the lack of a long-term authorization has placed this program at risk. The program has lapsed three times now since the beginning of this year, for 2 days in March, for 18 days in April, and again from June 1 to July 1. These lapses meant that FEMA was not able to write new policies, renew expiring policies, or increase coverage limits.

□ 1650

This also means that each day, 1,400 home buyers who wanted to purchase homes located in flood plains are unable to close on those homes. Given the current crisis in the housing market, this instability in the flood insurance program is hampering that market's recovery and must be addressed.

This is why last June I introduced and President Obama signed into law H.R. 5569, the National Flood Insurance Program Extension Act of 2010. That legislation extended the program through the end of this month. However, the expiration of this law is now upon us, so I am pleased that the House and Senate are taking preemptive action to extend the Flood Insurance Program for an additional year so that we don't experience a repeat of the lapses that plagued the first half of 2010.

Given the importance of the flood insurance program to America's homeowners and communities, I hope that the Senate can act quickly to pass my comprehensive flood insurance bill, H.R. 5114, the Flood Insurance Reform Priorities Act of 2010. This bill passed the House July 15 of this year on a strong bipartisan vote of 329–90.

My bill would restore stability to the flood insurance program by reauthorizing the program for 5 years and would address the impact of new flood maps by delaying the mandatory purchase requirement for 5 years, then phasing in actuarial rates for another 5 years.

My reform bill also makes other improvements to the program by phasing in actuarial rates for pre-FIRM properties, raising maximum coverage limits, providing notice to renters about contents insurance, and establishing a flood insurance advocate similar to the taxpayer advocate at the Internal Revenue Service.

I hope that the Senate can pass this much needed legislation as soon as possible.

In the meantime, I urge my colleagues to stand with me in support of S. 3814 so that the flood insurance program can continue to serve our homeowners and communities without interruption.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPITO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 3814, which extends the National Flood Insurance Program through September 30, 2011. I feel like we're deja vu all over again. We've done this several times, I think, in the last several months and years. That timeframe will give us ample opportunity to craft a bill that fundamentally reforms the program, which needs fundamental reform.

It's unfortunate this Congress has, to date, been unable to enact comprehensive reform of the flood insurance program. Currently, as we know, the flood insurance program is carrying a debt of $18 billion. The program remains underfunded and unable to meet its potential obligations. And its financial shortfall continues to place taxpayers at risk for the cost of property losses caused by flooding.

On July 15, 2010, the House approved H.R. 5114, the Flood Insurance Reform Priorities Act, which included many constructive reforms. However, many of us on this side of the aisle felt that the measure did not go far enough to put the NFIP on a path towards sound financial footing. In fact, despite the reforms included in H.R. 5114, which included several Republican amendments, the CBO projected that if H.R. 5114 were enacted, the National Flood Insurance Program would still need to borrow additional funds from the U.S. Treasury to cover losses and would exhaust its current borrowing authority by the year 2013.

Today, to avoid another lapse in a program that serves 5.5 million residential and business property owners, we are considering S. 3814, the National Flood Insurance Program Reextension Act of 2010, which passed the Senate by voice vote on Tuesday, September 21, 2010.

S. 3814 provides for a straightforward 1-year extension of the NFIP, which otherwise would expire on September 30. According to the Congressional Budget Office, enactment of this bill would have no net impact on the Federal budget.

Madam Speaker, we must move forward with fundamental and fiscally responsible reforms of the Flood Insurance Program. S. 3814 extends the NFIP, as I've said, through September 30, 2011, allowing borrowers in flood-prone areas like mine to close on their mortgage loans and providing Congress the time it needs to enact real reforms. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3814.

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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, earlier today while the House was voting, I was presiding at a meeting with the Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Locke, and several people from the fishing industry, as well as some of our colleagues from the Senate and later from the House. It was a very important meeting affecting the future of our fisheries, and it was impossible to get another time when we could all get together with Secretary Locke, and there were people from the fishing industry and the mayor of New Bedford who had come up.

For that reason I missed five votes. I missed the votes on H.R. 5307, 5756, 3199, 1745, and 5710. I would have voted ''yes'' on all of them, and fortunately, I wasn't needed because they all passed handily without me.

But I did want to explain that I missed those votes because of my need to be at this very important fisheries meeting.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AMENDMENTS

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3717) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Investment Company Act of 1940, and the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to provide for certain disclosures under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3717

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

SECTION 1. APPLICATION OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT TO CERTAIN STATUTES.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE ACT.—Section 24 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78x), as amended by section 929I(a) of the Dodd-Frank Consumer Financial Protection and Wall Street Reform Act (Public Law 111–203), is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.—For purposes of section 552(b)(8) of title 5, United States Code, (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act)—

''(1) the Commission is an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; and

''(2) any entity for which the Commission is responsible for regulating, supervising, or examining under this title is a financial institution.''.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT.—Section 31 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–30), as amended by section 929I(b) of the Dodd-Frank Consumer Financial Protection and Wall Street Reform Act (Public Law 111–203), is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively.

(c) AMENDMENTS TO THE INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT.—Section 210 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b–10), as amended by section 929I(c) of the Dodd-Frank Consumer Financial Protection and Wall Street Reform Act (Public Law 111–203), is amended by striking subsection (d).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on this matter and to insert therein extraneous material.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, this is a bill that reflects cooperation not just between the parties but, sometimes even harder to achieve, between committees. This is a joint product of deliberations among the gentleman from Alabama, the ranking member of the Financial Services Committee; myself; and other members—Mr. CAMPBELL of California, for example, and the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Mr. TOWNS and Mr. ISSA.

This goes back to 2006. In that year, Christopher Cox, then the chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission and our former colleague, sent to the Congress a request that we give an amendment to the SEC law dealing with freedom of information. And it was an entirely reasonable request.

What they said was, the SEC from time to time obviously gets information from private entities that they are investigating. What they were afraid of was the company saying, But, you know what, if you take our data, it will then be a matter of public record, and we may have proprietary information; we may have information that we have every legal right to keep confidential, competitive reasons to keep confidential; and, therefore, unless you can assure us that this will not be made public, we're going to fight you. And that made it harder for the SEC to get this. So it was particularly the enforcement arm of the SEC that asked for it.

When Mr. Cox asked for it in 2006, no action was immediately taken. But in 2008, the House did unanimously pass the bill on a voice vote in a suspension granting that power. It never got acted on in the Senate.

□ 1700

Last year, 2009, both the House and the Senate included that provision in our versions of the financial reform bill. Although the financial reform bill was obviously heavily debated between the parties, no one on either side raised any objection to that provision, which had been out there in plain sight, because it was seen as enabling enforcement.

Subsequently, a lawsuit was brought by Fox Business News against the SEC involving information as to how they handled the Madoff case. Of course, the answer, as we all know, is the way they handled the Madoff case is they didn't until far too late. What happened then was Fox News brought a lawsuit. And someone at the SEC inappropriately cited this provision, which had been enacted in the financial reform bill, as a reason why they couldn't go along with the lawsuit.

As I noted, this had been in both Houses' versions. It was in the conference report. It sat there. So I want to be very clear nothing about the adoption of this exemption from FOIA was underhanded or secretive. It was out there and publicly debated. None of us knew, perhaps could have known, what the implications were.

Once that became clear, a consensus developed that this was an exemption that was far too broad. We then talked about what to do about it. But as Members know, we are in a short session now, with only another week after this to go. Doing this right is somewhat complex because there are some subtleties.

Here is the point we want to make clear: we don't want the SEC at any point to be able to shelter information about what it's doing. On the other hand, we don't want a situation where if company A is suing company B because company B's data had been requested by the SEC for some unrelated purpose, we don't think company A should be able to get easy access to that data when they otherwise could not have gotten it under our law.

We all talked about this, but we also thought it was very important to set the principle that there were no exemptions from the SEC. In defense of Chairman Schapiro, she promulgated rules that made it very clear that the SEC would never invoke it. And when she testified before our committee, she made a point of saying that it would never be used in the Fox lawsuit. But it was not enough for us. Even those who agreed with the guidance subsequently pointed out it could be changed in a further period.

So we all agreed it was important to act. While we were deliberating, something which we are not used to, frankly, happened. The Senate moved quickly. Let me repeat that: the Senate moved quickly. Last night, the Senate adopted a version of a fix for this, an amendment substantially narrowing it, sponsored by the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the chairman of the Judiciary Committee. Over there the Judiciary Committee did it.

The bill he got the Senate to pass is substantially similar to a bill that was drafted by, or introduced by, our colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS), the chairman of the Government Reform Committee. The gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) had another very vigorous approach to this.

We had a useful hearing in which it became clear to us that the exemption went much too far, but there was this issue that we talked about of not allowing this to be a way around legitimate protections for business A and for business B. Making it very clear that the SEC would never be protected by it, that whistleblowers would not be harmed by it, but we had that narrow fix.

What we decided to do, and I know the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA), the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) are here, Mr. TOWNS has agreed with us, the four of us agreed, of the two committees of jurisdiction, that the best thing to do in this climate was to accept the Senate bill. Yes, we would make some changes if we could, but this is a very important issue for public confidence. We did not want to risk this bill dying in a House-Senate disagreement.

So what we are proposing to do here today is to accept the bill that Senator LEAHY put forward, send that to the President, which we hope he will sign. We will then begin, among the two committees, and in a totally bipartisan way and involving both committees, come up with language that will do the one thing that we think needs to be done to prevent this from being a pawn in an intercompany lawsuit, and at the same time that will, we think, serve the SEC's legitimate purpose of not engendering resistance to their request.

I note we have been joined by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS).

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 3717. At the risk of some political damage, I associate myself with the remarks of Chairman FRANK.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BACHUS. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. I think on that you will get cover from the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. BACHUS. I thank the chairman.

This amendment repeals section 929I of the Dodd-Frank bill that grants the Securities and Exchange Commission a broad exemption for disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

A hearing that the Financial Services Committee held on this provision last week yielded a bipartisan agreement that the section needed to be tailored more narrowly. And this was consistent with what Chairman ED TOWNS and Ranking Member DARRELL ISSA had determined in the Oversight and Government Reform Committee. I want to commend Chairman TOWNS and Ranking Member DARRELL ISSA for their leadership on this matter and for their draftsmanship on amendments which we think are actually more proper than the Senate amendment. But as Chairman FRANK said, the Senate amendment is an improvement over the existing provision. I think it merits bipartisan support.

Additionally, I want to thank SEC Chairman Mary Schapiro, who expressed her willingness early on to

work with the committee in a spirit of cooperation to address the concerns that we had raised about the section.

Madam Speaker, the Dodd-Frank Act confers significant new supervisory, rulemaking, and investigative powers on the SEC. Combining these broad powers with the existing powers, and then with the provision that appears to insulate the SEC, or could be interpreted as insulating the SEC, from public scrutiny has caused an understandable alarm and angst among Members on both sides of the aisle.

Congress must support a legislative fix; but as Chairman FRANK said, they must support one that not only ensures proper accountability at the SEC, but also doesn't undermine the agency's ability to effectively exercise supervision over the thousands of companies that it's responsible for overseeing in a post-Dodd-Frank world.

Now, someone might ask, well, why wouldn't they disclose all information? To give you an example a little closer to home, the IRS requires us to file documentation every year, our income tax returns, and they have a proper motive behind that. But, obviously, I think most of us would agree that the general public does not have a right to that information in a carte blanche way. That's also true of our health records. We place great value on the confidentiality and our privilege that our health records won't be disclosed. And we have faced those matters before in this House.

And that's true of companies that have confidential, proprietary, or sensitive information, that they have some assurance that that information will not be shared. Because the purpose of the SEC is not to share that information. The purpose is to investigate and enforce their rules. To her credit, as I said, Chairman Schapiro has been forthright with Congress and the American people in acknowledging past failures at the SEC in protecting investors and regulating large investment banks.

We can all agree that the agency that presided over the collapse of some of the largest financial institutions on Wall Street and allowed Bernie Madoff to perpetrate the largest financial fraud in American history must be fully transparent in its operations, and that any statutory departures from that general rule of openness must be narrowly defined because they should be accountable to the American people, and also to scrutiny of the media and the press, which can be an important governor or safeguard.

□ 1710

While this bill coming over from the Senate makes some improvements to section 929I, it's not a perfect solution. As I said, we would have preferred something more in line with what Chairman TOWNS and in my mind Ranking Member ISSA have proposed; and we look forward to working with Chairman FRANK and Chairman Schapiro of the SEC as well as Chairman TOWNS.

However, we are sensitive to the fact that an outright repeal of the section could result in the SEC being compelled to release proprietary information in response to subpoenas issued in litigation to which the commission is not a party; and as Chairman FRANK said, it could actually result in an increase in litigation of companies not willing to disclose certain information or gaining injunctions by courts, and there would be some basis without some information being privileged. I commend Chairman FRANK for also acknowledging their legitimate concern, and that is the SEC's legitimate concern during the committee's hearing on the issue last week when he stated that whatever amendment we propose for section 929I should not provide an opportunity for third parties to engage in an SEC ''fishing expedition'' seeking a company's proprietary information; and I think that was a very succinct description of what we want to avoid.

In closing, Madam Speaker, the challenge for this Congress is to strike a proper balance, one that ensures that the SEC has real-time access to the kind of sensitive, proprietary information it needs to catch the next Bernie Madoff, while also giving the public the tools it needs to hold the agency accountable when it fails to fulfill its mission of protecting investors and policing our financial markets. Acknowledging the amendment we are considering is an important and significant improvement over the status quo—and as Chairman FRANK we are actually very encouraged that our colleagues on the other side of this Capitol have acted in a speedy manner—it will still be necessary to revisit this issue. With Chairman Schapiro's cooperation, I am confident that we, working in a bipartisan way, can arrive at a solution that achieves a proper balance between disclosure and protection of sensitive proprietary information in the next Congress. The American people, and those dealing with the SEC, deserve nothing less.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my colleague and coworker on this, the chairman of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS).

Mr. TOWNS. Let me begin by thanking you, Mr. Chairman, for a hearing and arranging for us to be where we are here today.

I rise in strong support of S. 3717, a bill to improve transparency at the Securities and Exchange Commission. I introduced a companion bill, H.R. 6086, on August 10, 2010.

The landmark Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act made significant improvements to the accountability and transparency of our Nation's financial system. But the Dodd-Frank Act includes a secrecy provision that I believe undermines the purposes of the act. This provision allows the SEC to avoid disclosing virtually any information it obtains under its examination authority.

S. 3717 repeals that provision. This legislation strikes a careful balance to address concerns raised by the SEC without compromising the goals of transparency and accountability that are at the heart of the Dodd-Frank Act.

In a letter supporting this legislation, a coalition of over 30 public interest organizations wrote that ''this bill sends a clear message that public access is vital to accountability.'' I would like to thank Senator LEAHY, I would like to thank Congressman ISSA, I would like to thank Congressman BACHUS, and I want to thank Chairman FRANK, first of all for giving us a hearing and his support in bringing this bill to the floor and, of course, his consideration of doing that has made the difference in the reason why we are here today.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. This is good government legislation. And, of course, we need good government legislation.

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the very capable ranking member of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. I thank my friend and fellow ranking member.

Chairman FRANK, I am perfectly happy to work with you on this. I'm perfectly happy to be associated with you. When people who are considered at least in their own districts as smart come together and realize that we reached the wrong conclusion, we allowed a bill that we worked on hard, in which each of us had victories and failures, each of us would say something was flawed, to have a flaw that was not picked up by any of us or by countless staff. That is what Senate bill 3717 at least partially undoes.

The Dodd-Frank Act was not envisioned to cause the problem that it clearly caused. We can find no evidence of anybody deciding that we would simply shut down the ability for FOIA, and yet that was the effect it had. When this was brought to congressional awareness, multiple bills, including one that myself dropped and also one that Chairman TOWNS put, plus Senate bills, all were feverishly put in in order to unring the bell. I would say today that we are considering an A version of the unring-the-bell type bill; but I am particularly pleased that on numerous occasions, working with Ranking Member BACHUS and with Chairman FRANK, we have agreed that this is only a first step. It's the one you can do in the latest days of a Congress, knowing that in fact follow-on legislation is required.

This is in addition to the promise that Chairman FRANK made me in open session when we were unable to get some of the provisions that Chairman

TOWNS and I had offered, had been accepted, that were rejected by the Senate. So I am pleased today that when we look and realize that we have, as Ranking Member BACHUS said, we have the chairwoman of the SEC on our side, we have the chairman of both the committee that I serve on, the Government Oversight Committee and the Financial Services Committee, plus both of us as ranking members saying that sometimes you just have to take ''yes'' for an answer. The Senate has moved and moved quickly. This is a step in the right direction. For all those entities who have historically filed and believed in good faith they were entitled to freedom of information delivery, we're taking a step back to where we were.

I might note that only a fraction of those applications are ever granted and the SEC is but once ever reversed when they deny FOIA. So we believe this does not open Pandora's box, that section 929I will in fact still be intact for purposes of privacy, something that we think is important.

We do note, and I think we're noting in every single statement, that we need to ensure that additional work is done to make certain that no one uses FOIA as a backdoor way to receive information in litigation or other matters that they would otherwise not receive. We certainly do not want to have the SEC be a place that you withhold by any means possible information even when you have nothing to hide because, of course, as we know, voluntary compliance is what allows the SEC to do what they should do which is look for those who are not following the rules.

□ 1720

So in my support of Senate 3717, I certainly would say it's a big step in the right direction. It's one in which I believe all four of us, as chairmen and ranking members, are here today to say we support it. We are glad that it will be in front of the President in a matter of days.

In the next Congress, we will put together, with all four of our staffs, the kind of additional follow-on legislation that the American people expect after any large piece of legislation. I, for one, would like to thank Chairman FRANK. I do want to be associated with his intellect and hard work and immediate grasp that this and other matters need to be followed on.

I don't know about the gentleman from Alabama, but I am happy to believe that smart people don't always reach the same conclusion. But if they are smart, they work on common solutions whenever possible.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. CHU). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3717.

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.

GRANTING CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO JAPANESE AMERICAN BATTALION

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1055) to grant the congressional gold medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, United States Army, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1055

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) On January 19, 1942, 6 weeks after the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese Navy, the United States Army discharged all Japanese-Americans in the Reserve Officers Training Corps and changed their draft status to ''4C''—the status of ''enemy alien'' which is ineligible for the draft.

(2) On January 23, 1942, Japanese-Americans in the military on the mainland were segregated out of their units.

(3) Further, on May 3, 1942, General John L. DeWitt issued Civilian Exclusion Order No. 346, ordering all people of Japanese ancestry, whether citizens or noncitizens, to report to assembly centers, where they would live until being moved to permanent relocation centers.

(4) On June 5, 1942, 1,432 predominantly Nisei (second generation Americans of Japanese ancestry) members of the Hawaii Provisional Infantry Battalion were shipped from the Hawaiian Islands to Oakland, CA, where the 100th Infantry Battalion was activated on June 12, 1942, and then shipped to train at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.

(5) The excellent training record of the 100th Infantry Battalion and petitions from prominent civilian and military personnel helped convince President Roosevelt and the War Department to reopen military service to Nisei volunteers who were incorporated into the 442nd Regimental Combat Team after it was activated in February of 1943.

(6) In that same month, the 100th Infantry Battalion was transferred to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, where it continued to train, and even though the battalion was ready to deploy shortly thereafter, the battalion was refused by General Eisenhower, due to concerns over the loyalty and patriotism of the Nisei.

(7) The 442nd Regimental Combat Team later trained with the 100th Infantry Battalion at Camp Shelby in May of 1943.

(8) Eventually, the 100th Infantry Battalion was deployed to the Mediterranean and entered combat in Italy on September 26, 1943.

(9) Due to their bravery and valor, members of the Battalion were honored with 6 awards of the Distinguished Service Cross in the first 8 weeks of combat.

(10) The 100th Battalion fought at Cassino, Italy in January 1944, and later accompanied the 34th Infantry Division to Anzio, Italy.

(11) The 442nd Regimental Combat Team arrived in Civitavecchia, Italy on June 7, 1944, and on June 15 of the following week, the 100th Infantry Battalion was formally made an integral part of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and fought for the last 11 months of the war with distinction in Italy, southern France, and Germany.

(12) The battalion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for its actions in battle on June 26–27, 1944.

(13) The 442nd Regimental became the most decorated unit in United States military history for its size and length of service.

(14) The 100th Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, received 7 Presidential Unit Citations, 21 Medals of Honor, 29 Distinguished Service Crosses, 560 Silver Stars, 4,000 Bronze Stars, 22 Legion of Merit Medals, 15 Soldier's Medals, and over 4,000 Purple Hearts, among numerous additional distinctions.

(15) The United States remains forever indebted to the bravery, valor, and dedication to country these men faced while fighting a 2-fronted battle of discrimination at home and fascism abroad.

(16) Their commitment and sacrifice demonstrates a highly uncommon and commendable sense of patriotism and honor.

(17) The Military Intelligence Service (in this Act referred to as the ''MIS'') was made up of about 6,000 Japanese American soldiers who conducted highly classified intelligence operations that proved to be vital to United States military successes in the Pacific Theatre.

(18) As they were discharged from the Army, MIS soldiers were told not to discuss their wartime work, due to its sensitive nature, and their contributions were not known until passage of the Freedom of Information Act in 1974.

(19) MIS soldiers were attached individually or in small groups to United States and Allied combat units, where they intercepted radio transmissions, translated enemy documents, interrogated enemy prisoners of war, volunteered for reconnaissance and covert intelligence missions, and persuaded enemy combatants to surrender.

(20) Their contributions continued during the Allied postwar occupation of Japan, and MIS linguistic skills and understanding of Japanese customs were invaluable to occupation forces as they assisted Japan in a peaceful transition to a new, democratic form of government.

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of the Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design to the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service, United States Army, collectively, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the ''Secretary'') shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal in honor of the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service, United States Army, under subsection (a), the gold medal shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution, where it will be displayed as appropriate and made available for research.