

ensure that America remains a leader in the development and use of supercomputers. More specifically, H.R. 4516 does three things.

First, it requires the Secretary of Energy to establish and operate high-end computing facilities involving leadership-class machines that are among the most elite in the world.

Second, this bill directs the Secretary to conduct advanced scientific and engineering research and development using these leadership class systems, and to continue to advance the capabilities of high-end computing hardware and software.

Finally, the bill requires that these computing facilities be made available on a competitive, peer-reviewed basis to researchers from U.S. industry, institutions of higher learning, national laboratories and other Federal agencies.

Mr. Speaker, dramatic scientific and commercial breakthroughs will require us to increase computing power by a factor of 100 or, in some cases, by a factor of 1,000. While attaining these increases may seem daunting, the history of computer development has taught us that, with a sustained commitment to research, such gains are within our reach.

That is why Energy Secretary Abraham announced last summer the selection of a team, including Argonne National Laboratory, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, IBM, Cray and other partners, to develop and build a new, high-end computing facility.

H.R. 4516 complements and supports this DOE initiative and ensures that the department can fulfill its responsibility to help lead the Federal Government's supercomputing R&D efforts.

The Senate passed this bill by unanimous consent last month, and in July the House passed a similar version by voice vote. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation again and send it to the President's desk so that the United States can maintain its distinction as home to the world's most powerful computer.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4516, the Department of Energy High-End Computing Revitalization Act of 2004.

I had the pleasure of working on this legislation with my esteemed colleague across the aisle, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT), who does an excellent job on the Committee on Science, and I look forward to having more opportunities to work with her on other important policy goals that we are able to impact at the Committee on Science.

The bill authorizes research and development activities at the Department of Energy to provide for the design, the development and the deployment of powerful computing systems,

including both hardware and software. It will lead to the development of the computational tools needed for solving the most demanding science and engineering problems. The activities authorized will constitute part of the ongoing interagency information technology research and development program established by the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991.

H.R. 4516 will build on the demonstrated expertise of the Department of Energy in advancing the technology needed for designing and building the most powerful scientific computing systems in the world.

Equally important, the bill provides for the development and deployment of leadership-class computing systems, such as the system recently announced for installation at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, which will provide access on a competitive basis for the research community in the United States.

The effect of the bill will be to put into the hands of researchers the tools they need to attack the most challenging problems in science and engineering, as well as to accelerate the development of the computing tools needed to underpin industrial competitiveness and our national defense.

Finally, H.R. 4516 will help to implement the Federal plan for high-end computing that was released earlier this year by the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this legislative measure to my colleagues and recommend its passage by the House, as amended by the other body.

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

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

I want to conclude this debate by recognizing the bill's cosponsors, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON), and thank them for their efforts in support of this legislation.

I also would like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT) for holding a Science Committee hearing last May to review our Federal investment in high-end computing. The hearing was a success. We received positive feedback on this legislation from a number of experts on high-performance computing who testified before the committee.

I also would like to acknowledge the U.S. supercomputing industry for its impressive accomplishments. I congratulate IBM for its new Blue Gene/L supercomputer, which was recognized just last week as the fastest computer in the world. The Blue Gene/L is faster than Japan's Earth Simulator, which held the world record in computing speed for nearly 3 years. With passage of this bill, the DOE can work closely with IBM and other industry leaders like Cray and Silicon Graphics Incorporated as well as academia to ensure that the United States continues to be home to the world's fastest supercomputer for years to come.

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 (Mrs. BIGGERT) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 4516.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMENDING LIVESTOCK MANDATORY PRICE REPORTING ACT OF 1999

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2965) to amend the Livestock Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 1999 to modify the termination date for mandatory price reporting.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 2965

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION.

Section 942 of the Livestock Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1635 note; Public Law 106-78) is amended by striking "terminate" and all that follows and inserting "terminate on September 30, 2005."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. ROSS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE).

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation, which extends an important program until September 30, 2005.

As many of my colleagues know, authorization for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Mandatory Price Reporting Program, which was passed in the 1999 agriculture appropriation, expired on October 23. This program requires USDA to operate a mandatory price reporting system for beef, pork and lamb, which provides useful information for everyone engaged in the buying and selling of these products.

In the absence of authority to enforce mandatory reporting, the USDA has contacted the companies to encourage them to continue reporting data during the gap in program authorization. It is my understanding that everyone has been cooperating. This is because they recognize the important role this data plays in price discovery and in the operation of marketing agreements.

There is also a clear agreement that the current program should be extended for an additional year to provide livestock producers, the packer community and other interested parties additional time to identify and agree upon these technical improvements to the law.

The administration has recently written to the leadership of the House and Senate in support of this simple 1-year extension. In order to extend mandatory price reporting in a timely manner, we need to act today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this measure.

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

□ 1845

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

I rise today in support of S. 2965, a bill to amend the Livestock Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 1999 in order to modify the termination date for mandatory price reporting.

The current authority for the USDA Livestock Mandatory Price Reporting expired on October 23 of this year. It is important to the U.S. livestock markets that we maintain a dependable flow of information to producers to help them price their products in the marketplace. The bill before us today provides for a simple 1-year reauthorization of the existing program, and I am not aware of any serious opposition to this bill.

I do regret that we have not taken the time to consider a more careful revision of the statute prior to this point. We should have taken up this issue much earlier during the 108th Congress and spent the time to consider corrections to the deficiencies various groups have noted in the program as it currently exists. But since that has not been done, this 1-year extension seems like the best alternative available to maintain a stable flow of information to our producers.

It is my hope that, during this 1-year extension, the Committee on Agriculture of this House will hold hearings on this topic and consider ways it might improve the USDA price reporting system. In the meantime, however, a simple extension seems to be the best way to serve the market information needs for our farmers and ranchers.

I encourage all Members to support passage of this Senate bill.

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to support passage of S. 2965, a bill to extend for one year the Livestock Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 1999. As the author of the original legislation, I am pleased to see that this important program will continue for one additional year. It is my hope that during that time the program will be improved and, if it is proven cost effective, made permanent.

Four major packers slaughter 80 percent of fed cattle and process about 85 percent of boxed beef. According to producer organizations, because of the high level of concentration, it is very important to maintain a level playing field for all producers.

Mandatory price reporting addresses non-contract livestock producers concerns that the increasing use of contracts prevents complete transparency in livestock prices that, in the past, would've been made public at auction. Additionally, independent livestock producers fear that the increasing use of contracts means that there is less of a market for their

product, and the price they will receive will remain low through possible packer collusion. Mandatory price reporting provides market transparency, thus ensuring that our producers get the best prices for their livestock.

Mr. Speaker, I am very supportive of this one-year extension. It will give Congress additional time to determine the efficacy of the program, whether the cost of the program outweighs the benefit, and verify price data problems that arose with USDA's implementation of the program have since been fixed.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to adopt this important legislation to extend this program for a year.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RENZI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2965.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 2965, the Senate bill just considered.

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

There was no objection.

SUPPORTING GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL TOURETTE SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 430) recognizing the importance of early diagnosis, proper treatment, and enhanced public awareness of Tourette Syndrome and supporting the goals and ideals of National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 430

Whereas Tourette Syndrome is an inherited neurological disorder characterized by involuntary and sudden movements or repeated vocalizations;

Whereas approximately 200,000 people in the United States have been diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome and many thousands more remain undiagnosed;

Whereas lack of public awareness has increased the social stigma attached to Tourette Syndrome;

Whereas early diagnosis and treatment of Tourette Syndrome can prevent physical and psychological harm;

Whereas there is no known cure for Tourette Syndrome and treatment involves

multiple medications and therapies with costs that can be prohibitive;

Whereas the Tourette Syndrome Association is the only national nonprofit membership organization dedicated to identifying the cause, finding the cure, and controlling the effects of Tourette Syndrome; and

Whereas the Tourette Syndrome Association has designated May 15 through June 15 as National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month, the goal of which is to educate the public about the nature and effects of Tourette Syndrome: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) recognizes the impact that Tourette Syndrome can have on people living with the disorder;

(2) recognizes the importance of an early diagnosis and proper treatment of Tourette Syndrome;

(3) recognizes the need for enhanced public awareness of Tourette Syndrome;

(4) supports the goals and ideals of National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month, as designated by the Tourette Syndrome Association; and

(5) encourages the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States and interested organizations to observe National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. 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. 430.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 430 introduced by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG), my friend and colleague from my home State of Florida.

This resolution recognizes the importance of early diagnosis, proper treatment and enhanced public awareness of Tourette Syndrome and supports the goals and ideals of National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month.

Tourette Syndrome, or TS, is a neurological disorder that arises during childhood or adolescence. TS is characterized by repeated and involuntary body movements, tics, and uncontrollable vocal sounds. Tics can include eye blinking, repeated throat clearing or sniffing, arm thrusting, kicking movements or jumping. Although the symptoms of TS vary from person to person and range from very mild to severe, the majority of cases fall into the mild category. Some associated conditions can include attention problems, impulsiveness and learning disabilities.

The National Institutes of Health, NIH, estimates that about 2 percent of Americans are affected by TS. However, these numbers are thought to be