Congress and I was going through my letters as a State Senator in my office, I came across that letter; and I said to myself, I am a Congressman now and I can do something about it. I don't have to write Bill Clinton and get a meaningless response.

So I introduced that resolution, heartfelt, and appropriate. Some people didn't want it to come to the floor. Some didn't want a White person to sponsor it. Some thought I was using it for politics to get re-elected.

The fact is, my political consultant told me not to do it. He said: "You've got this race won. Don't do it. It can only hurt you."

I said: "You don't get it. I'm doing this because it matters to me, to make it happen. It has mattered to me since 1997 when I was a State Senator."

So one day, I had my cell phone, low on power; and I had a staffer bring from Longworth, where my office was, a charger, and I charged it up in the Judiciary Committee.

I went back to Longworth and I couldn't find my cell phone. I had forgotten where I had left it. I realized I left it charging in the Judiciary Committee, so I went over there at the end of the day. That is the only time that ever happened to me. It was about a week or 10 days before my election in August, just to put it in perspective. I went there, and John Conyers was having a meeting with his staff on what to do the next week.

We were in the midst of interviewing people on the Bush team, Alberto Gonzales, and some lady from Liberty University who had done some stuff that was questionable; and we were taking on the Bush Justice Department which had done some egregious things.

I was a freshman, and pretty much in awe of John Conyers, and so I was in the back room and he was in his office and he said: "Steve, come on in."

Well, I was 10 feet high. I was going into a meeting with John Conyers of what was going to go on that next week. They were tossing about ideas about maybe bringing up an impeachment of George Bush and some other issues. And I decided to throw out kind of a Doug Flutie Hail Mary pass. I said: "Well how about if we have an apology for Jim Crow and slavery?"

And without a blink, John Conyers said: "That's a great idea. Put it on for next week."

That is how it got scheduled. We came here, John Conyers managed the time. It passed on a voice vote. I regretted that because I wanted to have everybody vote on it, but John Conyers said, and properly so, take your victory when you can get it.

We had a man on the other side, a Republican, who brought up some insane babble about some Christians being thrown off a boat in the Mediterranean by some Moroccans or something. What this had to do with slavery and Jim Crow was beyond any of us, and I wanted to respond to it.

Mr. Conyers said: "Let him be. Let's just pass this and move on." And he was right.

My proudest accomplishment as a freshman, and one of my proudest accomplishments in this Congress, was the passage of that resolution. It would not have happened but for John Conyers' sponsorship and support. So I thank him for being a mentor, and teaching me so much, and giving me that opportunity.

He did love jazz. We talked about jazz all the time. He played jazz in his office. He had jazz musicians come up to any proceedings he had in Washington and had them perform. And I learned about different jazz people that I had previously not known about.

He came to Memphis to support me in my first term as the first Congressperson to come there. He was honored with an April 4th Foundation award, which goes to great, courageous leaders in civil rights on the anniversary of the assassination of Dr. King. He was given that award.

He came to Memphis also just to support me. He was a proud Kappa, coming in his red coat. And all the Kappas were there with him, and the Kappas loved him. He was a Kappa, and they loved it.

I thanked him for his service. I think about him almost every day up here. We used to sit here together on the floor.

He would ride the escalators when he would leave the Judiciary Committee. Sometimes I ride the escalators now, and I think about John Conyers. It is not really the quickest way to go, but John Conyers did it, and I do it.

So thank you, John Conyers, for teaching me so much, and for being a great leader, a man beyond his years in terms of his knowledge, and his spirit, and ahead of his time with his ideas of civil rights and justice and fairness for all people.



God bless you.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, as I wrap up now in our tribute to John Conyers, the dean, he was many things: He was a UAW labor member; he was a military veteran; he was a fighter for voters' rights, for healthcare, for reparations, for racial justice. He was a lover and promoter of jazz.

But most of all, I stand here today, as a Member of Congress representing Michigan's 14th District. He was Detroit. He was Motown. He was a person whose thumbprint will remain throughout history as a political voice, a leader, and a beloved man in the history of our city and of metro Detroit.

I want to say to the family, we send all the love and respect; and to say, in closing, John Conyers, rest in power.

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

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am very saddened to hear Congressman Conyers passed away. He was a champion for racial equality and changed Congress for the better by co-founding the Congressional Black Caucus. John was a powerful and effective legislator who never stopped fighting to improve our nation, which he served longer than any other black Member of Congress to date. His career helped pave the way for the thriving Black Caucus we now enjoy.

John lived through many pivotal moments in our nation's history. When Rosa Parks struggled to find a job after her historic protest, John rushed to hire her. She worked in his district office for 23 years until her retirement. When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated, John began to fight for a holiday to honor him 4 days after Dr. King's death.

It took him 15 long years, but John kept pushing to honor King's memory and the battle for civil rights.

Vivian and I send our condolences to his wife, children, and all loved ones as we keep them in our prayers in this difficult time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of a distinguished public servant and colleague, Congressman John James Conyers, Jr., who passed away this weekend.

Congressman Conyers was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, to parents Lucille Janice (Simpson) and John Conyers. He graduated from Northwestern High School before answering his country's call to service and joining the military. Congressman Conyers served three stints in the military; in the Michigan National Guard from 1948 to 1950; in the U.S. Army from 1950 to 1954; and in the U.S. Army Reserves from 1954 to 1957. Following his military service, he attended Wayne State University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws.

Congressman Conyers had the opportunity to represent three Congressional Districts in the U.S. House of Representatives during his 52 years in office; Michigan's 1st Congressional District, 14th Congressional District, and 13th Congressional District, respectively. During his time in Congress, he chaired the powerful House Oversight and Judiciary Committees, served as Dean of the House, and notably hired Rosa Parks as a staffer in his district office. Additionally, Congressman Conyers is marked as an original co-founder of the Congressional Black Caucus and was the first to

introduce a bill calling for the recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday as a national holiday. At the time of his retirement from public office, he was the longest-serving African American Member of Congress in our history.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in extending sympathies to Congressman Conyers' wife, Monica Conyers, sons John Conyers III and Carl Edward Conyers, and all whom he influenced over the course of his life. May he rest in peace.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Congressional Black Caucus for convening anchoring this Special Order in remembrance of Chairman John Conyers, Jr., the tireless fighter for justice and equality, Chairman of House Committees on Oversight and on the Judiciary, founding member of Congressional Black Caucus, Member of Congress, Member of Congress from Michigan for 53 years, my mentor, a beloved colleague, and dear friend who died on Sunday, October 27, 2019, at his home in Detroit, Michigan at the age of 90.

Mr. Speaker, John Conyers, Jr. was a statesman and strong and supporter of equality, economic and social justice, civil rights, and human dignity for all.

John Conyers, Jr. was born May 16, 1929 in Highland Park, Michigan to Lucille Janice and John Conyers, Sr., a union organizer in the automotive industry and an international representative with the United Auto Workers.

After graduation from Northwestern High School, John Conyers dutifully served his country in the Michigan National Guard from 1948 to 1950, the U.S. Army from 1950 to 1954, and the U.S. Army Reserves from 1954 to 1957, serving during the Korean War and as an officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers where he was awarded combat and merit citations.

Following his military service, John Conyers earned his Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctor from Wayne State University and was admitted to the Michigan State Bar.

Chairman Conyers began his legislative career on the staff of the late Congressman John Dingell and during this time he also served as counsel to several Detroit-area labor unions and was referee for Michigan's workmen's compensation department.

In 1964, John Conyers was first elected to represent the First Congressional District of Michigan and was reelected to the succeeding 90th Congress and the following 15 Congresses until he retired on December 5, 2017.

On the retirement of Congressman John Dingell at the end of the 113th Congress in December 2015, John Conyers became the longest-serving Member of the United States Congress, serving as Dean of the House from January 3, 2015 until December 2017.

Mr. Speaker, John Conyers was also the third longest-serving Member of the House in history and the sixth longest-serving Member of Congress in history; the second-longest serving Member of either the House or Senate in Michigan history, trailing only his former boss, Congressman Dingell; and was the last member of the large Democratic freshman class of 1964 to serve in the House of Representatives.

In the more than half century he served in Congress, John Conyers was at the forefront of most of the seminal moments in American political history, such as working to enact into law this partial list of landmark legislation:

Voting Rights of 1965, Title XVIII of the Social Security Act (Medicare), Fair Housing Act

of 1968, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Help America Vote Act, Affordable Care Act, Dodd-Frank Act, Americans With Disabilities Act, Assault Weapons Ban, Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1982, Drug Kingpins Act, Fair Chance Act.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Social Security Amendments of 1965 (including Medicaid and Medicare), Voting Rights Act of 1965, Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act, Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, Heart Disease, Cancer, and Stroke Amendments, Freedom of Information Act, Child Nutrition Act, National Historic Preservation Act, National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, Cuban Adjustment Act, Public Broad casting Act of 1967.

Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, Bilingual Education Act, Civil Rights Act of 1968, Consumer Credit Protection Act, National Trails System Act, Gun Control Act of 1968, National Environmental Policy Act, Organized Crime Control Act, including the Racketeer, Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act ("RICO"), Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1970, National Cancer Act, Federal Election Campaign Act, Equal Employment Opportunity Act, War Powers Resolution, Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act, District of Columbia Home Rule Act, Endangered Species Act, Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, Legal Services Corporation Act, Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974.

Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, National Mass Transportation Assistance Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Privacy Act of 1974, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Copyright Act of 1976, Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Water Resources Development Act of 1976, National Forest Management Act.

The proposal to expand Medicare to all, a political idea gaining increasing popularity daily, was first introduced by John Conyers in 2003 as the United States National Health Insurance Act.

John Conyers served on the Judiciary Committee that investigated Watergate and voted articles of impeachment against President Richard Nixon in August 1974.

John Conyers marched in the historic March from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and later employed civil rights legend Rosa Parks in his congressional office until her retirement in 1988.

John Conyers was loved by his constituents, regularly winning reelection with 80 percent of the vote or more.

John Conyers is one of the 13 founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971, which has worked diligently to strengthen African-American lawmakers' ability to address the legislative concerns of African American and minority citizens and has now increased to 55 members in the House and Senate, including myself.

While in Congress, John Conyers chaired the prestigious House Judiciary Committee from 1989–1995 and Oversight from 2007–2011, the first African American to hold these coveted positions.

Throughout his career, John Conyers used his influence to push civil rights; in 1968, only days after the assassination of the Rev. Dr.

Martin Luther King Jr., Chairman Conyers began a long and ultimately successful effort to make Dr. King's birthday a national holiday, which was enacted in 1983.

John Conyers also cosponsored and worked tirelessly to pass the Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986, which help topple South Africa's system of apartheid and free Nelson Mandela from prison.

In the 101st Congress, John Conyers introduced legislation to study the issue of reparations for slavery and was the original sponsor of H.R. 40, the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act.

I am proud to have assumed principal sponsorship of this piece of landmark legislative proposal and continuing the fight for justice.

John Conyers was dedicated to justice for all, he supported legislation to generate the Justice Department's national study on police brutality.

John Conyers was opposed to the imposition of the death penalty and began a series of hearings on police brutality.

As Judiciary Committee Chairman, John Conyers also worked to create and enlarge

federal death benefits for police officers and firefighters who died in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, John Conyers dedicated his life to serving his constituents and the citizens of the United States; his persistence for justice and his fight for equal rights is a testament to his character.

Chairman John Conyers will live forever in the hearts of the people of Detroit, his State of Michigan, and the United States.

John Conyers was a legislative lion whose presence will forever be missed, and we all mourn his loss and extend our deepest sympathies to his wife Monica, his children, and family and friends who loved him so dearly, my deepest sympathies go out to and I hope you find consolation in the certain knowledge that John is now resting peacefully.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2065. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to publish an annual re-

port on the use of deepfake technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 2107. An act to increase the number of CBP Agriculture Specialists and support staff in the Office of Field Operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security; in addition, to the Committee on Agriculture 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.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, October 29, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 1865, the National Law Enforcement Museum Commemorative Coin Act, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 1865

Table with 13 columns for fiscal years (2020-2029, 2020-2024, 2024-2029) and one row for 'Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact'.

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 2423, the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 2423

Table with 13 columns for fiscal years (2020-2029, 2020-2024, 2024-2029) and one row for 'Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact'.

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 2514, the COUNTER Act of 2019, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 2514

Table with 13 columns for fiscal years (2020-2029, 2020-2024, 2024-2029) and one row for 'Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact'.

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 3942, the Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 4067, the Financial Inclusion in Banking Act of 2019, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 4067

By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2020–2024	2020–2029
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact .....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	-8	4	0

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 4860, the Crowdfunding Amendments Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

**EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.**

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

2763. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department’s final regulations — Student Assistance General Provisions, the Secretary’s Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, the Secretary’s Recognition Procedures for State Agencies [Docket ID: ED-2018-OPE-0076] (RIN: 1840-AD36; 1840-AD37) received October 24, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

2764. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Ethic, Legislative Counsel and Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department’s Major final regulations — Student Assistance General Provisions, the Secretary’s Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, the Secretary’s Recognition Procedures for State Agencies [Docket ID: ED-2018-OPE-0076] (RIN: 1840-AD36; 1840-AD37) received October 24, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

2765. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report titled “National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease: 2019 Update”, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 11225(g); Public Law 111-375, Sec. 2(g); (124 Stat. 4102); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2766. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System Substance Use Disorder Data Book, pursuant to Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act, Public Law 115-271; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2767. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Information and Communication Technology [Public Notice: 10775] (RIN: 1400-AE35) received October 24, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2768. A letter from the Counsel, Office of Inspector General, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a notification of a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2769. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Greater Than or Equal to 60

Feet Length Overall Using Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 180713633-9174-02] (RIN: 0648-XY038) received October 24, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2770. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department’s report entitled, “Report on Denial of Visas to Confiscators of American Property”, for the period from April 1, 2018, through March 31, 2019, pursuant to Sec. 2225(c) of the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, as contained in the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act 1999, Public Law 105-277, 8 U.S.C. 1182d; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2771. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a notification of the intention to suspend the duty-free treatment accorded to Thailand under the Generalized System of Preferences program, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2462(d)(3); Public Law 93-618, Sec. 502(d)(3) (as added by Public Law 104-188, Sec. 1952(a)); (110 Stat. 1917) (H. Doc. No. 116–76); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

2772. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of Treasury, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Establishment of the Eastern Connecticut Highlands Viticultural Area [Docket No.: TTB-2018-0010; T.D. TTB-157; Ref: Notice No.: 179] (RIN: 1513-AC41) received October 23, 2019, 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.

2773. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a renewed determination that a public health emergency exists nationwide as a result of the consequences of the opioid crisis, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 247d(a); July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, Sec. 319(a) (as amended by Public Law 107-188, Sec. 144(a)); (116 Stat. 630); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

**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. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 359. A bill to provide for certain programs and developments in the Department of Energy concerning the cybersecurity and vulnerabilities of, and physical threats to, the electric grid, and for other purposes (Rept. 116–254). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 362. A bill to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act with respect to functions assigned to Assistant

Secretaries, and for other purposes (Rept. 116–255). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 360. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, and for other purposes (Rept. 116–256). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1781. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission and the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission with access to certain drug payment information, including certain rebate information; with an amendment (Rept. 116–257, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia: Committee on Education and Labor. H.R. 4334. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2020 through 2024, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116–258). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 886. A bill to direct the Attorney General to establish and carry out a Veteran Treatment Court Program (Rept. 116–259). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 3942. A bill to apply requirements relating to delivery sales of cigarettes to delivery sales of electronic nicotine delivery systems, and for other purposes (Rept. 116–260). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MCGOVERN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 655. Resolution providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 296) affirming the United States record on the Armenian Genocide (Rept. 116–263). Referred to the House Calendar.

Ms. SHALALA: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 656. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 823) to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1373) to protect, for current and future generations, the watershed, ecosystem, and cultural heritage of the Grand Canyon region in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2181) to provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico; and providing for proceedings during the period from November 1, 2019, through November 11, 2019 (Rept. 116–264). Referred to the House Calendar.

**DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Ways and

Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1781 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. MCHENRY (for himself and Ms. WATERS):

H.R. 4860. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to subject crowdfunding vehicles to the jurisdiction of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, considered and passed, considered and passed.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself and Mr. ENGEL):

H.R. 4861. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in the emergency department who are at risk of suicide, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 4862. A bill to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. HECK, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CLAY, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. MCADAMS, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. DEAN, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. STANTON):

H.R. 4863. A bill to promote the competitiveness of the United States, to reform and reauthorize the United States Export Finance Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CISNEROS, and Ms. MOORE):

H.R. 4864. A bill to develop and implement policies to advance early childhood development, to provide assistance for orphans and other vulnerable children in developing countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. WENSTRUP):

H.R. 4865. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to qualify homeless youth and veterans who are full-time students for purposes of the low income housing tax credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself and Mr. GUTHRIE):

H.R. 4866. A bill to amend the 21st Century Cures Act to provide for designation of institutions of higher education that provide research, data, and leadership on continuous manufacturing as National Centers of Excellence in Continuous Pharmaceutical Manufacturing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. HECK, Mr. KILMER, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Ms. SCHRIER):

H.R. 4867. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to General James N. Mattis, in

recognition of his distinguished military career, his steadfast moral character and patriotism, and his unyielding devotion to the protection of this Nation; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, and Mr. CHABOT):

H.R. 4868. A bill to certify that United States assistance to the United Nations for humanitarian programs in the Syrian Arab Republic is not misdirected, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma:

H.R. 4869. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to remove all adverse credit history related to a loan from the credit history of a borrower who has rehabilitated the loan; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BURGESS (for himself and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 4870. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Public Health Service Corps; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. BUSTOS (for herself and Mr. CARSON of Indiana):

H.R. 4871. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide for efforts relating to Move Over laws, to amend title 49, United States Code, to require crash avoidance technology on motor vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Oversight and Reform, 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. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. SIRES, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COHEN, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 4872. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to restrict the ability of a person whose Federal license to import, manufacture, or deal in firearms has been revoked, whose application to renew such a license has been denied, or who has received a license revocation or renewal denial notice, to transfer business inventory firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CROW (for himself, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. BACON, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 4873. A bill to provide for special immigrant status for Syrian Kurds and other Syrians who partnered with the United States Government in Syria, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. DELGADO (for himself, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 4874. A bill to amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish the Rural Innovation and Partnership Administration and to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to establish the Rural Future Partnership Fund to invest in the rural areas of the United States to achieve their preferred future while maximizing their contribution to

the well-being of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and 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. GONZALEZ of Ohio (for himself, Mr. LATTA, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. JORDAN, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. TURNER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. RYAN, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. GIBBS):

H.R. 4875. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2201 E. Maple Street in North Canton, Ohio, as the "Lance Cpl. Stacy 'Annie' Dryden Post Office"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 4876. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a work-based learning opportunities pilot grant program; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4877. A bill to allow State manufacturing extension partnerships to award grants to small- and medium-sized manufacturers for the purpose of training new workers to replace departing experienced workers; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. LAWSON of Florida:

H.R. 4878. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a major medical facility project in Jacksonville, Florida; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 4879. A bill to exempt certain officers and employees of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency from furlough, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. NADLER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. ENGEL, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ):

H.R. 4880. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit certain helicopter flights over major cities with high population densities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself and Mr. BRINDISI):

H.R. 4881. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure that consumers can make informed decisions in choosing between meat products such as beef and imitation meat products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. MCCAUL:

H.R. 4882. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to provide training to improve police responses for people with mental illness and intellectual and developmental disabilities, to increase the authorization of appropriations for mental health awareness training grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. McCAUL:

H.R. 4883. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reauthorize and rename the Interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group as the Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Team; to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), and in addition to the Committee on 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 Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL (for herself, Mr. CRIST, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Ms. SHALALA):

H.R. 4884. A bill to direct the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, to reinstate the Cuban Family Reunification Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4885. A bill to amend Public Law 87-788 (commonly known as the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act; 16 U.S.C. 582a-7) to provide for equal treatment of the District of Columbia with respect to funds made available under that Act; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself and Mr. RUTHERFORD):

H.R. 4886. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish the Adverse Childhood Experiences Response Team grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself and Mr. KING of New York):

H.R. 4887. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the energy credit for offshore wind facilities; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHRADER (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 4888. A bill to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. STEUBE (for himself, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. TURNER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. YOHO, and Mr. GAETZ):

H.R. 4889. A bill to improve communication between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and State law enforcement agencies; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TAKANO (for himself, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. GRUJALVA):

H.R. 4890. A bill to provide benefits for noncitizen members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs, and Armed Services, 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. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico (for herself, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. HAALAND, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. HURD of Texas, and Ms. DEGETTE):

H.R. 4891. A bill to provide for the conduct of certain water security measures in the Western United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. 4892. A bill to establish a Department of Homeland Security counterintelligence

vetting task force, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. WILD:

H.R. 4893. A bill to provide for appropriations for title I of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BURCHETT (for himself, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. GUEST, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. ROY, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. OLSON, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. GUTHRIE):

H. Res. 657. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to require all transcripts and recordings submitted during a closed hearing of a committee be made available to all Members on the same schedule and basis; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. CLAY:

H. Res. 658. A resolution expressing support for the designation "Housing America Month" and honoring the importance of affordable housing and community development programs and resources that allow communities across the country to provide access to safe, secure housing for all Americans, regardless of income level; to the Committee on Financial Services.

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. MCHENRY:

H.R. 4860.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence . . . of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts, and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 4861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 4862.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 4863.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 2, Section 8, Article I, relating to regulating commerce with foreign Nations and among the several states.

Clause 18, Section 8, Article I, relating to making all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 4864.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congressman Joaquin Castro

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

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. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4865.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the Constitution and its subsequent amendments and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 4866.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3, "To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes"

By Mr. NEWHOUSE:

H.R. 4867.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 4868.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1.

By Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma:

H.R. 4869.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Taxing & Spending Clause (Art. I, § 8, cl. 1)

The Necessary & Proper Clause (Art. I, § 8, cl. 18)

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 4870.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. BUSTOS:

H.R. 4871.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 4872.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CROW:

H.R. 4873.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8.

By Mr. DELGADO:

H.R. 4874.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio:

H.R. 4875.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 4876.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4877.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. LAWSON of Florida:

H.R. 4878.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

“Article 1, Section 8: 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. LYNCH:

H.R. 4879.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 4880.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution which provides Congress with the power to lay and collect taxes and regulate commerce among the several states.

By Mr. MARSHALL:

H.R. 4881.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to “regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.”

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 4882.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 4883.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL:

H.R. 4884.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution [Page H2680]

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4885.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PAPPAS:

H.R. 4886.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 10 provides Congress with 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. PASCRELL:

H.R. 4887.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHRADER:

H.R. 4888.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the authority to act under Article I, § 8, clause 3—the Commerce Clause.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 4889.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

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;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and Post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

and Offenses against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings; And

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. TAKANO:

H.R. 4890.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico:

H.R. 4891.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. WALKER:

H.R. 4892.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the Constitution, 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 the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof

By Ms. WILD:

H.R. 4893.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 3: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H.R. 24: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.

H.R. 60: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 94: Mrs. DINGELL.

H.R. 96: Mrs. DINGELL.

H.R. 139: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 141: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 155: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.

H.R. 486: Ms. NORTON and Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 510: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 553: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 566: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.

H.R. 586: Mr. MEADOWS.

H.R. 587: Mrs. AXNE, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. HAGEDORN.

H.R. 592: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 613: Mr. CALVERT.

H.R. 647: Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H.R. 663: Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 737: Mr. STEIL, Mr. MCADAMS, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 743: Mrs. WAGNER.

H.R. 767: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 838: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mrs. HARTZLER.

H.R. 846: Mrs. WAGNER.

H.R. 849: Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MENG, Mr. EVANS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 865: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 886: Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 912: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. BLUNT ROCH-ESTER, Mr. STANTON, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. VELA, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. PIN-GREE, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CORREA, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. CLARK of Massa-chusetts, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 913: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 918: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 927: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 934: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 935: Mr. TURNER and Mr. BACON.

H.R. 945: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 961: Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MCADAMS, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 976: Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 1002: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SIREN, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MCADAMS, Mr. SOTO, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. HECK, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 1030: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 1034: Mr. STEUBE.

- H.R. 1042: Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. GALLEG0, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. SRES, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. MCADAMS, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. HECK, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. LYNCH.  
H.R. 1114: Mr. HORSFORD.  
H.R. 1133: Mr. HUFFMAN.  
H.R. 1139: Mr. YARMUTH and Mr. RUIZ.  
H.R. 1154: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. TURNER.  
H.R. 1161: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 1171: Mr. TED LIEU of California.  
H.R. 1174: Ms. CRAIG and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.  
H.R. 1179: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.  
H.R. 1194: Mrs. DINGELL.  
H.R. 1220: Mr. NEAL.  
H.R. 1294: Ms. TLAB.  
H.R. 1299: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
H.R. 1303: Mr. WALDEN.  
H.R. 1367: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. PANETTA.  
H.R. 1368: Ms. WATERS.  
H.R. 1377: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 1380: Mr. HECK, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. UPTON, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. MCADAMS, Mr. BACON, and Mr. KHANNA.  
H.R. 1398: Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. EVANS, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mrs. MILLER, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.  
H.R. 1400: Mr. RUSH.  
H.R. 1418: Mr. POCAN.  
H.R. 1450: Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.  
H.R. 1493: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 1521: Mr. NEGUSE.  
H.R. 1549: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER and Mr. NEGUSE.  
H.R. 1553: Mr. KILMER.  
H.R. 1554: Mr. PAPPAS.  
H.R. 1570: Mr. MARSHALL and Mr. NEWHOUSE.  
H.R. 1588: Mrs. DINGELL.  
H.R. 1597: Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. GOLDEN, Mrs. MILLER, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. KIM, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.  
H.R. 1601: Mr. KILMER.  
H.R. 1643: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama and Mr. COX of California.  
H.R. 1684: Ms. WILD.  
H.R. 1695: Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. KAPTUR.  
H.R. 1707: Ms. ESCOBAR.  
H.R. 1717: Ms. LEE of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. COX of California.  
H.R. 1724: Mr. HECK.  
H.R. 1733: Mr. REED.  
H.R. 1753: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.  
H.R. 1754: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. SRES, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. STEIL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. MCADAMS, and Mr. LUJÁN.  
H.R. 1765: Mr. BROWN of Maryland.  
H.R. 1766: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. BARR, Mr. BRADY, Mr. GIANFORTE, and Mr. COX of California.  
H.R. 1767: Mr. HUFFMAN.  
H.R. 1771: Mr. CASTRO of Texas.  
H.R. 1786: Mr. NADLER and Mr. MORELLE.  
H.R. 1858: Mr. LAMALFA.  
H.R. 1865: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.  
H.R. 1869: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CRIST, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. LAMB, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. WOMACK.  
H.R. 1873: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina and Ms. JAYAPAL.  
H.R. 1943: Mr. LYNCH.  
H.R. 1948: Mr. NADLER and Mr. CROW.  
H.R. 1953: Mr. GRIJALVA.  
H.R. 1963: Mr. PAPPAS and Mrs. DINGELL.  
H.R. 1970: Mr. HILL of Arkansas.  
H.R. 1975: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 1978: Mr. DELGADO.  
H.R. 1997: Ms. JACKSON LEE.  
H.R. 2006: Mr. CARBAJAL.  
H.R. 2013: Mr. PERLMUTTER.  
H.R. 2040: Mr. COX of California.  
H.R. 2086: Mr. AGUILAR.  
H.R. 2096: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Mr. COX of California.  
H.R. 2115: Ms. SLOTKIN and Mr. TAYLOR.  
H.R. 2117: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.  
H.R. 2121: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 2137: Ms. DELBENE.  
H.R. 2147: Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Ms. FOXX of North Carolina, Mr. STEIL, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. ESTES, and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.  
H.R. 2153: Mr. CURTIS and Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 2158: Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee and Mr. DUNN.  
H.R. 2161: Mr. BUCHSHON, Mr. BARR, and Mr. DUNCAN.  
H.R. 2191: Mr. TRONE.  
H.R. 2195: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.  
H.R. 2199: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.  
H.R. 2208: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. SWALWELL of California.  
H.R. 2213: Mr. LAHOOD.  
H.R. 2231: Mr. TRONE.  
H.R. 2250: Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.  
H.R. 2264: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.  
H.R. 2268: Mrs. BEATTY.  
H.R. 2283: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. LAMB, and Mr. PAYNE.  
H.R. 2311: Mr. MEEKS.  
H.R. 2315: Ms. HAALAND and Mr. COHEN.  
H.R. 2328: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.  
H.R. 2339: Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. BERA, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. KHANNA.  
H.R. 2382: Mr. LEWIS and Ms. HOULAHAN.  
H.R. 2423: Mr. BUCHSHON.  
H.R. 2441: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. STANTON.  
H.R. 2449: Ms. MCCOLLUM.  
H.R. 2457: Ms. SHALALA.  
H.R. 2482: Mr. GOMEZ.  
H.R. 2504: Mr. LONG and Ms. DEAN.  
H.R. 2548: Mr. CRENSHAW and Mr. ROUDA.  
H.R. 2581: Ms. TLAB.  
H.R. 2585: Ms. MOORE, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.  
H.R. 2599: Ms. WILD.  
H.R. 2603: Mr. CASE.  
H.R. 2645: Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. RYAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.  
H.R. 2650: Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee.  
H.R. 2653: Mr. GALLEG0, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MENG, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.  
H.R. 2662: Mr. NEGUSE and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.  
H.R. 2679: Mr. PERLMUTTER.  
H.R. 2681: Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. GABBARD.  
H.R. 2694: Mr. KEATING, Mr. RUSH, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, and Ms. STEVENS.  
H.R. 2702: Mr. MCADAMS and Ms. KAPTUR.  
H.R. 2711: Ms. BARRAGÁN and Ms. SHERRILL.  
H.R. 2731: Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. HIMES, Mr. BIGGS, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.  
H.R. 2772: Ms. ESCOBAR.  
H.R. 2775: Mr. SWALWELL of California.  
H.R. 2795: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.  
H.R. 2808: Mrs. DAVIS of California.  
H.R. 2854: Ms. KAPTUR.  
H.R. 2903: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 2937: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 2941: Mrs. LURIA.  
H.R. 2961: Mr. CLAY.  
H.R. 2982: Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MALINOWSKI, and Mr. AGUILAR.  
H.R. 2985: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.  
H.R. 2986: Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. COX of California, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. DINGELL, and Mr. HIMES.  
H.R. 2993: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania and Mrs. DINGELL.  
H.R. 3036: Mr. CASE.  
H.R. 3048: Mr. BRADY.  
H.R. 3062: Mr. FERGUSON.  
H.R. 3115: Mr. HIMES.  
H.R. 3116: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
H.R. 3138: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.  
H.R. 3149: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.  
H.R. 3155: Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. COMER, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. ROSE of New York, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. OLSON, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. ROUZER, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. POSEY, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LATTA, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. GOMMERT, Mr. PALAZZO, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. GUEST, Mr. DELGADO, Mr. MCADAMS, Mr. TRONE, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SRES, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
H.R. 3157: Ms. JAYAPAL.  
H.R. 3165: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER and Mr. POCAN.  
H.R. 3193: Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. AGUILAR.  
H.R. 3195: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee.  
H.R. 3215: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.  
H.R. 3218: Mr. GOSAR.  
H.R. 3243: Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. GUEST, and Mr. BIGGS.  
H.R. 3249: Mr. GOSAR.  
H.R. 3250: Mr. CASE.  
H.R. 3281: Mr. MALINOWSKI.  
H.R. 3302: Mr. POCAN.  
H.R. 3330: Mrs. AXNE.  
H.R. 3350: Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mr. BURGESS.  
H.R. 3373: Mr. TRONE, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. PALLONE.  
H.R. 3396: Mr. VELA and Mrs. LEE of Nevada.  
H.R. 3398: Mr. CLEAVER.  
H.R. 3456: Mr. COLE.  
H.R. 3463: Mr. CLAY, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. BRINDISI.  
H.R. 3466: Mr. FERGUSON and Mrs. AXNE.  
H.R. 3498: Mr. MEEKS.  
H.R. 3503: Mr. MCGOVERN.  
H.R. 3509: Mr. MALINOWSKI and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.  
H.R. 3513: Mr. CARBAJAL.  
H.R. 3515: Mr. LAHOOD.  
H.R. 3529: Mr. BRINDISI.  
H.R. 3534: Mr. HARRIS.  
H.R. 3541: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.  
H.R. 3561: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. RIGGLEMAN.  
H.R. 3571: Mr. BABIN, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. SIRES.  
H.R. 3584: Mr. ALLRED.  
H.R. 3598: Mr. WALTZ, Mr. RYAN, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. STANTON, and Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 3612: Mr. YOUNG, Mr. SRES, and Mr. García of Illinois.

- H.R. 3627: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 3657: Mr. TAYLOR and Mrs. MCBATH.  
H.R. 3663: Mr. LIPINSKI.  
H.R. 3708: Mr. BRINDISI.  
H.R. 3712: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.  
H.R. 3778: Mr. ESPAILLAT.  
H.R. 3790: Mr. STEUBE.  
H.R. 3795: Ms. LEE of California.  
H.R. 3826: Mr. WESTERMAN.  
H.R. 3844: Mr. BLUMENAUER.  
H.R. 3851: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mrs. FLETCHER, and Mr. HASTINGS.  
H.R. 3878: Mr. WALDEN.  
H.R. 3884: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.  
H.R. 3891: Mr. VELA.  
H.R. 3896: Ms. DELAURO and Mr. KEATING.  
H.R. 3927: Mr. WALDEN.  
H.R. 3934: Mr. WILLIAMS.  
H.R. 3953: Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 3956: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.  
H.R. 3961: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. COX of California, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SOTO, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.  
H.R. 3972: Mr. LOUDERMILK.  
H.R. 4009: Mr. BUCHANAN.  
H.R. 4051: Ms. HOULAHAN.  
H.R. 4092: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.  
H.R. 4097: Ms. WILD, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. KAPTUR, and Ms. DELAURO.  
H.R. 4098: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.  
H.R. 4116: Mrs. BEATTY.  
H.R. 4143: Mr. TED LIEU of California.  
H.R. 4144: Mrs. DAVIS of California and Mr. LONG.  
H.R. 4164: Mr. BIGGS.  
H.R. 4165: Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. HAALAND, and Ms. GABBARD.  
H.R. 4194: Mrs. LURIA, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.  
H.R. 4204: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 4211: Mrs. AXNE.  
H.R. 4216: Mrs. DINGELL.  
H.R. 4220: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mrs. LURIA.  
H.R. 4230: Mr. BACON.  
H.R. 4236: Mr. TED LIEU of California.  
H.R. 4243: Mr. BALDERSON.  
H.R. 4248: Mr. YARMUTH.  
H.R. 4266: Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 4280: Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.  
H.R. 4283: Mr. GROTHMAN and Mr. MOOLENAAR.  
H.R. 4296: Ms. LOFGREN.  
H.R. 4304: Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Mr. LATTA.  
H.R. 4334: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 4339: Ms. BASS.  
H.R. 4341: Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. CARBAJAL.  
H.R. 4343: Mrs. DINGELL.  
H.R. 4348: Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. HECK, and Mr. RICHMOND.  
H.R. 4385: Mr. HAGEDORN.  
H.R. 4399: Mr. BUCSHON.  
H.R. 4410: Mr. STAUBER.  
H.R. 4421: Mr. NEAL.  
H.R. 4426: Ms. ESHOO.  
H.R. 4429: Mr. EVANS and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.  
H.R. 4436: Mr. MALINOWSKI.  
H.R. 4468: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.  
H.R. 4492: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.  
H.R. 4508: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. OMAR, and Mr. DIAZ-BALART.  
H.R. 4516: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 4519: Mr. SERRANO, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. ESPAILLAT.  
H.R. 4526: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico.  
H.R. 4527: Ms. HILL of California.  
H.R. 4554: Mrs. DINGELL.  
H.R. 4555: Mr. POCAN and Mr. COX of California.  
H.R. 4595: Ms. MOORE.  
H.R. 4607: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.  
H.R. 4615: Mr. HARDER of California.  
H.R. 4621: Mr. HASTINGS.  
H.R. 4624: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 4634: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. PORTER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. MOORE, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. MENG, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. JEFFRIES.  
H.R. 4640: Mr. POCAN.  
H.R. 4665: Mr. CUELLAR.  
H.R. 4666: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.  
H.R. 4672: Mr. CORREA, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. CÁRDENAS.  
H.R. 4674: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. VELA, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. STEVENS.  
H.R. 4679: Mr. GAETZ.  
H.R. 4691: Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.  
H.R. 4695: Ms. TITUS, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. COX of California, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. SHERRILL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. HECK, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. RYAN, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.  
H.R. 4697: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SOTO, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. MENG, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. JEFFRIES.  
H.R. 4698: Ms. JACKSON LEE.  
H.R. 4701: Mr. HASTINGS and Mr. GOMEZ.  
H.R. 4705: Ms. MOORE, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.  
H.R. 4722: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. LAMB, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. HECK.  
H.R. 4723: Mr. THOMPSON of California.  
H.R. 4730: Ms. LEE of California.  
H.R. 4732: Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. MCGOVERN.  
H.R. 4736: Mr. WALDEN, Mr. HAGEDORN, and Mrs. HARTZLER.  
H.R. 4738: Mr. FORTENBERRY and Mr. WITTMAN.  
H.R. 4754: Ms. SPEIER, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BACON, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.  
H.R. 4764: Mr. ADERHOLT and Mr. WALDEN.  
H.R. 4768: Mr. GOMEZ.  
H.R. 4781: Ms. MATSUI and Mr. BERA.  
H.R. 4789: Mr. BABIN.  
H.R. 4794: Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. REED, and Mr. MEEKS.  
H.R. 4801: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.  
H.R. 4806: Mr. WALDEN.  
H.R. 4812: Mr. WALDEN.  
H.R. 4814: Mr. WALDEN.  
H.R. 4822: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. RYAN, and Ms. HAALAND.  
H.R. 4823: Mr. FOSTER, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. QUIGLEY.  
H.R. 4824: Mrs. DINGELL.  
H.R. 4827: Mr. WATKINS.  
H.R. 4841: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.  
H.R. 4842: Mr. MCCAUL.  
H.R. 4843: Mr. RASKIN and Mrs. BEATTY.  
H.R. 4851: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.  
H.J. Res. 2: Mr. POCAN.  
H.J. Res. 4: Mr. POSEY.  
H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. MASSIE, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.  
H. Con. Res. 15: Mr. TED LIEU of California.  
H. Con. Res. 20: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.  
H. Con. Res. 28: Mr. KHANNA.  
H. Con. Res. 30: Mr. PERLMUTTER.  
H. Con. Res. 37: Ms. NORTON, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H. Res. 49: Mrs. WAGNER.  
H. Res. 60: Ms. WILSON of Florida.  
H. Res. 69: Mr. FORTENBERRY.  
H. Res. 189: Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mr. ENGEL.  
H. Res. 230: Mr. MEEKS.  
H. Res. 242: Mr. YARMUTH.  
H. Res. 255: Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.  
H. Res. 276: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.  
H. Res. 296: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. COOPER, Ms. DEAN, Mr. CRIST, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. TAYLOR, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. WATERS, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. HURD of Texas, and Ms. NORTON.  
H. Res. 349: Mr. LONG, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mrs. MILLER, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. BERA, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H. Res. 410: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. MCCAUL, and Mr. ESPAILLAT.  
H. Res. 442: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H. Res. 446: Mr. BACON, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. COLE, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. WILD, Mr. CHABOT, and Mrs. WAGNER.  
H. Res. 467: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.  
H. Res. 512: Mr. SENSENBRENNER and Ms. WILD.  
H. Res. 515: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H. Res. 546: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. TITUS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, and Mr. MCGOVERN.  
H. Res. 585: Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. COSTA, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Mr. MEEKS.  
H. Res. 639: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. SPANO, Mr. CLINE, Mr. BRADY, Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, and Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma.  
H. Res. 641: Mr. SOTO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. HAALAND, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.  
H. Res. 654: Ms. BASS, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

#### DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 3495: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. HARDER of California, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.