

This legislation today to require the federal government to remove Social Security numbers from Medicare identification cards and communications to Medicare beneficiaries.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), which administers the Medicare program, has fallen behind most other public and private organizations in recognizing the danger of displaying Social Security numbers. The Social Security Number Protection Act ensures that the Social Security numbers of Medicare beneficiaries are properly protected.

Every year, millions of Americans are victims of identity theft—many after their Social Security numbers are stolen. Instead of leading by example, the federal government is lagging behind private health insurers and other public agencies in protecting Medicare recipients from identity theft. CMS's continued use of Social Security numbers on Medicare cards needlessly places people at risk.

This bill ensures that a premium is placed on security and that personal information is protected. It makes no sense for a CMS to continue exposing Medicare beneficiaries to the risk of identity theft. We should pass this bill quickly and fix this problem once and for all.

I believe that this is one of those clear-cut problems that is easy to fix. With identity theft on the rise, removing social security numbers from Medicare beneficiary cards is the smart thing to do. Identity theft is one of the fastest-growing crimes in the nation. Nearly 8.4 million people were victims of identity theft last year alone, and these crimes accounted for more than \$49.3 billion in fraudulent charges.

Nearly three years ago, Senator DURBIN raised concerns about the use of Social Security numbers on Medicare cards. Because of his efforts, CMS issued a report to Congress that outlined the steps that would be required to remove Social Security numbers from Medicare cards, but has failed to implement those changes.

In May 2008, the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration issued a report which concluded that: "Given the millions of individuals at risk for identity theft and OMB's directive to eliminate unnecessary uses of Social Security numbers, we believe immediate action is needed to address this significant vulnerability."

Today's legislation sets a timeframe for CMS to remove Social Security numbers from Medicare cards and communications to beneficiaries. The bill will:

Require the Health and Human Services Secretary to implement procedures to eliminate the unnecessary collection, use, and display of Social Security numbers of Medicare beneficiaries within three years;

Prohibit the display or the unencrypted electronic storage of Social Security numbers on newly issued Medicare cards;

Prohibit the display or the unencrypted electronic storage of Social Security numbers on all Medicare cards with five years of enactment; and

Prohibit the display of Social Security numbers on written and electronic communications to Medicare beneficiaries, unless essential for the operation of the Medicare program.

I am proud to cosponsor legislation that will protect our elderly. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

Mr. DOGGETT. I yield back my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6600, 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. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 3229. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the legacy of the United States Army Infantry and the establishment of the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center.

H.R. 5872. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes:

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 6098. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve the financial assistance provided to State, local, and tribal governments for information sharing activities, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate agreed to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2638) "An Act making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 3569. An act to make improvements in the operation and administration of the Federal courts, and for other purposes.

S. 3641. An act to authorize funding for the National Crime Victim Law Institute to provide support for victims of crime under Crime Victims Legal Assistance Programs as a part of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984.

PRESIDENTIAL HISTORICAL RECORDS PRESERVATION ACT OF 2008

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 3477) to amend title 44, United

States Code, to authorize grants for Presidential Centers of Historical Excellence.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 3477

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 "Presidential Historical Records Preservation Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 2504 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by—

(1) redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g); and

(2) inserting after subsection (e) the following:

"(f) GRANTS FOR PRESIDENTIAL CENTERS OF HISTORICAL EXCELLENCE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Archivist, with the recommendation of the Commission, may make grants, on a competitive basis and in accordance with this subsection, to eligible entities to promote the historical preservation of, and public access to, historical records and documents relating to any former President who does not have a Presidential archival depository currently managed and maintained by the Federal Government pursuant to section 2112 (commonly known as the 'Presidential Libraries Act of 1955').

"(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For purposes of this subsection, an eligible entity is—

"(A) an organization described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code; or

"(B) a State or local government of the United States.

"(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts received by an eligible entity under paragraph (1) shall be used to promote the historical preservation of, and public access to, historical records or historical documents relating to any former President covered under paragraph (1).

"(4) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts received by an eligible entity under paragraph (1) may not be used for the maintenance, operating costs, or construction of any facility to house the historical records or historical documents relating to any former President covered under paragraph (1).

"(5) APPLICATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity seeking a grant under this subsection shall submit to the Commission an application at such time, in such manner, and containing or accompanied by such information as the Commission may require, including a description of the activities for which a grant under this subsection is sought.

"(B) APPROVAL OF APPLICATION.—The Commission shall not consider or recommend a grant application submitted under subparagraph (A) unless an eligible entity establishes that such entity—

"(i) possesses, with respect to any former President covered under paragraph (1), historical works and collections of historical sources that the Commission considers appropriate for preserving, publishing, or otherwise recording at the public expense;

"(ii) has appropriate facilities and space for preservation of, and public access to, the historical works and collections of historical sources;

"(iii) shall ensure preservation of, and public access to, such historical works and collections of historical sources at no charge to the public;

“(iv) has educational programs that make the use of such documents part of the mission of such entity;

“(v) has raised funds from non-Federal sources in support of the efforts of the entity to promote the historical preservation of, and public access to, such historical works and collections of historical sources in an amount equal to the amount of the grant the entity seeks under this subsection;

“(vi) shall coordinate with any relevant Federal program or activity, including programs and activities relating to Presidential archival depositories;

“(vii) shall coordinate with any relevant non-Federal program or activity, including programs and activities conducted by State and local governments and private educational historical entities; and

“(viii) has a workable plan for preserving and providing public access to such historical works and collections of historical sources.”.

SEC. 3. TERM LIMITS FOR COMMISSION MEMBERS; RECUSAL.

(a) TERM LIMITS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2501(b)(1) of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by inserting “not more than 2” after “subsection (a) shall be appointed for”; and

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “a term” and inserting “not more than 4 terms”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The restrictions on the terms of members of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission provided in the amendments made by paragraph (1) shall apply to members serving on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) RECUSAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2501 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) RECUSAL.—Members of the Commission shall recuse themselves from voting on any matter that poses, or could potentially pose, a conflict of interest, including a matter that could benefit them or an entity they represent.”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The requirement of recusal provided in the amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply to members of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission serving on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. ONLINE ACCESS OF FOUNDING FATHERS DOCUMENTS; TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 44, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 2119 the following:

“§ 2120. Online access of founding fathers documents

“The Archivist may enter into a cooperative agreement to provide online access to the published volumes of the papers of—

“(1) George Washington;

“(2) Alexander Hamilton;

“(3) Thomas Jefferson;

“(4) Benjamin Franklin;

“(5) John Adams;

“(6) James Madison; and

“(7) other prominent historical figures, as determined appropriate by the Archivist of the United States.”.

(b) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Archivist of the United States, in the role as chairman of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission may enter into cooperative agreements pursuant to section 6305 of title 31, United States Code, that involve the transfer of funds from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to State and local governments, tribal governments, other public entities, educational institutions, or private nonprofit organizations for the public purpose of carrying out section 2120 of title 44, United States Codes.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than December 31st of each year, the Archivist of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives a report on the provisions, amount, and duration of each cooperative agreement entered into as authorized by paragraph (1) during the preceding fiscal year.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 21 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to section 2119 the following:

“2120. Online access of founding fathers documents.”.

SEC. 5. ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Archivist of the United States may establish an advisory committee to—

(1) review the progress of the Founding Fathers editorial projects funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission;

(2) develop, in consultation with the various Founding Fathers editorial projects, appropriate completion goals for the projects described in paragraph (1);

(3) annually review such goals and report to the Archivist on the progress of the various projects in meeting the goals; and

(4) recommend to the Archivist measures that would aid or encourage the projects in meeting such goals.

(b) REPORTS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Each of the projects described in subsection (a)(1) shall provide annually to the advisory committee established under subsection (a) a report on the progress of the project toward accomplishing the completion goals and any assistance needed to achieve such goals, including the following:

(1) The proportion of total project funding for the funding year in which the report is submitted from—

(A) Federal, State, and local government sources;

(B) the host institution for the project;

(C) private or public foundations; and

(D) individuals.

(2) Information on all activities carried out using nongovernmental funding.

(3) Any and all information related to performance goals for the funding year in which the report is submitted.

(c) COMPOSITION; MEETINGS; REPORT; SUNSET; ACTION.—The advisory committee established under subsection (a) shall—

(1) be comprised of 3 nationally recognized historians appointed for not more than 2 consecutive 4-year terms;

(2) meet not less frequently than once a year;

(3) provide a report on the information obtained under subsection (b) to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter;

(4) terminate on the date that is 8 years after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(5) recommend legislative or executive action that would facilitate completion of the performance goals for the Founding Fathers editorial projects.

SEC. 6. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR PRESIDENTIAL ARCHIVAL DEPOSITORIES; REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) PROVISION OF PLAN.—The Archivist of the United States shall provide to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the

House of Representatives a 10-year capital improvement plan, in accordance with paragraph (2), for all Presidential archival depositories (as defined in section 2101 of title 44, United States Code), which shall include—

(A) a prioritization of all capital projects at Presidential archival depositories that cost more than \$1,000,000;

(B) the current estimate of the cost of each capital project; and

(C) the basis upon which each cost estimate was developed.

(2) PROVIDED TO CONGRESS.—The capital improvement plan shall be provided to the committees, as described in paragraph (1), at the same time as the first Budget of the United States Government after the date of enactment of this Act is submitted to Congress.

(3) ANNUAL UPDATES AND EXPLANATION OF CHANGES IN COST ESTIMATES.—The Archivist of the United States shall provide to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives—

(A) annual updates to the capital improvement plan described in paragraph (1) at the same time as each subsequent Budget of the United States Government is submitted to Congress; and

(B) an explanation for any changes in cost estimates.

(b) AMENDMENT TO MINIMUM AMOUNT OF ENDOWMENT.—Section 2112(g)(5)(B) of title 44, United States Code, is amended by striking “40” and inserting “60”.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Archivist of the United States shall provide a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives, that provides 1 or more alternative models for presidential archival depositories that—

(1) reduce the financial burden on the Federal Government;

(2) improve the preservation of presidential records; and

(3) reduce the delay in public access to all presidential records.

SEC. 7. ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL DATABASE FOR RECORDS OF SERVITUDE, EMANCIPATION, AND POST-CIVIL WAR RECONSTRUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Archivist of the United States may preserve relevant records and establish, as part of the National Archives and Records Administration, an electronically searchable national database consisting of historic records of servitude, emancipation, and post-Civil War reconstruction, including the Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Land Records, Southern Claims Commission Records, Records of the Freedmen's Bank, Slave Impressments Records, Slave Payroll Records, Slave Manifest, and others, contained within the agencies and departments of the Federal Government to assist African Americans and others in conducting genealogical and historical research.

(b) MAINTENANCE.—Any database established under this section shall be maintained by the National Archives and Records Administration or an entity within the National Archives and Records Administration designated by the Archivist of the United States.

SEC. 8. GRANTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE AND LOCAL DATABASES FOR RECORDS OF SERVITUDE, EMANCIPATION, AND POST-CIVIL WAR RECONSTRUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Executive Director of the National Historical Publications and

Records Commission of the National Archives and Records Administration may make grants to States, colleges and universities, museums, libraries, and genealogical associations to preserve records and establish electronically searchable databases consisting of local records of servitude, emancipation, and post-Civil War reconstruction.

(b) MAINTENANCE.—Any database established using a grant under this section shall be maintained by appropriate agencies or institutions designated by the Executive Director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I stand to urge the passage of S. 3477. The National Historical Publications and Records Commission is the grant-making arm of the National Archives and Records Administration. The NHPRC makes grants to help identify, preserve, and provide public access to records, photographs, and other materials that document American history. The grants go to State and local archives, colleges and universities, libraries, historical societies, and other nonprofit organizations throughout the country.

This legislation provides that the Archivist, with the recommendations of the NHPRC, may grant money to eligible entities to promote the historical preservation of, and public access to, historical records and documents relating to any former President who does not have a Presidential archival depository currently managed and maintained under the Presidential Libraries Act of 1955.

This bill also includes provisions that limit the tenure of members of the NHPRC and provides for their recusal from matters that pose, or potentially pose, a conflict of interest.

The bill provides for online access to the Founding Fathers documents, establishes an advisory committee for the NHPRC, and requires that the Archivist develop a 10-year capital improvement plan with annual updates to Congress.

Additionally, this legislation authorizes the Archivist to establish an electronically searchable national database consisting of historic records of servitude, emancipation, and post-Civil War reconstruction, including the Refugees, Freedman, and Abandoned Land Records, Southern Claims Commission

Records, Records of the Freedmen's Bank, Slave Impressments Records, Slave Payroll Records, Slave Manifest, and others contained within the agencies and departments of the Federal Government to assist African Americans and others in conducting genealogical and historical research.

None of the programs authorized in this act shall take precedent over existing programs funded by the Commission unless there is an increase in authorization of appropriations and an increase in appropriated funds to fund these programs.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Like many of our Nation's Presidents, this bill has its roots in Virginia. The important mission of the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library in Staunton, Virginia, and the determination of the individuals there combined to move this legislation forward.

I want to thank Mr. GOODLATTE for his hard work on this legislation. He's really worked many years on this. I also want to recognize the valuable contribution of its sponsor in the other body, Senator WARNER, and also recognize and acknowledge the important provisions added by Senators CARPER and LIEBERMAN.

This bill modifies an existing program within the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to ensure that grant funding is available to preserve, and provide public access to, historical documents of Presidents not currently covered under the Presidential Libraries Act of 1955.

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The bill makes structural changes to the commission by placing 8-year term limits on members and requires members to recuse themselves from votes that would lead to a conflict of interest.

In addition, it allows the Archivist to publish online the various public cases funded by the commission of the Founding Fathers and any other prominent historical figures.

Finally, the bill grants the Archivist the ability to establish a database for Federal records of servitude, emancipation and post-Civil War reconstruction and provides that the National Historic Publication and Records Commission may make grants to preserve local records of servitude, emancipation and post-Civil War reconstruction.

This bill has solid bipartisan support. I want to thank Chairman WAXMAN for his support and also Mr. CLAY for being here to usher this through today. It has taken a lot of hard work behind the scenes on the part of our staffs in order to increase the awareness and the understanding of the life and principles and accomplishments of our past Presidents. I just want to ask my colleagues

to join me in supporting this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve. I don't have any other speakers.

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. If I could yield to the bill's sponsor who has really worked on this through the years and has really helped to shepherd this through both bodies, the gentleman from Roanoke, Mr. GOODLATTE. I yield to him such time as he may consume.

Mr. GOODLATTE. I want to thank Ranking Member DAVIS, my colleague from Virginia, for not only yielding me time but also for his leadership in working so hard with Chairman WAXMAN, with Members of the Senate and others who have been involved in pushing this legislation forward, for helping to finally reach this day in which we have legislation that concurs with legislation in the Senate.

I urge my colleagues to support the Presidential Historic Records Preservation Act of 2008. I introduced similar legislation a few weeks ago in the House, along with my colleagues in the Senate, Senators JOHN WARNER and JIM WEBB.

Mr. Speaker, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission is a statutory body affiliated with the National Archives and Records Administration. The NHPRC was established by Congress in 1934 to promote the preservation and use of America's documentary heritage essential to understanding our democracy, history, and culture.

Currently, the NHPRC is authorized to administer grants to promote preservation and use of America's documentary heritage. The NHPRC supports projects that preserve and make accessible records and archives, and research and develop means to preserve authentic electronic records. Unfortunately, the NHPRC does not preserve the documents of all Presidents.

The Presidential Historical Records Preservation Act of 2008 would allow NHPRC to make grants on a competitive basis to eligible entities to promote the historic preservation of, and public access to, historical records and documents relating to any President who does not have a Presidential archival depository currently managed and maintained by the Federal Government pursuant to the Presidential Libraries Act of 1955.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation, in order to be eligible to receive these grants, an entity must qualify as a 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or be a State or local government. In order to maintain the integrity of the grant program, the NHPRC may only approve grants to those entities that possess historical works and collections of historical sources that the commission considers appropriate for preserving, publishing, or otherwise recording at the public expense. The entity must also have appropriate facilities

and space for preservation of such historical works and ensure public access to these collections.

Finally, to maintain the fiscal integrity of this act, the receiving entity must have raised funds from non-Federal sources in support of the grant efforts. In addition, grants may not be used for the maintenance, operating costs, or construction of any facility to house the historical records of any President who does not have a Presidential archival depository currently managed by the Federal Government. Mr. Speaker, as you can see, the focus of the bill is preservation and access to documents, not constructing new buildings or monuments.

I also commend my colleagues in the Senate for their improvements to this bill by allowing the Archivist to provide greater online access to historical documents of our Nation's Founding Fathers. With this provision, future generations will have greater access to the stories and journeys on the creation of our great country.

I want to thank my colleagues, Ranking Member DAVIS and Chairman WAXMAN, for their help with this legislation. I would also like to thank the staff at the Archives and Senators WARNER and WEBB for their assistance, as well as the Senate Committee on Government Affairs and Homeland Security in crafting this important bill.

Finally, I especially want to thank my constituents at the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library in Staunton, Virginia, for their assistance and guidance as this bill has taken on many forms over the past few years. The Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library has preserved several thousand documents, and it is my hope that these NHPRC grants will help organizations like this serve the American public.

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. I yield back the balance of my time and urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, first before I close, I would like to commend my two colleagues from Virginia, Mr. GOODLATTE and Mr. DAVIS, as well as their two U.S. Senators for introducing this important piece of legislation and shepherding it through, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 3477.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WAIVING CLAIMS TO CERTAIN DOCUMENTS RELATING TO FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6669) to provide that claims of the

United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6669

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

SECTION 1. TREATMENT OF OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS RELATING TO FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—If any person makes a gift of any property described in subsection (b) to the National Archives and Records Administration, then any claim of the United States to such property shall be treated as having been waived and relinquished on the day before the date of such gift.

(b) PROPERTY DESCRIBED.—Property is described in this subsection if such property is a part of the collection of documents, papers, and memorabilia relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, or any member of his family or staff, which was originally in the possession of Grace Tully and retained by her at the time of her death, and included in her estate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I rise today in support of H.R. 6669, which was introduced by Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand on July 30, 2008.

This bill waives a government interest in certain records in order to allow private owners of some personal papers of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to deliver these valuable papers, called the Tully Collection, to the FDR Presidential Library in Hyde Park, New York.

The owners of the collection currently want to donate the papers to the FDR Library, but because the National Archives asserted a claim to a portion of the collection, the owners would be ineligible for a common tax deduction for the fair market value of the donation.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I will try to be brief.

Mr. Speaker, this is a simple bill with the limited purpose of waiving certain claims of the United States to specific documents relating to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

The papers in question, known as the Tully Collection, are a very important

and valuable collection of materials relating to Roosevelt's Presidency.

Grace Tully served on President Roosevelt's secretarial staff for several decades and in 1941 became his personal secretary. After her death, her collection of personal papers passed on through her niece into the hands of private collectors, and finally, to the current owner, Sun Times Media, which bought the collection for \$8 million in 2001.

In 2004, the National Archives asserted a claim to a portion of the documents. Sun Times Media would now like to donate the entire collection to the FDR Presidential Library, but due to the Archives' formal claim, Sun Times Media is prevented from receiving any type of tax deduction for this, the donation.

This bill will address the legal barriers preventing the transfer of this very important collection to President Roosevelt's library.

I understand this bill has the strong support of members of the New York delegation. I would urge Members to support this legislation to help complete this historical collection.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I will continue to reserve.

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. I yield back the balance of my time and urge its adoption.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to support HR 6669, a bill that will waive and relinquish claims by the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. This legislation would allow the transfer of the Tully/Suckley papers from the Sun Times Media to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library. These papers shed a great deal of light on the FDR era and are the largest collection of FDR documents and memorabilia in private hands.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt started his political career in New York State by working vigorously for reform movements that would redefine the role of government, and he never stopped. The programs that epitomized the New Deal had their genesis in Albany. As governor, Roosevelt implemented many of the innovative, progressive policies he would later introduce to the Nation as President. He expanded state assistance to social services and state agencies and eased the hardships on New York's agricultural industry by encouraging tax cuts for small farmers. Upon the onset of the Great Depression, he authorized the New York State Unemployment Relief Act and the Temporary Emergency Relief Administration.

In 1928, Roosevelt won the Democratic nomination for Governor at the Naval Armory in my home city of Rochester, New York. While serving as Governor, his successes elevated him to national prominence, and in 1932, he was elected President of the United States for the first of an unprecedented—and never to be repeated—four terms in office.

Franklin Roosevelt embraced the unique capabilities of every individual and worked tirelessly to ensure that all Americans would be able to earn a living and build this great Nation. As a result of initiatives like the PWA, the