

Mr. SMITH of Texas. I thank my colleague from Texas for yielding, and I also thank my colleague on the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of H.R. 3632 is to implement noncontroversial administrative provisions that the Judicial Conference and the House Judiciary Committee believe are necessary to improve the operations of the Federal judiciary and to provide justice for the American people.

The Judicial Conference is the policymaking body of the Federal judiciary, and through its committee system, it evaluates court operations. The Conference endorses all of the provisions in the bill.

H.R. 3632 affects a wide range of judicial branch programs and operations, including those pertaining to financial administration, process improvements and personnel administration.

The bill incorporates nine separate items, which, Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter into the RECORD at this point.

A section that clarifies that senior judges must satisfy minimum work thresholds to participate in court government matters, including the selection of magistrates.

A section that eliminates the references to divisions and counties in the statutory description of the Judicial District of North Dakota, which enables the court to better distribute the workload between two active district judges and reduce travel for litigants in the northern central area of the district.

A section that authorizes the "statement of reasons" that judges must issue upon sentencing to be filed separately with the court. Current law requires the statement to be bundled with other information in the case file distributed to the Sentencing Commission, where it can be difficult to maintain a seal related to confidential information.

A section that specifies that federal pretrial services officers can provide the same services to juveniles as they do for adult offenders. An example would be drug treatment.

And a section that applies an inflationary index to the threshold amount requiring approval by the chief judge of reimbursements for the cost of hiring expert witnesses and conducting investigations for indigent defendants. The dollar thresholds are statutorily fixed and erode over time. This means chief judges must devote greater time approving what are otherwise not genuine "high-dollar" requests.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3632 is necessary to improve the functioning of the U.S. courts, which will ultimately benefit the American people. This is a noncontroversial bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. POE of Texas. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee has noted, Mr. SMITH from Texas, H.R. 3632 contains a number of administrative improvements to title 28 of the United States Code which will improve the operations and efficiency of the Federal judiciary. The previous speakers have highlighted many of the provisions set forth in H.R. 3632, but I would like to note two specific items:

First, section 4 of the legislation adjusts the disability retirement cov-

erage and COLA adjustments of territorial judges, thereby reducing existing inequities between them and other term judges, such as magistrate and bankruptcy judges. The CBO estimates that this will not result in an increase in direct spending.

Second, section 5 of the bill extends to senior executives in the Federal courts, the Federal Judiciary Center and Sentencing Commission the same ability to carry over up to 90 days of annual leave just as comparable officials within the executive branch and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts are treated.

Mr. Speaker, such changes are obscure but necessary to increase efficiency in our Federal courts, and I urge all Members to support the bill.

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that this is a noncontroversial, bipartisan bill.

As a Tennessean who represents the district, which over, maybe, give or take, 200 years ago was represented by Davy Crockett, who went to Texas and made sure that these two fine gentlemen weren't part of a territory or part of a foreign nation, I am proud to work with them to see that this legislation comes to the floor.

Ms. BORDALLO. I rise today in support of the passage of H.R. 3632, The Federal Judiciary Administrative Improvements Act of 2009. The passage of this bill in the House marks an important step towards addressing administrative disparities between federal judges serving under the authority of Article IV of the Constitution and Article III federal judges. Specifically, section 4 of H.R. 3632 addresses disparities in disability retirement and cost of living adjustments of annuities for territorial judges. While this bill takes a positive step in addressing these disparities, there is still work to be done on this issue. The House has previously passed this important legislation and I hope the Senate will take up this bill to improve the administration of our nation's federal court system.

I support legislation that addresses these disparities and have introduced legislation that calls for more equal treatment of territorial federal judges. H.R. 910 addresses one of the disparities in treatment of federal judges regarding the specific case of Judge John S. Unpingco, who served as Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court of Guam but due to the ten year term limit of Article IV judges, did not fulfill the service requirement to receive a full annuity. Article III judges serve for life.

I commend Congressman HANK JOHNSON, as well as Chairman CONYERS and Ranking Member SMITH for their work and leadership on improving our nation's federal judiciary and I look forward to working with them in the future to further address the issue of disparities of territorial federal judges.

Mr. COHEN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3632.

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.

□ 1300

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

S. 1694, by the yeas and nays;
H. Res. 838, by the yeas and nays;
H. Res. 784, by the yeas and nays;
H. Res. 824, de novo.

Other postponed questions will be taken later in the week.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

ALLOWING FUNDING FOR THE INTEROPERABLE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS GRANT PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1694, 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 Virginia (Mr. BOUCHER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1694.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 420, nays 0, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 819]

YEAS—420

Abercrombie	Boren	Chaffetz
Ackerman	Boswell	Chandler
Adler (NJ)	Boucher	Childers
Akin	Boustany	Chu
Alexander	Boyd	Clarke
Altmire	Brady (PA)	Clay
Andrews	Brady (TX)	Cleaver
Arcuri	Braley (IA)	Clyburn
Austria	Bright	Coble
Baca	Brown (SC)	Coffman (CO)
Bachmann	Brown, Corrine	Cohen
Baldwin	Brown-Waite,	Cole
Barrow	Ginny	Conaway
Bartlett	Buchanan	Connolly (VA)
Barton (TX)	Burgess	Conyers
Bean	Burton (IN)	Cooper
Becerra	Butterfield	Costa
Berkley	Buyer	Costello
Berman	Calvert	Courtney
Berry	Camp	Crenshaw
Biggert	Campbell	Crowley
Bilbray	Cantor	Cuellar
Bilirakis	Cao	Culberson
Bishop (GA)	Capito	Cummings
Bishop (NY)	Capps	Dahlkemper
Bishop (UT)	Capuano	Davis (AL)
Blackburn	Cardoza	Davis (CA)
Blumenauer	Carnahan	Davis (IL)
Blunt	Carney	Davis (KY)
Bocchieri	Carson (IN)	Davis (TN)
Boehner	Carter	Deal (GA)
Bonner	Cassidy	DeFazio
Bono Mack	Castle	DeGette
Boozman	Castor (FL)	Delahunt

DeLauro Kingston
 Dent Kirk
 Diaz-Balart, L. Kirkpatrick (AZ)
 Diaz-Balart, M. Kissell
 Dicks Klein (FL)
 Dingell Kline (MN)
 Doggett Kosmas
 Donnelly (IN) Kratovil
 Doyle Kucinich
 Dreier Lamborn
 Driehaus Lance
 Duncan Langevin
 Edwards (MD) Larsen (WA)
 Edwards (TX) Larson (CT)
 Ehlers Latham
 Ellison LaTourette
 Ellsworth Latta
 Emerson Lee (CA)
 Engel Lee (NY)
 Eshoo Levin
 Etheridge Lewis (CA)
 Fallin Lewis (GA)
 Farr Linder
 Fattah Lipinski
 Filner LoBiondo
 Flake Loeb sack
 Fleming Lofgren, Zoe
 Forbes Lowey
 Fortenberry Lucas
 Foster Luetkemeyer
 Foxx Lujan
 Frank (MA) Lummis
 Franks (AZ) Lungren, Daniel
 Frelinghuysen E.
 Fudge Lynch
 Gallegly Mack
 Garrett (NJ) Maffei
 Gerlach Maloney
 Giffords Manzullo
 Gingrey (GA) Marchant
 Gonzalez Markey (CO)
 Goodlatte Markey (MA)
 Gordon (TN) Marshall
 Granger Massa
 Graves Matheson
 Grayson Matsui
 Green, Al McCarthy (CA)
 Green, Gene McCarthy (NY)
 Griffith McCaul
 Grijalva McClintock
 Guthrie McCollum
 Gutierrez McCotter
 Hall (NY) McDermott
 Halvorson McGovern
 Hare McHenry
 Harman McIntyre
 Harper McKeon
 Hastings (WA) McMorris
 Heinrich Rodgers
 Heller McNeerney
 Hensarling Meek (FL)
 Herger Meeks (NY)
 Herseth Sandlin Melancon
 Higgins Mica
 Hill Michaud
 Himes Miller (FL)
 Hinchey Miller (MI)
 Hinojosa Miller (NC)
 Hirono Miller, Gary
 Hodes Miller, George
 Hoekstra Minnick
 Holden Mitchell
 Holt Mollohan
 Honda Moore (KS)
 Hunter Moore (WI)
 Inglis Moran (KS)
 Inslee Moran (VA)
 Israel Murphy (CT)
 Issa Murphy (NY)
 Jackson (IL) Murphy, Patrick
 Jackson-Lee (TX) Murphy, Tim
 Jenkins Murtha
 Johnson (GA) Myrick
 Johnson (IL) Nadler (NY)
 Johnson, E. B. Napolitano
 Johnson, Sam Neal (MA)
 Jones Neugebauer
 Nunes
 Jordan (OH) Nye
 Kagen Oberstar
 Kanjorski Obey
 Kaptur Olson
 Kennedy Oliver
 Kildee Ortiz
 Kilpatrick (MI) Pallone
 Kilroy Pascrell
 Kind Pastor (AZ)
 King (IA) Paul
 King (NY) Paulsen

Payne Pence
 Perlmutter Perriello
 Peters Peterson
 Petri Pingree (ME)
 Wasserman Pitts
 Schultz Platts
 Aderholt Poe (TX)
 Bachus Polis (CO)
 Baird Pomeroy
 Barrett (SC) Posey
 Price (GA)
 Price (NC)
 Putnam Quigley
 Radanovich
 Rahall Rangel
 Reichert
 Reyes
 Richardson
 Rodriguez
 Roe (TN)
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rogers (MI)
 Rohrabacher
 Rooney
 Ros-Lehtinen
 Roskam
 Ross
 Rothman (NJ)
 Roybal-Allard
 Royce
 Ruppenger
 Rush
 Ryan (OH)
 Ryan (WI)
 Salazar
 Sanchez, Linda
 T.
 Sanchez, Loretta
 Sarbanes
 Scalise
 Schakowsky
 Schauer
 Schiff
 Schmidt
 Schock
 Schrader
 Schwartz
 Scott (VA)
 Sensenbrenner
 Serrano
 Sessions
 Sestak
 Shadegg
 Shea-Porter
 Sherman
 Shimkus
 Shuler
 Shuster
 Simpson
 Sires
 Skelton
 Slaughter
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (TX)
 Smith (WA)
 Snyder
 Moran (VA)
 Souder
 Space
 Speier
 Spratt
 Stark
 Stearns
 Stupak
 Sullivan
 Sutton
 Tanner
 Taylor
 Teague
 Terry
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thompson (PA)
 Thornberry
 Tiahrt
 Tiberi
 Tierney
 Titus
 Tonko
 Towns
 Turner

NOT VOTING—12

Broun (GA)
 Gohmert
 Hall (TX)
 Hastings (FL)
 Hoyer
 McMahon
 Scott (GA)
 Tsongas

□ 1326

Mr. DELAHUNT changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. MCMAHON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 819, had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

(By unanimous consent, Mr. SHULER was allowed to speak out of order.)

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS VICTORIOUS OVER CAPITOL HILL POLICE IN ANNUAL CHARITY FOOTBALL GAME

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege today to finally announce that after a lot of hard knocks and tries on the gridiron, the Capitol Hill Police versus the Members of Congress, we finally successfully came away with a victory last night.

Along with a lot of help, former members of the NFL certainly helped us along, certainly excluding me, Ken Harvey, John Booty and others played an outstanding game, but our Members of Congress did an outstanding job. I think it just goes to show you that, working together across the aisle, we too can succeed.

The co-captain, Mr. SHUSTER, probably had the most difficult job all night of managing who was in the game. You can only imagine; every Member of Congress thought that they were the best player on the team. So he had the most difficult job all night.

I would yield to my co-captain, Mr. SHUSTER.

Mr. SHUSTER. I thank the gentleman from North Carolina.

I want to rise also to congratulate all the participants in a game well-played last night. We had many Members of Congress. As the gentleman from North Carolina said, we had some former pro football players. It was a hard-fought battle. We won in overtime, 32–26, with a fantastic pass from HEATH SHULER to John Booty. It was fabulous.

As Mr. SHULER said, it has been four tries. This is our first victory, being able to beat the Capitol Police. But the big winner was the Capitol Hill Police Memorial Fund and the Washington Literacy Council. We believe we raised about \$50,000 to be split between those two groups.

□ 1330

I would also like to acknowledge our offensive and defensive players in the game.

Offensive, it was easy. It was HEATH SHULER, five touchdown passes. He played a fantastic game. I think the NFL is going to start looking at you again, HEATH. We’d like that. Maybe that seat will come open in North Carolina if you went back to the NFL.

Also, on defense, there were two players that played the game, big surprises for our team: JACK KINGSTON, better known as Brett Favre of the congressional team, had an outstanding game. But the defensive player of the game went to ANTHONY “Mad Dog” WEINER, who had two key interceptions in the game and just played fantastic.

I want to thank Speaker PELOSI and Leader BOEHNER for their help and support in putting this game together. Also Roger Goodell, the Commissioner of the NFL, was there last night to flip the coin. And John Booty and Ken Harvey, two former NFL players, did a fantastic job in setting this up.

And finally, again, just to thank the Capitol Police, who do a great job day in and day out, making sure the Capitol is safe, making sure the people who come here are safe. So thank you to them.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate our team that won so decisively last night. Mr. BOEHNER and I were there to cheer the Democratic/Republican, Republican/Democratic team on.

The good news is that they won; the bad news is they beat the Capitol Police. So I don’t know what that means.

But the fact is that it was great teamwork between the Democrats and the Republicans, which was saluted in the Rotunda earlier today. Senator Edward Brooke, whom we had honored with the Congressional Gold Medal, was pleased to hear about this teamwork between Democrats and Republicans. And, indeed, it got a standing ovation from those folks who didn’t even know about the game until then.

But you should have seen our guys. They were so great.

Mr. SHUSTER, congratulations. Congratulations to HEATH SHULER. The last time I saw them, they were playing baseball. They go from baseball to football, all-round athletes; great teamwork, great leadership. Congratulations to our team.

And I, too, want to join in thanking the Capitol Police. I know they went all-out last night because they always go all-out for us.

Congratulations. We were suited up, but we were not called upon.

Mr. BOEHNER. Congratulations.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.