

the government makes some difference but still understands, as others have said, that anybody can volunteer, everybody is touched by being a part of this program. Watch a walk-on at your State's Special Olympics. Go to a local competition. See what it means when that card's handed out that says, "You have earned it," as these Special Olympians and Best Buddies have. And I urge us to pass the bill.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker I rise today in support of H.R. 5220, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Act.

On behalf of the more than 2,000 Special Olympians from my district I am so proud to honor the legacy of Eunice Kennedy Shriver, who dedicated her life to providing opportunities for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

I also want to recognize the remarkable talent and dedication these athletes bring to their sports.

Earlier this year I was lucky to meet Erin Holloway, a Colorado Special Olympian who visited my office in January.

This remarkable young woman has competed in almost every Special Olympic sport over her 30 years in the program, before settling on golf and equestrian as her favorites.

In 2005, she became the first Special Olympian inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame.

She credits the Special Olympics program with giving her confidence in her abilities, teaching her to live independently, and the knowledge that she is a good person.

Erin's remarkable story is a testament to the impact this program has had on the lives of thousands of Americans.

This is an important program, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill before us, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Act, and yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I, as well, would ask that my colleagues support H.R. 5220, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5220, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORABLE STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COLLEGE FIRE PREVENTION ACT

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2136) to establish the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones Fire Suppression Demonstration Incentive Program within the Department of Education to promote installation of fire sprinkler systems, or other fire suppression or prevention technologies, in qualified student housing and dormitories, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2136

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 "Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act".

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HONORABLE STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES FIRE SUPPRESSION DEMONSTRATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

(a) GRANTS.—The Secretary of Education (in this Act referred to as the "Secretary"), in consultation with the United States Fire Administration, shall establish a demonstration program to award grants on a competitive basis to eligible entities for the purpose of installing fire sprinkler systems, or other fire suppression or prevention technologies, in student housing and dormitories owned or controlled by such entities.

(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For purposes of this Act, the term "eligible entity" means any of the following:

(1) An institution of higher education (as that term is defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)), including an institution eligible to receive assistance under part A or B of title III or title V of such Act.

(2) A social fraternity or sorority exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 501(a)), the active membership of which consists primarily of students in attendance at an institution of higher education (as that term is defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)).

(c) SELECTION PRIORITY.—In making grants under subsection (a), the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities that demonstrate the greatest financial need.

(d) RESERVED AMOUNTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount made available to the Secretary for grants under this section for each fiscal year, the Secretary shall award—

(A) not less than 10 percent to eligible entities that are institutions described in subsection (b)(1) that are eligible to receive assistance under part A or B of title III or title V of the Higher Education Act of 1965; and

(B) not less than 10 percent to eligible entities that are social fraternities and sororities described in subsection (b)(2).

(2) PLAN REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall develop a plan to inform entities described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) that such entities may be eligible to apply for grants under this section.

(3) INSUFFICIENT APPLICANTS.—If the Secretary determines that there are an insufficient number of qualified applicants to award the reserved amounts required in accordance with paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make available the remainder of such reserved amounts for use by other eligible entities.

(e) APPLICATION.—To seek a grant under this section, an eligible entity shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may require.

(f) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—As a condition of receipt of a grant under subsection (a), the applicant shall provide (directly or through donations from public or private entities) non-Federal matching funds in an amount equal to not less than 50 percent of the cost of the activities for which assistance is sought.

(g) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made available under this program shall be used to supplement, not supplant, other

funds that would otherwise be expended to carry out fire safety activities.

(h) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 2 percent of a grant made under subsection (a) may be expended for administrative expenses with respect to the grant.

(i) REPORTS.—Not later than 12 months after the date of the first award of a grant under this section and annually thereafter until completion of the program, the Secretary shall provide to the Congress a report that includes the following:

(1) The number and types of eligible entities receiving assistance under this section.

(2) The amounts of such assistance, the amounts and sources of non-Federal funding leveraged for activities under grants under this section, and any other relevant financial information.

(3) The number and types of student housing fitted with fire suppression or prevention technologies with assistance under this section, and the number of students protected by such technologies.

(4) The types of fire suppression or prevention technologies installed with assistance under this section, and the costs of such technologies.

(5) Identification of Federal and State policies that present impediments to the development and installation of fire suppression or prevention technologies.

(6) Any other information determined by the Secretary to be useful to evaluating the overall effectiveness of the program established under this section in improving the fire safety of student housing.

(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2010 through 2012.

SEC. 3. ADMISSIBILITY AS EVIDENCE.

(a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to subsection (b), any application for assistance under this Act, any negative determination on the part of the Secretary with respect to such application, or any statement of reasons for the determination, shall not be admissible as evidence in any proceeding of any court, agency, board, or other entity.

(b) EXCEPTION.—This section does not apply to the admission of an application, determination, or statement described in subsection (a) as evidence in a proceeding to enforce an agreement entered into between the Secretary and an eligible entity under section 2.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous materials on H.R. 2136 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2136. I would like to thank Chairman MILLER, Ranking Member KLINE, the members of the Education and Labor Committee, and the 70 Members on both sides of the aisle who cosponsored this important

legislation, the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act.

During the last 8 years of her career in Congress, the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones tirelessly advocated for the passage of this bill. She believed, as I do, that college students must be safeguarded against house fires. When I was elected to Congress last fall, I promised myself and the people of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio that I would use my vote to support policies providing practical and lasting solutions for the district. This bill does just that. H.R. 2136, the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act, supports the installation and management of fire suppression or fire prevention technologies in student housing, including fraternal houses. The Act directs the Secretary of Education to make competitive grants for up to half the cost of installing fire sprinkler systems or other fire suppression or prevention technologies. The funding would be disbursed to dormitories at institutions of higher education as well as fraternity and sorority housing. College students deserve safe housing with fire prevention systems, regardless of whether they live in nontraditional student housing, a sorority or fraternity house, or in dormitories. Fraternal organizations have long played a leading role in cultivating the social and intellectual well-being of our college students. We must ensure that these organizations have access to the necessary resources to protect our youth.

So far this year, there have been six deaths attributed to student housing fires. Since the year 2000, Ohio alone has suffered 13 student deaths and 36 related campus incidents due to student housing fires, according to Campus Firewatch. When fire prevention and sprinkler systems are present, students' survival rates increase by 97 percent, and property damage is lowered by 35 percent. Carol Dietz, assistant vice president of facilities at John Carroll University, which is in my district, stresses the importance of fire safety measures. John Carroll is currently planning the implementation of fire fighting technologies which cost \$500,000 for each residence hall. These grants could help us defray the costs of safeguarding our students.

Once again, I would like to thank the Education and Labor Committee, the many supporters of this important legislation, and college students across the Nation who have worked tirelessly to move this legislation forward. Finally, I am grateful for the vision and compassion of my friend, the late Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 6, 2010.

Hon. GEORGE MILLER,
Chairman, Committee on Education and Labor,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MILLER: In recognition of the desire to expedite consideration of H.R. 2136, the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones

College Fire Prevention Act, the Committee on the Judiciary agrees to waive formal consideration of the bill as to provisions that fall within its rule X jurisdiction.

The Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 2136 at this time, it does not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward, so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction. The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for any such request.

I would appreciate your including this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of the bill on the House floor.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and for the cooperative working relationship between our two committees.

Sincerely,

JOHN CONYERS, JR.,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
LABOR, HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES,

Washington, DC, May 6, 2010.

Hon. JOHN CONYERS,

Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, House
of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CONYERS: Thank you for your May 6, 2010, letter regarding H.R. 2136, the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act. Your support for this legislation and your assistance in ensuring its timely consideration are greatly appreciated.

I agree that provisions in the bill are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary. I acknowledge that by waiving rights to further consideration at this time of H.R. 2136, your Committee is not relinquishing its jurisdiction and I will fully support your request to be represented in a House-Senate conference on those provisions over which the Committee on the Judiciary has jurisdiction in H.R. 2136, or similar legislation. A copy of our letters will be placed in the Congressional Record during, consideration of the bill on the House floor.

I value your cooperation and look forward to working with you as we move ahead with this important legislation.

Sincerely,

GEORGE MILLER,
Chairman.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of the bill before us, H.R. 2136, the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act. Today we have an opportunity to discuss the need to bolster safety on college campuses, specifically fire safety. The name of this bill is appropriate because there was no Member of this body more concerned about protecting our college students from the dangers of fires than the late Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones. This bill would honor Representative Tubbs Jones by naming a demonstration program in her honor.

Our Nation's college students should be able to live on campus with the confidence that they will be safe in their dorms, apartments or other housing. This measure will take a step toward

allowing colleges to ensure their buildings are properly equipped with the latest fire safety measures. Specifically, this bill will allow colleges and universities hoping to participate in the demonstration program to apply for funds that can be used to install fire sprinkler systems or other fire suppression or prevention technologies on campus or in buildings controlled by the university.

This measure, combined with the provisions enacted by Congress in the Higher Education Opportunity Act, will increase campus fire safety at colleges and universities. The provisions included in the Higher Education Opportunity Act require colleges to provide a fire safety report to the Secretary of Education. The report must include statistics showing the number of fires and injuries resulting from fires on campus over the past year. We will also require colleges to report on the type of fire prevention technologies they are utilizing and any plans the college may have to improve their fire prevention and detection technologies. The bill before us today will help colleges think creatively about fire safety and ensure they have the funds to move forward with their plans.

Today we have the opportunity to provide a commitment to the safety of college students and pass a measure that will help colleges keep our young people safe from devastating fires. I urge my colleagues to support the bill before us.

I understand the majority has no further requests for time, so I yield such time as she may consume to my colleague from West Virginia, the Honorable Representative SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman and gentlewoman for bringing this bill forth. I stand today in support of H.R. 2136, the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act. I had the pleasure of serving with Congresswoman Tubbs Jones. She was a wonderful effervescent Member of our House. She was a very strong advocate for campus fire prevention, and she is greatly missed. But we are thinking about her today.

You know, every parent expects when they send their child off to college that they will be sending them to be protected and to be safe. For the most part, that is true, but unfortunately, that's not always the case. In 2007, a fire broke out in a 64-unit apartment building which was privately owned near Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia. It housed a number of students from Marshall. Nine people were killed in that fire, including one student who attended Marshall University and two of his siblings who were visiting him there. I was astonished to learn that there was no sprinkler system in the building, and several of the apartments didn't have smoke detectors.

Each year, unfortunately, college and university students on- and off-campus

experience hundreds of fire emergencies. Overall, most college-related fires are due to a general lack of knowledge about fire safety and prevention and also the lack of updating fire prevention equipment into the buildings. A lot of the buildings are older and were not equipped with sprinklers and other fire detection methods. This bill goes a long way, I think, to try to help solve that problem.

The great majority of student fire deaths occur in off-campus housing with insufficient exits and missing or inoperative smoke alarms or automatic fire sprinklers. These are deaths that can and should be prevented. H.R. 2136, would extend Stephanie Tubbs Jones' legacy by providing grants to institutions of higher education, fraternities and sororities to cover up to half the cost of installing fire sprinkler systems and other fire suppression or prevention technologies in student housing and in dormitories.

With that, I would like to thank the sponsors of the bill, and I urge the passage of this legislation.

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2136, the Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act. This bill represents an opportunity to improve critical fire safety systems in college facilities across the country.

The issue of campus fire safety became personal for me after a tragic fire swept through a dorm at Seton Hall University in South Orange, New Jersey, in 2000. The blaze took the lives of three students and injured 58 more. Since that terrible day, thousands of fires have cut short the lives of 135 students throughout the country. The sad reality is that that many of those deaths could have been averted with proper fire safety equipment.

The Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act will direct the Secretary of Education to provide grants to institutions of higher education toward the installation of sprinklers and other fire prevention systems in student housing and dorms. This essential funding can make the difference in fire emergencies between life and death. No college student should have to live in a building without appropriate fire safeguards.

My home State of New Jersey has been at the forefront of this issue for many years now, mandating sprinkler systems be installed in all on-campus housing facilities at universities in the State. This legislation will enable institutions of higher education in other States to take similar steps to provide security and peace of mind to students and parents—that they will have these basic safety devices to protect them in the event of an emergency.

This bill gives special attention to colleges and universities that need funding most, and gives priority to institutions that demonstrate the greatest financial need. This key provision will help ensure that fire safety technology is not off limits to schools because of financial constraints. I believe we owe it to those students to ensure that each and every college dorm is outfitted with the most comprehensive fire prevention technology available. The Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act will provide great assistance in achieving this goal.

In considering this legislation, we should also remember its namesake—the late Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones. I had the privilege of working closely with Stephanie on critical public safety legislation, and will always remember her as a staunch advocate of life-saving fire prevention.

We are gaining ground in the battle to prevent these deadly college fires, but we must be mindful of the work that remains. The House has recognized September as Campus Fire Safety Month, which every year has helped to raise awareness of this critical issue. With the Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act, we have the opportunity to provide colleges with the funding they need to install lifesaving fire safety technology and come one step closer to extinguishing the threat of college fires once and for all.

I strongly support H.R. 2136, and call on this body to soon pass my legislation, H.R. 4908, the Campus Fire Safety Education Act of 2010, which will help deliver a life saving campus fire safety education curriculum to our Nation's colleges. I will continue to work tirelessly to make our colleges and universities a safe environment for our Nation's students.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my former colleague Stephanie Tubbs Jones and to address a cause she championed for much of her career in the Congress. Campus safety is a very complex and important issue. We must protect students as they walk home from their late night studies and we must protect them when they arrive in their dorms or other forms of campus housing.

Our college and universities are more open now than they have been and serve more students than they were originally planned to serve. Often times, housing buildings are the oldest buildings on a campus. This is especially the case for fraternity and sorority housing. The Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act addresses the problem many colleges and universities face with housing and fire safety.

Mr. Speaker, what made Congresswoman Tubbs Jones such an effective Member of Congress was her keen ability to see a need and fill it. This bill carries her name and does just that. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill and urge its passage.

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

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their support, and I urge support of H.R. 2136.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2136.

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.

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CONGRATULATING EMPORIA
STATE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL TEAM

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the

resolution (H. Res. 1292) congratulating the Emporia State University Lady Hornets women's basketball team for winning the 2010 NCAA Division II National Championship, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1292

Whereas the Emporia State University (ESU) Lady Hornet basketball team defeated the Fort Lewis Skyhawks by a score of 65 to 53 to win the 2010 NCAA Women's Division II National Championship in St. Joseph, Missouri, on March 26, 2010;

Whereas this is ESU's first ever women's national basketball championship and the first national championship in any sport since being crowned the 1984 NCAA NAIA Women's Softball National Champions;

Whereas the ESU coaching staff of head coach Brandon Schneider and assistant coaches Jory Collins and Kiel Unruh guided the Lady Hornets to a final record of 30 wins and only 5 losses;

Whereas the 2010 National Champions consisted of seniors Cassondra Boston, Jamie Augustyn, Lacy Corker, and Sophia Lenard, juniors Ashley Ferrell, Negesti Taylor, Kayla Krueger, Dava Logsdon, and Alli Volkens, sophomore Brittney Miller, and freshmen Rachel Hanf, Jocelyn Cummings, and Kelsey Newman;

Whereas ESU was led by the overall Most Outstanding Player of the tournament, Alli Volkens, who recorded 16 points, 15 rebounds, and five blocks in the championship game; and

Whereas the students, staff, alumni, and friends of Emporia State University along with the city of Emporia, Kansas, deserve much credit for their support of the Lady Hornet basketball team: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the Emporia State University Lady Hornet basketball team for winning the 2010 NCAA Division II National Championship; and

(2) recognizes the achievements of all the team's players, coaches, and support staff.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCCOLLUM). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for 5 legislative days during which Members can revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 1292.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Emporia State University women's basketball team for winning the 2010 NCAA Division II Women's Basketball National Championship.

The Emporia State Lady Hornets defeated the Fort Lewis College Skyhawks 65-53 in an exciting game. The Lady Hornets took home their school's first-ever women's basketball