

are not found within 24 hours of their departure from home. Wanderers often cannot remember who they are or where they live and cannot assist law enforcement officials and other first responders who try to help them.

The Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program is a Department of Justice program that provides competitive grants to nonprofit organizations to assist in paying for the cost of planning, designing, establishing, and operating programs to protect and locate missing patients with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. These grants help local communities and public safety agencies quickly identify persons with Alzheimer's disease who wander or who are missing and reunite them with their families.

The program was originally authorized in 1996, but has been operating under an expired authorization since 1998. H.R. 2800 reauthorizes the program and authorizations \$1 million per year in appropriations for fiscal years 2013 through 2017. This authorization level will allow the program to operate at the funding year 2012 funding level for the next 5 years.

This program is extremely cost effective. An annual appropriation of simply \$1 million would easily result in millions more in savings for the Federal Government by allowing more Alzheimer's patients to remain at home with their families, thereby reducing nursing-home utilization and saving Medicare and Medicaid expenses.

H.R. 2800 is cosponsored by 18 Members of Congress, including Congressman CHRIS SMITH and Congressman ED MARKEY, the coauthors of the Bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease. The bill is also supported by both the Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer's Foundation of America.

This program saves law enforcement officials valuable time and allows them to focus on other security concerns. It also reduces unintentional injuries and deaths among Alzheimer's patients, brings peace of mind to their families, and thus allows more patients to remain at home with people who love them.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman LAMAR SMITH and Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS for advancing this bill through the Judiciary Committee. And, I especially want to thank Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS for her commitment and hard work over the years in support of the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program.

Alzheimer's disease robs millions of individuals in the U.S. of their ability to recognize once familiar places and faces or even to remember their names and addresses.

Not everyone with Alzheimer's wanders, but an estimated 60% wander at some point in the disease, and many of those wander repeat-

edly. They easily become disoriented and lost, even in their own neighborhood. While wandering is common, it also can be extremely dangerous, particularly for the unprotected and the mentally and physically vulnerable. If not found within 24 hours, up to half of those who wander risk serious injury or death. And their friends and families are beside themselves with worry.

Since its inception in FY1996 and the awarding of a grant to the Alzheimer's Association, the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program has been a literal life-line, helping in the safe return of many thousands of wanderers.

The program has been funded every year since 1996 and funding has been used to establish a nationwide emergency response service for individuals with Alzheimer's or another dementia who wander or have a medical emergency, including an identification and enrollment system.

H.R. 2800 reauthorizes for five years this Department of Justice Program that provides grants to nonprofit organizations to operate programs designed to help local communities and law enforcement officials quickly identify wandering dementia patients and reunite them with their families.

The program has a 98% success rate for safely returning program enrollees who were reported missing. The program also assists individuals with dementia who are not enrolled, with an 88% success rate. I encourage all of my colleagues to vote for this important legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2800, 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.

#### LOCAL COURTHOUSE SAFETY ACT OF 2012

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6185) to improve security at State and local courthouses, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6185

*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 "Local Courthouse Safety Act of 2012".

#### SEC. 2. SECURITY TRAINING.

Part D of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3741 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

#### "SEC. 403. PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ENSURING OFFICER RESILIENCE AND SURVIVABILITY.

"The Director may carry out a training and technical assistance program designed to teach employees of State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies how to anticipate, survive, and respond to violent encounters

during the course of their duties, including duties relating to security at State, county, and tribal courthouses. If the Director offers a training program specifically designed to train participants on courthouse security issues, preference for admission into such program shall be given to employees of jurisdictions that have magnetometers available for use at their courthouses."

#### SEC. 3. STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE.

The State Justice Institute Act of 1984 is amended—

(1) in section 203(b)(1) (42 U.S.C. 10702(b)(1)), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting "safe," after "a fair"; and

(2) in section 206 (42 U.S.C. 10705)—

(A) in subsection (c)—

(i) in paragraph (14)—

(I) by inserting "to" before "conduct"; and

(II) by striking "and" at the end;

(ii) by redesignating paragraph (15) as paragraph (16); and

(iii) by inserting after paragraph (14) the following:

"(15) to improve the safety and security of State and local courts; and"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(g) MAGNETOMETERS.—In the case of a grant awarded under this section to be used as described in subsection (c)(15), if the State or local court applying for the grant does not have magnetometers available for use, not less than \$300 nor more than \$1,000 of the matching fund required under subsection (d) of the State or local court shall be used to acquire a magnetometer."

#### SEC. 4. SECURITY EQUIPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding after section 559 the following:

#### "§ 560. Surplus security equipment for State and local courts

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

"(1) the term 'surplus security equipment' means surplus property that is used to detect weapons, including metal detectors, wands, and baggage screening devices; and

"(2) the term 'qualifying State or local courthouse' means a courthouse of a State or local government that has less security equipment than the security needs of the courthouse require.

"(b) DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS SECURITY EQUIPMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, the Administrator of General Services shall ensure that a qualifying State or local courthouse has an opportunity to request to receive surplus security equipment for use at the qualifying State or local courthouse before the surplus security equipment is made available to any other individual or entity under this subchapter.

"(2) DISPOSAL.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), upon request by a qualifying State or local courthouse for surplus security equipment for use at the qualifying State or local courthouse, the surplus security equipment shall be made available to the qualifying State or local courthouse without cost, except for any costs of shipping, handling, and maintenance.

"(B) MULTIPLE REQUESTS.—If more than 1 qualifying State or local courthouse requests a particular piece of surplus security equipment, the surplus security equipment shall be distributed based on need, as determined by the Administrator of General Services, with priority given to a qualifying State or local courthouse that has no security equipment."

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 559 the following:

"560. Surplus security equipment for State and local courts."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 6185, as amended, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank our Judiciary Committee colleague, Mrs. ADAMS of Florida, for her work on this issue to make America's courthouses safer. This bipartisan, bicameral bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee by unanimous consent last May.

□ 1510

Before I yield to her, I do want to urge my colleagues to support this bill and thank Mrs. ADAMS again for all of her work that brought us to this point we are here today.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank my Judiciary Committee colleague, Mrs. ADAMS of Florida, for her work on this issue to make America's courthouses safer. This bipartisan, bicameral bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee by unanimous consent last May.

State and local courthouses are the workplace for many people. Judges, secretaries, custodians, clerks and attorneys are there every workday. Police officers, litigants and the public go to these courthouses for many reasons. Many of us are called upon to report there for jury duty.

Often in these courthouses, the stakes, and emotions, are high when defendants confront their accusers and victims confront their perpetrators.

Threats against judges and acts of violence in courthouses and courtrooms are occurring throughout the country with greater frequency than ever before. The number of threats and violent incidents that target the judiciary has increased dramatically in recent years.

At the federal level, the U.S. Marshals Service's Center for Judicial Security reports the number of judicial threat investigations has more than doubled to over 1,200 in the past nine years. At the state and local levels, data collected by the Center for Judicial and Executive Security shows that the number of violent incidents in state courthouses has gone up every decade since 1970.

Since 2010, there has been about one shooting per month at local courthouses across the country. In September 2011, for example a defendant opened fire in the Crawford County Courthouse in Arkansas, killing a judge's secretary.

In December 2011, a defendant retrieved a gun from his car, walked into the Cook County

Courthouse in Minnesota and shot the prosecuting attorney, a witness and the bailiff.

So far in 2012, there have been at least five courthouse shootings, including a fatal attack in my home State of Texas.

Security at many local courthouses is lax, particularly in rural and suburban areas where access to equipment, training and resources is especially scarce. Law enforcement officers, court personnel and members of our communities are in harm's way as a result.

One Minnesota judge put it well in a recent correspondence to his colleagues: "I'm no longer willing to risk my life, the life of court staff, [and] the life of the public who have no choice about going to court."

This bill accomplishes three objectives. First, the bill gives State and local courthouses direct access to security equipment that the Federal Government no longer uses.

This provision is modeled after a Defense Department program that allows the Pentagon to give its excess equipment to local police and firefighters. This legislation gives State and local authorities access to excess metal detectors, wands and baggage screening machines.

Second, this bill gives States the flexibility they need to make courthouse security improvements, but requires modest matching funds.

The bill does not require any new spending and it does not impose any new mandates. States can use existing federal resources for courthouse security upgrades if they so choose.

Lastly, through existing programs and funding authorizations, training and technical assistance will be provided to local law enforcement officers to teach them how to anticipate and survive violent encounters.

The identical Senate bill has broad bipartisan support and its ten co-sponsors come from both sides of the aisle.

This bill has been endorsed by six organizations, including: the National Sheriffs Association, the National Association for Court Management, the Conference of Chief Justices, the Conference of State Court Administrators, the American Judges Association and the National Court Reporters Association.

The Congressional Budget Office scored this bill at zero cost.

This bill is a cost-effective approach to provide safety training and technical assistance to local law enforcement agencies. It improves security at State and local government courthouses, which are most in need of basic safety equipment and training.

Our State and local law enforcement officers need support to ensure the security of our courthouses. This bill does that as it recycles excess Federal security equipment and protects Americans at the same time.

I again thank Mrs. ADAMS for her work on this issue and I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan, bicameral bill.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM,

Washington, DC, September 10, 2012.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

MR. CHAIRMAN: On August 1, 2012, the Committee on the Judiciary ordered H.R. 6185, the "Local Courthouse Safety Act of 2012," reported to the House. Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Oversight

and Government Reform with regard to H.R. 6185 on those matters within the Committee's jurisdiction. I am writing to confirm our mutual understanding with respect to the consideration of H.R. 6185.

In the interest of expediting the House's consideration of H.R. 6185, I will forego consideration of the bill. However, I do so only with the understanding that this procedural route will not be construed to prejudice the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform's jurisdictional interest and prerogatives on this bill or any other similar legislation and will not be considered as precedent for consideration of matters of jurisdictional interest to my Committee in the future.

I respectfully request your support for the appointment of outside conferees from the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform should this bill or a similar bill be considered in a conference with the Senate. I also request that you include our exchange of letters on this matter in the Committee Report on H.R. 6185 and in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

DARRELL ISSA,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,  
Washington, DC, September 10, 2012.

Hon. DARRELL ISSA,  
Rayburn House Office Building,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ISSA: Thank you for your letter of even date herewith regarding H.R. 6185, the "Local Courthouse Safety Act of 2012," which the Judiciary Committee reported favorably to the House, as amended, today.

I am most appreciative of your decision to forego consideration of H.R. 6185, as amended, so that it may move expeditiously to the House floor. I acknowledge that although you are waiving formal consideration of the bill, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is in no way waiving its jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in the bill. In addition, if a conference is necessary on this legislation, I will support any request that your committee be represented therein.

Finally, I shall be pleased to include your letter and this letter in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 6185.

Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,  
Chairman.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. ADAMS).

Mrs. ADAMS. I rise today in support of H.R. 6185, the Local Courthouse Safety Act of 2012, because it will give local courthouses the resources to enhance their security, and to do so at no cost to the Federal taxpayer. My bill would allow for surplus metal detectors to be provided to local courthouses to enhance security.

Like other regions throughout our Nation, central Florida has seen its share of courthouse attacks. Shortly before I joined the Orange County Sheriff's Office as a deputy sheriff, a courthouse shooting occurred. An armed gunman by the name of Thomas Provenzano walked into the Orange County Courthouse with a 12-gauge shotgun, an assault rifle, and a .38 revolver, all loaded with live ammunition. Bailiff William Wilkerson, a 60-

year-old veteran who retired from the Navy as a lieutenant commander, was killed on that day. Bailiff Harry Dalton, a 53-year-old father of six, was shot in the face and left paralyzed from the shooting. He died 7 years later. Correctional Officer Mark Parker was only 19 years old at the time of the shooting. He survived the shooting but was paralyzed from the shoulders down and had to spend the rest of his life confined to a wheelchair.

I introduced the Local Courthouse Safety Act because the things this bill does are important to me and to most Americans. I know the families of Bailiff Dalton and Bailiff Wilkerson, who lost their lives as a result of the violence that day in the Orange County Courthouse, and remained friends with Officer Parker until he passed away a few years ago. I am deeply aware of the grief they've had to live with all of these years.

Since September of 2010, there has been about one shooting per month at a local courthouse. So even though the shooting in Orange County happened 30 years ago, courthouse shootings are still happening all over this country and innocent people are still dying.

Those who are exercising their constitutional right of seeking justice in our courtrooms should not have to fear for their safety, and neither should our law enforcement officers, judges, advocates, and court personnel. It is my hope that this bill will help to prevent horrific and senseless incidents of violence like this from happening in our local courthouses.

I want to thank my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee for recognizing that we need to take courthouse security seriously and for joining me in this bipartisan effort to help prevent violence in local courthouses across this country. We need to give sheriffs and local courthouses access to the training, equipment, and resources they need to improve security, so I urge support for the bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6185, the Local Courthouse Safety Act. This measure will provide critical assistance to State and local governments to provide courthouse security.

To begin with, many State and local courthouses face serious security challenges. Serious violence often occurs in these facilities, but many courthouses across the Nation still lack basic security protections such as metal detectors. H.R. 6185 responds to this critical problem by giving sheriffs, as well as State and local courthouses, access to training, equipment, and other resources to help them improve security.

H.R. 6185 accomplishes these goals by making use of existing resources. This legislation requires the General Services Administration to make available to State and local courts—at no cost, except for shipping, handling, and maintenance—surplus security equip-

ment that is used to detect weapons, such as metal detectors, wands, and baggage screening devices. To qualify to receive such security equipment, a State or local courthouse must have less security equipment than necessary to meet the security needs of that courthouse. Because these devices are surplus and not otherwise being utilized by any Federal agencies, it is a wise use of taxpayer money to allow this equipment to be put into service at the State and local level.

Another important aspect of the bill is that it expands the scope of the grants awarded by the State Justice Institute to include the improvement of the safety and security of State and local courts. As a result, H.R. 6185 strengthens the Institute's current authority to award grants to support education, training, and technical assistance projects to improve the administration of justice in the State courts. This measure addresses, in a meaningful way, the serious security challenges that State and local courthouses face.

Not surprisingly, H.R. 6185 enjoys a broad range of support, including the National Sheriffs' Association, the National Association for Court Management, the Conference of Chief Justices, the Conference of State Court Administrators, American Judges Association, the National Court Reporters Association, and the Center for Judicial and Executive Security.

I commend my colleague, the gentlelady from Florida (Mrs. ADAMS) for her work in developing the bill, and I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6185, 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.

#### STOLEN VALOR ACT OF 2012

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1775) to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a criminal offense relating to fraudulent claims about military service, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

#### H.R. 1775

*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 "Stolen Valor Act of 2012".*

#### SEC. 2. FRAUDULENT REPRESENTATIONS ABOUT RECEIPT OF MILITARY DECORATIONS OR MEDALS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 704 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "wears,"; and

(2) so that subsection (b) reads as follows:

"(b) FRAUDULENT REPRESENTATIONS ABOUT RECEIPT OF MILITARY DECORATIONS OR MEDALS.—Whoever, with intent to obtain money, property, or other tangible benefit, fraudulently holds oneself out to be a recipient of a decoration or medal described in subsection (c)(2) or (d) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than one year, or both."

(b) *ADDITION OF CERTAIN OTHER MEDALS.*—Section 704(d) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "If a decoration" and inserting the following:

"(1) *IN GENERAL.*—If a decoration";

(2) by inserting "a combat badge," after "1129 of title 10,"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) *COMBAT BADGE DEFINED.*—In this subsection, the term 'combat badge' means a Combat Infantryman's Badge, Combat Action Badge, Combat Medical Badge, Combat Action Ribbon, or Combat Action Medal."

(c) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.*—Section 704 of title 18, United States Code, is amended in each of subsections (c)(1) and (d) by striking "or (b)".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 1775, as amended, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1775, the Stolen Valor Act of 2011, was introduced by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HECK). I want to thank him for his dedication to protect the honor bestowed on our Nation's military heroes.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1775, the Stolen Valor Act of 2011, was introduced by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HECK). I thank him for his dedication to protect the honor bestowed on our nation's military heroes.

In 2006, a man who had created several false identities fraudulently claimed to be a seriously injured Marine captain who suffered from post traumatic stress disorder and a recipient of the Purple Heart and Silver Star.

His tangled web of lies earned him credibility among other veterans, law enforcement officials and politicians. He told these false stories and used them for his own benefit, disrespecting those who had honorably earned these awards for their service.

This is an example of a man who did not simply lie about receiving a military award. He lied to defraud others and benefit himself, discrediting those veterans who actually deserve recognition.