

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield the remainder of my time to the gentleman from Georgia, Congressman DOUG COLLINS, who is the sponsor of this resolution and a U.S. Air Force Reserve chaplain.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina, whose dedication to our men and women in uniform is among no peer's in this body, and I thank him for his service and for the fight of his family and others as we come along.

I'll tell you today that I rise, Mr. Speaker, really with a troubled heart and also with one that is on behalf of the men and women in the Air Force and the Armed Forces and others who are facing something today that they should not have to face. There is no doubt our Nation is facing many difficulties, and all of us and those across the aisle can understand that. The majority in this body is standing united to fight for the future of our children and grandchildren. Those are legitimate fights, and I respect my colleagues from across the aisle. These are legitimate fights that we are having here. However, today, as I stand, I came to this body also looking for practical things and looking for things that amaze me at times, and this is one that does.

As we do and as we fight for others, we must ensure that the basic rights of all Americans are protected and do not fall victim to the political theater occurring in this body. Military personnel and their families make sacrifices that many of us cannot fathom, and they do so to protect the freedom that we take far too often for granted. Because of their sacrifices, our Nation is a beacon of hope to the dark corners of the world where freedom of speech and religion exist only in fairy tales.

Yet today, military chaplains who have been contracted to come to bases face a closed door. They cannot go on these bases during a lapse of appropriations even if they wanted to volunteer to practice their faiths. Each of us in this body and across the Nation should pause for a moment to consider and think about what I just said. If a contract chaplain wants to minister to a military member stationed abroad who has no access to a church, a mosque or a synagogue, he would be in violation of the law. I am a military chaplain, and this breaks my heart.

Too often, we come to this floor and we talk in abstracts. We talk about concepts and political jargon, arguing about problems that only matter, probably, within less than 3 miles of this building, but today is different. Today, we stand with one resounding voice to tell our servicemembers and the chaplaincy that we will not stand for their First Amendment rights to be violated because the leaders in the other body want to make a point. The laws in this Nation require the Federal Govern-

ment to ensure that military personnel can express their faiths or non-faith in all corners of the world. That is why the military chaplaincy exists and, when we cannot serve the needs of those, why we contract with others who can provide that basis of one's faith.

General George Washington issued an order on July 9, 1776, providing through the Continental Congress for a chaplain for each regiment, stating:

The blessing and protection of Heaven are at all times necessary but especially so in times of public distress and danger.

The administration is apparently unsatisfied with denying veterans access to memorials and is unsatisfied with closing off unmanned scenic overlooks to motorists. Now they must go after, in the words of George Washington, the "blessing and protection of Heaven" for our military families.

The body has seen its share of political discord and policy disagreements. The government has experienced numerous lapses in appropriations over the decades, but never before in the history of this Nation have the military chaplains and those they contract with to serve our military personnel been prevented from meeting the religious and spiritual needs of our servicemembers.

As a chaplain, I lived and worked alongside men and women in Iraq. Many were religious and many were not, but my purpose was to ensure that they were able to express their First Amendment rights however they wished. Military chaplains and their contract counterparts must be allowed to provide religious service and ministry regardless of our Nation's fiscal state.

If the administration wants to play games and score points through unnecessary theatrics, so be it; but I will not stand by and let these games occur at the expense of the basic rights of our men and women in uniform.

During this lapse in funding, Active Duty chaplains are permitted to continue serving military personnel. However, there is a chronic shortage of Active Duty chaplains, particularly for Catholic and Jewish faiths. For example, roughly 25 percent of the military ascribe to the Catholic faith; yet Catholic priests make up only 8 percent of the Chaplain Corps. That means that approximately 275,000 men and women in uniform and their families are served by only 234 Active Duty priests, thus the need to have contract chaplains.

Due to the shortage of Active Duty chaplains, it is extremely common for the government to employ chaplains via contracts to ensure that the spiritual needs of all of our military members are met. With the government shutdown, contract members of the Chaplain Corps on military bases worldwide are not permitted to work—they are not even permitted to volunteer—even if they are the only chaplains on base.

As my friend from South Carolina and others have mentioned, the restrictions on basic freedoms that are being had around here—and just within this area at Langley, at the Navy Yard and at Fort Belvoir—are all areas that have already been cut back, and that is a shame. I am grateful to my colleagues who have joined me this morning and the House leadership for their commitment to ensuring that military chaplains are able to serve the men and women of our Armed Forces.

If this body does not pass this legislation, the ability of military personnel and their families to worship and participate in religious ceremonies will continue to be at great risk. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in protecting the First Amendment rights of those who give their lives to protect ours.

Before I close, I agree that many times we haven't communicated, and we don't communicate as many would want us to; but I have also heard that timing was a problem here and that we should have seen this coming. Let me just say timing should never be a hindrance to this body's protecting the First Amendment rights of any of our citizens, especially of our military personnel. In fact, it should be our highest calling and the thing we run to this floor to discuss.

Should we have seen it coming?

I'll tell you, what saddens me is I would have never believed that the administration or anyone else would deem protecting a constitutional right as nonessential.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 58.

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. WILSON of South Carolina. 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, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 0945

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE RETROACTIVE PAY FAIRNESS ACT

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 371, I call up the bill (H.R. 3223) to provide for the compensation of furloughed Federal employees, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 371, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3223

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 “Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act”.

SEC. 2. COMPENSATION FOR FURLOUGHED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.

Federal employees furloughed as a result of any lapse in appropriations which begins on or about October 1, 2013, shall be compensated at their standard rate of compensation, for the period of such lapse in appropriations, as soon as practicable after such lapse in appropriations ends.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 40 minutes, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3223 and to include extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

The House remains actively engaged in finding a solution to end the current impasse. The House has passed a number of commonsense bills to fund our troops, continue funding for veterans' benefits, and allow the District of Columbia to spend its own funds. The House has also passed legislation to bring defense civilian employees back to work. Unfortunately, the administration appears to be purposefully refusing to use the authority granted by the Pay Our Military Act, meaning roughly 400,000 defense civilian employees remain at home, unable to work.

While we wait on the President and Senate to reach across the aisle, it is important to provide needed certainty to Federal employees who have been furloughed without pay. Each and every one of us has Federal employees in our district, most of whom are guided by a sense of civic duty and take pride in helping make their country a better place.

Civilian defense personnel at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, doctors and nurses at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, records management professionals at the National Archives, and countless other dedicated men and women throughout my community are employed by Federal agencies and have been subject to furlough.

In the gulf coast region and other disaster-prone areas, NOAA employees help prepare for and monitor major storms. In the aftermath of these natural disasters, FEMA workers are sent into horrible and hazardous conditions to help restore broken communities.

At NASA, employees help us, figuratively and literally, to reach for the

stars. They encourage future generations to not be bound by seemingly physical and intellectual barriers.

Our law enforcement agencies work tirelessly to investigate and capture those who seek to do harm to the homeland as well as our allies abroad. The list goes on.

H.R. 3223 ensures the Federal civilian workers will receive retroactive pay for the duration of the Federal Government shutdown regardless of their furlough status. Federal workers who have been furloughed under a shutdown have historically received their pay retroactively. H.R. 3223 provides today's workforce a guarantee that their pay will resume once the President and Senate Democrats agree to meaningful discussions that will ultimately resolve this impasse.

I urge support for this bill as we continue to work on legislation to reopen critical operations of the Federal Government, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in strong support of H.R. 3223, the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act. This legislation would provide backpay to 800,000 hardworking and dedicated Federal employees furloughed as a result of the government shutdown we are now enduring.

Today is day five of the shutdown created by the Tea Party extremists who are harming our country by holding our government hostage. They're placing our economy and our national security in jeopardy by waging an ideological war to overturn the law of the land and put insurance companies back in charge of health care decisions for tens of millions of our fellow Americans.

Our dedicated public servants ought to be at their duty stations serving the American people right now. They want to be working. They should be working. Instead, they are locked out because the House Republican leadership refuses to allow a vote on a clean bill to fund the government, a bill that would pass today.

Seventeen years ago, Federal workers were given backpay after Newt Gingrich's record 21-day shutdown in 1995 and 1996. It was the fair thing to do then, and it is the fair thing to do now.

Our Federal employees have been under relentless and unfair attack in recent years and have sacrificed much already. They have contributed nearly \$100 billion to deficit reduction through the 3-year pay freeze. New employees have seen their retirement benefits slashed. On top of that, Mr. Speaker, many have suffered through sequester-imposed furloughs. And now many families have seen their lives needlessly disrupted by this shutdown. The least we can do for our fellow citizens who work for this great country is to give them the reassurance of knowing that they will receive backpay.

The irresponsible, piecemeal approach to government funding being

pursued by our House Republicans omits huge parts of the government in attempts to pick and choose those who will be paid and those who won't. That is not an efficient or effective way to run the government, and the American people are sick of it, and they must be heard.

I give great credit to my colleagues, Mr. MORAN and to Mr. WOLF, a bipartisan group of great Virginians. I applaud them. H.R. 3223 would ensure that all Federal workers will be paid once this manufactured crisis is over and the government is reopened. This is not their fault, and they should not suffer as a result.

It's long past time for Republicans to reopen the government. Instead of disrupting the lives of our fellow citizens and wasting time and taxpayer money, House Republicans should reopen the government today—not yesterday, right now—by simply bringing to the floor a measure that funds the entire government without taking away the health care of our fellow citizens.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join all of us in supporting H.R. 3223, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), the author of the bill we're considering today that would retroactively restore pay to Federal workers.

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman TURNER and Chairman ROGERS and his staff. I also want to thank Leader CANTOR and his staff and Mr. MORAN and Mr. CUMMINGS and the others and all the staff, my staff included, but all the staff who did this very quickly.

This was done during the Reagan administration. It was done during the Clinton administration.

Who are the Federal employees? The Federal employees are the FBI agents that everyone would call if they got a call and found out their loved one was kidnapped. The first person they would call would be an FBI agent, a Federal employee.

I was with Mr. HOYER 2 weeks ago at the Navy Yard. The 12 people who were killed at the Navy Yard and those who were wounded, they were all Federal employees. Mr. HOYER can tell you, when the CNO talked about it, he said they were a part of the fleet.

The Capitol Hill policemen that we all got up the other day and gave a standing ovation, they are Federal employees.

The VA doctors that are working out at Walter Reed, working on young men and women who have lost limbs and served in Afghanistan and Iraq, they are Federal employees.

I remember, I was again with Mr. HOYER when we were down at OPM earlier this year when they had stars on the wall of 27 Federal employees who

have died since 2012, and since that time the number of stars have increased tremendously.

I saw the movie “Zero Dark Thirty.” If you looked at that movie, it was about catching bin Laden. The woman who did it, Maya, has she been furloughed? Where is Maya? We don’t know where she is. But has she been furloughed? Should she not get paid?

Lastly, I remember being at the memorial service. Seven families walked in; seven individuals died. I saw the young families, the families who were mourning their parents, and they were Federal employees.

There are 12,000 CIA employees who have been furloughed and are gone, maybe missing that one communication from al Shabaab or al Qaeda.

I strongly urge a strong vote for this. I also want to thank Chairman ISSA, Chairman ROGERS and the leadership, including Congressman ERIC CANTOR—who has quickly scheduled this measure—and their staffs, and mine, for their efforts to prepare this bill.

This bill—which Mr. MORAN and I have introduced with strong bipartisan support—follows in the bipartisan tradition of precedents set during the Reagan and Clinton Administrations: that we ensure that Federal employees, who are out of work and unpaid by no fault of their own, are made whole once the government reopens.

Despite the difficult and unfortunate circumstances that have shut down our government currently, there is bipartisan agreement that signal to the millions of Federal employees that they will be paid for the duration of this shut down.

Who are these Federal employees? They are the Navy Yard employees killed and wounded last month. They are the Secret Service and Capitol Police officers who ran into harm’s way earlier this week.

They are the FBI agents, DEA agents, Border Patrol agents, Weather Service meteorologists, Park Rangers, NASA astronauts and engineers, VA doctors and nurses.

I think we can all agree that they deserve the confidence of knowing that they will receive back pay for the time they have worked or have been furloughed.

My hope is that by moving this legislation now we can provide some reassurance to our valuable workforce and their families.

By passing this bill today, Republicans and Democrats can come together to send a powerful message to the Federal workforce.

In April my friend, Congressman STENY HOYER, and I went to the Theodore Roosevelt Federal Building, otherwise known as OPM Headquarters. We were there to recognize the lives of 27 Federal employees who died in the line of duty since January 2012. Twenty-seven.

Two weeks ago I was at the Marine Barracks honoring the 12 people killed at the Navy Yard. The speakers did not talk about military or civilian. They talked about “one Navy” serving the fleet.

A hurricane watch was posted on Thursday. Who is monitoring that? Federal employees. What happened after the hurricane watch was posted? Furloughed Federal employees started to be recalled.

Who is working around the clock to protect us from another terrorist attack? Federal employees?

It has been reported that 70 percent of civilians working for our intelligence agencies, including the CIA and the Defense Intelligence Agency will be furloughed. This could include 12,500 employees at the CIA.

This will impact our ability to protect our nation and disrupt plots by Al Qaeda and other terrorist groups.

In the movie Zero Dark Thirty, there is a scene where seven CIA employees were killed in Khost, Afghanistan.

I went to the memorial service at Langley, which is in my district. I saw the families. I saw the young children mourning the death of their parents.

The first American killed in combat during the Afghanistan invasion? Michael Spann, a CIA employee—from my district.

What about NASA astronauts and scientists? Or DOE lab employees? This legislation will provide piece of mind to their families that, when the government reopens things will be okay. As their board of directors we should do what we can.

If a member of your family was kidnapped, who would you call? The FBI. What about the DEA Agents stopping drug runners and human trafficking. Customs and Border Patrol Agents stopping illegal immigrants. Prison guards working in a dangerous environment who, every day, keep violent felons behind bars.

All Federal employees.

The doctors and nurses at our VA hospitals and clinics helping wounded warriors recover and our veterans live with dignity.

Federal employees.

Who else? The defense civilians repairing sophisticated electronic weaponry systems at Army depots and Air Force. The firefighters you call when a lighting strike sets a national forest on fire and homes and business are in danger.

The park service rangers who help with a rescue in a National Park.

The air traffic controllers and DOT crash investigators.

Let’s not forget the NIH researchers working to find a cure for breast cancer, and prostate cancer, and Alzheimer’s and Autism.

This bill will provide some piece of mind to the researchers trying to find a cure, and who’s work supplements thousands of businesses, large and small.

I know that all my colleagues recognize that Federal employees aren’t just nameless faces behind desks, they are real people, out in the field, who work day-in and day-out to make our Nation a better and safer place.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from the State of Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for yielding.

I want to thank my colleague, FRANK WOLF. There’s no harder advocate or effective advocate for Federal employees than FRANK WOLF. He and I have worked together for over 32 years on behalf of the interest of those people who work for the American people every day to make them safer, healthier, more informed. I want to thank the majority leader; I want to thank the ranking member; I want to thank the gentleman who offers his support of this bill; and I want to thank my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, we’re 5 days into a government shutdown caused by—well, I’m not sure what it’s caused by. As a result, approximately 800,000 middle class workers who serve the American people are furloughed without pay. All of us talk about working Americans, how we want to make sure they have the jobs that they need to support themselves and their family.

Our Federal employees have already been asked to accept COLA freezes for the past 4 years, and they’ve endured changes to retirement benefits as well as the furloughs imposed by the irrational policy of sequester. I’m glad to see the chairman of the Appropriations Committee on the floor. There’s been no more stronger voice on the irrationality of the sequester than my friend from Kentucky.

Only my colleagues on the other side of the aisle can say with certainty, if they can, when our Federal Government will be able to go back to work, but the American people are already noticing their absence, whether safeguarding our national parks, performing groundbreaking medical research at NIH, overseeing disaster relief efforts after a storm or wildfire, making sure nutrition assistance gets to the children and seniors who need it, or enforcing the laws that keep our community safe. Federal employees make a critical contribution to the country and communities and the American people they serve.

We saw their selfless nature and devotion of country on display this Thursday when, as the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) said, U.S. Capitol Police personnel, Federal employees who are deemed essential for security and are currently on the job without the promise of pay, protected all of us who work in the Capitol complex during a security incident.

I am proud to represent 62,000 hard-working Federal employees in my district, yet most of the Federal employees are not in the Washington metropolitan area. Eighty percent of them are dispersed throughout this country, serving in every area, every community of our great land, many of whom serve in civilian defense roles at critical military institutions like Pax River, Indian Head, and Webster Field in my district. Each one of you could name a facility in your district.

One of them wrote to me to express his frustration of those who are preventing the government from reopening. He writes:

I’m quite tired of being punished when my only crime is supporting our great Nation with my labor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

□ 1000

Mr. HOYER. I want to thank my Republican colleagues for recognizing that pain and unfairness and bringing this bill to the floor. I hope all of us will support this bill.

Another constituent of mine who works at Pax River said this: "Please continue to work toward a solution that ends the furloughs for all Federal employees affected by the shutdown, not just a select few," as we're doing.

Mr. Speaker, we must reopen our government, and we could do so today, this hour. But until the majority allows a vote on the bill to reopen the government, let us at least provide the dedicated, patriotic Federal employees who want nothing more than to go back to work with the peace of mind that they will still be paid for their service.

I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN). Mr. MORAN, like the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), has been an extraordinary leader on behalf of Federal employees, as well as Congressmen GERALD CONNOLLY and STEVE LYNCH who sit here and others on the Republican side who have been aligned on that effort as well. Surely, surely we, the board of directors of the greatest enterprise on Earth, can take care of our employees and give them the confidence that they deserve.

I thank the gentleman from Maryland for the additional time.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS).

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. I thank the chairman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, this is a bipartisan bill, and I hope every Member in this House will be happy to support it.

I'm glad to see that, at the very least, the Senate has plans to take up this bill. Stop the presses. The Senate's going to take up a bill, even if they won't consider most of our other bills.

And as we wait for the Senate to come to the negotiating table on shutting the shutdown down, our Federal workforce should not wait to find out whether or not they'll be paid. This bill will provide backpay for those workers who have been furloughed in a fair, full, and timely manner after the shutdown ends. The House has made great strides toward this end. And in fact, as of yesterday, the House has approved 15 different options to fund the government. We have sent them over to the Senate. Sadly, the only response has been a loud snore.

I hope this bill, which I know is a priority for my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, will encourage this Congress to find that spirit of bipartisanship that seems to have evaporated over the last few weeks. It will demonstrate that we are able to let level heads prevail and that we can unite in our responsibility to care for the hundreds of thousands of people who serve this Nation day in, day out.

I want to thank the gentlemen from Virginia, Messrs. WOLF and MORAN, two very fine members of our Appropriations Committee, for bringing this bill to the floor, and I salute them. I urge my colleagues to provide our workforce with some certainty for their futures and pass this bill.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished sponsor of the bill from Virginia (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN. I thank my very close friend from Baltimore, Maryland, for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is truly bipartisan. We have 177 cosponsors, 32 Republicans. It ensures that all Federal employees will be paid for the duration of the Federal Government shutdown.

The issue is fairness. It's just wrong for the hundreds of thousands of Federal employees not to know whether they're going to be able to make their mortgage payment, not to know whether they're going to be able to provide for their families. Many of them live from paycheck to paycheck, and they're absolutely committed to paying their bills when they come due.

I'm sure that this experience has been shared by many of our colleagues. They come to our offices. In fact, just 2 days ago, a woman came in and she started to kind of matter of factually explain the financial situation she had. And she just broke down sobbing. "I don't know how I can provide for my children if I don't get my paycheck." It wasn't through her fault. She didn't do anything wrong. It wasn't through any kind of performance. She's a hard-working employee. She's got commendations.

But we decided, because we haven't been able to fix the budget situation, that we're going to allow this government to shut down. So she's collateral damage. It's wrong—800,000 people are suffering. This would relieve their anxiety. That's why it's a simple matter of fairness, Mr. Speaker.

Now of course on this side of the aisle, we feel strongly that if we could just bring up a simple appropriations bill today, tomorrow, it would pass because there are enough Republicans that want to do that, combined with virtually all of the Democrats. But whether that happens or not, when it happens, this bill does need to happen.

It should be borne in mind, keeping these individuals at home is costing us about \$300 million a day in lost productivity. Hundreds of Federal workers have come to our offices, asking us to do this, asking us more importantly to let them go back to their work. They're dedicated to their jobs. So that's the underlying message, let them get back to work.

But in the meantime, let's get this passed. And let's bear in mind that this bill is introduced in a context that over the last 4 years, the Congress has frozen Federal employees' pay. We've cut their pension benefits, and we've furloughed thousands as a result of the sequester. The cumulative impact actually of these punitive measures will cost each Federal employee an average of \$50,000 over the budgeted period. I don't think that's fair. It's not right to punish a workforce of civil servants for whom we are the board of directors. We're responsible for this. Let's do the right thing. Let's get a unanimous vote

for this bill simply because it is the right thing to do.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, last summer, thousands of civilian defense workers were furloughed in violation of the law as the administration decided to spread the pain for political purposes.

In July, the House passed the Defense appropriations bill to fund the military, including those illegally furloughed employees, by 315 votes in an intensely bipartisan effort. And yet since July, the Majority Leader has yet to bring that bill to a vote in the Senate. This week, we passed a law to fund our military, although the administration attorneys are still arguing over what the word "support" means. And I commend the Department of Defense in their efforts to overcome this roadblock and get people back to work.

But because of these examples, it is imperative that all Federal employees are guaranteed they will receive the backpay that is due them. This will not cost the government extra. There is precedent. It is logical. Yes, our goal should be to start the government working. But as we are looking, within 2 weeks of this period of time, debt ceiling, the issue of sequestration, entitlement reform, a Senate that continues to demand that we spend an extra \$60 billion we don't have and ObamaCare, it is clear that the strategies of the past don't work.

Senator REID's position of "it's my way or nothing" has won. We have nothing. And we will continue to have nothing until something new breaks this logjam.

If the Senate were to engage in legitimate talks with real negotiations, that could break this logjam. So it is clear, the Senate's attitude is the key to ending the shutdown. But until that happens, it is significant that all Federal employees know that they will receive their funds, and they will not become innocent victims of the Senate's attitude of belligerence.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH), a member of the committee.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I also want to thank Mr. MORAN for his leadership and Mr. WOLF, as the lead sponsor of this bill, along with Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. TURNER, Mr. ROGERS, and Mr. WITTMAN. I know there are a lot of staff as well who have been working hard on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, as ranking member of the Federal Workforce Subcommittee, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3223, the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act. This bipartisan legislation will ensure that our more than 800,000 Federal workers who have been placed on furlough since October 1 will receive full backpay for the duration of the government shutdown. This legislation recognizes that our middle-income

Federal employees are totally committed to serving the American people. And to their great credit, our public servants have remained ready, willing, and able to perform their duties, even in the face of mandatory increases in their retirement costs, sequestration, related furloughs, and as they face the likelihood of their fourth consecutive year of pay freeze imposed by this Congress.

Given that these furloughed employees have already carried a major part of the burden working towards deficit reduction, it would be unjust to expect them to bear the additional cost and uncertainty of a shutdown engineered by one extreme faction within the Republican Party—not all, but one extreme faction within that group—who are intent on destroying government operations for the sake of political brinkmanship.

I would also note that these furloughed Federal employees, nevertheless, perform mission-critical agency functions. Among the employees who have been sent home by the shutdown are Federal aviation safety monitors, Department of Defense military technicians, disease surveillance personnel at the Centers for Disease Control, and also food safety inspectors at the FDA, as well as NIH researchers who are engaged in experimental clinical trials that are life-and-death matters for some.

So it's, therefore, imperative that we also pass a clean continuing resolution so that these Federal workers can immediately return to their post.

Again, I thank Mr. MORAN, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. CUMMINGS for their great work on this important legislation and urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 3223.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN).

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I too would like to recognize the gentlemen from Virginia, Mr. WOLF and Mr. MORAN, for their leadership in bringing this forward and for the leadership on both sides of the aisle. This is absolutely necessary.

I rise today in strong support of the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act. And I'm proud to be part of a bipartisan group of cosponsors to make sure that this is something that got done and is being done in the best interests of our great Federal workforce.

This bill should really be called the "Pay Certainty Act" because that's exactly what it will do, provide certainty for our Federal employees who, through no fault of their own, were told that they were not allowed to come to work effective October 1.

Our Nation's dedicated civil servants have already been asked to shoulder the burden of numerous efforts to reduce government spending. We all know that it is a shared sacrifice. But they don't expect to do it alone. And I've talked to many Federal employees

who are willing to do their part. But like everyone else has said, they don't expect to shoulder these cuts alone.

These furloughs have had devastating impacts on people's lives, on the doctors and nurses at veterans hospitals who are responsible for taking care of the men and women who have faithfully served our Nation, on the law enforcement officers running down leads on terrorist threats and protecting our homeland, on the firefighters stationed at military installations around the globe, on our Capitol Police who protect your Congress and Capitol, and on the multitudes of other Federal employees who do a great job serving their Nation day in and day out. The only thing that they want is the ability to serve. And they have all done that in the greatest way possible. And for that, they have my deepest gratitude and sincere thanks, and I know they have the deepest gratitude and sincere thanks from all Members of this body. We deeply appreciate what they do for our Nation.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and to work together to get the work of the Nation done.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), the ranking member of our Government Ops Subcommittee.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Republican manager and the distinguished ranking member, my good friend from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS).

Mr. Speaker, it's been an Orwellian week in which black is white and white is black. We've got Members who voted for the shutdown who appeared surprised that that led to the closure of national parks, which didn't stop some of them from berating park Federal employees for enforcing the shutdown. We have other Members in this Orwellian week saying that the shutdown is all about respect, and we've got to get something out of this; we just don't know what it is.

So, finally, a moment of decency. Finally, we turn to the men and women who serve our country, the 800,000 Federal employees who are furloughed, and we do something decent for them. We alleviate the angst of whether there will be that paycheck whenever we get around to reopening the government.

This week, one of those dedicated civil servants from my constituency, Dave Lavery, received the prestigious Service to America Medal in recognition of his exemplary leadership of the 6,000-person team that conceived and executed NASA's incredible Curiosity Rover Mission to Mars.

America is unbelievably fortunate to have this kind of talented and passionate Federal worker like Dave Lavery, whose public service should be celebrated, appreciated, and yes, compensated.

On October 1, Dave was one of 17,600 NASA employees deemed "non-essential" and was furloughed. The

irony was that Dave had to consult the Ethics Office of NASA to see if he could go to his own awards ceremony because of his "nonessential" furloughed status. That's what we're reduced to. So today's bill at least redresses one wrong in this otherwise Orwellian exercise called the Federal shutdown.

□ 1015

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY).

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlemen from Virginia, Messrs. MORAN and WOLF, for their effort, but also for personally coming up to me and asking me to be an early advocate of this very important bill.

Like them, I have many constituents who are Federal employees who are furloughed right now, including most of the majority of them being civilian employees at Offutt Air Force Base and STRATCOM. The legislation that we are considering here today will ensure that the 800,000 Federal employees are paid for the time lost or off work during this impasse.

Now, we worked last week in a bipartisan effort to make sure that our military would be paid, and included in that bill called Pay Our Military Act was also very clear language that protected civilian DOD workers who are furloughed. But, unfortunately, in a bizarre "what's the definition of 'is' discussion" in the White House and DOD, they furloughed 60-70 percent of the civilian employees where there are critical missions, endangering our country.

So having a bill like this where we come together in a bipartisan way, we can reduce some level of frustration, we can give some level of peace of mind to those employees that they will be reimbursed for their time lost, they will get paid. I want the DOD today to put those civilian DOD employees back to work as it's clearly in the law.

Now, there is historical precedent for this, all of the way back to Ronald Reagan and Tip O'Neill and their six closedowns when employees were paid and reimbursed for their time off, and so it should be for this effort. This is bipartisan. The President has said he will sign this. I urge my colleagues to support this effort.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the ranking member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Maryland.

No one should be made to suffer for actions that are no fault of their own, so I'm very pleased that we're taking up this measure to ensure that dedicated Federal workers who are among the many innocent victims of this government shutdown will be held harmless in the long run. But this important measure simply highlights the sheer folly of keeping the Federal Government shut down for one additional minute. These are public servants who

are paid to do what they love to do—to serve the public. So for goodness sake, let them all get back to work for the public now.

This bill, Mr. Speaker, doesn't say let's just pay the Federal employees at FEMA. It doesn't say let's just pay the Federal employees at the national parks. It doesn't say let's just pay the Federal employees at the piecemeal, cherry-picking agencies that our Republican colleagues have brought to the floor. It says let's make sure we hold all Federal employees whole. Absolutely. And let's reopen the entire Federal Government and do it now. Mr. Speaker, let us have a vote on that very simple proposition.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I support this bill which will make sure that Federal workers who are furloughed because of the shutdown are paid; but I would also point out that the average salary of a Federal worker is \$78,500, and so what I don't understand is why my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, how they can decide which of the funding bills that we have passed during this shutdown are actually worthy of their support, because this week they said "no" to opening up our national memorials or opening up our national parks, like Yellowstone or the Grand Canyon, but they're saying "yes" to paying Federal workers. They said "no" to veterans benefits, but "yes" to paying Federal workers; "no" to women and babies on food assistance; "no" to children with cancer treatments, but "yes" to paying Federal workers; "no" to the National Guard and Reserve, but "yes" to other Federal workers.

Clearly it is time for both sides, Mr. Speaker, to sit down in a conference to negotiate a compromise in a bipartisan manner and to end this shutdown.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I would say that we on this side of the aisle say "yes" to opening the entire government.

And with that, I yield 45 seconds to the distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER).

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill. For the last few years, Federal workers have borne the brunt of Congress' failure to deal with its long-term budget issues: going 3 years without a cost-of-living adjustment; facing furloughs from sequestration; and, now, the uncertainty of further reductions in pay because of the shutdown. Enough is enough.

This shutdown is having a big impact not just on DOD workers and park workers and VA workers and others facing furloughs, but on our entire community, folks who won't be able to replace a car or make a home payment or go buy a new TV. That affects our economy. That's why I support this bill, and it's also why I am introducing legislation to provide backpay to workers to compensate them for sequestration-related furloughs as well.

We need to end this partisan bickering, end the gridlock, end the shutdown, and get Congress and government back to work.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. COFFMAN).

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3223, the Federal Employees Retroactive Pay Fairness Act.

This is an issue of fairness. Five days ago, the President signed my legislation, the Pay Our Military Act. However, hours later, the DOD comptroller sent an email to all DOD civilian employees who were included in the act, which is now law, that there would be furloughs starting immediately despite acknowledgment of the new law.

Last night, media sources reported that the Secretary of Defense had a change of heart—no doubt due to the multitude of letters he had received from me and my colleagues on this subject—and decided to bring these furloughed employees back to work.

Mr. Speaker, it would be a shame if the thousands of DOD civilian employees who were needlessly furloughed were not paid for time they could have spent working had the Secretary given the same level of priority to this issue that he did to college football.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 45 seconds to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN).

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill which is important to all the Federal employees in New Mexico. This bill ensures that furloughed employees will be made whole. It is also important for contract employees who work at our national labs. It is clear that Congress intends to insulate those workers who provide vital services to our Nation from the effects of the shutdown.

In the past, DOE has sought to treat lab employees the same as Federal employees. This legislation sets the precedent for how those employees will be treated. We are sending the message that DOE should certify backpay for lab employees as an allowable cost so they will be made whole if they are furloughed. I submit into the RECORD my letter to Secretary Moniz expressing congressional intent to insulate those workers who provide vital services to our Nation from the effects of a shutdown, which includes contract employees at our national labs.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 5, 2013.

DR. ERNEST MONIZ,
Secretary of Energy, Washington, DC.

SECRETARY MONIZ: I write today to call your attention to the many New Mexicans who work at Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories who have been adversely affected by the continuing budget impasse in Congress and the resulting shutdown. As you know, these labs are essential to our nation's national security as well as its scientific and research capabilities. Their workforce is comprised of many of the smartest scientists, engineers, and researchers in our country, all of whom have devoted their careers to serving and protecting our nation.

This government shutdown risks betraying these men and women who have made personal sacrifices for our collective security and technological advancement. While lab employees work for the contractors who manage the labs, they are subject to much of the same uncertainty as their colleagues in the federal workforce. While neither of the New Mexico NNSA laboratories have yet announced a need to furlough their workforce, a number of my constituents have written to my office or contacted me directly to share the stress of potentially being furloughed from the labs and missing out on a needed paycheck.

Today, the House of Representatives will pass H.R. 3223, the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act, which would compensate all federal employees who would not otherwise receive their full salaries due to the shutdown. President Obama has declared that he supports the legislation and his office writes,

"Federal workers keep the Nation safe and secure and provide vital services that support the economic security of American families. The Administration appreciates that the Congress is acting promptly to move this bipartisan legislation and looks forward to the bill's swift passage."

The overwhelming bipartisan support for this legislation demonstrates the clear Congressional desire that the federal workforce should not be adversely impacted by the shutdown nor should they shoulder the burden of its resulting uncertainty. While the employees of New Mexico's national laboratories are not included within the bill's specific terms, Congress clearly intends that those workers who provide such vital services for our nation should be insulated from the effects of a protracted shutdown.

It is my understanding that the Department of Energy can certify to the labs that it is an "allowable cost" for them to use their appropriated dollars to compensate their employees for back pay due to any furloughs caused by a shutdown. Due to the tremendous economic uncertainty currently faced by the laboratories' workforce, I urge you to certify as soon as possible that back pay will be allowable upon the restoration of government functions. The employees of our nation's national laboratories deserve to know that they will be fully compensated for their service to our nation.

Sincerely,

BEN RAY LUJÁN,
Member of Congress.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS).

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to see that once again this Chamber is moving forward with yet another bill to fund our government. Today, we're ensuring that all Federal employees are paid so their families are not harmed during this time. I know how these families feel because I was a Federal employee for 16 years. I am also proud to represent Scott Air Force Base in the metro east area of Illinois. Whether they are Active Duty, civilian, Reserve, Guard, or retired, we must take care of our military. The House has already acted to ensure that these men and women are paid; but, unfortunately, this administration has chosen needlessly to furlough workers.

Today, I stand with these hard-working men and women, and I also stand against this administration that

always seems to find a way to make situations like this as painful as possible. We have been told to make things difficult for people as much as we can, said a park ranger this week to reporters.

I had a similar experience a few months ago with an airport in my district that was at risk of losing their control tower, even though we told the administration how they could shift the money around. To solve this problem, Mr. Speaker, we had to stand on this floor and pass a bill, and now that tower remains open. Congress had to pass a bill and has to pass a bill now to stop this behavior, and I am offended by the punitive behavior of this White House then and today.

Mr. Speaker, I stand with all military personnel.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 45 seconds to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA), chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bipartisan bill, H.R. 3223, the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act. Today is the fifth day of the government shutdown; 87 percent of Americans expressed in a political poll unhappiness with the direction of Washington with this shutdown. Federal employees are dedicated public servants who are just trying to do their jobs, support their families, and contribute to the economy. They did not ask to be furloughed, and they had no time to plan financially for this crisis brought on by the stubbornness of the Republican Party. It seems to me that by supporting this bill, we are not trying to give them a paid vacation. If my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would bring a clean CR to the floor, they could all be back to work on Monday. These families are victims of the dysfunction of this Congress.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FARENTHOLD).

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill to guarantee our Federal workers are paid. They shouldn't be the innocent pawns in the middle of a debate caused by us unable to work with the Senate. We are ready to talk. We are ready, willing, and able to talk; but we need to ratchet down the rhetoric a little bit, make sure our employees get paid, make sure they get taken care of, and make sure that the men and women who work in places in my district, the district I represent—like the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, like Padre Island National Seashore, like the Aransas Wildlife Refuge—are secure and safe. We need to get this done.

The Republicans are trying to lessen the impact of this, passing bill after bill. We have passed something to fund the entire government, including most of ObamaCare with the exception of the individual mandate. We are ready, willing, and able to negotiate, and I call on the Senate to come over and talk to us so we can get this done.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I remind the gentleman we could get it done today. We want to open up the entire government today.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield 45 seconds to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS).

(Ms. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague. I rise in support of H.R. 3223, and I speak in support of Tracy in Laurel who lives in my district who works at HHS. She helps her mom out every month with her Federal salary; and Christopher and his wife, both of whom work at the Department of Homeland Security, live in Millersville, and they are both on furlough. And Dini, who is a single parent in Oxon Hill, she has already been furloughed this summer and suffers mightily.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think this is the right thing to do; but let's keep in mind that the longer we stay out, meeting the day-to-day needs of our Federal workforce is really tough. Some of these people will really struggle even if they are guaranteed retroactive pay. It's time for us to get the entire government back to work.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ROTHFUS).

□ 1030

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, this morning, I rise in strong support of the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act.

Federal workers from western Pennsylvania have reached out to my office. They are concerned about the impact of this shutdown on their families' budgets. These workers serve their fellow citizens. We recognize and thank them for that service.

This bill will retroactively pay Federal employees furloughed during the government shutdown. Federal workers in western Pennsylvania and around the Nation should not be punished for the Senate's refusal to come to the table and negotiate an end to the shutdown.

I urge my Republican and Democrat colleagues to pass this bill.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time we have remaining on both sides?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Maryland has 1 minute remaining; the gentleman from Ohio has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Thank you, Mr. CUMMINGS, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I was walking on the floor moments ago, and my colleague on the other side said that this failure to pass a CR was punitive behavior of this White House. I cannot allow that to go unanswered. The fact is that there are 260 votes right now in this Chamber to pass a clean CR today.

Mr. TURNER. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to whether the gentleman has additional speakers?

Mr. TURNER. We do not.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, it is critical that the House pass H.R. 3223 to ensure that our dedicated Federal employees are made whole and receive backpay once this shutdown comes to an end.

Federal employees have been the subject of relentless attacks on their pay and benefits over the last 3 years. This bill is the least we should do. Our hard-working public servants should not become collateral damage in the political games and ideological wars that the Republicans are waging. I would hope that we would have a unanimous vote, because there are so many people that are living from paycheck to paycheck, and they need our vote.

I would suggest that we open up the entire government so that all of our employees can get back to work, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the other side of the aisle would have us believe that this shutdown is somehow a Republican-engineered shutdown. They would have you believe that the government only shuts down with Republican leadership, and we know that that's not the case.

The government shuts down when there's a failure of the democratic process to work and parties to negotiate in good faith and the deliberative process of democracy to move forward. The President has absolutely shut that down with his refusal to negotiate.

We had a government shutdown when Mr. Reagan was in the White House. Under President Reagan, the Democrat-controlled Congress shut the government down a total of eight times, for 14 days. So a Democrat-controlled Congress actually shut the government down under Reagan for longer than it has been shut down now. Again, under Mr. Clinton, the House also shut the government down.

In each of those instances, there was something different than what's now—and that is that there were negotiations going on. President Reagan was negotiating with the House and Senate. President Clinton was negotiating with the House and Senate. But this President said absolutely no negotiations.

This President will negotiate with Syria. He'll negotiate with Iran. He'll even have secret negotiations with Russia and secret deals. But he will not negotiate with the legislature.

Now, what won't he negotiate over?

He won't negotiate over the debt limit. He wants to take the country from \$17 trillion to \$19 trillion in debt. No negotiations.

He won't negotiate on his sequestration. In my community, there were 12,000 people that were furloughed. The President will not negotiate on his sequester.

The President will not negotiate on funding the government. We have sent countless bills over to the Senate that would reopen the national parks, that would fund the veterans, that would allow Washington, D.C., to spend its own funds, and HARRY REID heartlessly has said in response to these bills that would provide needed services, Why would we do that?

But we know that the President is playing politics because this House and the Senate passed the Pay Our Military Act. It was signed by the President of the United States. I have sent letters to Secretary Hagel and to the President questioning why he would have furloughed 400,000 DOD workers when he had signed the Pay Our Military Act, and 8,700 workers in my community were furloughed.

How do we know they were playing politics by letting the Department of Defense employees go even though the President had full authority to fund them? Because he's going to be calling them back. He's calling them back without any other passage of any other law or any other law that he signs. So clearly, the President is admitting that he's been playing politics with these furloughs—and it needs to stop.

It also needs to stop so our Federal workers do not have to worry about their pay, they do not have to worry about the impacts on their personal lives. They have child care expenses, house payments to make, kids that are in college. And while the President refuses to negotiate, while he's playing politics, they shouldn't worry about whether or not they can make ends meet.

I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 3223 that would restore the pay to Federal workers and ensure that they have the security that they need.

I yield back the balance of my time.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 1, 2013.

Hon. CHUCK HAGEL,
Secretary of Defense,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: On September 30, 2013, Congress passed and the President signed into law the Pay Our Military Act to reverse the devastating impacts of a government shutdown on civilian employees. Under the law, you are authorized to “provide pay and allowances to the civilian personnel of the Department of Defense (and the Department of Homeland Security in the case of the Coast Guard) whom the Secretary concerned determines are providing support to members of the Armed Forces.” This certainly applies to the civilian men and woman at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base who work diligently in support of the Armed Forces. The law is clear and provides the department as well as the United States Coast Guard with the authority to immediately call its civilian employees back to work.

I am deeply concerned with the impacts to the Department of Defense caused by a government shutdown. The current situation poses a great risk to military readiness and undermines the department's ability to carry out its mission. While our uniformed men and women may be exempt from furlough, I remain deeply concerned with the

status of our civilian employees caused by the current shutdown of the federal government. Just like our uniformed service men and women, these civilians play an integral role in ensuring the safety and security of our nation. At Wright-Patterson Air Force Base alone, over 9,000 civilian employees have been furloughed and therefore prohibited from coming to work.

I await an immediate update on the department's implementation of the law and will continue to work with you as we put the government back to work and mitigate the impacts of a government shutdown.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL R. TURNER,
Member of Congress.

President BARACK OBAMA,
President of the United States of America, The
White House, Pennsylvania Avenue, Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I am deeply disturbed to learn that your Administration has decided not to immediately put the Department of Defense's civilian personnel back to work despite having the legal authority to do so.

On September 30, 2013, Congress passed and you signed into law the Pay Our Military Act to reverse the devastating impacts of a government shutdown on Department of Defense civilian employees. Under the law that you yourself signed, you are authorized to “provide pay and allowances to the civilian personnel of the Department of Defense (and the Department of Homeland Security in the case of the Coast Guard) whom the Secretary concerned determines are providing support to members of the Armed Forces.” Failure to fully implement this law not only goes against the will of Congress but puts at risk the safety and security of the United States.

As Commander and Chief, I urge you to restore the department's civilian workforce in its entirety to include the 9,000 furloughed civilian employees currently serving at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in my district. The hardworking civilians at Wright-Patterson are a critical national security asset and certainly “provide support to members of the Armed Forces.” Using our defense civilian employees as political bargaining chips is unacceptable and is in direct violation of the United States Constitution.

I urge you to comply with existing law and await an immediate update on the planned implementation of the Pay Our Military Act.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL R. TURNER,
Member of Congress.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, we are in day five of the Republican shutdown, without an end in sight. Let's be clear that this is a manufactured crisis designed to promote ideology at the expense of needs of our constituents, the American people.

Today, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3223, the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act. I am an original cosponsor of this vital piece of legislation to ensure furloughed federal employees receive back pay for the duration of the government shutdown, regardless of their work status. I would like to thank my Virginia colleagues, Representatives MORAN and WOLF, for their leadership on this issue and I am proud to be a part of the bipartisan Washington-area delegation that drafted and introduced this bill that will provide some certainty to federal workers and their families.

Roughly 800,000 federal workers across the country, who work hard to make our nation a safer and better place to live, will lose their pay because they have been furloughed as a result of the government shutdown unless

Congress and the President enact legislation to ensure their pay. Under this legislation, federal workers would get retroactive pay, regardless of their furlough status, once the government is funded.

Federal workers should not be held responsible for Congress' inability to pass a budget. Yet, it is the American people, including millions of federal workers, and the U.S. economy who will pay the price.

They are workers like Tracey out in Laurel, Maryland, who has contacted my office. She works at the Department of Health and Human Services and besides meeting her own obligations, she helps her mother pay bills each month. When she called my office, she was crying, she was in tears, because she wants this shutdown to stop so that she can get back to work and to pay her bills.

As Tracey knows all too well, government employees have already shouldered a great deal of the burden of past deficit reduction measures and have lived through the pain of sequestration. Civilian federal employees already have been subjected to a three-year pay freeze, and automatic, across-the-board budget cuts resulted in furloughs for thousands of workers this summer.

They are workers like Dini who lives in Oxon Hill—and I too live in Oxon Hill. She is a single parent who was already furloughed earlier this summer, and now she isn't sure how she is going to pay the bills or take care of her child. In fact, some of these federal workers still have to pay childcare to keep the spot in daycare, even though they are not being paid, they are not working, and may not even have their child at the daycare facility.

Then there are workers like Christopher from Millersville: He and his wife are both employed at the Department of Homeland Security in support of the security of this nation. They were both furloughed earlier this summer, and they find themselves furloughed once again.

That is why this legislation is so critical to ensure our federal workers receive the back-pay they deserve. The time is long over-due to provide certainty to our dedicated public servants, who we rely on for public safety, research, and national security. Today's proposal shields family pocketbooks and reaffirms our commitment to our federal workforce—providing these employees with retroactive compensation, as we have historically done in past shutdowns.

Federal workers who stay on the job during a shutdown are paid but not until the government is back up and running. Authorizing back pay is an important step for furloughed federal workers. So with passage of this legislation, all federal employees will be paid and treated the same. However, to be clear this doesn't solve all of their problems. Their paychecks will be delayed depending on how long the shutdown lasts. So, they may not be able to meet their bills on time if the government remains shutdown and they don't receive their paychecks.

This legislation by itself won't address the funding lapse or its consequences. We still must end the shutdown and open the government so federal workers can get back to work and receive that back pay in a timely manner.

I urge the House Republican Leadership to immediately bring up the Senate-passed clean funding compromise, which could go directly to the President and open up the entire government for all of the American people today.

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to attend today's session of Congress, as I was unavoidably detained in my district. Had I been present, I would have strongly supported passage of H.R. 3223, the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act.

Federal employees are currently caught in the crossfire, collateral damage in the Republican Party's war against the Affordable Care Act. The Republican Party's refusal to fund our government has resulted in a shutdown that is threatening our economic recovery and severely impacting crucial federal services. It needs to end immediately. This shutdown has caused 800,000 federal employees to be furloughed, with no end in sight. This is personally impacting these dedicated federal employees and their families, who are not receiving a pay check, while many Members of Congress continue to take theirs. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that these furloughed workers will receive back pay when this crisis is resolved.

These employees should not be punished because of Congress's failures. I support this legislation because it will ensure that as soon as the Republican Party comes to its senses and allows an up or down vote on a clean Continuing Resolution, our government will reopen and these employees will receive their just compensation.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3223, the "Federal Employees Retroactive Pay Fairness Act," which provides for retroactive pay for nearly 800,000 federal workers who have been furloughed as a result of the government shutdown engineered by the Tea Party faction of House Republicans.

I am pleased to co-sponsor and support this bill because it is the right thing to do. The men and women who have been furloughed because of this manufactured crisis are not responsible for the budget impasse.

They did not vote to reject the clean continuing resolution passed by the Senate that would have resolved the crisis and made this legislation necessary.

The dedicated men and women of the federal civilian workforce, like those who serve in the Armed Forces, have not spent their professional lives trying to defund the Affordable Care Act or threatening to refuse to raise the debt limit and risking the full faith and credit of the United States.

Instead, these loyal and committed public servants are motivated by their paramount interest in serving the American public without fear or favor and, for the last four days, without any guarantee that they would be compensated for their labor.

And yet, they gladly and willingly serve, some risking their lives to keep us safe. Others stand watch monitoring weather systems and providing information necessary to protect the public from hurricanes and tornadoes and wildfires or conduct research to find cures for disease or that will lead to technological innovations or help us mark and measure the far reaches of space.

Others work to secure the borders and homeland, ensure the safety of our food and water, serve our seniors and children, provide training and support for those looking for work, and protecting our environment and keeping watch over our treasures—our national parks and monuments, including this magnificent Capitol where the people have sent us to do their business.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women of the federal workforce do the people's business. They serve everyone equally. They do not single out some persons to serve and ignore others. They do not cherry-pick.

We should follow their example. And the best way to do that is to call up and put to a vote the clean continuing resolution passed by the Senate last week.

That is the best way to keep faith with all persons who serve the American people as employees of the Federal Government, and those who depend upon the services they provide.

Mr. Speaker, holding harmless the federal employees who have been furloughed by this unnecessary government shutdown is a matter of simple justice.

I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 3223.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we enter the fifth day of the Republican government shutdown, thousands of federal employees and their families must continue to face the uncertainty of how soon they will be able to return to work. The longer that this shutdown continues, the harder it will be for the more than 800,000 workers on furlough to budget and plan for the future.

That is why, in a gesture of basic equality, I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 3223, the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act. This common sense legislation would provide retroactive compensation to federal employees who have been furloughed due to the House Republican leadership's refusal to pass a clean budget. Hundreds of thousands of federal workers, many of whom belong to the middle class, are still recovering from a three-year pay freeze. Placing the additional burden of unpaid leave of absence on these families is both unnecessary and unjust.

The consequences of the Republican government shutdown extend far beyond federal workers and their paychecks. Federal research activity is already grinding to halt, impacting our longterm competitiveness and capacity to innovate. Consumer protections through the Federal Aviation Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services, and others have ceased. Further, the U.S. economy is losing millions of dollars in lost economic output each day that the federal government remains closed.

Mr. Speaker, House Republicans have been determined to cause a government shutdown in order to advance an extreme political agenda. Now, the American people and the U.S. economy are stuck with the consequences. Retroactively paying these federal employees will help mitigate the negative effects of this unexpected furlough. We owe it to the American people to practice good governance and Republicans in Congress have failed at this most basic responsibility.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 371, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

Mr. CUMMINGS. 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 the question of passage of the bill will be followed by a 5-minute vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to House Concurrent Resolution 58.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 0, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 525]

YEAS—407

Aderholt	Cuellar	Hastings (FL)
Amash	Culberson	Hastings (WA)
Amodei	Cummings	Heck (NV)
Andrews	Daines	Heck (WA)
Bachmann	Davis (CA)	Hensarling
Bachus	Davis, Danny	Himes
Barber	Davis, Rodney	Hinojosa
Barletta	DeFazio	Holding
Barr	Delaney	Holt
Barrow (GA)	DeLauro	Honda
Barton	DelBene	Horsford
Beatty	Denham	Hoyer
Becerra	Dent	Hudson
Benishek	DeSantis	Huelskamp
Bentivolio	DesJarlais	Huffman
Bera (CA)	Deutch	Huizenga (MI)
Bilirakis	Diaz-Balart	Hultgren
Bishop (GA)	Dingell	Hunter
Bishop (NY)	Doggett	Hurt
Bishop (UT)	Doyle	Israel
Black	Duckworth	Issa
Blackburn	Duffy	Jackson Lee
Blumenauer	Duncan (SC)	Jeffries
Bonamici	Edwards	Jenkins
Boustany	Ellison	Johnson (GA)
Brady (PA)	Ellmers	Johnson (OH)
Brady (TX)	Engel	Johnson, E. B.
Bralley (IA)	Enyart	Jordan
Bridenstine	Eshoo	Joyce
Brooks (AL)	Esty	Kaptur
Brooks (IN)	Farenthold	Keating
Broun (GA)	Farr	Kelly (IL)
Brown (FL)	Fattah	Kelly (PA)
Brownley (CA)	Fincher	Kennedy
Buchanan	Fitzpatrick	Kildee
Bucshon	Fleischmann	Kilmer
Burgess	Fleming	Kind
Bustos	Flores	King (IA)
Butterfield	Forbes	King (NY)
Calvert	Fortenberry	Kingston
Camp	Foster	Kinzinger (IL)
Campbell	Fox	Kirkpatrick
Cantor	Frankel (FL)	Kline
Capito	Franks (AZ)	Kuster
Capps	Frelinghuysen	LaMalfa
Capuano	Fudge	Lamborn
Carney	Gabbard	Lance
Carson (IN)	Gallego	Langevin
Carter	Garamendi	Lankford
Cartwright	Garcia	Larsen (WA)
Cassidy	Gardner	Larson (CT)
Castor (FL)	Garrett	Latham
Castro (TX)	Gerlach	Latta
Chabot	Gibbs	Lee (CA)
Chaffetz	Gibson	Levin
Chu	Gingrey (GA)	Lewis
Cicilline	Gohmert	Lipinski
Clarke	Goodlatte	LoBiondo
Clay	Gosar	Loehsack
Cleaver	Gowdy	Lofgren
Clyburn	Granger	Long
Coble	Graves (GA)	Lowenthal
Coffman	Graves (MO)	Lowe
Cohen	Grayson	Lucas
Cole	Green, Al	Luetkemeyer
Collins (GA)	Green, Gene	Lujan Grisham
Collins (NY)	Griffin (AR)	(NM)
Conaway	Griffith (VA)	Lujan, Ben Ray
Connolly	Grijalva	(NM)
Conyers	Grimm	Lynch
Cook	Guthrie	Maffei
Cooper	Gutiérrez	Maloney,
Costa	Hahn	Carolyn
Cotton	Hall	Maloney, Sean
Courtney	Hanabusa	Marchant
Cramer	Hanna	Marino
Crawford	Harper	Massie
Crenshaw	Harris	Matheson
Crowley	Hartzler	Matsui

McCarthy (CA) Polis
 McCaul Pompeo
 McClintock Posey
 McCollum Price (GA)
 McDermott Price (NC)
 McGovern Quigley
 McHenry Radel
 McIntyre Rahall
 McKeon Reed
 McKinley Reichert
 McMorris Ribble
 Rodgers Rice (SC)
 McNerney Richmond
 Meadows Rigell
 Meehan Roby
 Meeks Roe (TN)
 Meng Rogers (KY)
 Messer Rogers (MI)
 Mica Rohrabacher
 Michaud Rokita
 Miller (FL) Rooney
 Miller (MI) Ros-Lehtinen
 Miller, George Roskam
 Moore Ross
 Moran Rothfus
 Mullin Roybal-Allard
 Mulvaney Royce
 Murphy (FL) Ruiz
 Murphy (PA) Runyan
 Nadler Ruppertsberger
 Napolitano Ryan (OH)
 Neal Ryan (WI)
 Negrete McLeod Salmon
 Neugebauer Sanchez, Linda
 Noem T.
 Nolan Sanford
 Nugent Sarbanes
 Nunes Scalise
 Nunnelee Schakowsky
 O'Rourke Schiff
 Olson Schneider
 Owens Schrader
 Palazzo Schwartz
 Pallone Schweikert
 Pastor (AZ) Scott (VA)
 Paulsen Scott, Austin
 Payne Scott, David
 Pearce Sensenbrenner
 Pelosi Serrano
 Perlmutter Sessions
 Perry Sewell (AL)
 Peters (CA) Shea-Porter
 Peters (MI) Sherman
 Peterson Shimkus
 Petri Stuster
 Pingree (ME) Simpson
 Pitts Sinema
 Pocan Sires
 Poe (TX) Slaughter

NOT VOTING—24

Bass Labrador
 Cárdenas Lummis
 DeGette McCarthy (NY)
 Duncan (TN) Miller, Gary
 Herrera Beutler Pascrell
 Higgins Pittenger
 Johnson, Sam Rangel
 Jones Renacci

□ 1057

Ms. SLAUGHTER and Mr. GINGREY of Georgia changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the bill was passed. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING NEED FOR CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 58) expressing the sense of Congress regarding the need for the continued availability of religious services to members of the Armed Forces and their families during a lapse in appro-

priations, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 400, nays 1, not voting 30, as follows:

[Roll No. 526]

YEAS—400

Aderholt Cuellar Heck (NV)
 Amash Culberson Heck (WA)
 Amodei Cummings Hensarling
 Andrews Daines Himes
 Bachmann Davis (CA) Hinojosa
 Bachus Davis, Danny Holding
 Barber Van Hollen Davis, Rodney Holt
 Barletta DeFazio Honda
 Barr Delaney Horsford
 Barrow (GA) Hoyer
 Barton DelBene Hudson
 Beatty Denham Huelskamp
 Becerra Dent Huffman
 Benishek DeSantis Huizenga (MI)
 Bentivolio DesJarlais Hultgren
 Bera (CA) Deutch Hunter
 Bilirakis Diaz-Balart Hurt
 Bishop (GA) Dingell Israel
 Bishop (NY) Doggett Issa
 Bishop (UT) Doyle Jackson Lee
 Black Duckworth Jeffries
 Blackburn Duffy Jenkins
 Blumenauer Duncan (SC) Johnson (GA)
 Bonamici Edwards Johnson (OH)
 Boustany Ellison Johnson, E. B.
 Brady (PA) Ellmers Jordan
 Brady (TX) Engel Joyce
 Braley (IA) Eshoo Kaptur
 Bridenstine Esty Keating
 Brooks (AL) Farenthold Kelly (IL)
 Brooks (IN) Farr Kelly (PA)
 Broun (GA) Fattah Kennedy
 Brown (FL) Fincher Kildee
 Brownley (CA) Fitzpatrick Kilmer
 Buchanan Fleischmann Kind
 Bucshon Fleming King (IA)
 Burgess Flores King (NY)
 Bustos Forbes Kingston
 Butterfield Portenberry Kinzinger (IL)
 Calvert Foster Kirkpatrick
 Camp Foxx Kline
 Campbell Frankel (FL) Kuster
 Cantor Franks (AZ) LaMalfa
 Capito Frelinghuysen Lamborn
 Capps Fudge Lance
 Capuano Gabbard Langevin
 Carney Gallego Lankford
 Carson (IN) Garamendi Larsen (WA)
 Carter Garcia Larson (CT)
 Cartwright Gardner Latham
 Cassidy Garrett Latta
 Castor (FL) Gerlach Lee (CA)
 Castro (TX) Gibbs Levin
 Chabot Gibson Lewis
 Chaffetz Gingrey (GA) Lipinski
 Chu Gohmert LoBiondo
 Cicilline Goodlatte Loebsock
 Clarke Gosar Lofgren
 Clay Gowdy Long
 Cleaver Granger Lowenthal
 Clyburn Graves (GA) Lowey
 Coble Graves (MO) Lucas
 Coffman Grayson Luetkemeyer
 Cohen Green, Al Lujan Grisham
 Cole Green, Gene (NM)
 Collins (GA) Griffith (AR) Luján, Ben Ray
 Collins (NY) Griffith (VA) (NM)
 Conaway Grijalva Lynch
 Connolly Grimm Maffei
 Conyers Guthrie Maloney,
 Cook Gutiérrez Carolyn
 Cooper Hall Maloney, Sean
 Costa Hanabusa Marchant
 Cotton Hanna Marino
 Courtney Harper Massie
 Cramer Harris Matheson
 Crawford Hartzler Matsui
 Crenshaw Hastings (FL) McCarthy (CA)
 Crowley Hastings (WA) McCaul

McClintock Posey Smith (MO)
 McCollum Price (GA) Smith (NE)
 McDermott Price (NC) Smith (NJ)
 McGovern Quigley Smith (WA)
 McHenry Radel Southerland
 McIntyre Rahall Speier
 McKeon Reed Stewart
 McKinley Reichert Stivers
 McMorris Ribble Stockman
 Rodgers Rice (SC) Stutzman
 McNerney Richmond Swalwell (CA)
 Meadows Rigell Takano
 Meehan Roby Terry
 Meeks Roe (TN) Thompson (CA)
 Meng Rogers (AL) Thompson (PA)
 Messer Rogers (KY) Thornberry
 Mica Rogers (MI) Tiberi
 Michaud Rokita Tierney
 Miller (FL) Rooney Ros-Lehtinen
 Miller (MI) Ros Titus
 Miller, George Ross Tonko
 Moore Rothfus Tsongas
 Moran Roybal-Allard Turner
 Mullin Upton
 Mulvaney Royce Valadao
 Murphy (FL) Ruiz Van Hollen
 Murphy (PA) Runyan Ruppertsberger Veasey
 Nadler Ryan (OH) Ryan (WI) Vela
 Napolitano Ryan (WI) Velázquez
 Neal Salmon Vislosky
 Negrete McLeod Sanchez, Linda Wagner
 Neugebauer T. Walberg
 Noem Sanford Walden
 Nolan Sarbanes Walorski
 Nugent Scalise Wasserman
 Nunes Schakowsky Schultz
 Nunnelee Schiff Waters
 O'Rourke Olson Watt
 Olson Schradler Schock
 Owens Schrader Schrader
 Palazzo Schwartz Schwartz
 Pallone Schweikert Scott (VA)
 Pastor (AZ) Scott, Austin
 Paulsen Scott, David
 Payne Sensenbrenner Serrano
 Pearce Sessions
 Pelosi Sewell (AL)
 Perlmutter Peters (CA) Peters (MI) Shea-Porter
 Perry Petri Sherman
 Peters (CA) Shimkus
 Peters (MI) Pitts Shuster
 Peterson Simpson
 Petri Sinema
 Pingree (ME) Sires Sinema
 Pitts Slaughter
 Pocan Sires
 Poe (TX) Slaughter

NAYS—1

Enyart

NOT VOTING—30

Bass Lummis Roskam
 Cárdenas McCarthy (NY) Rush
 DeGette Miller, Gary Sanchez, Loretta
 Duncan (TN) Pascrell Smith (TX)
 Hahn Perry Thompson (MS)
 Herrera Beutler Peterson Tipton
 Higgins Pittenger Vargas
 Johnson, Sam Rangel Walz
 Jones Renacci Yarmuth
 Labrador Rohrabacher Young (FL)

□ 1113

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3095. An act to ensure that any new or revised requirement providing for the screening, testing, or treatment of individuals operating commercial motor vehicles for sleep disorders is adopted pursuant to a rule-making proceeding, and for other purposes.