

I rise in strong support of House Resolution 1215, a measure to honor Bangladesh's return to democracy. I'd like to thank the chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee, Chairman BERMAN, and Ranking Member ROS-LEHTINEN for their support of this resolution. I'd also like to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) for leading this effort with me, along with other members of the House Caucus on Bangladesh.

Just 18 months ago, this House passed a resolution urging a return to democracy in Bangladesh. At the time, we were concerned that Bangladesh was creeping toward totalitarianism and authoritarianism, especially after the ruling caretaker government postponed national elections. The 160 million people of Bangladesh faced an uncertain future.

Instead of succumbing to the temptations of permanent power, the caretaker government ultimately scheduled nationwide elections. They invited international election monitors into the country and created an independent anticorruption commission. The elections were deemed credible by numerous international observers, and, most importantly, by the people of Bangladesh.

Today, the day before Bangladesh celebrates their Independence Day, it is an opportunity for this House to honor the Bangladesh people and their democracy. Bangladesh has made important strides towards reaching the qualification requirements of the Millennium Challenge Corporation. It has taken steps to create a path into government for women, and, not least, the Bangladeshis have worked very hard to fight extremism.

Bangladesh has become an important partner of the United States. Even as it faces challenges with serious poverty, threats from climate change, and extremism, the Bangladeshi people have shown remarkable resilience, creativity, and principle. This is exactly the kind of country the United States ought to work with and do more to support, not because the situation on the ground is perfect, but because by working together we have clearly created a better path forward.

In the coming months, I hope the Bangladeshi authorities will make every possible effort to deepen and strengthen political reconciliation within their country. I also hope the Bangladeshi people and their government will work with us to identify stronger mechanisms to improve assistance and protection for refugees fleeing from neighboring countries. Inside Bangladesh, the protection of minorities must remain a high priority for its government. At the same time, I hope the international community will more quickly wake up to the positive changes Bangladesh has made thus far.

The fact is, Bangladesh is a moderate Muslim nation of 160 million people that wants to work with the United

States of America. I hope that our government can find more ways to work alongside Bangladesh to support good governance, human rights, and development. There's clearly much more that we can do to work together.

For today, though, we honor Bangladesh, the Bangladeshi people, and the many hardworking Bangladeshi Americans on their national day, a day that I know that they treasure. As an independent, moderate, and democratic nation, Bangladesh deserves no less.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I wish to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H. Res. 1215, a measure expressing the support of the American people for Bangladesh's return to democracy.

Mr. Speaker, the United States and Bangladesh have been friends for more than a half a century. We have worked together to build a strong and lasting democracy. The United States welcomed the free, fair, and transparent elections that occurred in December 2008. The United States is proud to have supported that effort, and we will continue to support efforts to improve and promote development, democracy, social harmony, and mutual tolerance.

The United States attaches a great importance to South Asia. In this context, the good news coming out of Bangladesh related to democratic development, economic progress, and rejection of violent extremism. All of this is being strongly welcomed in Washington. In this regard, we are all pleased that ties between our two countries continue to deepen. Our two governments are working closely to address global challenges, including climate change, food security, terrorism, and pandemic disease.

I would particularly like to highlight longstanding U.S. efforts to empower women at the grassroots level, including through helping local governments be more transparent and accountable to the Bangladeshi people. Meanwhile, the growing voice of the Bangladeshi American community in Arkansas and elsewhere around the country is helping to strengthen and extend people-to-people ties between our two vibrant societies.

In conclusion, I support the adoption of the resolution.

Having no further speakers, I yield back the balance of our time.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for his being here in support of this resolution and the minority for supporting this resolution and the timely manner in which you allowed this to come to the floor. I appreciate it tremendously. I know all the members of the Bangladeshi Caucus appreciate it as well.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the opportunity to visit Bangladesh on several occasions, and I have tremendous respect for the people of Bangladesh. They're hardworking, good people, and

they love America. It's amazing the outpouring of affection that I experience when I go to that country.

I also want to say that post-9/11, on my first visit to Bangladesh, the desire for the Bangladeshi people to strengthen the ties between our two nations was palpable then. I know in this new government, the post-caretaker government, it is as strong today as it was after 9/11. And for a country of 160 million Muslim people with a considerable minority population within that population, as well, of Hindu and Christian and other religions, that bond between our nations is as strong as ever. I also recognize that not everything is perfect in Bangladesh and that they're working towards making it a stronger and a better democracy for its people, but also for the region in which Bangladesh lies.

So, Mr. Speaker, with that, I just want to thank, again, the minority for this opportunity to congratulate Bangladesh as they celebrate their Independence Day, and the people of Bangladesh and Bangladeshi Americans who hold very dear March 26 as Bangladeshi Independence Day.

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. CROWLEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1215, 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. BOOZMAN. 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.

EXTENDING THE SMALL BUSINESS LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4938) to permit the use of previously appropriated funds to extend the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4938

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF SMALL BUSINESS LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUNDS.—Up to \$40,000,000 of the amount made available under the heading "Small Business Administration—Business Loans Program Account" in title V of division C of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-117) also may be utilized for fee reductions and eliminations under section 501 of title V of division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5) and for the cost of guaranteed loans under

section 502 of such title. Such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(b) EXTENSION OF SUNSET DATE.—Section 502(f) of title V of division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5) is amended by striking “March 28, 2010” and inserting “April 30, 2010”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. EMERSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

□ 1645

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4938.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SERRANO. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us provides for a 1-month extension of the Recovery Act small business lending program and provides an additional \$40 million for this program. Through March 12 of this year, the small business lending program has supported nearly \$23 billion in small business lending which helped create or retain over 560,000 jobs. The program eliminated the fees that borrowers and certain lenders are normally charged for loans through the Small Business Administration's 7(a) and 504 loan programs. The Recovery Act also increased the government's guarantees on the 7(a) loans from 75 percent to 90 percent.

Mr. Speaker, 7(a) is the SBA's primary program for helping startup and existing small businesses with financing guaranteed for a variety of general business purposes. SBA does not make loans itself but rather guarantees loans made by participating private lending institutions. Like most commercial loans, these loans are typically variable rate.

The 504 program provides growing businesses with long-term, fixed-rate financing for major fixed assets, such as land and buildings, through Certified Development Companies. A Certified Development Company, CDC, is a private, nonprofit corporation set up to contribute to the economic development of the community it serves.

When credit markets froze in late 2008, credit markets that service small businesses froze as well and have continued to be hard hit. These provisions have been working to loosen up the credit market for small businesses so they can stay in business, keep people employed, and make new hires.

As we know, in a very bipartisan way, we have all felt that there is nothing more important we could do right now but to allow for small businesses to thrive as we move to create

jobs in our economy. And so I would hope that everybody in a unanimous fashion, Mr. Speaker, can support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

All Members, all of us, have been hearing from our constituents that banks are not lending to small businesses. The Financial Services Appropriations Subcommittee has heard testimony that this is the result of banks' unwillingness to take risks or reduce their capital reserves. In addition, bank regulators have increased scrutiny on lending practices. The funding and language included in this bill attempts to address this problem by increasing the SBA loan guarantee to 90 percent for certain small business loans and eliminating, as the chairman said, certain borrower fees associated with SBA's business loans. I greatly appreciate that my chairman, José SERRANO, has not increased spending in this bill but is allowing SBA to use other available resources to continue funding these programs.

With unemployment at almost 10 percent, now is not the time to make it harder for small businesses to get credit, and these programs should and must be continued. However, I have to say that I am a bit troubled with the manner in which this bill is being considered. Just yesterday, the House passed the Disaster Relief and Summer Jobs Act that includes funding and language to continue these SBA programs through April. So my question is, which bill does the majority intend the Senate to act on? If yesterday's bill was not so controversial, perhaps today's bill would not be necessary.

Neither the disaster bill nor the SBA bill was marked up by the Appropriations Committee. The majority did not seek input from the minority in either of these bills. We've known since the enactment of the stimulus bill over a year ago that SBA did not have sufficient funding to continue these programs through fiscal year 2010. Yet instead of dealing with it in a more comprehensive manner either in the fiscal year 2010 omnibus or in a committee markup earlier this year, we're now only providing SBA with enough funding to continue these programs for one additional month. We could have marked up a bill in committee that provides SBA with sufficient funding for the rest of the fiscal year and come up with a spending offset that both sides of the aisle could agree to. Instead, we'll continue to create anxiety for small businesses, lenders, and the SBA that borrower fees will increase and guarantees will decrease at the end of April.

I have great, great respect for Chairman SERRANO, and I'm sure he would also like to deal with this problem in a comprehensive manner as opposed to on a month-to-month basis. Mr. Speaker, I support Chairman SERRANO's proposed legislation because of its impor-

tance in providing credit to small businesses. However, I am disappointed that we are only temporarily addressing this program. I am also disappointed that we didn't consider this legislation in regular order.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank my ranking member, Mrs. JO ANN EMERSON, who is a true partner in the work we do in our committee. We are an example of how to work together. I want to also thank her, Mr. Speaker, for the fact that she noted that I'm not spending one extra dollar here. This is not raising the deficit at all.

Mrs. EMERSON. Will the chairman yield?

Mr. SERRANO. I will yield.

Mrs. EMERSON. I am very proud of you, and I just wanted you to know that.

Mr. SERRANO. Well, I am very happy that you're proud of me. Mr. Speaker, I am very happy that she's proud of me.

Mr. Speaker, I do want to clarify something, and the question that Mrs. EMERSON asked is a very legitimate question: Why are we doing this the way we're doing it? Simply because we have not been able to get the other body, if I'm allowed to refer to them, to accept anything other than these kinds of bills at this point. And in answer to her second question, Which bill will we give the Senate, the one that we passed, or the one hopefully we'll pass today, the answer is, whichever one they'll take to deal with the issue. So that is really the problem here. Hopefully it will be resolved very soon.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to, once again, thank Chairman SERRANO. I know he feels very strongly, as I do, that we have to find a way to make this permanent rather than force people to be anxious on a month-to-month basis. Hopefully in the next few months we'll be able to create some kind of bill or be able to satisfy all of the people who are so desperate to take the risk and become entrepreneurs and really make a difference in putting people back to work. So with that, I thanks the chairman, I thank the Speaker.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I am in total agreement with my ranking member. It is our desire to make this permanent. We will continue to work on this. In the meantime, this provides the assistance that small businesses need in this country.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4938, which extends the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program.

I support this legislation because in these difficult economic times, extending the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program to extend opportunities to 26.8 million small businesses is a critical component of our economic recovery.

H.R. 4938 permits the use of \$40 million of the funds provided in the FY 2010 Omnibus

Appropriations Act for fee reductions and eliminations under the Small Business Administration section 7(a) loan program and the section 504 certified development company program, as well as for the cost of guaranteed loans for qualifying small businesses. The measure also extends through April 30 the ability of the SBA to guarantee up to 90 percent of qualifying small business loans originating under the 504 program, and to refinance such loans.

Small businesses employ just over half of all private sector employees, with a payroll of about \$175 billion, and create many of the new jobs we need.

In my district, the 37th Congressional District of California, there are approximately 16,300 small businesses.

But in the global economy of the 21st century, small businesses, very much like the banks and the auto industry, need sound fiscal options to remain competitive, especially in difficult economic times for them and their customers.

This is where the Small Business Administration can help.

The SBA exists to aid and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our Nation.

The SBA was established in 1953 by the Federal Government to aid, counsel, assist and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our Nation.

The SBA's Office of Business Development assists firms owned and controlled by economically and socially disadvantaged individuals enter the economic mainstream by providing firm-specific analyses, counseling, management training, professional consulting and monitoring services, and access to business development opportunities under section 8(a) of the Small Business Act.

Much like the loan guarantee program, the Section 8(a) program is well intended. But one of its problems is that too often program participants are "graduated" before they are sufficiently prepared to compete for contracts with large and established companies in the private sector.

This has resulted in a large number of former 8(a) companies failing to remain in business shortly after leaving the development program.

I have introduced legislation that can build upon the loan guarantee program extended by H.R. 493 and which would eliminate the problem of "graduating" Section 8(a) program participants before they are sufficiently prepared to compete for contracts with large and established companies in the private sector.

My legislation, H.R. 4897, the "Not Too Small To Succeed in Business Act," reforms and modernizes the Section 8(a) program to help more small and disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE) remain in business and hire more workers by doing the following:

1. Amending the Small Business Act to increase the net worth limits—to \$750,000—used by SBA in determining whether an applicant satisfies the "economically disadvantaged" requirement for admission to the program and increases to \$2.25 million the net worth required for early graduation from the program.

2. Extending the Section 8(a) program period to 11 years, from the current 9 years.

3. Granting a one-time 2-year reinstatement in the Section 8(a) program for companies who were graduated from the program at the expiration of the 9 year term.

Mr. Speaker, extending the SBA Loan Guarantee Program and amending the Section 8(a) Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program are a necessary part of strengthening our SBA programs to help small business succeed and provide jobs for our people. I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 4938.

Mr. SERRANO. 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. SERRANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4938.

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.

TAX ON BONUSES RECEIVED FROM CERTAIN TARP RECIPIENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota relating to the Senate amendments to H.R. 1586 will now resume.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1212, the previous question is ordered on the motion.

The question is on the motion by the gentleman from Minnesota.

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

Mrs. EMERSON. 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, this 15-minute vote on adoption of the motion will be followed by 5-minute votes on motions to suspend the rules relating to House Resolution 1125 and H.R. 4360.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 276, nays 145, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 190]

YEAS—276

Ackerman
Adler (NJ)
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Bono Mack
Boren

Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay

Cleaver
Clyburn
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.

Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Foster
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gerlach
Giffords
Gonzalez
Gordon (TN)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee
(TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kosmas

Kratovil
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeback
Loftgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lujan
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McMahon
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Perlmutter
Perrillo
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Polls (CO)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)

NAYS—145

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)

Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Carter
Cassidy
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Conaway
Cooper
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Dreier
Emerson
Engel
Fallin
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen

Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Taylor
Teague
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiahrt
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Wilson (OH)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

Gallely
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Guthrie
Hall (TX)
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hoeksstra
Hunter
Inglis
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Latham