

want to thank the members of the Black Caucus who have repeatedly visited my district, namely MAXINE WATERS, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, JOHN CONYERS, JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD, former Rep. Alan Wheat, former Rep. Mervyn Dymally, former Rep. Ron Dellums, the late former Rep. Augustus Hawkins, and the late Julian Dixon. These members have helped encourage African-American political activism in the Inland Empire.

More importantly, African-American Congressmen and women are role models for youth who can better identify with people who look and think as they do. Representative Barbara Jordan embodies this. She represented Houston, Texas and articulated with skill and knowledge the needs of not only African-Americans but also other minority communities. Among her legislative achievements was an amendment to the Voting Rights Act, which provided for the printing of bilingual ballots.

Oscar DePriest was the first Black Congressman in the twentieth century. When he took his seat, he was the only Black member in the chamber. Adam Clayton Powell, a magnificent orator, was both a Congressman and a Pastor. He understood the needs of Blacks in his district because he spoke to them and more importantly, listened to them every week. He served 11 terms in Congress and was chair of the influential Education and Labor Committee. New York's Shirley Chisolm was the first female elected to Congress and fought fervently for the Title I program that benefited disadvantaged children throughout the country. This is a very abbreviated list of accomplished public servants who gave their time and talent for the benefit of all Americans.

The working legacy of these remarkable 103 African-Americans must be preserved. We must recognize their service as well as the service of the current African-American Members of Congress. They continue the struggle for freedom, equality, and full-representation for all as guaranteed by our Constitution. We must honor their struggle. That is why I support, and I ask my colleagues to support, the updating of this important house document.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 43.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mrs. CAPITO. 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 and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAPITO. 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. Con. Res. 43.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from West Virginia?

There was no objection.

PREVENTING ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN REPORTS

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1042) to prevent the elimination of certain reports, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1042

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

SECTION 1. REPORTS.

Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report required to be submitted under any of the following provisions of law:

(1) Section 801(b) and (c) of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7321(b) and (c)).

(2) Section 822(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993 (42 U.S.C. 6687).

(3) Section 7(a) of the Marine Resources and Engineering Development Act of 1966 (33 U.S.C. 1106(a)).

(4) Section 206 of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (42 U.S.C. 2476).

(5) Section 404 of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 (47 U.S.C. 744).

(6) Section 205(a)(1) of the National Critical Materials Act of 1984 (30 U.S.C. 1804(a)(1)).

(7) Section 17(c)(2) of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3711a(c)(2)).

(8) Section 10(h) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278(h)).

(9) Section 212(f)(3) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1989 (15 U.S.C. 3704b(f)(3)).

(10) Section 11(g)(2) of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710(g)(2)).

(11) Section 5(d)(9) of the National Climate Program Act (15 U.S.C. 2904(d)(9)).

(12) Section 7 of the National Climate Program Act (15 U.S.C. 2906).

(13) Section 703 of the Weather Service Modernization Act (15 U.S.C. 313 note).

(14) Section 118(d)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(d)(2)).

(15) Section 304(d) of the Federal Aviation Administration Research, Engineering, and Development Authorization Act of 1992 (49 U.S.C. 47508 note).

(16) Section 2367(c) of title 10, United States Code.

(17) Section 303(c)(7) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 253(c)(7)).

(18) Section 102(e)(7) of the Global Change Research Act of 1990 (15 U.S.C. 2932(e)(7)).

(19) Section 5(b)(1)(C) and (D) of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7704(b)(1)(C) and (D)).

(20) Section 11(e)(6) of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710(e)(6)).

(21) Section 2304(c)(7) of title 10, United States Code, but only to the extent of its application to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(22) Section 4(j)(1) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1863(j)(1)).

(23) Section 36(e) of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885c(e)).

(24) Section 37 of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885d).

(25) Section 108 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1986 (42 U.S.C. 1886).

(26) Section 101(a)(3) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(a)(3)).

(27) Section 3(a)(7) and (f) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1862(a)(7) and (f)).

(28) Section 7(a) of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act, 1977 (42 U.S.C. 1873 note).

(29) Section 16 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2215).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRUCCI) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRUCCI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 1042, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, last year, the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 went into effect, eliminating all reports to Congress contained in House Document 103-7. The law was intended to alleviate the amount of paperwork agencies are required to produce.

However, included in the hundreds of reports eliminated, the Committee on Science identified 29 contained in H.R. 1042 that are relevant to its oversight responsibilities. Included in these are the National Science Foundation's Science Indicators; a biennial report from the President on activities of all agencies in the field of marine science; an annual report on the National Technology Information Service and its activities; updates to the National Earthquake Hazards Reductions Program; and an annual report on the application of new technologies to reduce aircraft noise levels.

These and other reports in H.R. 1042 will continue to provide constructive evaluation tools for the committee and the agencies producing them.

In the 106th Congress, the House passed H.R. 3904 under suspension and by voice vote. Unfortunately, the Senate ran out of time after the bill was cleared for passage and failed to be enacted into law. Less one report, H.R. 1042 is identical to H.R. 3904 passed last year. It is a noncontroversial legislation, and I urge its passage.

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Committee on Science bill H.R. 1042, a bill to prevent the elimination of certain government reports.

Mr. Speaker, the task of the Committee on Science and obligation is to oversee a number of technical and scientific aspects of our government's business. In order to do so, we are enhanced or helped by the important reports that we have been receiving over the years.

This legislation helps to correct an error that eliminated the reporting of or providing of such reports. I am representing the interests of the entire Congress as I speak, but especially the interests of the Committee on Science.

This bill, should it pass both Houses and be signed into law, would stop the elimination of valuable reports that are produced by agencies at the direct request of Congress throughout the entire Federal Government.

Briefly, the situation is that H.R. 1042 was designed to address, began with the signing into law of the Federal Reports Elimination Sunset Act of 1995. This legislation was one of the actions taken in the first year after the Republicans took over that now appears to be excessive.

This bill eliminated every report listed in a document reports to be made to Congress in the 103rd Congress, which was virtually every statutorily required report to Congress. Some reporting requirements were arguably obsolete, but these reports contained much of the information that the executive branch supplies to Congress, ranging from the annual budget documents to reports on the functioning of specific government programs.

These reports go to the heart of executive branch accountability and Congress oversight responsibilities. It is hard to fathom how Congress could do its job of reviewing executive branch activities and making intelligent and legislative decisions without current detailed information on many of those subjects.

H.R. 1042 prevents the elimination of 29 reports within the jurisdictional areas covered by the Committee on Science. These range from the National Energy Policy Plan, which obviously at this juncture in our history is enormously important, and I serve on the Subcommittee on Energy, and we will be intensely reviewing how we can enhance the utilization of our limited resources, create alternative resources for energy and, in general, help America continue to be successful in having the right energy resources, to the Annual Report on Aeronautics and Space Activities, to the Annual Report of the National Science Board. Other reports let Congress know how the administration is doing in such high-priority areas as women and minorities in science and technology, high performance computing, placement of minorities, women and handicapped individuals at the National Science Foundation, and global warming.

Other reports deal with satellites, with critical technologies, with earthquakes and with technology transfer.

Mr. Speaker, this information is too important not to be made public. We, therefore, support this legislation; and I would ask my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 1042.

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

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, I include the following letter from the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), chairman of the Committee on Resources, for the RECORD:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, March 20, 2001.
Hon. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT,
Chairman, Committee on Science, Rayburn
HOB, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I have just reviewed the text of H.R. 1042, to prevent the elimination of certain reports, which is scheduled to be considered by the House of Representatives this Wednesday under suspension of the rules. This bill was referred exclusively to the Committee on Science. One of the reports to Congress proposed to be restored is found in section 7(a) of the Marine Resources and Engineering Development Act of 1966.

Based on recent referrals of bills, the Committee on Resources has primary jurisdiction of the National Sea Grant College Program which is part of the Marine Resources and Engineering Development Act of 1966. The Committee on Science has received sequential referrals of bills which reauthorize appropriations for the Sea Grant program. See H.R. 437 (105th Congress) and H.R. 1175 (104th Congress).

The Committee on Resources supports the restoration of this report to Congress and thanks Congressman Grucci for including it in his bill. We have no objection to the consideration of H.R. 1042 on the Floor this week but ask that this letter be included as part of the debate to register our jurisdictional interest.

Thank you for your leadership in ensuring that Congress has adequate information on the programs it supports and I look forward to working with you in the coming months on legislation of mutual interest.

Sincerely,

JAMES V. HANSEN.

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 New York (Mr. GRUCCI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1042, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. GRUCCI. 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 and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

MARITIME POLICY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 1098) to improve the recording and discharging of maritime liens and expand the American Merchant Marine Memorial Wall of Honor, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1098

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 "Maritime Policy Improvement Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

Sec. 3. Vessel COASTAL VENTURE.

Sec. 4. Expansion of American Merchant Marine Memorial Wall of Honor.

Sec. 5. Discharge of agricultural cargo residue.

Sec. 6. Recording and discharging maritime liens.

Sec. 7. Tonnage of R/V DAVIDSON.

Sec. 8. Miscellaneous certificates of documentation.

Sec. 9. Exemption for Victory Ships.

Sec. 10. Certificate of documentation for 3 barges.

Sec. 11. Certificate of documentation for the EAGLE.

Sec. 12. Waiver for vessels in New World Challenge Race.

Sec. 13. Vessel ASPHALT COMMANDER.

SEC. 3. VESSEL COASTAL VENTURE.

Section 1120(g) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-324; 110 Stat. 3978) is amended by inserting "COASTAL VENTURE (United States official number 971086)," after "vessels".

SEC. 4. EXPANSION OF AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE MEMORIAL WALL OF HONOR.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) the United States Merchant Marine has served the people of the United States in all wars since 1775;

(2) the United States Merchant Marine served as the Nation's first navy and defeated the British Navy to help gain the Nation's independence;

(3) the United States Merchant Marine kept the lifeline of freedom open to the allies of the United States during the Second World War, making one of the most significant contributions made by any nation to the victory of the allies in that war;

(4) President Franklin D. Roosevelt and many military leaders praised the role of the United States Merchant Marine as the "Fourth Arm of Defense" during the Second World War;

(5) more than 250,000 men and women served in the United States Merchant Marine during the Second World War;

(6) during the Second World War, members of the United States Merchant Marine faced dangers from the elements and from submarines, mines, armed raiders, destroyers, aircraft, and "kamikaze" pilots;

(7) during the Second World War, at least 6,830 members of the United States Merchant Marine were killed at sea;

(8) during the Second World War, 11,000 members of the United States Merchant Marine were wounded, at least 1,100 of whom later died from their wounds;

(9) during the Second World War, 604 members of the United States Merchant Marine were taken prisoner;

(10) 1 in 32 members of the United States Merchant Marine serving in the Second