

offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3880, as amended.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FOSSELLA. 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 today, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING SCLERODERMA

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 320) expressing the sense of Congress regarding Scleroderma, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 320

Whereas scleroderma is a debilitating and potentially fatal autoimmune disease with a broad range of symptoms which may be either localized or systemic;

Whereas scleroderma may attack vital internal organs, including the heart, esophagus, lungs, and kidneys, and may do so without causing any external symptoms;

Whereas more than 300,000 people in the United States suffer from scleroderma;

Whereas the symptoms of scleroderma include hardening and thickening of the skin, swelling, disfigurement of the hands, spasms of blood vessels causing severe discomfort in the fingers and toes, weight loss, joint pain, difficulty swallowing, extreme fatigue, and ulcerations on the fingertips which are slow to heal;

Whereas people with advanced scleroderma may be unable to perform even the simplest tasks;

Whereas 80 percent of the people suffering from scleroderma are women between the ages of 25 and 55;

Whereas scleroderma is the 5th leading cause of death among all autoimmune diseases for women who are 65 years old or younger;

Whereas the wide range of symptoms and localized and systemic variations of scleroderma make it difficult to diagnose;

Whereas the average diagnosis of scleroderma is made 5 years after the onset of symptoms;

Whereas the cause of scleroderma is still unknown and there is no known cure; and

Whereas the estimated annual direct and indirect costs of scleroderma in the United States are \$1,500,000,000: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring)

That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) private organizations and health care providers should be recognized for their efforts to promote awareness of and research on scleroderma;

(2) the people of the United States, including the medical community, should make themselves aware of the symptoms of scleroderma and contribute to the fight against scleroderma;

(3) the National Institutes of Health should continue to take a leadership role in research efforts regarding the fight against scleroderma and should allow for broad dissemination of the information learned from such research; and

(4) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention should consider additional methods to improve disease surveillance of scleroderma.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) each will control 20 minutes.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FOSSELLA. 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 matter on House Concurrent Resolution 320.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the House is considering today House Concurrent Resolution 320, introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIERREZ) to raise awareness about a terrible disease, Scleroderma. House Concurrent Resolution 320 was reported favorably by the Committee on Energy and Commerce last week, and I encourage my colleagues to express their support for the resolution on the floor today.

Over 100,000 Americans are affected by Scleroderma, a chronic connective tissue disease that is debilitating and potentially fatal. Scleroderma is actually a symptom of a group of rare diseases that involve the abnormal growth of connective tissue.

Scleroderma is derived from the Greek word sclerosis, literally meaning hard skin. The symptoms include hardening and thickening of the skin, swelling and disfigurement of the hands, weight loss, joint pain, difficulty swallowing, as well as extreme fatigue.

With this wide range of symptoms, scleroderma is often difficult to diagnose. For some patients, these diseases cause hard, tight skin; for others, the problem is much greater, affecting blood vessels and internal organs like the heart, lungs, and kidneys.

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Scleroderma affects people of all races and ethnic groups, men, women and children. For some Americans affected by scleroderma, recovery comes with time. For many others, there is no treatment that controls or stops the progression effectively. While scientists at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases continue to learn more about scleroderma, unfortunately, they do not know exactly what causes scleroderma, and there is still no cure.

The resolution before us today recognizes the work of private organizations and health care providers to raise awareness about scleroderma and encourages Americans to learn more about scleroderma. The resolution encourages the National Institutes of Health to continue to play a leadership role in discovering new treatments and disseminating information learned from their research. Finally, the resolution encourages the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to consider how to improve disease surveillance of autoimmune diseases, including scleroderma.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support the resolution.

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, we are considering an important resolution today sponsored by my colleague, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIERREZ). I am pleased to be a co-sponsor of this legislation, which is intended to raise the profile of scleroderma, a debilitating autoimmune disease that affects around a third of a million Americans every year.

Diagnosis can be difficult in the early stages. Many symptoms of scleroderma are common to or may overlap those of other diseases. The disease is highly individualized. While scleroderma can show mild symptoms in some, it can also deliver a more life-threatening prognosis in others.

Scleroderma can show symptoms on the surface as in a skin rash or disguise itself by affecting the organs, the muscles or blood vessels. Diagnosis can require consultation with rheumatologists and dermatologists, in addition to blood studies and specialized tests depending on which organs are actually affected.

The Committee on Energy and Commerce last week passed this resolution unanimously. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that my bill, the Support Scleroderma Research bill (H. Con. Res. 320) has been scheduled to be considered in the suspension calendar today. The speed with which this bipartisan bill has traveled from the committee mark-up to Floor consideration is a testament to the importance of this bi-partisan and non-controversial measure.

Scleroderma is a chronic, often progressive autoimmune disease in which the body's immune system attacks its own tissues. The disease can manifest itself in two forms: localized scleroderma, affecting the skin and underlying tissue and systemic scleroderma, also known as systemic sclerosis, a potentially life-threatening disease that attacks internal organs including the lungs, heart, kidneys, esophagus and gastrointestinal tract.

The wide range of symptoms and localized and systemic variations of the disease make it especially hard to diagnose. In fact, the average diagnosis is made five years after the onset of symptoms. Once diagnosed, however, people with this incurable disease can only look forward to symptomatic relief.

More than 300,000 Americans suffer from scleroderma. More than 80 percent of them are women between the ages of 25 and 65 years old. Scleroderma is the 5th leading cause of death among all autoimmune diseases for women under 65 years of age. The estimated annual direct and indirect costs of scleroderma in the United States are \$1,500,000,000. In spite of these statistic and figures, we still don't know what causes scleroderma and we have yet to find a cure for it.

My bill seeks to move a step closer to finding a cure by bringing awareness to scleroderma and expressing our solid support for Federal efforts to fight this disease. As marked up last Thursday by the full Energy and Commerce Committee, this bill, among other things, expresses the sense of Congress that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) should continue to take a leadership role in research efforts regarding the fight against scleroderma and should allow for broad dissemination of the information learned from such research. The also believe that the Centers for Disease Control can, should, and must play a role regarding methods to improve disease surveillance of scleroderma.

Ideally, I believe that NIH should continue to play a leadership role in the fight of scleroderma by working more closely with private organizations and researchers and by funding research projects regarding scleroderma conducted by private organizations and researchers. I also urge NIH to hold a scleroderma symposium to bring together distinguished scientists and clinicians from across the U.S. to determine the most important priorities in scleroderma research and to support the formation of small workgroups composed of experts from diverse but related scientific fields to study this disease.

I would like to thank Chairman TAUZIN and Ranking Member DINGELL for their strong support for this resolution and their fast scheduling of it. I would also like to thank my colleague on the other side of the aisle, Congressman CHRISTOPHER SMITH of New Jersey, who has been a consistent and strong supporter of all initiatives on behalf of finding a cure for scleroderma, including an increase in Federal funding for research on scleroderma as being conducted by the National Institutes of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Skin Disease. I would also like to recognize the hard work of my Legislative Assistant, Annie Grace Toro, on behalf of this bill.

Finally, I would like to thank the Scleroderma Foundation and the Scleroderma Research Foundation for their dedication and hard work on behalf of all individuals suffering from scleroderma.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. QUINN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 320, 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. FOSSELLA. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 513, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 3880, by the yeas and nays; and

H. Con. Res. 320, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

RECOGNIZING HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND TIMELINESS OF UNITED STATES-IRELAND BUSINESS SUMMIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 513, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H.R. 513, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 372, nays 0, not voting 60, as follows:

[Roll No. 381]

YEAS—372

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Billakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bonilla

Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clyburn
Coble
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cooksey

Costello
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Emerson
Engel
English
Eshoo

Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Fletcher
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fossella
Frank
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grucci
Gutierrez
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Harman
Hart
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kerns
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
Kingston
Kirk
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce

LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Manzullo
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Menendez
Mica
Millender-
McDonald
Miller, Dan
Miller, Gary
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Oxley
Pallone
Pascarelli
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reyes

Reynolds
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Sanchez
Sandlin
Sawyer
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrock
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Sullivan
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Toomey
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Wamp
Watkins (OK)
Watson (CA)
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—60

Akin
Barrett
Boehlert
Bonior
Borski
Brown (FL)
Callahan
Calvert
Cardin
Clement
Collins
Cox