

DECriminalIZING MARIJUANA LAWS

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, 18 States and the District of Columbia have rapidly decriminalized marijuana laws, making them subject only to fines. They did so for various reasons. None of those reasons were more solid or important than the Council's decision to decriminalize D.C.'s marijuana laws.

African Americans in the District of Columbia and Whites use marijuana at the same rate, but Blacks have an arrest record for possession eight times that of Whites. That's discrimination.

It is the same thing when Chairman JOHN MICA of the Government Operations Subcommittee of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee decides to hold a hearing on D.C.'s marijuana decriminalization law but on no others. Two prior hearings have looked at marijuana decriminalization. None has called local public officials.

Be on notice. The District of Columbia insists that it not be treated any differently from the 18 States that have decriminalized marijuana and the States who have legalized it.

VETERANS FAIR ECONOMIC TOWN HALL

(Mr. WALBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, last week, I had the pleasure of holding a veterans fair economic town hall and several general town halls across my district. Throughout the conversations I had with my constituents, I heard a growing concern about the increasing government intrusiveness, whether it is in the doctor's office, the classroom, or the economy.

House Republicans understand that our constituents want government to work efficiently. We have offered real solutions that will grow good-paying jobs and expand opportunity for all.

In fact, we have already passed over 200 bills that will start helping people today but unfortunately are still collecting dust on Senator HARRY REID's desk. This includes bills that would lower health care costs and return choice back to patients, as well as expand domestic energy production to both create jobs and lower costs for consumers.

It is time, Madam Speaker, for the Senate to join us in advancing real solutions. It is time to make life work better for all Americans.

HONORING HAROLD CORBIN

(Mr. MEADOWS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MEADOWS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Harold Corbin

and thank him for his service to the 11th Congressional District. This last Saturday marked 50 years of continued service to this great district. It was the first district meeting that he had missed.

Mr. Corbin is a lifelong resident of Franklin, North Carolina, which is a testament to his commitment to our community; and from 1980 to 1989, Mr. Corbin served as the Republican chairman of the 11th Congressional District. As chairman, Mr. Corbin made important contributions that have had a lasting impact on western North Carolina.

In 1981, his activism led to the election of the former Representative Bill Hendon, who was the first Republican Congressman to represent the 11th District in over 100 years.

From 1982 to 2002, Mr. Corbin served as the chairman of the Macon County Board of Commissioners. His leadership and inspiration to his son led his son to get involved in politics. He now holds that same position. It is both of them that have set a tremendous example for our Nation.

I will close with this. All of us in Washington can learn a lesson from Mr. Corbin, who has long said that, once elected, Representatives serving constituents ought to leave their politics at the door and truly serve the citizens.

TVA'S WATTS BAR NUCLEAR FACILITY

(Mr. DESJARLAIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share my findings from last week's tour of TVA's Watts Bar Nuclear facility located in Tennessee's Fourth District in Rhea County.

The Watts Bar facility is constructing a second nuclear unit, which will be completed late next year. It will be the 21st century's first new reactor to go online, doubling the facility's capacity and then creating reliable energy for nearly 1.3 million homes and businesses.

This project has contributed significantly to the local economy by providing more than 3,300 high-paying jobs. TVA makes safety and security its top priority. During the construction of Unit 2, the workers have achieved a milestone of 22.8 million work-hours without a lost-time incident.

I would like to extend a special thanks to TVA's senior vice president of operations and construction, Mike Skaggs, and his team for making my visit so educational and productive.

Madam Speaker, it is imperative that we continue to support the safe, affordable, and reliable energy that nuclear provides in order to attract industry and create jobs.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on consideration of H.R. 4487, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MEADOWS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 557 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 4487.

The Chair appoints the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 0912

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 4487) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, with Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, thank you for the recognition, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 4487, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2015, provides \$3.3 billion for the operations of the legislative branch, excluding Senate items. The recommendation is the equivalent to the fiscal year 2014 level and a decrease of \$122.5 million, or 3.7 percent, from the requested level.

Conforming with the longstanding practice under which each body of Congress determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention, funds for the Senate are not included in the bill as reported by the committee.

Through seven hearings and meetings with agency heads, the committee listened to all who presented their respective concerns and budget requests. It was necessary to make some critical decisions and prioritize programs, and we did this in a bipartisan and transparent manner.

We are presenting to the House today a bill that is fiscally responsible and maintains current operations for the Legislative Branch agencies.

The bill includes \$1.2 billion for the operations of the House. This is equivalent to the fiscal year 2014 enacted

level and \$20 million below the request. It is worthy to note that the funding provided for Member's Representational Allowances and Committees provides for the current operations, and I do not anticipate further reductions in the coming year. The bill also includes the Members' pay freeze for fiscal year 2015.

□ 0915

With this bill, total funding for the House of Representatives is 14 percent below fiscal year 2010.

The bill includes \$348 million for the Capitol Police. This is \$9.5 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and \$77 million less than the requested level. This will support 1,775 sworn officers and 370 civilian positions. A slight increase above last year is provided to ensure the Capitol Police maintain current operations and ensure mission-essential training.

Knowing that access to the House office buildings is of critical concern to Members, we directed that the Chief of Police develop an action plan that will make sure public access to our buildings is easily accessible during heightened periods of visitation. The implementation of this plan is in the early stages, and we will continue to monitor the budgetary impacts to the Capitol Police.

The bill includes \$45.7 million for the Congressional Budget Office. This is at the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and \$378,000 below the requested level.

The bill includes \$488.6 million for the Architect of the Capitol, excluding Senate items. This is a decrease of \$40.5 million from the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and \$79 million below the requested level.

Within the recommended level, the committee continues its prioritization of projects that promote the safety and public health of workers and occupants, decrease the deferred maintenance backlog, and invest to achieve future energy savings.

The committee recognizes the continuing challenge of preserving and maintaining our infrastructure and prioritizing critical projects in the current budgetary environment. It is important to note that \$21 million is recommended for the final phase of dome restoration, a very high priority of this committee.

In addition, we are continuing the 5-year practice of including funds for the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund, a fund established by Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ when she was chair of this subcommittee in anticipation of the renovation of the historic Cannon House Office Building.

Might I say, it is one of the really tremendous contributions that my friend and colleague has made, and I hope it stays inside of our operating procedure for many years to come. It was a wise decision.

Also included is \$16 million for the lease cost of a portion of the Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Federal Office Building in preparation of the Cannon renewal project.

The bill includes \$595 million for the operations of the Library of Congress. This is an increase of \$16 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and \$1.9 million above the requested level. The amount will allow the Library to continue at current operations.

Established by Congress in 1800, the Library of Congress is one of the largest libraries in the world, with a collection of more than 130 million print, audio, and video items in 460 languages. It is imperative adequate funding is provided to maintain acquisitions, preservation, the administration of U.S. copyright laws by the U.S. Copyright Office for research and analysis of policy issues for the Congress by the Congressional Research Service, and the administration of a national program to provide reading material to the blind and physically handicapped.

The bill before you accomplishes all of that.

It is important to note \$5.5 million of the funding is provided for the Deacidification Program, which is \$1 million over the Library's request. And \$8.2 million is for the Teaching with Primary Sources Program, at \$1 million over the request, to be used for competitive opportunities for developing online interactive and apps for classroom use on Congress and civic participation.

It is \$1.2 million above the request for the Copyright Office to reduce the claims and processing time for copyright registrations and to conduct business analyses for the process engineering of the documentation recordation function.

The bill includes \$122.6 million for the Government Printing Office. This is an increase of \$3.3 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and \$6.3 million below the requested level. Funds have been included for continuation of development and infrastructure costs associated with the Federal digital system and the system replacement for upgrading the extensible markup language.

The bill includes \$519.6 million for the Government Accountability Office. This is an increase of \$14.2 million

above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and \$5.5 million below the requested level. Language is included to establish a Center for Audit Excellence to build global institutional auditing capacity and promote good governance. This center is to be operated on a fee-based basis.

Finally, the bill includes \$3.42 million for the Open World Leadership Trust Fund. This is \$2.58 million below the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and \$4.58 million below the requested level.

As a sign of support for Ukraine, the committee has reduced the program by 43 percent. This represents the program's percentage of participants from Russia. It is important to stress that Open World's program does not just focus on work with Russia. Ukraine has the next largest group of participants, closely followed by other nations in the surrounding region. Therefore, we encourage the center to do more in Ukraine and with other participating countries in the surrounding region.

I would like to thank my good friend, the ranking member, DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, for her role throughout the process. We have worked well together in a bipartisan manner. It has truly been a team effort.

Also, I extend my appreciation to all members of the subcommittee in their efforts in helping bring this measure to the floor. I also want to thank the truly excellent staff that has nursed me through this.

Let me just add, parenthetically, that we had a pretty unusual situation in that, because of some early retirements and the loss of our dear friend, Bill Young, we had a lot of reshuffling to do on our committee. On our side, that meant we only had one carryover member, and that was the vice chairman, Mr. HARRIS from Maryland, who was indispensable and extraordinarily helpful to the rest of us.

Again, without a capable staff and without, frankly, a wonderful working partner in my ranking member, we would have had a much more difficult time. Frankly, I don't think anybody in this institution knows this bill and this process better than Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. She has been my friend. I was once on her committee as a very junior member when she chaired it, and I learned a lot from her then. I learned a lot more from her this time.

I look forward to the debate, and with that, I reserve the balance of my time.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL 2015 (H.R. 4487)
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH					
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES					
Payment to Widows and Heirs of Deceased Members of Congress.....	174	---	---	-174	---
Salaries and Expenses					
House Leadership Offices					
Office of the Speaker.....	6,645	6,778	6,645	---	-133
Office of the Majority Floor Leader.....	2,180	2,224	2,180	---	-44
Office of the Minority Floor Leader.....	7,114	7,257	7,114	---	-143
Office of the Majority Whip.....	1,887	1,924	1,887	---	-37
Office of the Minority Whip.....	1,460	1,489	1,460	---	-29
Republican Conference.....	1,505	1,536	1,505	---	-31
Democratic Caucus.....	1,487	1,517	1,487	---	-30
Subtotal, House Leadership Offices.....	22,278	22,725	22,278	---	-447
Members' Representational Allowances Including Members' Clerk Hire, Official Expenses of Members, and Official Mail					
Expenses.....	554,318	565,404	554,318	---	-11,086
Committee Employees					
Standing Committees, Special and Select.....	123,903	126,335	123,903	---	-2,432
Committee on Appropriations (including studies and investigations).....	23,271	23,736	23,271	---	-465
Subtotal, Committee employees.....	147,174	150,071	147,174	---	-2,897
Salaries, Officers and Employees					
Office of the Clerk.....	24,009	24,639	24,009	---	-630
Office of the Sergeant at Arms.....	14,777	12,058	11,927	-2,850	-131
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.....	113,100	116,163	113,100	---	-3,063
Office of the Inspector General.....	4,742	4,742	4,742	---	---
Office of General Counsel.....	1,341	1,353	1,341	---	-12
Office of the Parliamentarian.....	1,952	1,971	1,952	---	-19
Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House.....	3,088	4,114	4,088	+1,000	-26
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House.....	8,353	8,893	8,893	+540	---
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs.....	814	814	814	---	---
Other authorized employees.....	479	479	479	---	---
Subtotal, Salaries, officers and employees.....	172,655	175,226	171,345	-1,310	-3,881
Allowances and Expenses					
Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims.....	3,503	4,153	4,153	+650	---
Official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House.....	190	190	190	---	---
Government contributions.....	258,081	258,081	256,636	-1,445	-1,445
Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery.....	16,217	16,217	16,217	---	---
Transition activities.....	1,631	3,737	3,737	+2,106	---
Wounded Warrior program.....	2,500	2,500	2,500	---	---
Office of Congressional Ethic.....	1,467	1,485	1,467	---	-18
Miscellaneous items.....	720	720	720	---	---
Subtotal, Allowances and expenses.....	284,309	287,083	285,620	+1,311	-1,463
Total, House of Representatives.....	1,180,908	1,200,509	1,180,735	-173	-19,774

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL 2015 (H.R. 4487)
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request

JOINT ITEMS					
Joint Economic Committee.....	4,203	4,270	4,203	---	-67
Joint Committee on Taxation.....	10,004	10,149	10,004	---	-145
Office of the Attending Physician					
Medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and allowances.....	3,400	3,371	3,371	-29	---
Office of Congressional Accessibility Services.....	1,387	1,405	1,387	---	-18
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Joint items.....	18,994	19,195	18,965	-29	-230
CAPITOL POLICE					
Salaries.....	279,000	291,403	286,500	+7,500	-4,903
General expenses.....	59,459	64,260	61,459	+2,000	-2,801
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Capitol Police.....	338,459	355,663	347,959	+9,500	-7,704
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,868	4,020	3,959	+91	-61
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses.....	45,700	46,078	45,700	---	-378
ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL					
General administration.....	90,277	96,433	91,555	+1,278	-4,878
Capitol building.....	61,376	57,545	53,126	-8,250	-4,419
Capitol grounds.....	13,860	14,366	11,993	-1,867	-2,373
House of Representatives buildings:					
House office buildings.....	71,622	108,934	71,622	---	-37,312
House Historic buildings revitalization fund.....	70,000	70,000	70,000	---	---
Capitol Power Plant.....	125,678	103,990	102,152	-23,526	-1,838
Offsetting collections.....	-9,000	-9,000	-9,000	---	---
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Subtotal, Capitol Power Plant.....	116,678	94,990	93,152	-23,526	-1,838
Library buildings and grounds.....	53,391	62,756	41,733	-11,658	-21,023
Capitol police buildings, grounds and security.....	19,348	25,605	19,486	+138	-6,119
Botanic garden.....	11,856	15,686	15,023	+3,167	-663
Capitol Visitor Center:					
CVC Operations.....	20,632	21,095	20,875	+243	-220
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Architect of the Capitol.....	529,040	567,410	488,565	-40,475	-78,845
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS					
Salaries and expenses.....	412,052	420,852	424,057	+12,005	+3,205
Authority to spend receipts.....	-6,350	-6,350	-6,350	---	---
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Subtotal, Salaries and expenses.....	405,702	414,502	417,707	+12,005	+3,205
Copyright Office, salaries and expenses.....	51,624	53,068	54,303	+2,679	+1,235
Authority to spend receipts.....	-33,444	-33,582	-33,582	-138	---
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Subtotal, Copyright Office.....	18,180	19,486	20,721	+2,541	+1,235
Congressional Research Service, Salaries and expenses.....	105,350	108,382	106,095	+745	-2,287
Books for the blind and physically handicapped Salaries and expenses.....	49,750	50,696	50,429	+679	-267
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Library of Congress.....	578,982	593,066	594,952	+15,970	+1,886

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL 2015 (H.R. 4487)
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE					
Congressional printing and binding.....	79,736	85,400	79,736	---	-5,664
Office of Superintendent of Documents, Salaries and expenses.....	31,500	32,171	31,500	---	-671
Government Printing Office Revolving Fund.....	8,064	11,348	11,348	+3,284	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Government Printing Office.....	119,300	128,919	122,584	+3,284	-6,335
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses.....	537,751	548,866	543,372	+5,621	-5,494
Offsetting collections.....	-32,368	-23,750	-23,750	+8,618	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Government Accountability Office.....	505,383	525,116	519,622	+14,239	-5,494
OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND					
Payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund.....	6,000	8,000	3,420	-2,580	-4,580
JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT					
Stennis Center for Public Service.....	430	430	430	---	---
GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Scorekeeping adjustment (CBO estimate).....	-1,000	---	-1,000	---	-1,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Grand total (Discretionary and Mandatory).....	3,326,064	3,448,406	3,325,891	-173	-122,515
Discretionary.....	(3,325,890)	(3,448,406)	(3,325,891)	(+1)	(-122,515)
Mandatory.....	(174)	---	---	(-174)	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
RECAPITULATION					
House of Representatives.....	1,180,908	1,200,509	1,180,735	-173	-19,774
Joint Items.....	18,994	19,195	18,965	-29	-230
Capitol Police.....	338,459	355,663	347,959	+9,500	-7,704
Office of Compliance.....	3,868	4,020	3,959	+91	-61
Congressional Budget Office.....	45,700	46,078	45,700	---	-378
Architect of the Capitol.....	529,040	567,410	488,565	-40,475	-78,845
Library of Congress.....	578,982	593,066	594,952	+15,970	+1,886
Government Printing Office.....	119,300	128,919	122,584	+3,284	-6,335
Government Accountability Office.....	505,383	525,116	519,622	+14,239	-5,494
Open World Leadership Center.....	6,000	8,000	3,420	-2,580	-4,580
Stennis Center for Public Service.....	430	430	430	---	---
Other appropriations.....	-1,000	---	-1,000	---	-1,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Grand total (Discretionary and Mandatory).....	3,326,064	3,448,406	3,325,891	-173	-122,515
Discretionary.....	(3,325,890)	(3,448,406)	(3,325,891)	(+1)	(-122,515)
Mandatory.....	(174)	---	---	(-174)	---

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, I want to thank Chairman ROGERS and my ranking member, NITA LOWEY, for the commitment that they made to regular order, which is why we have our second appropriations bill on the House floor by May 1. It is my hope that we can stay true to this commitment throughout the remainder of this year.

I also want to thank my friend, the gentleman from Oklahoma, TOM COLE, who I really couldn't say enough good things about what an incredible partner he has been. We really have—and I will say that several times throughout my remarks—worked cooperatively, collaboratively, and I think the finest compliment that I can pay another Member is that they are an institutionalist—someone who has incredible respect for those that came before us and the history and tradition and all that has led to us being the finest democratic institution in the entire world.

We are stewards of the Capitol complex in the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee, and the chairman really has most definitely recognized that and honored it.

The budget deal struck during the shutdown last year gave us 2 years of discretionary caps so that the Appropriations Committee can now get on with the business of funding important government programs.

There are many opinions about how these resources should be allocated amongst programs, but that is a legitimate debate, rather than the alternative, which we saw during the government shutdown last October.

For my part, I am pleased with and supportive of the bill that my good friend Chairman COLE has put forward today, done within the funding constraints that the Legislative Branch Subcommittee had to operate under. We worked collaboratively, and, as always, it was a pleasure to work with him.

The bill provides level funding, and, unfortunately, the constrained allocation has ensured that there is no increase for Member and committee offices. Personal office budgets have been cut by 16 percent since 2010, while committees have been cut by 14 percent over the same period. When considered through a long lens, those cuts are even more damaging.

The Congressional Research Service reported in August 2010 that House committee staff levels declined 28 percent between 1977 and 2009. The recent cuts have only served to compound the decline in staffing levels highlighted by CRS.

There is no question that these cuts will continue to have a harmful effect on this institution—on our ability to retain the best and brightest and to serve our constituents most effectively. We have gone through some difficult economic times, there is no question, but as we emerge, we need to con-

sider how continuing these stark funding levels affects our ability to compete with the executive branch and the Senate for the best talent. When a Senator can offer to double the salary of a legislative assistant working for a House Member, there is an imbalance that we ignore in the House, at our peril.

I want to thank Chairman COLE also for the focus placed on the Copyright Office in this bill. In the FY 2015 budget hearing with the Library of Congress last month, we heard about the need to bring the copyright system into the 21st century with business practices that provide for more interaction and improvement with the copyright community.

This bill starts that process by investing \$1.5 million in much-needed IT improvements for the Copyright Office. The bill also carves out \$750,000 to deal with the copyright backlog, which grew larger over the last few years as they lost staff due to tightening budgets.

As the authorizing committees review our Nation's copyright laws, these additional investments will ensure that the Copyright Office can meet immediate needs as well as prepare for new ways to do business.

During the Capitol Police hearing and during subcommittee markup we heard from Members on both sides of the aisle about the impact door closures have had on our constituents and staff. This is why we included report language requesting a report on how the Capitol Police can accomplish door openings without increasing overtime. We have now received what I can only hope is a draft report from the Capitol Police that details the opening of only two doors for 2½ hours each day.

The committee has been clear that access is one of the Capitol Police's top priorities, and the current plan does not reflect that priority. My expectation, which I know is shared by many Members, is that now that the Capitol Police have been provided essentially full relief from the sequester, multiple doors throughout the House should be staffed and opened for the entire workday.

Reducing overtime costs through door closures is unacceptable. Forcing our constituents, staff, and people trying to do business at the Capitol into long lines is inefficient and stressful for the public and the officers.

I will be asking the Chief to go back to the drawing board on this report.

The bill continues funding for the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund at \$70 million, for which I thank the chairman. Since the estimate to rehabilitate the Cannon House Office Building, which is 100 years old, has come in at a staggering \$753 million, investing a little at a time in the trust fund is the most responsible way to fund this and other major projects.

The bill also includes funding for the final phase of the Capitol dome project

at \$21.2 million. The funding provided this year will address the interior walls, columns, and coffered ceiling that have sustained significant water damage and paint delamination.

The public will soon see the skyline of our Nation's Capital changed with scaffolding on the Capitol dome that will begin to go up at the end of this month, using funds from previous years. The total pricetag to restore the dome will be around \$106 million after this year's funding is provided.

This bill also directs the Library of Congress to continue their 30-year program to deacidify books and provides an additional \$1 million to keep that program on track.

Also of note, the bill cuts the Open World Leadership Center by 43 percent to \$3.4 million. The Stennis Center Leadership program is funded at \$430,000 after finally—and thankfully—providing the committee with a budget justification for the first time, on time.

I congratulate Chairman COLE on writing a balanced bill with a few targeted investments. Even though I wish we could do more—and I know he does too—to invest in our staff, I know that the chairman had many competing priorities, including our vast infrastructure needs.

Chairman COLE, again, I have truly enjoyed working with you in this role, and I appreciate the accommodations made for the minority in this bill. Working with our colleagues on both sides of the aisle has been an absolute pleasure. It was a collaborative and cooperative effort. We are truly, I think, the example for the entire Congress on what collegiality means. The process in putting this bill together was really a team effort.

Chairman COLE understands that this may be the smallest appropriations bill, but one that is essential to his colleagues and the job they do to serve their constituents.

In conclusion, Madam Chairman, I want to thank the committee staff as well who has helped to craft this bill and assisted in a bipartisan manner: Shalanda Young; Liz Dawson, who continues to amaze us every single fiscal year; Chuck Turner; and Jenny Panone.

Also, we could not have done this without our personal staff: Maria Bowie and Sean Murphy, with Chairman COLE's personal office; and Ian Rayder from my office.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to my good friend from the great State of Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN).

□ 0930

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Chairman, I seek the opportunity to have a colloquy with Chairman COLE. I thank them for their work, the chairman and his staff, the work they have put into the legislation they are bringing before us this morning.

As a member of the Congressional Yellow Pages Caucus, I strongly believe that if an activity is available from a private company that can be found in the Yellow Pages, it should either not be a responsibility carried out by the Federal Government or, at the very least, performed by a private firm under contract with the Federal Government.

It is in that spirit that Congress needs to begin the process of leveling the playing field between the Government Printing Office, the GPO, and private industry. Nowhere is the over-reach of the GPO and its statutory authority, found in title 44 of the United States Code, more egregious than in the area of secure Federal credentials.

Consider this: title 44 was codified in 1968. Secure credentials, produced by the private sector, first appeared about 30 years later and then became pervasive after 9/11.

I can't imagine that policymakers in the sixties could have ever envisioned title 44 expanding beyond the printing of copies of the Federal Register or the Declaration of Independence to cover credentials, let alone secure credentials, as the kind of printed products the GPO has traditionally produced.

The GPO's statutory monopoly on this issue has been challenged by numerous reports by the GAO and groups such as the National Performance Review.

Secure credentials are a world apart from the products that GPO has traditionally produced and should not be subject to title 44.

I hope that we can take steps to define a clear role for the GPO, create competition, and ensure that the private secure credentials industry and companies like MorphoTrust in Tennessee can perform these functions that the GPO has no business in carrying out.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I yield myself 30 seconds just to note that the Government Printing Office has been in business, doing the work, beyond the scope of printing the Federal Register, for more than 100 years.

It is also important to note that they specifically contract with the private sector to print a myriad of documents, and they are not the only institution that prints documents.

Madam Chair, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN. Madam Chair, I want to thank my good friend from Florida for her leadership on this bill, as well as my very good friend from Oklahoma, who has done a terrific job as chair. Both of you take your responsibilities extremely seriously, as you should.

This is the bill that funds the institution itself, and you have both resisted efforts to demean this institution and to suggest that traditions and resources that have been available to this institution in the past are not necessary.

Both of you understand, because you are institutionalists and revere this institution, there are a lot of things that go on in this institution that play an important role toward serving the American public.

I do regret the fact that there was an amendment that was not made in order. I didn't expect that this amendment would have passed, but it was an issue that needed to be discussed on the House floor because it sets a precedent, what I believe is a very dangerous precedent.

This year, this bill freezes congressional compensation. It is the sixth year in a row that we have frozen our own salaries, but by putting it in this bill, I have been part of this institution long enough to know that, once you do that, there is a very high likelihood that neither political party, no matter who has the majority, is going to be willing to ever take it out; and so it will acquire an aspect of permanence.

So what I suggested is that we have a \$25 a day housing stipend, just for those Members that live at least 50 miles from Washington, D.C. I am 10 miles. It wouldn't affect me. None of the other things that are available to Members, small as they might be, affect us either.

Obviously, we can't change our own pay. We can't raise it. So it wouldn't apply till the next term. I am retiring, but I will never lose my love for this institution, and that is why I am doing it.

It just happens that we will be in session 112 days, times 25, that would come, not coincidentally, to exactly what the salary increase would have been had we not frozen it.

The reason for doing this is that, since I was first elected to the Congress, in inflation-adjusted dollars, the compensation to Members has gone down by one-fifth. In the meantime, the cost of rental housing in D.C. has increased substantially.

Rental housing is going up as fast or faster than most other metropolitan areas of the country. In fact, the median cost per month, it is \$2,250; per year, it is \$27,000.

The problem is that if we continue to freeze the compensation to Members, my fear is—and Mr. COLE, I know, is going to provide a different perspective, but I think the fear is legitimate—that what we will wind up with is a composition of the Congress composed primarily of Members who don't need the pay, who are independently wealthy, who can blithely send the check back and take credit for it because they don't need it. In fact, more than half the Congress today, I understand, are millionaires.

On the other hand, you may have some who figure, well, I will serve one, two, three terms and then go into the private sector and use that experience, albeit limited, to enrich themselves. A lot of people do it. I am not being particularly critical, but I want to raise the issue as to what that means for the Congress itself, for this institution.

I don't think this is the right thing to do, Madam Chairman. We need people who represent those folks who barely make it, who have to pay a mortgage, who have student loans to pay, who have kids to raise. They represent the majority in this country, and it is so difficult for Members to maintain two residences.

I wouldn't have expected us to lose an opportunity for self-flagellation, but I do think we should have raised this issue.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I yield the gentleman an additional minute.

Mr. MORAN. I thank my very good friend.

I think I have made my point. We need to be as representative of the country as possible. For all our failings, for all our deficiencies, for all our needs, our struggles, we need to be able to empathize with people who have the same kind of financial constraints.

I know people think this is a lot of money, but if you are not going to show respect to yourself as an institution, you can't expect the public to show you much respect either.

We are the board of directors of the largest economic entity in the world. We deserve that respect. We ought to stand up for ourselves, defend this Congress—because what we do is defensible—and show that we merit adequate compensation, so we can be wholly representative of this great American public.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

My friend and I have had a number of opportunities to talk about this issue. We talked about it in committee, we talked about it yesterday in discussion on the rule, and we are talking about it today because I think he wants to make his point, and I think he is using every opportunity to make his point.

Quite frankly, it is a point that needs to be made and a point that deserves to be heard. One of the things I will miss about my friend a lot is his tenacity when he has got something that he thinks is important and his willingness to go through a little heat and a little criticism, which I know he has received over this, to make that point. That is a very valuable characteristic in any Member.

I don't think we are in immediate danger, the kind of future and the kind of House that my friend describes, but I do think, if we were to continue this course indefinitely, we would be.

Now, again, as I mentioned yesterday in our exchange, remember, a lot of people who come here for a short time aren't coming here to cash out on anything. They are coming here because they believe in the limited time of public service, and quite often, that is a pretty popular point of view in their districts. So I cast no aspersions on somebody that comes for 6 or 8 years, and that is their choice.

In my State, that is exactly what Senator TOM COBURN did in this body for 6 years and what he has done in the United States Senate. I know that is a sincere opinion as to what he thinks the appropriate thing is, and quite frankly, he has certainly never cast himself out and hung around Washington, D.C. I think that is true of many, many Members.

As my friend makes a good point about the character of the body and where we may be headed if we do the wrong things over time, I also think we are in a really critical point in our country where we are having to make a lot of difficult decisions.

We have made a lot of difficult decisions on this committee, made a lot of cuts that we didn't want to make because we thought the budget deficit was too high, and we needed to ask people to make some painful reductions.

I think if you are going to ask people to make painful reductions you have got to lead by example, and I think that is actually what both sides have tried to do.

Again, I know when my friends were in the majority, we didn't always get cost of living increases and those sorts of things either. They had inherited a difficult situation. They were making tough choices, and they were trying to lead by example.

I think that is exactly what this majority has continued to do, and so maintaining your personal credibility and your institutional responsibility, while you are arriving at and administering difficult decisions, I think, is a very important characteristic. So that is what we have tried to do in this bill.

Again, I appreciate my friend for making his point because I think, over time, we could change the character of the institution if we are not careful. I don't think that is an immediate concern, but it is one we ought to reflect on as we move forward.

Again, I thank him for his service, and I thank him for his persistence and tenacity.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, at this time, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), our distinguished ranking member of the full Appropriations Committee.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I want to thank Chairman COLE and Ranking Member DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for their hard work on this bill. It really was a bipartisan effort, and I do think you have produced a good bill.

Today, we consider the smallest of the appropriations bills which funds the operations of our Nation's legislative branch.

Without Senate items, the bill is \$3.326 billion, the same as 2014. While I am pleased with the overall funding level, it was my hope that, after years of cuts to Member Representational Al-

lowances, or the MRAs, we might provide a modest increase this year.

Member offices have sustained \$106 million in cuts since 2010. While some reduction was appropriate, those cuts have severely strained the House's ability to serve the American people, due to fewer staff for constituent casework, the inability to effectively communicate with our constituents, and fewer district offices.

Unless we return to sensible funding levels, we cannot stave off the further erosion of expertise, morale, and comity in this great institution.

This bill funds the Open World Leadership program at \$3.42 million, a reduction of \$2.58 million. Instead of reducing funds equivalent to the amount for exchanges with Russians, we should shift the funds to support a larger presence in Ukraine and other countries fostering democratic principles, as suggested in the committee report.

□ 0945

Madam Chair, with that said, I congratulate, once again, the chairman and the ranking member of the subcommittee for putting forth a balanced bill and urge its support.

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, at this time, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), our distinguished ranking member of the Military Construction Appropriations Subcommittee.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. I thank the gentlelady for yielding to me.

Madam Chair, I just wanted to say a few words in support of this year's Legislative Branch Appropriations Act. I have been honored to serve on this subcommittee for the last 4 years. I am the only member, in fact, to have served on the subcommittee for the last two Congresses.

It may have the smallest budget of the 12 appropriations bills, but it is vital to the work we do here in Congress and our ability to serve our constituents. From paying our staffs, to maintaining a digital and printed record of our work, to getting cost estimates of our legislative proposals, the legislative branch is so important to the proper functioning of our system of government.

It is especially gratifying that this year's bill reverses some of the draconian cuts from the legislative branch which have occurred over the last few years. I said last year that including these cuts would have been like cutting off our nose to spite our face. After all, agencies under the bill's jurisdiction, like the Congressional Budget Office and the Government Accountability Office, help Congress to identify potential savings and efficiencies throughout the government.

Or consider the Architect of the Capitol, which is responsible for the maintenance, operation, development, and preservation of the United States Cap-

itol. Two years ago, the House couldn't find the necessary funds to complete the restoration of one of the most vital symbols of our democracy, the Capitol dome. I am pleased this year that the legislation includes \$21.2 million for the last phase of the Capitol dome restoration.

Other agencies in the bill receive much-needed investments, including the Library of Congress, the United States Capitol Police, and the Government Printing Office.

I would like to commend the outstanding bipartisan work of Chairman COLE and Ranking Member WASSERMAN SCHULTZ in crafting this year's bill. Chairman COLE has done a yeoman's job stepping in at the last moment following the retirement of our colleague Rodney Alexander and shepherding this measure for the full House Appropriations Committee this morning.

I am also greatly appreciative of Ranking Member WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, whose institutional knowledge of the agencies in this measure is really unmatched.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I yield the gentleman from Georgia an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Both Chairman COLE and Ranking Member WASSERMAN SCHULTZ were greatly aided by their excellent staff: Liz Dawson, Chuck Turner, Jenny Panone, and Shalanda Young.

I look forward to supporting the bill and doing all that I can to ensure its swift passage by the full House of Representatives.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I was tempted to actually yield my friend from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP) additional time, he was being so kind to all of us on both sides of the aisle. But I genuinely want to thank my friend who is a very valuable member of our committee and, again, someone who is always thoughtful, always helpful, and always works in a bipartisan manner. You saw it on this floor yesterday when he and Chairman CULBERSON delivered their bill in a very bipartisan and a very professional manner. He does the same thing on our committee. So I just wanted to thank my friend.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, at this time, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just wanted to once again thank my friend, my working partner in this, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. She, in this area, is an absolute expert without peer in this House, which has been enormously helpful to me.

Again, I want to thank the members of the committee. I want to thank all of the staff, frankly, from both sides of the aisle, all of the personnel offices. They have just been absolutely first-rate.

As I observed, I think, in one of our committee meetings, if the current chairman of the Democratic National Committee and the former chief of staff of the Republican National Committee can work this well together, then surely all things are possible in this universe.

It has been a pleasure to work with my friend. I look forward to continuing that collaboration as we go forward.

With that, Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. ROBY. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 4487—the Fiscal Year 2015 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act.

For our government to truly remain “of the people, and by the people” the House of Representatives must be a place that is open and transparent to all. From ensuring constituents can meet with their elected representatives to guaranteeing open access to the legislative business of Congress, the Legislative Branch must be accessible to the public. We also have a responsibility to ensure the safety and security of the U.S. Capitol complex for all who work here and all who visit.

Therefore, as a Member of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee, one of my priorities has been to provide appropriate oversight regarding the security of the U.S. Capitol complex, including Members, staff, and visitors. I have met personally with House Sergeant of Arms Paul Irving and will continue to follow closely any developments relating to security concerns. I greatly appreciate Mr. Irving and our professional team of Capitol Police officers for the tireless work they put in to protect us and all who visit these hallowed halls.

Madam Chair, this bill adequately provides for the needs of the House Sergeant of Arms and the Capitol Police to ensure the necessary steps can be taken to maintain and strengthen security procedures for the entire Capitol complex.

Recent events have shown that even the most secure buildings in our country are still susceptible to security lapses. That is why it is more important than ever to remain vigilant in our efforts to ensure we are secure.

As I continue to serve on this Subcommittee, it is my responsibility to ask questions, find solutions, and help enact policies to keep members, staff, and guests as safe as reasonably possible.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Chair, I rise today to highlight what I believe are anti-competitive practices at the Government Printing Office, or GPO.

As its name implies, the GPO was set up to do government printing. Title 44 of the United States Code states that “all printing, binding, and blank-book work for Congress, the Executive Office, the Judiciary, other than the Supreme Court of the United States . . . shall be done at the Government Printing Office.” GPO’s mission statement is to “produce, protect, preserve, and distribute the official publications and information products of the Federal Government.” Somehow, GPO has interpreted this to mean that “printing” includes the creation of secure federal credentials.

Madam Chair, the production of secure federal credentials cannot be reasonably classified as printing. The production of these credentials involves electronic storage capability,

anti-counterfeiting technologies, and specialized manufacturing techniques. Furthermore, Title 44 was codified in 1968—secure credentials were not created until 30 years later. It is hard to believe that lawmakers in the 1960’s could have envisioned the technical know-how that goes into making these credentials, much less classified the production as printing.

The real problem, however, lies with GPO asserting its authority to make these products while crowding out private sector competition. The federal government has successfully contracted out production of secure credentials to the private sector for years. The private sector competes for these contracts, ensuring that we end up with the best product for the best price. More disturbingly, I have heard reports indicating that GPO has a dedicated sales staff, and sends other staffers on sales calls to promote its secure credentials capabilities to federal agencies. GPO’s attempt to fill this space inhibits competition by encouraging the federal government to insource at the expense of innovations in the private sector. I believe we need to level the playing field.

By highlighting this issue, I hope to trigger a discussion that will define a clear role for the GPO today, but also to ensure that the private secure credentials industry, the acknowledged leaders in this field, will have a chance to compete for government contracts.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule and shall be considered as read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4487

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the House of Representatives, \$1,180,736,000, as follows:

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For salaries and expenses, as authorized by law, \$22,278,891, including: Office of the Speaker, \$6,645,417, including \$25,000 for official expenses of the Speaker; Office of the Majority Floor Leader, \$2,180,048, including \$10,000 for official expenses of the Majority Leader; Office of the Minority Floor Leader, \$7,114,471, including \$10,000 for official expenses of the Minority Leader; Office of the Majority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Majority Whip, \$1,886,632, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Majority Whip; Office of the Minority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Minority Whip, \$1,459,639, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Minority Whip; Republican Conference, \$1,505,426; Democratic Caucus, \$1,487,258: *Provided*, That such amount for salaries and expenses shall remain available from January 3, 2015 until January 2, 2016.

MEMBERS’ REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES

INCLUDING MEMBERS’ CLERK HIRE, OFFICIAL EXPENSES OF MEMBERS, AND OFFICIAL MAIL

For Members’ representational allowances, including Members’ clerk hire, official expenses, and official mail, \$554,317,732.

COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

STANDING COMMITTEES, SPECIAL AND SELECT

For salaries and expenses of standing committees, special and select, authorized by House resolutions, \$123,903,173: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2016, except that \$2,300,000 of such amount shall remain available until expended for committee room upgrading.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries and expenses of the Committee on Appropriations, \$23,271,004, including studies and examinations of executive agencies and temporary personal services for such committee, to be expended in accordance with section 202(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and to be available for reimbursement to agencies for services performed: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2016.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation and expenses of officers and employees, as authorized by law, \$171,344,864, including: for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Clerk, including the positions of the Chaplain and the Historian, and including not more than \$25,000 for official representative and reception expenses, of which not more than \$20,000 is for the Family Room and not more than \$2,000 is for the Office of the Chaplain, \$24,009,473; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, including the position of Superintendent of Garages and the Office of Emergency Management, and including not more than \$3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$11,926,729 of which \$4,344,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer including not more than \$3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$113,100,000, of which \$4,000,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, \$4,741,809; for salaries and expenses of the Office of General Counsel, \$1,340,987; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Parliamentarian, including the Parliamentarian, \$2,000 for preparing the Digest of Rules, and not more than \$1,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$1,952,249; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House, \$4,087,587, of which \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended for the completion of the House Modernization Initiative; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House, \$8,892,975, of which \$540,000 shall remain available until expended for the completion of the House Modernization Initiative; for salaries and expenses of the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, \$814,069; for other authorized employees, \$478,986.

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

For allowances and expenses as authorized by House resolution or law, \$285,620,336, including: supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims, \$4,152,789; official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House, \$190,486; Government contributions for health, retirement, Social Security, and other applicable employee benefits, \$256,635,776, to remain available until March 31, 2016; Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery, \$16,217,008 of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until expended; transition activities for new members and staff, \$3,737,000, to remain available until expended; Wounded Warrior Program \$2,500,000, to remain available until expended; Office of Congressional Ethics, \$1,467,030; and miscellaneous items including purchase, exchange, maintenance, repair and operation of

House motor vehicles, interparliamentary receptions, and gratuities to heirs of deceased employees of the House, \$720,247.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. (a) **REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES TO BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under this Act for “HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SALARIES AND EXPENSES—MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES” shall be available only for fiscal year 2015. Any amount remaining after all payments are made under such allowances for fiscal year 2015 shall be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction (or, if there is no Federal budget deficit after all such payments have been made, for reducing the Federal debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

(b) **REGULATIONS.**—The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall have authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(c) **DEFINITION.**—As used in this section, the term “Member of the House of Representatives” means a Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

DELIVERY OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SEC. 102. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of a bill, joint resolution, or resolution to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) unless the Member requests a copy.

DELIVERY OF CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

SEC. 103. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of any version of the Congressional Record to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress).

LIMITATION ON AMOUNT AVAILABLE TO LEASE VEHICLES

SEC. 104. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to make any payments from any Members' Representational Allowance for the leasing of a vehicle, excluding mobile district offices, in an aggregate amount that exceeds \$1,000 for the vehicle in any month.

LIMITATION ON PRINTED COPIES OF U.S. CODE TO HOUSE

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to provide an aggregate number of more than 50 printed copies of any edition of the United States Code to all offices of the House of Representatives.

JOINT ITEMS

For Joint Committees, as follows:

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Economic Committee, \$4,203,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Committee on Taxation, \$10,004,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

For other joint items, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

For medical supplies, equipment, and contingent expenses of the emergency rooms, and for the Attending Physician and his assistants, including:

(1) an allowance of \$2,175 per month to the Attending Physician;

(2) an allowance of \$1,300 per month to the Senior Medical Officer;

(3) an allowance of \$725 per month each to three medical officers while on duty in the Office of the Attending Physician;

(4) an allowance of \$725 per month to 2 assistants and \$580 per month each not to exceed 11 assistants on the basis heretofore provided for such assistants; and

(5) \$2,486,000 for reimbursement to the Department of the Navy for expenses incurred for staff and equipment assigned to the Office of the Attending Physician, which shall be advanced and credited to the applicable appropriation or appropriations from which such salaries, allowances, and other expenses are payable and shall be available for all the purposes thereof, \$3,371,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services, \$1,387,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

CAPITOL POLICE

SALARIES

For salaries of employees of the Capitol Police, including overtime, hazardous duty pay, and Government contributions for health, retirement, social security, professional liability insurance, and other applicable employee benefits, \$286,500,000 of which overtime shall not exceed \$23,425,000 unless the Committee on Appropriations of the House and Senate are notified, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or his designee.

GENERAL EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Capitol Police, including motor vehicles, communications and other equipment, security equipment and installation, uniforms, weapons, supplies, materials, training, medical services, forensic services, stenographic services, personal and professional services, the employee assistance program, the awards program, postage, communication services, travel advances, relocation of instructor and liaison personnel for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and not more than \$5,000 to be expended on the certification of the Chief of the Capitol Police in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$61,459,000, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or his designee: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the cost of basic training for the Capitol Police at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for fiscal year 2015 shall be paid by the Secretary of Homeland Security from funds available to the Department of Homeland Security.

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Compliance, as authorized by section 305 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1385), \$3,959,000, of which \$450,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That not more than \$500 may be expended on the certification of the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance in connection with official representation and reception expenses.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for operation of the Congressional Budget Office, including not more than \$6,000 to be expended on the certification of the Director of

the Congressional Budget Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$45,700,000.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

For salaries for the Architect of the Capitol, and other personal services, at rates of pay provided by law; for surveys and studies in connection with activities under the care of the Architect of the Capitol; for all necessary expenses for the general and administrative support of the operations under the Architect of the Capitol including the Botanic Garden; electrical substations of the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol; including furnishings and office equipment; including not more than \$5,000 for official reception and representation expenses, to be expended as the Architect of the Capitol may approve; for purchase or exchange, maintenance, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle, \$91,555,000.

CAPITOL BUILDING

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol, \$53,126,000, of which \$28,817,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

CAPITOL GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for care and improvement of grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant, \$11,993,000, of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the House office buildings, \$71,622,000, of which \$7,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

In addition, for a payment to the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund, \$70,000,000, to remain available until expended.

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol Power Plant; lighting, heating, power (including the purchase of electrical energy) and water and sewer services for the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, Library of Congress buildings, and the grounds about the same, Botanic Garden, Senate garage, and air conditioning refrigeration not supplied from plants in any of such buildings; heating the Government Printing Office and Washington City Post Office, and heating and chilled water for air conditioning for the Supreme Court Building, the Union Station complex, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building and the Folger Shakespeare Library, expenses for which shall be advanced or reimbursed upon request of the Architect of the Capitol and amounts so received shall be deposited into the Treasury to the credit of this appropriation, \$93,152,000, of which \$8,686,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That not more than \$9,000,000 of the funds credited or to be reimbursed to this appropriation as herein provided shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2015.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for the mechanical and structural maintenance, care and operation of the Library buildings and grounds, \$41,733,000, of which \$16,542,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SECURITY

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of buildings, grounds and security enhancements of the

United States Capitol Police, wherever located, the Alternate Computer Facility, and AOC security operations, \$19,486,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

BOTANIC GARDEN

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Botanic Garden and the nurseries, buildings, grounds, and collections; and purchase and exchange, maintenance, repair, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle; all under the direction of the Joint Committee on the Library, \$15,022,946, of which \$5,122,946 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, the Architect of the Capitol may obligate and expend such sums as may be necessary for the maintenance, care and operation of the National Garden established under section 307E of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1989 (2 U.S.C. 2146), upon vouchers approved by the Architect of the Capitol or a duly authorized designee.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

For all necessary expenses for the operation of the Capitol Visitor Center, \$20,875,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

SCRIMS

SEC. 1001. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for scrims containing photographs of building facades during restoration or construction projects performed by the Architect of the Capitol.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Library of Congress not otherwise provided for, including development and maintenance of the Library's catalogs; custody and custodial care of the Library buildings; special clothing; cleaning, laundering and repair of uniforms; preservation of motion pictures in the custody of the Library; operation and maintenance of the American Folklife Center in the Library; activities under the Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009; preparation and distribution of catalog records and other publications of the Library; hire or purchase of one passenger motor vehicle; and expenses of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board not properly chargeable to the income of any trust fund held by the Board, \$424,057,000, of which not more than \$6,000,000 shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2015, and shall remain available until expended, under the Act of June 28, 1902 (chapter 1301; 32 Stat. 480; 2 U.S.C. 150) and not more than \$350,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2015 and shall remain available until expended for the development and maintenance of an international legal information database and activities related thereto: *Provided*, That the Library of Congress may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under the Act of June 28, 1902, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than \$6,350,000: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not more than \$12,000 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for the Overseas Field Offices: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$8,231,000 shall remain available until expended for the digital collections and educational curricula program.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Copyright Office, \$54,303,000, of which not more

than \$27,971,000, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2015 under section 708(d) of title 17, United States Code: *Provided*, That the Copyright Office may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under such section, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That not more than \$5,611,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2015 under sections 111(d)(2), 119(b)(2), 803(e), 1005, and 1316 of such title: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than \$33,582,000: *Provided further*, That not more than \$100,000 of the amount appropriated is available for the maintenance of an "International Copyright Institute" in the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress for the purpose of training nationals of developing countries in intellectual property laws and policies: *Provided further*, That not more than \$6,500 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for activities of the International Copyright Institute and for copyright delegations, visitors, and seminars: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any provision of chapter 8 of title 17, United States Code, any amounts made available under this heading which are attributable to royalty fees and payments received by the Copyright Office pursuant to sections 111, 119, and chapter 10 of such title may be used for the costs incurred in the administration of the Copyright Royalty Judges program, with the exception of the costs of salaries and benefits for the Copyright Royalty Judges and staff under section 802(e).

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 203 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 166) and to revise and extend the Annotated Constitution of the United States of America, \$106,095,000: *Provided*, That no part of such amount may be used to pay any salary or expense in connection with any publication, or preparation of material therefor (except the Digest of Public General Bills), to be issued by the Library of Congress unless such publication has obtained prior approval of either the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives or the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses to carry out the Act of March 3, 1931 (chapter 400; 46 Stat. 1487; 2 U.S.C. 135a), \$50,429,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$650,000 shall be available to contract to provide newspapers to blind and physically handicapped residents at no cost to the individual.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

REIMBURSABLE AND REVOLVING FUND ACTIVITIES

SEC. 1101. (a) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2015, the obligational authority of the Library of Congress for the activities described in subsection (b) may not exceed \$203,058,000.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—The activities referred to in subsection (a) are reimbursable and revolving fund activities that are funded from sources other than appropriations to the Library in appropriations Acts for the legislative branch.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING AND BINDING (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For authorized printing and binding for the Congress and the distribution of Congressional information in any format; expenses necessary for preparing the semimonthly and session index to the Congressional Record, as authorized by law (section 902 of title 44, United States Code); printing and binding of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed to Members of Congress; and printing, binding, and distribution of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed without charge to the recipient, \$79,736,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall not be available for paper copies of the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives, Resident Commissioners or Delegates authorized under section 906 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under the appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the 2-year limitation under section 718 of title 44, United States Code, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this Act or any other Act for printing and binding and related services provided to Congress under chapter 7 of title 44, United States Code, may be expended to print a document, report, or publication after the 27-month period beginning on the date that such document, report, or publication is authorized by Congress to be printed, unless Congress reauthorizes such printing in accordance with section 718 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That any unobligated or unexpended balances in this account or accounts for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years may be transferred to the Government Printing Office revolving fund for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding sections 901, 902, and 906 of title 44, United States Code, this appropriation may be used to prepare indexes to the Congressional Record on only a monthly and session basis.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of the Office of Superintendent of Documents necessary to provide for the cataloging and indexing of Government publications and their distribution to the public, Members of Congress, other Government agencies, and designated depository and international exchange libraries as authorized by law, \$31,500,000: *Provided*, That amounts of not more than \$2,000,000 from current year appropriations are authorized for producing and disseminating Congressional serial sets and other related publications for fiscal years 2013 and 2014 to depository and other designated libraries: *Provided further*, That any unobligated or unexpended balances in this account or accounts for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years may be transferred to the Government Printing Office revolving fund for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE REVOLVING FUND

For payment to the Government Printing Office Revolving Fund, \$11,348,000, to remain available until expended, for information technology development and facilities repair: *Provided*, That the Government Printing Office is hereby authorized to make such

expenditures, within the limits of funds available and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs and purposes set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for the Government Printing Office Revolving Fund: *Provided further*, That not more than \$7,500 may be expended on the certification of the Public Printer in connection with official representation and reception expenses: *Provided further*, That the revolving fund shall be available for the hire or purchase of not more than 12 passenger motor vehicles: *Provided further*, That expenditures in connection with travel expenses of the advisory councils to the Public Printer shall be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the revolving fund shall be available for temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title: *Provided further*, That activities financed through the revolving fund may provide information in any format: *Provided further*, That the revolving fund and the funds provided under the headings "Office of Superintendent of Documents" and "Salaries and Expenses" may not be used for contracted security services at the Government Printing Office's passport facility in the District of Columbia.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Government Accountability Office, including not more than \$12,500 to be expended on the certification of the Comptroller General of the United States in connection with official representation and reception expenses; temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title; hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with section 3324 of title 31, United States Code; benefits comparable to those payable under sections 901(5), (6), and (8) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081(5), (6), and (8)); and under regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, rental of living quarters in foreign countries, \$519,622,000: *Provided*, That, in addition, \$23,750,000 of payments received under sections 782, 3521, and 9105 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That this appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency which is a member of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance an appropriate share of either Forum's costs as determined by the respective Forum, including necessary travel expenses of non-Federal participants: *Provided further*, That payments hereunder to the Forum may be credited as reimbursements to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

CENTER FOR AUDIT EXCELLENCE

SEC. 1201. (a) CENTER FOR AUDIT EXCELLENCE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 7 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subchapter:

"SUBCHAPTER VII—CENTER FOR AUDIT
EXCELLENCE

"§ 791. Center for audit excellence

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Comptroller General shall establish, maintain, and operate a center within the Government Accountability Office to be known as the 'Center for Audit Excellence' (hereafter in this subchapter referred to as the 'Center').

"(b) PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall build institutional auditing capacity and promote good governance by providing affordable, relevant, and high-quality training, technical assistance, and products and services to qualified personnel and entities of governments (including the Federal government, State and local governments, tribal governments, and governments of foreign nations), international organizations, and other private organizations.

"(2) DETERMINATION OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL AND ENTITIES.—Personnel and entities shall be considered qualified for purposes of receiving training, technical assistance, and products or services from the Center under paragraph (1) in accordance with such criteria as the Comptroller General may establish and publish.

"(c) FEES.—

"(1) PERMITTING CHARGING OF FEES.—The Comptroller General may establish, charge, and collect fees (on a reimbursable or advance basis) for the training, technical assistance, and products and services provided by the Center under this subchapter.

"(2) DEPOSIT INTO SEPARATE ACCOUNT.—The Comptroller General shall deposit all fees collected under paragraph (1) into the Center for Audit Excellence Account established under section 792.

"(d) GIFTS OF PROPERTY AND SERVICES.—The Comptroller General may accept and use conditional or non-conditional gifts of property (both real and personal) and services (including services of guest lecturers) to support the operation of the Center, except that the Comptroller General may not accept or use such a gift if the Comptroller General determines that the acceptance or use of the gift would compromise or appear to compromise the integrity of the Government Accountability Office.

"(e) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PERSONNEL.—It is the sense of Congress that the Center should be staffed primarily by personnel of the Government Accountability Office who are not otherwise engaged in carrying out other duties of the Office under this chapter, so as to ensure that the operation of the Center will not have a negative impact on the ability of the Office to maintain a consistently high level of service to Congress.

"§ 792. Account

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE ACCOUNT.—There is established in the Treasury as a separate account for the Government Accountability Office the 'Center for Audit Excellence Account', which shall consist of the fees deposited by the Comptroller General under section 791(c) and such other amounts as may be appropriated under law.

"(b) USE OF ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Center for Audit Excellence Account shall be available to the Comptroller General, in amounts specified in appropriations Acts and without fiscal year limitation, to carry out this subchapter.

"§ 793. Authorization of Appropriations

"There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subchapter."

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 7 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SUBCHAPTER VII—CENTER FOR AUDIT
EXCELLENCE

"791. Center for Audit Excellence.

"792. Account.

"793. Authorization of appropriations."

(b) APPROVAL OF BUSINESS PLAN.—The Comptroller General may not begin operating the Center for Audit Excellence under subchapter VII of chapter 7 of title 31, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)) until—

(1) the Comptroller General submits a business plan for the Center to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate; and

(2) each such Committee approves the plan.

OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER
TRUST FUND

For a payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund for financing activities of the Open World Leadership Center under section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151), \$3,420,000.

JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC
SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund established under section 116 of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1105), \$430,000.

TITLE II—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be used for the maintenance or care of private vehicles, except for emergency assistance and cleaning as may be provided under regulations relating to parking facilities for the House of Representatives issued by the Committee on House Administration and for the Senate issued by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SEC. 202. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond fiscal year 2015 unless expressly so provided in this Act.

SEC. 203. Whenever in this Act any office or position not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929 (46 Stat. 32 et seq.) is appropriated for or the rate of compensation or designation of any office or position appropriated for is different from that specifically established by such Act, the rate of compensation and the designation in this Act shall be the permanent law with respect thereto: *Provided*, That the provisions in this Act for the various items of official expenses of Members, officers, and committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, and clerk hire for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives shall be the permanent law with respect thereto.

SEC. 204. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued under existing law.

SEC. 205. Amounts available for administrative expenses of any legislative branch entity which participates in the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council (LBFMC) established by charter on March 26, 1996, shall be available to finance an appropriate share of LBFMC costs as determined by the LBFMC, except that the total LBFMC costs to be shared among all participating legislative branch entities (in such allocations among the entities as the entities may determine) may not exceed \$2,000.

SEC. 206. The Architect of the Capitol, in consultation with the District of Columbia, is authorized to maintain and improve the

landscape features, excluding streets, in the irregular shaped grassy areas bounded by Washington Avenue, SW on the northeast, Second Street, SW on the west, Square 582 on the south, and the beginning of the I-395 tunnel on the southeast.

SEC. 207. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

SEC. 208. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available to the Architect of the Capitol in this Act may be used to eliminate or restrict guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns of offices of Members of Congress and other offices of the House of Representatives and Senate.

(b) At the direction of the Capitol Police Board, or at the direction of the Architect of the Capitol with the approval of the Capitol Police Board, guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns described in subsection (a) may be suspended temporarily or otherwise subject to restriction for security or related reasons to the same extent as guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by the Architect of the Capitol.

SEC. 209. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no adjustment shall be made under section 610(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31) (relating to cost of living adjustments for Members of Congress) during fiscal year 2015.

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

SEC. 210. The amount by which the applicable allocation of new budget authority made by the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, excluding Senate items, exceeds the amount of proposed new budget authority is \$0.

This Act may be cited as the "Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2015".

The CHAIR. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in House Report 113-426. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. NUGENT

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 113-426.

Mr. NUGENT. Madam Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 7, beginning line 23, strike "in an aggregate amount that exceeds \$1,000 for the vehicle in any month" and insert "and excluding short-term vehicle rentals in an aggregate amount that does not exceed \$1,000 for the vehicle in any month".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 557, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. NUGENT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. NUGENT. Madam Chairman, my amendment is simple. It would end the practice of Members leasing vehicles on the taxpayers' dime. I am just not convinced that this is a necessary use of taxpayer money, and neither are the constituents that I represent.

We are asking agencies throughout the Federal Government to use their funding carefully and to cut out unnecessary, nice-to-have things. We ought to apply the same standard to ourselves, and in many ways we have done an excellent job of doing that.

Funding for the House of Representatives has been cut since the Republicans took the majority by over 14 percent. We have cut our own MRAs and committee funds. We have frozen our own pay.

Unfortunately, the vehicle lease program isn't consistent in that effort. That is not to say that some Members who lease vehicles aren't doing it responsibly. They are, and they have good reason. Unfortunately, I think the line of what is appropriate in terms of leasing vehicles has been blurred by others. Members of Congress driving around the Capitol in luxury vehicles financed by the taxpayers that they represent isn't exactly the image we want to portray to the American people, especially when many Americans are struggling just to get by.

The vehicle lease program in its current form is simply out of touch with the economic reality of what our American brothers and sisters face. Therefore, until we can ensure that all Members of Congress are using this program responsibly, I believe we ought to halt it entirely.

The Senate, to their credit, in one of the few times that I agree with the Senate—and I don't say that often—already has barred its Members from leasing vehicles with public money; and, frankly, I think it is time that we do the same.

To be clear, my amendment is straightforward. It says that the CAO may not make any payments from any Member's Representational Allowance for the leasing of a vehicle. My amendment excludes short-term vehicle rentals and mobile district offices, as those are often necessary resources used in serving our constituents. But having basically a personal car entirely paid for by taxpayers should no longer be allowed.

I urge adoption of my amendment and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. COLE. I want to begin by thanking my friend. We serve together on the Rules Committee. It is very seldom that I would disagree with my friend, who not only has a distinguished record here, but a distinguished record in law enforcement.

And let me make it clear. I am quite content to let the body work its will on this matter. I appreciate my friend ac-

tually bringing it forward. I think it is important to discuss.

I had not really thought about this a great deal until I saw my friend's amendment. I don't lease a vehicle through my office at all. Although we have discussed it and looked at it, it just never seemed to be appropriate or make sense for us. We do have 63 Members, however, who do do this practice. The average cost of the vehicle is \$589.

Now, I can't tell you that I have taken a survey of all 63, but I have talked to a few—just sort of tell me what your reasoning is—and the responses are pretty diverse. But you could break it into two or three categories.

First, some of them cover exceptionally large districts, and they find this the most cost-effective way to actually cover it, I mean, even to the point of saying, as one Member said:

I go through rough terrain to reach remote areas. I need a vehicle that, frankly, is quite a bit more robust than members of my staff have or that I even have personally, sometimes, to reach some of my constituents.

I thought that was a pretty impressive reason.

Second, others, again, just find it much more cost-effective than actually paying and reimbursing for mileage. But I think the core thing here is to trust—actually trust—the Member to make the decision.

I think an important point here is to note that we are not going to save any money, really. This comes out of the Member's Representational Allowance as it is, so there is not a real savings here. And it is all publicly disclosed, so Members take some considerable risk if they do this. They have to be able to explain it to their constituents.

At the end of the day, I just simply don't want to micromanage individual Members in how they spend the money which we allot them through this bill.

And with that, I understand my good friend would like to say some things, so I will yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the ranking member.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Chair, I also rise in opposition to my Florida colleague's amendment, which seeks to dictate to other Members how to spend their office budgets. It is important to note that I also do not lease a vehicle.

The bill already sets a limit on what Members can spend on vehicle leases to ensure that costs are appropriately controlled. The Nugent amendment would go further and prevent long-term vehicle leases unless they are classified as mobile district offices.

The problem with the gentleman from Florida's amendment is the same as we have had with other similar amendments in the past that have sought to restrict or eliminate Members' use of funds for their office budgets.

We have Members that represent entire States or very large geographic

areas. Removing transportation options for Members trying to effectively represent their constituents forces a one-size-fits-all approach to serving our congressional districts, and we know that is not reasonable nor does it make sense.

The House makes statements of disbursements available to the public so that our constituents can judge us on the purchases that we make. Each Member has to answer to his or her constituents if they spend inappropriately or if they make purchases that are at odds with the sensibilities of those that sent the Member to office. We don't need to dictate to each other how we can most effectively do our jobs.

With that, Madam Chair, I urge the defeat of this well-intentioned but misguided amendment.

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

Mr. NUGENT. Madam Chair, I do appreciate the comments of more senior Members of this House. I, obviously, have been here 3 years, and I do appreciate their comments.

But I will go back to this. Think about this. The Senate, each Senator represents their whole State. They gave up that privilege a while back because it didn't make sense. But think about this. Today, Members of Congress can lease Lexuses, BMWs, Infinitis, Acuras, Mercedes, which all fall within the guidelines, and not all do that. But does that send a message to our folks back home that this is the right way to do it? Because that MRA that was discussed, this also covers all of the wear and tear on the car, it covers the fuel. There is no expense that is spared with regards to covering that, versus the mileage reimbursement, if I used my own car, which I do.

That is not to try to diminish or hurt any Member. It really is, though, bringing us into compliance with the same thing that the Senate has done. It is about reasonable usage of the dollars the taxpayers give us.

Once again I will tell you that I agree with most of what my good friends have said, but I disagree on this one. I truly believe it is time for this House to move forward and limit itself in regards to these types of acquisitions and purchases.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. NUGENT).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. NUGENT. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida will be postponed.

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AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MS. SPEIER

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 113-426.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Chairwoman, I have an amendment desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 11, line 10, after the dollar amount insert "(increased by \$500,000)".

Page 12, line 16, after the dollar amount insert "(reduced by \$500,000)".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 557, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Chair, I rise today because many Americans think Congress has unchecked power. They think we know how to make laws but don't know how to follow them. They think of us not as the House of Representatives but as the House of Hypocrites. I have spent a lot of time here on the floor speaking about sexual harassment and the epidemic of rape in the military and on college campuses. It is just as important that we bring the same scrutiny to our own House.

The American people expect us to conduct ourselves in a manner befitting the responsibilities and duties that we hold as Members of Congress—not as if we are freshmen in a frat house. While they are the exception, not the rule, it is an embarrassment to this institution that some Members have "sexted" teenage pages on the floor. It is unacceptable that others have groped and inappropriately touched their staff members. This behavior is illegal and unacceptable in the private sector, and it is illegal and unacceptable here.

This is not a Democratic issue, and this is not a Republican issue. This is a House issue. Just recall former Congressman Bob Filner. He pled guilty to charges of felony false imprisonment for sexually harassing a former aide in the San Diego's mayor's office. When Mr. Filner was ranking member on the Veterans' Affairs Committee in the House, he allegedly sexually harassed several female members of the Armed Forces who were rape survivors. But none of the women ever said a word while Mr. Filner was still here—not one.

If you work for a private company in my home State in California, it is likely you have had several hours of sexual harassment training to identify and prevent sexual harassment in the workplace because it is the law. It is also the law in California that State legislators and their staff participate in a mandatory sexual harassment training every year. But that is not the case here in the House.

In fact, congressional Office of Compliance staff say that when new Members go through their 3-day training, they are mostly counseling empty seats by the end of day 3.

Sexual harassment training is already mandatory for the executive branch agencies, and it has proven to

result in a significant reduction in the number of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation claims. But this training for Congress is only voluntary. The congressional Office of Compliance provides sexual harassment training to offices, but it is not typically requested until after an office reports an incident.

It is time we take advantage of the valuable training the office provides. My staff and I actually have taken this 1½ hour training, and as much as I know about sexual harassment, I learned additional things during that training.

Madam Chairwoman, my amendment is simple. It appropriates \$500,000 in additional funds to the Office of Compliance to be used to enhance sexual harassment training programs by implementing a Web-based platform. These funds will also be used for outreach to inform House office employees what their rights are, the various forms sexual harassment takes, and where to go if they experience sexual harassment. It is time to send a new message: that we are here to serve and that we are not above the law.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time in opposition; although, I am not opposed.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the gentlelady from California's amendment, which would provide an additional \$500,000 to the Office of Compliance. The funding is intended for the office to provide mandatory sexual harassment training for all congressional offices in the House of Representatives.

Surveys find that anywhere from 25 to 31 percent of women in the United States have experienced sexual harassment at work, with the majority of women reporting that the harasser was a direct supervisor or senior to them. Sexual harassment creates counterproductive, hostile, and potentially dangerous working environments, not only threatening the emotional and physical well-being of women, but also women's job performance and security.

There is no reason to think the House of Representatives is immune to this problem. The House of Representatives should not be exempt from providing proper training to identify, prevent, and report sexual harassment, as many private institutions undertake.

Additionally, this type of training is already mandatory for all executive branch agencies. It is time that we follow suit to ensure that the entire Federal Government is setting a model example for safety and respect in the workplace.

To that end, I have cosponsored Representative SPEIER's resolution, which

amends the rules of the House to require that the mandatory annual ethics training offered to Members, officers, and employees of the House include the specific program of training in the prevention and deterrence of sexual harassment in employment.

I urge support of this amendment and thank the gentlelady for her leadership on this issue, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SPEIER. I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlelady from New York (Mrs. LOWEY).

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chairman, I rise in strong support of the amendment. When I came to Congress, I was outraged by the behavior of some of my colleagues. In one incident, a woman Member was told to share a seat with a male colleague when there weren't enough chairs at a committee meeting.

While there have certainly been improvements, recent events embarrassing this institution highlight the continued need for training. We cannot allow "Mad Men"-style antics to occur in our offices.

Sexual harassment training will help victims, improve awareness of what is not allowed, and is necessary if we want to be serious about stopping inappropriate acts.

I thank the gentlelady for offering this amendment, and I encourage your support.

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. At this time, I would like to yield 30 seconds to Chairman COLE.

Mr. COLE. I thank my friend for yielding.

Madam Chairman, I just want to thank my friend from California for bringing this amendment. I think it is a truly important amendment and something that we are more than happy to accept, and appreciate her raising the issue very, very much.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. We thank the gentleman and appreciate his support.

At this time, I would like to yield the balance of our time in opposition, even though no one is speaking in opposition to this very important amendment, to the gentlelady from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER), the chair of the Committee on House Administration.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Chair, I thank the gentlelady for yielding me time, and I certainly want to thank my colleague from California for offering this very, very important amendment which we are all very supportive of.

This amendment, as has been explained, provides additional funds to the congressional Office of Compliance. This is the agency that really is tasked with making sure that Members of Congress and—very importantly, most importantly—their staff are aware of what their individual rights are and how to protect themselves against sexual harassment in the workplace.

Unfortunately, sometimes it seems like the Members might be protected,

but perhaps their staffs are not as well aware and protected as they need to be. This is certainly not a partisan issue. We have seen incidents over the years of Republicans and of Democrats, both sides of the aisle here.

Actually, Madam Chair, this week I met with senior staff at the OOC. I met with all the board members there. We talked about what kind of additional training might be helpful when we put together our new Members orientation program in the fall, various kinds of things that we can do, and, of course, they needed a little bit more cash to be able to really step up, particularly on the Internet and various things, and do awareness training. So this amendment, I think, is very important.

Certainly, Madam Chair, Congress needs to be held to the highest standards, and, at a minimum, we ought to be held to the same standards that we hold private businesses to out in the marketplace and the workplace.

Every employee that works on this Hill needs to work in an environment that they feel is free from sexual harassment, and if they feel threatened in any way, they need to be able to be sure that they understand their rights and what recourse they have to protect themselves without any fear of retribution. I think Congress needs to be a leader on this issue—a leader—and I certainly feel that by conducting awareness training, that will help stop any unfortunate situation, and if we don't stop it, certainly, then, allowing an individual to protect themselves. That, I think, is an important thing for all of us.

So, again, I thank the gentlelady from California for offering the amendment, and I would urge all my colleagues to support this amendment.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chairman, I also yield back the balance of my time and thank the gentlelady from California for her amendment.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in House Report 113-426.

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Chairwoman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 15, line 2, after the first dollar amount insert "(reduced by \$3,166,946)".

Page 32, line 21, after the dollar amount insert "(increased by \$3,166,946)".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 557, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Chairwoman, I rise today to speak in favor of my sim-

ple and straightforward amendment. My amendment would reduce funding to the United States Botanic Garden to the levels appropriated in fiscal year 2014. That money would then be transferred to the Spending Reduction Account so that we could take one more step towards reining in Federal spending.

I would be the first to say that I appreciate the Botanic Garden and its beauty. I believe it is a good program, and I am personally interested in botany. But Members of Congress are often faced with difficult choices, especially given our current fiscal crisis. There are programs that are constitutionally mandated, and other programs that are nice but are not constitutionally mandated. This is one program that is nice but cannot be immune from the fiscal pressures facing our government.

While the Botanic Garden is a wonderful attraction, Congress must seek to limit excessive spending in the name of getting our fiscal house in order. No line item can be overlooked in making these assessments and decisions, including our own office budgets, as we have demonstrated.

Madam Chairwoman, so many families are tightening their belts during these trying economic times. Congress must do the same and make cuts where it can.

I am concerned that the Architect of the Capitol has proposed over \$5.1 million in new capital projects at the Botanic Garden this year. Rather than making minor repairs to a few small leaks in the roof, the Architect of the Capitol is proposing to tear down the entire roof and replace it with something called a new vegetative roofing system. At a time of soaring deficits and with the Federal debt in excess of \$17 trillion, such expenditures are especially wasteful, and we shouldn't be wasting precious taxpayer money on a new, state-of-the-art vegetative roofing system.

My proposed amendment is a fair cut. It does not gut the program but merely rolls back the appropriations back to 2014 levels. My amendment still allows for almost \$2 million in new capital projects and repairs to take place in fiscal year 2015.

A note about vegetative roofs. They are usually at least twice the cost to install and require a much higher maintenance cost, and in some cases have unintended consequences by attracting wildlife into urban areas, as an example, geese. I ask each Member to vote in favor of the Gosar amendment.

Madam Chairwoman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment which

seeks to cut over \$3 million from the Architect of the Capitol's Botanic Garden—the people's Botanic Garden.

Now, I understand the gentleman from Arizona is trying to generate headlines by attempting to cut much-needed funding to one of the most beloved destinations in Washington, D.C., our Nation's Capital, but this is not the way to fix our Nation's deficit.

Over 200 years ago, George Washington had a vision for our Capital City to include a botanic garden that would demonstrate and promote the important role plant life plays in our Nation. It may seem trivial, but the Botanic Garden, established in 1820, is one of the oldest botanic gardens in the United States. It is also one of the most visited destinations on the Capitol complex. In fact, I know it is my own children's favorite place to visit when they come to Washington, D.C., and often our first stop.

Our constituents sent us here to do real work and look for real solutions to the deficit, not to try to score cheap political points by attacking important institutions that have already taken a fiscal hit, like the Botanic Garden.

The gentleman says that no line-item or opportunity can be looked over when it comes to reducing our deficit. Yet, I urge the gentleman if he is looking for ways to significantly reduce our deficit, to urge the House Republican leadership to address comprehensive immigration reform, which would result in a \$900 million reduction in the deficit over the next 20 years. Going after a garden isn't the answer.

In fact, I think it is important to note that since President Obama took office, our deficit has been cut by more than 50 percent as a percentage of our GDP.

With that, I urge the Members to defeat this ill-advised amendment.

I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE).

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I thank my friend for yielding. I want to thank my friend too because I know the spirit in which this is brought is to save money and to make some tough decisions, and I share that. It is worth pointing out that we did reduce the Architect's request by \$79 million.

□ 1015

Frankly, we are spending about \$40 million less than we did last year, so it is not as if we have not been serious about this. We did look at this particular area. My friend from Florida made the point that not only is it a well-traveled destination point and very desirable place, but it is a pretty old building, and we really do have serious problems here that we think are potentially health hazards.

We have chunks of the building, 5–15 pounds, that have fallen off from the height of 40 feet, and that is a health hazard; so given the traffic there, given the fact that we have been pretty tough across the board, we thought

this was one of those urgent priorities that needed to be taken care of.

Again, I have no qualms with my friend's motives. I know he is trying to save money. I share that belief. We have made a lot of tough decisions across the board, and it is certainly appropriate for this body to look, and if people can find areas, we are happy with that.

In this case, our judgment as a committee—and certainly my judgment—is that we need to make certain that a facility that is this well used is kept safe and in good repair, so we don't risk liability and risk injury and, frankly, that we do keep open and functioning one of the most beloved institutions of the Capitol complex.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 4 printed in House Report 113–426.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 15, line 13, after the dollar amount insert "(reduced by \$243,000)".

Page 32, line 21, after the dollar amount insert "(increased by \$243,000)".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 557, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Chair, the bill under consideration today is probably the smallest appropriations bill that we see each year, at least in terms of the number of dollars involved.

It funds the operations of the legislative branch—both the operational expenses of the congressional offices and the expenses which occur in protecting and maintaining Capitol grounds.

This bill decreases in several places, and it holds the line on a number of accounts as well. In total, the bill provides funding which is in line with the amount provided just last year. I commend the Appropriations Committee for this. However, there are also a number of increases found within the bill.

Earlier this week, I submitted amendments to the Rules Committee,

all of which were meant to target accounts which received seemingly inexplicable increases. I have been allowed one amendment today, only one, which would decrease funding for the Capitol Visitor Center by \$243,000 and move the same amount to the spending reduction account.

This move would result in the Visitor Center funding being equal to the amount which was appropriated last year, just keeping it at the same level.

The Capitol Visitor Center opened to the public in December of 2008, and according to the Congressional Research Service, it cost more than \$600 million to complete. While the Visitor Center received about \$65 million in private donations, the rest of its cost was borne by taxpayers.

Madam Chairman, it has been less than 10 years since the Visitor Center has opened, at considerable public expense. I think, given our current fiscal state, we can certainly afford to level fund the Visitor Center, hold the line, and use this increase, while just a small one, to help reduce our Federal deficit. I urge my colleagues to support my amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, this amendment cuts the small inflationary increase of \$243,000 provided to the Capitol Visitor Center in this bill. This small increase is needed for the Capitol Visitor Center to keep up with inflation in order to provide the same level of service to our constituents next year as they are providing this year. When is enough enough?

My colleague must not be aware that the Capitol Visitor Center is 7 percent below the funding level that they were in fiscal year 2010. They have already contributed their fair share to deficit reduction.

If my colleague is serious about reducing the national debt and the deficit, then I would suggest that he stop voting to repeal the Affordable Care Act because the recent CBO estimate is that there would be a net increase of \$109 billion to the deficit between 2013 and 2022 if the Affordable Care Act is repealed.

Perhaps he can call on his own leadership to reduce the deficit by \$900 million by taking up and passing comprehensive immigration reform.

When I was chair of this subcommittee, I inherited a fiscal disaster in cost overruns during the construction of the Capitol Visitor Center. We were collaboratively and in a bipartisan way able to bring that project in for a soft landing and slow the hemorrhaging of Federal funds for a project that a Republican majority began.

Now, we recognized that the responsible thing was to ensure that this facility had the tools necessary to succeed, so that our visitors could have an

informative and welcoming space to visit their government and to understand our democracy, so it baffles me that we would see an amendment that goes after the very organization that interacts with our constituents nearly every day.

I want those working in the Capitol Visitor Center to know that we appreciate the work they do. They are essential to the experience our constituents have when visiting our Nation's Capitol. With that, I urge defeat of the amendment.

Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE).

Mr. COLE. Madam Chair, first, I thank the gentlelady for yielding, and I want to thank my friend too because I know he is very serious about looking for places to cut costs. Indeed, later on, there are a number of items that Members have brought to our attention that we will accept. In this case, we don't think it is appropriate.

I do want to thank my friend from Florida. I happened to be on this committee as a junior Member when she did do, I think, an unbelievably good job in working us through what had been a bad process and cost overruns in the Center.

At the end of the day, this is where millions of Americans—this is their portal to the Capitol. It is well run, and it is well managed. I think maintaining access and keeping it safe and keeping it welcoming, if you will, is very important.

So while this is a legitimate question to raise, I agree with my friend and would oppose the amendment.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Chair, I didn't realize with this amendment that we were going to get into debate about the unaffordable, uncaring act, so-called ObamaCare. Actually, I have the solution.

We have been promised that if you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. We have been promised that if you like your insurance, you can keep your insurance. We know both of those are not factual.

We know both of those were known by the President when he made those claims to America, that he knew that they were not factual also. I am just waiting for the President to come out with this claim: if you like your gun, you can keep your gun.

Before getting back to the appropriations process, let me, to just finish up—and that is, I have the solution. It is called the Patient Option Act. It will actually make everybody's health insurance in this country less expensive.

It will provide access to good quality health care for all Americans, and it will save Medicare from going broke. It has been endorsed by the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, as well as FreedomWorks, and it will solve the problems that we all face of an out-of-control health care cost system burden that has been placed on us by a government that has intruded into the health care system itself.

Madam Chairman, this country expects us to make cuts. We are spending money we don't have. We are borrowing 40 cents on every dollar that we spend, and we just have to stop spending money we don't have. We have to restore fiscal sanity to the government. That is what I will continue to do as a Member of Congress, as long as I am here.

I yield back the balance of my time. Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, as a breast cancer survivor and one of the 129 million Americans who live in this country with a preexisting condition, I am thankful for the Affordable Care Act and the peace of mind it established on January 1 when, never again, an insurance company in this country could drop us or deny us coverage, the coverage that the gentleman from Georgia has repeatedly voted to take away from millions of Americans.

This amendment would cut the Capitol Visitor Center by \$243,000, when we need to make sure that they have the cost of inflation increase, so they can continue to provide the good service that they provide to our constituents, so we can continue to educate Americans and everyone around the world about the finest democracy in the world.

Madam Chair, I urge Members to vote against this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. DUFFY

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 5 printed in House Report 113-426.

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 29, line 7, after the dollar amount insert "(reduced by \$3,420,000)".

Page 32, line 21, after the dollar amount insert "(increased by \$3,420,000)".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 557, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. DUFFY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Chair, first, I want to commend the work of both Mr. COLE and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ in producing a spending bill that doesn't actually increase spending. It doesn't actually reduce it, but it actually maintains it; and for this institution, I think that is a positive, and I commend you both for doing that.

I think it is important, when we talk a lot about our debt at \$17 trillion—we have deficits at \$1.5 trillion today, down to a little over \$600 billion, I think it is important that this institution lead by example and look to places that we can cut, places that we can be more efficient, when we look at spending on operations here in the House.

When we do that, I think it is important to look at duplicative programs, programs that accomplish the same mission through multiple agencies.

I would submit to this Chamber that one of those is the Open World Leadership Center. This program—its purpose is to engage emerging leaders from post-Soviet countries by exposing them to American cultural institutions. I would argue it has outlived its usefulness.

Listen, it is great that we should engage others from around the world. We should engage their leaders. I think that can help bridge the gap.

The problem with this program is that, since 2000, it has cost the American taxpayer \$150 million; but not only that, we have nearly 90 programs that try to accomplish this very same mission, just to name a few in the State Department: the National Endowment for Democracy, the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute, and USAID, all with this same mission.

So I think this is a space where we can eliminate this program. The mission can still be accomplished with other agencies, and we can move over \$3 million to deficit reduction.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chair, I want to thank my friend. Again, I appreciate the spirit in which he approaches this. This is an interesting point of discussion because we actually have Members of both parties who really like this program and think it is very important, and we have Members of both parties that share your point of view. It is not a partisan debate in the least.

I would say that there are a number of both contemporary points and a number of longer-term points that ought to be taken into account.

□ 1030

First, this was originally a \$6 million item. We have cut it by 43 percent aimed at Russia. All the other participants in this program are the very countries that Russia threatens right now; particularly Ukraine, which is the second largest participant. I think it would be a really bad signal for this country to actually cut programs that are supportive of democracy in the areas immediately around Russia and, frankly, I think more or less plays into Mr. Putin's hand.

Beyond that, we have a unique institution, a unique arrangement, and a unique person heading it at the Library

of Congress, Mr. Billington, who is probably the world's most expert on Russian history, culture, and literature. This has been well placed, as long as he has been the librarian, and well used.

So, again, I appreciate my friend's motives, but I would urge the rejection of his amendment.

With that, I would like to yield the remainder of the time that I have to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), my good friend.

Mr. MORAN. Madam Chairman, I could not agree more with my good friend from Oklahoma, the chairman of this subcommittee, the idea that my colleague from Wisconsin would suggest that this program has outlived its usefulness when the Russian bear is hungrier than it has been in decades, when Putin seized Crimea and now he is trying to take parts of eastern Ukraine.

Let me explain what this program does. It takes emerging leaders in Russia and Russia's satellite countries, former members of the Soviet Union, who show exceptional talent and interest in speaking for themselves and it brings them over to the United States and puts them in homes and communities where they will learn how our rule of law works, what equal justice under the law means in a truly democratic country. It shows them how to participate in the democratic process. It shows them how we have taken the works of Tolstoy and Dostoevsky and Solzhenitsyn and we have implemented them in a country that respects individualism and puts individualism higher than statism. It is a direct threat to communism. It is a direct threat to Mr. Putin. Because if you do this, Mr. Putin can't keep his \$60 billion he has taken from corruption. He can't continue to make his people dependent upon the state. This is disruptive to him. It is a direct threat to him. That is why it is important.

Haven't we done enough for Mr. Putin's interests to cut this program by 43 percent by preventing these young emerging leaders from being able to come over to this country? Do we now have to deny Ukrainian leaders the ability to gain an understanding of what a country that is not corrupt, of what a country that respects individualism, respects democracy, respects equal justice under the law is all about?

That is what this program is all about. We spend half a trillion dollars on our military, and yet programs like this will accomplish more for sustainability of peace among nations by giving an opportunity for people to speak for themselves, to speak out for the rule of law, to speak against corruption. That is what we as a nation want. We don't want to dominate anybody else. We want to be an instrument of our values and our vision. We want to be that beacon of light and hope for other nations. This is one of the ways in which we achieve that objective. A

small amount of money, but an enormously valuable contribution to world peace.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Chairman, with all due respect, to those who may disagree with this amendment—I am seeing some bipartisan agreement; I know I have some bipartisan disagreement with this amendment—but to my colleagues, there are 90 programs that are aimed at accomplishing the very same mission. When do we come forward and say: Listen, let's cut this back; let's cut it back a little bit? The bridge isn't cut off, but we have other programs that are doing the same thing.

Listen, we want to talk about what is going on in Ukraine and want to talk about what is going on in Russia. This program didn't exist in the 1980s. Ronald Reagan didn't have this program to tear down the Soviet Union. He did it with strong leadership. So to come to this institution and say: Listen, the \$3.4 million in this program is going to stop the aggression of Putin, no. Strong leadership will, though. This is about when do we come together as an institution and find programs that are duplicative, programs that we can look and say: This can be scaled back and we can look to one of the other 89 programs to accomplish this same mission.

There is a constituency around every dollar. That is why it is so hard in this town to scale back because everyone will come forward and go: But no, no, no; this dollar is so important. And people come from our communities and go: No, don't cut back.

We are \$1.7 trillion in debt. This is unsustainable. So let's come together and find this program that we can cut and look to the other 89 that can accomplish the same mission, which I think is a noble mission.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. DUFFY).

The amendment was rejected.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. HALL

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 6 printed in House Report 113-426.

Mr. HALL. Madam Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 211. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of the report of disbursements for the operations of the House of Representatives under section 106 of the House of Representatives Administrative Reform Technical Corrections Act (2 U.S.C. 5535) to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress).

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 557, the gentleman from Texas

(Mr. HALL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. HALL. Madam Chairman, I would like to thank my good friend Chairman COLE and the Appropriations Committee for allowing me to offer this amendment in conjunction with Congressman MCCAUL. My amendment today simply prohibits the Statement of Disbursements of the House from being distributed the old-fashioned way—through print.

A lot of people say I am old-fashioned and I am behind the times, but I have a Facebook account, I tweet, and just this week my congressional Web site was singled out for the Silver Mouse Award, placing it in the top 6 percent of all congressional Web sites for transparency, ease of use, and accessibility of constituent services.

Right now, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House distributes 441 copies of its three-volume Statement of Disbursements to the House at a cost of well over \$300,000 per year. This quarterly public report of all reports and expenditures for U.S. House of Representatives Members, committees, leadership, officers, and offices was more than 2,400 pages long in its last edition. Multiply that by 441, and you have 100,000 pages of printed material, all of which can easily be accessed on the CAO's Web site.

To be clear, my amendment does nothing to prohibit the CAO from making the Statement of Disbursements of the House available online to Members as they currently do. But if I can learn to communicate electronically, I sure don't see why the Federal Government can't do the same thing.

Mr. COLE. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HALL. I yield to the gentleman from Oklahoma.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I want to accept this amendment.

You certainly aren't behind the times. You are usually ahead of the curve.

In this case, the gentleman certainly is. I appreciate him pointing out an area where we can save \$300,000. He is precisely right on this. We are more than happy to accept the amendment and, again, very much appreciate our friend for bringing it to the floor and for saving the American taxpayers \$300,000.

Mr. HALL. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. WENSTRUP

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 7 printed in House Report 113-426.

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 211. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) a printed copy of the Daily Calendar of the House of Representatives which is prepared by the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 557, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WENSTRUP) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Chairman, I rise in support today of amendment No. 7.

My amendment is simple. It would eliminate the daily delivery of printed copies of the House Calendar to Member offices.

This multipage paper booklet is currently delivered each legislative day to 441 Representatives' offices. The document in my hand is about 100 pages, meaning that about 44,000 pages are wasted each legislative day, over 5 million pages a year.

The information in these pages is readily available online, and, as required, paper copies will be kept on record. Previously, the House took similar action by ending paper deliveries of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a few years ago with no adverse effects.

Let's be honest, Madam Chairman, no one sits and peruses the calendar every day. Most offices accept the delivery, turn 90 degrees, and place it in the recycling bin. Hardly a good use of time or precious paper.

Ending this outdated practice also saves money. We can save hardworking taxpayers nearly \$200,000 a year, according to the Government Printing Office.

Madam Chairman, I want to note that this idea came from one of my staff members, Kate Raulin, who repeatedly recycles these Calendars and grew frustrated at the waste she saw every day. Imagine if every staff member of this body had an idea or an amendment that would save the taxpayers about \$200,000 a year. By my back-of-the-napkin calculations, those savings would easily top over a billion dollars a year.

When I worked in the private sector, we had to be mindful of excess costs and waste. The government must be held to the same standard and should reform outdated policies. We should not remain stuck in the past. If the daily cost of delivery came out of each Member's personal office budget, how many of us would actually pay to get this delivered every day?

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment and vote "yea."

Mr. COLE. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WENSTRUP. I yield to the gentleman from Oklahoma.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I want to thank my friend for bringing this to the floor. He is precisely right in everything that he says about both the costs

and the functionality of the document in question.

His staff member is to be commended for bringing it to his attention and for you acknowledging her. I think staff people every place are grateful. We are delighted to accept this amendment, delighted to save the money, and, again, appreciate our friend bringing it to our attention, pointing it out, and saving the taxpayers \$200,000.

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WENSTRUP).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. HOLT

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 8 printed in House Report 113-426.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 211. There is appropriated, for salaries and expenses of the Office of Technology Assessment as authorized by the Technology Assessment Act of 1972 (2 U.S.C. 471 et seq.), hereby derived from the amount provided in this Act for the payment to the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund, \$2,500,000.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 557, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, I yield myself 2½ minutes.

For 23 years, Congress had an insightful nonpartisan agency aimed at providing Members of Congress and their staff with expert advice on the technological aspects of public policy. It was called the Office of Technology Assessment. From 1972 to 1995, it produced reports on topics that were striking in their relevance even today: computer software security, disposal of chemical weapons, teaching with technology, bioenergy, and many more. OTA was part of Congress, understood the congressional process; it spoke the language of Congress, and it looked at the technological aspects of a large variety of issues and provided clarity where it was needed.

□ 1045

Congress turned out the lights on the OTA in 1995 with the thought that congressional agencies like CRS, GAO, also universities and private industry would fill the void. They have not. In the years since the OTA was defunded, our need for its work has grown only more acute. Too often, we have considered or not considered legislation in ignorance of the technological factors.

That is why I am introducing an amendment to restore some funding to the OTA. My amendment would reallocate to the OTA \$2.5 million appro-

riated for the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund, about 1.4 percent of the surplus in that trust fund. During its 23 years, the OTA produced an amazingly high return on investment, with hundreds of millions of dollars in savings.

A study on Agent Orange helped save the government \$10 million. An OTA report was the source of recommendations for upgrades in the computer system of the Social Security Administration that led to a savings of more than \$300 million. Studies on the synfuels helped save, literally, billions of dollars.

When Congress stopped receiving the OTA's counsel, technological topics didn't become less relevant in the political process; they just became less understood, and scientific thinking lost its toehold on Capitol Hill, with troubling consequences for the ways we legislate on all issues, not just on those that are explicitly scientific.

I urge a "yes" vote on this amendment in order to give Congress a tool that we desperately need to do the people's work with clarity and reason.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, my friend is, frankly, one of the most thoughtful and best Members of this body. There is no question about that. So, when we discussed this, I took it very seriously because it was my friend's proposal, and I think any other Member in this House would do the same. At the end of the day, I came to a different conclusion for a number of reasons.

First, we are in a very tight budget. We have no increase at all, so funding this initiative means effectively taking money away from someplace else. Second, I looked at the long-term spending pattern of this program in the past. It actually peaked at \$20 million, so I think starting at \$2.5 million is not likely where it will end up over time. Third, quite frankly, I looked at what some of my predecessors in my position had thought, both Republican and Democratic. As my friend knows, obviously, the Democrats had the majority after 1995 for a 4-year period, which was relatively recently, and they looked at this and came to the same decision that was made in '95, and that, I think, we make today, which is that there are other sources of information. The Government Accountability Office, in particular, has developed a capability here, and we think there are other sources of information.

While I don't deny that this has played a useful role in the past, I just believe, given the constrained circumstances that we have today, given the possibility that this will grow, and given what at least to date has been a bipartisan judgment that this is something we didn't need to renew, I, reluctantly, decided not to include this in

the bill. For that reason, I would also oppose the amendment.

I now yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), my good friend, the ranking member of the Legislative Branch Subcommittee.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I thank the gentleman, regretfully, because I know how passionate the gentleman from New Jersey is about this important issue.

Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to this well-intentioned amendment, which seeks to add \$2.5 million to reestablish the Office of Technology Assessment, which did have an important scope of work for Congress during its existence in the 1990s. Unfortunately, the amendment takes the funding from the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund. This fund is critical for the long-term maintenance for such items as the Cannon House Office Building's rehabilitation, which is an ongoing project that has already begun. The fund was established so we could bank resources over several years for the revitalization of our House office buildings and stave off cost overruns that have plagued previous projects.

I have been a supporter of the Office of Technology Assessment dating back to my time as chair of this subcommittee. In fact, in fiscal years 2008–2010, I included \$2.5 million in this bill within the Government Accountability Office for activities similar in scope to the work of OTA's. I also supported an identical amendment offered by Mr. HOLT in fiscal year 2012, as the Cannon project had not yet commenced, but now that it has, I cannot support an amendment in good conscience that would take critical resources from a fund that supports ongoing rehabilitation projects on the Capitol complex. Perhaps, had the gentleman found another source for his funding, we could have been supportive.

I thank the gentleman for his passion on this issue, but I urge Members to vote against the amendment.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Washington State (Mr. McDERMOTT), who observed the OTA in action in his time here in Congress.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Chairman, I was one of the 16 people who was on that committee. It used to be a committee with four Republicans from the Senate and four Republicans from the House, four Democrats from the Senate and four Democrats from the House. It was a balanced committee. It looked at the technological questions of what we are spending billions of dollars on.

Now we have a choice of where we get our information. The GAO looks backward. All of the government organizations look backward. They don't look forward. That is not their role to imagine what will happen out there. What we need is an organization that can look forward as we proceed to spend billions of dollars in technology. We

can either get the information from a nonpartisan organization that is controlled evenly by both sides of the House and the other body, or we could go to industry. They will come in here, and they will give us all of the information of their having the best thing since sliced bread.

I think we need the OTA, and I urge you to adopt the amendment.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), my good friend, a member of the Appropriations Committee, someone who has also observed the OTA in practice.

Mr. MORAN. I thank my friend representing Princeton, New Jersey, who has a doctorate in physics, who is a "Jeopardy!" award winner, who is, perhaps, one of the most academically advanced Members of the Congress. It is interesting that he is the one who knows enough to know what we don't know in this Congress. My concern is that many of us don't know enough to know what we don't know.

Madam Chairman, the size of computers is shrinking by about 50 percent every couple of years, and their capacity—their power and their speed—is doubling, yet we can't understand the implications of that, which applies to all of our constituencies. We just mandated that 30 percent of the energy that the military spends, which is billions of dollars, has to be from non-carbon-polluting forms of energy. Do we know whether that is achievable? We just committed yesterday \$11 billion for computer interoperability for electronic medical records.

We have to understand the implications of our decisions, and the OTA helps us to be able to do that.

Mr. COLE. Madam Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, in closing, for almost a quarter of a century, the OTA was one of the most respected, productive, cost-efficient agencies we have seen, producing comprehensive reports for the House and the Senate on issues related to health care policy, agricultural production, telecommunications, space policy, electronic surveillance, national defense, and much more. It prevented decisions made in ignorance, and ignorance is expensive.

My friend from Oklahoma and also the ranking member, the gentlelady from Florida, talked about cost. What we are talking about here is finding the low-hanging fruit on making government more efficient. That is what the OTA did. That is what the OTA would do. This is the last Legislative Branch appropriations I will be dealing with. I know the OTA. I worked as a staffer on Capitol Hill. I saw that it works. I saw how much it elevated the debate here on Capitol Hill. It saves taxpayer money. I urge a "yes" vote.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Again, I want to thank my friend because I know he is, indeed, committed to this idea.

In closing, Madam Chair, I think, as usual, my friend Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ probably made the salient point of the debate. We are taking from our historic trust fund, which preserves this building, and redirects that resource. That is a mistake. That is just simply a mistake. If there is another way to fund it, I would still have grave reservations about reintroducing it because I do think the information is available elsewhere, but robbing from your seed corn, I think, is something we shouldn't do.

We have established this fund. We have been able to maintain it under Democrats and Republicans alike. We are going to have these challenges going forward. I do not want to set the precedent of this becoming a piggy bank to fund other things out of. We need to maintain our campus. This is an important way to do it, and I think weakening it in any way would be counterproductive.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in House Report 113-426 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 1 by Mr. NUGENT of Florida.

Amendment No. 3 by Mr. GOSAR of Arizona.

Amendment No. 4 by Mr. BROUN of Georgia.

Amendment No. 8 by Mr. HOLT of New Jersey.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. NUGENT

The CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. NUGENT) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 196, noes 221, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 188]

AYES—196

Amodei Franks (AZ) Noem
 Barber Gabbard Nolan
 Barletta Gallego Nugent
 Barr Garcia Nunnelee
 Barrow (GA) Gibbs O'Rourke
 Benishkek Gibson Olson
 Bentivolio Gohmert Palazzo
 Bera (CA) Goodlatte Perry
 Bilirakis Granger Peters (CA)
 Bishop (NY) Graves (GA) Peters (MI)
 Bishop (UT) Graves (MO) Petri
 Black Hahn Pittenger
 Blackburn Hall
 Blumenaier Hanna Pitts
 Braley (IA) Harper Poe (TX)
 Bridenstine Harris Posey
 Brooks (AL) Hartzler Price (NC)
 Brooks (IN) Heck (NV) Reed
 Broun (GA) Heck (WA) Reichert
 Brownley (CA) Hensarling Ribble
 Buchanan Herrera Beutler Riggell
 Buechson Himes Roe (TN)
 Burgess Holding Rogers (AL)
 Bustos Hudson Rokita
 Byrne Huelskamp Ross
 Camp Huizenga (MI) Royce
 Campbell Hurt Ruiz
 Cantor Israel Salmon
 Capito Jenkins Sanford
 Capps Jones Scalise
 Cassidy Jordan Schneider
 Castor (FL) Joyce Schrader
 Coble Kilmer Scott (VA)
 Coffman Kingston Scott, Austin
 Cohen Kirkpatrick Sensenbrenner
 Collins (GA) Kuster Sessions
 Collins (NY) LaMalfa Shea-Porter
 Cook Lamborn Sinema
 Cooper Lance Slaughter
 Costa Lankford Smith (MO)
 Cotton Latta Smith (NJ)
 Courtney LoBiondo Smith (TX)
 Cramer Lofgren Smith (WA)
 Daines Long Southernland
 Davis (CA) Luetkemeyer Stewart
 Davis, Rodney Lujan Grisham
 DeFazio (NM) Stivers
 Delaney Lujan, Ben Ray Stutzman
 DelBene (NM) Swalwell (CA)
 Denham Lummis Takano
 Dent Maffei Tiberi
 DeSantis Maloney, Sean Tierney
 DesJarlais Marino Tonko
 Duckworth Messie Upton
 Duffy Matheson Wagner
 Duncan (SC) McCaul Walden
 Duncan (TN) McCaul Walorski
 Ellmers McClintock Walz
 Esty McHenry Weber (TX)
 Farr McKinley Webster (FL)
 Fincher McMorris Wenstrup
 Fitzpatrick Rodgers Westmoreland
 Fleischmann Meehan Williams
 Fleming Meng Wilson (SC)
 Flores Messer Wittman
 Forbes Mullin Woodall
 Foster Murphy (FL) Yoder
 Napolitano

NOES—221

Aderholt Clarke (NY) Fattah
 Amash Clay Fortenberry
 Bachmann Cleaver Foxx
 Bachus Clyburn Frankel (FL)
 Barton Cole Fudge
 Bass Conaway Garamendi
 Beatty Connolly Gardner
 Bishop (GA) Conyers Garrett
 Bonamici Crawford Gerlach
 Boustany Crenshaw Gosar
 Brady (PA) Crowley Gowdy
 Brady (TX) Cuellar Grayson
 Brown (FL) Culberson Green, Al
 Butterfield Cummings Green, Gene
 Calvert Davis, Danny Griffin (AR)
 Capuano DeGette Griffith (VA)
 Cárdenas DeLauro Grijalva
 Carney Grimm Guthrie
 Carson (IN) Diaz-Balart Hanabusa
 Carter Dingell Hastings (FL)
 Cartwright Doggett Hastings (WA)
 Castro (TX) Doyle Higgins
 Chabot Edwards Holt
 Chaffetz Ellison Honda
 Chu Engel Horsford
 Cicilline Eshoo Hoyer
 Clark (MA) Farenthold

Huffman Mica Sánchez, Linda
 Hultgren Michaud T.
 Hunter Miller (MI) Sanchez, Loretta
 Issa Miller, Gary Sarbanes
 Jackson Lee Miller, George Schakowsky
 Jeffries Moore Schiff
 Johnson (GA) Moran Schock
 Johnson (OH) Mulvaney Schweikert
 Johnson, E. B. Murphy (PA) Scott, David
 Johnson, Sam Nadler Serrano
 Jolly Neal Sewell (AL)
 Kaptur Negrete McLeod Sherman
 Keating Neugebauer Shimkus
 Kelly (IL) Nunes Shuster
 Kelly (PA) Owens Simpson
 Kennedy Pallone Sires
 Kildee Pascrell Smith (NE)
 Kind Pastor (AZ) Speier
 King (IA) Paulsen Terry
 King (NY) Paulsen Thompson (CA)
 Kinzinger (IL) Payne Thompson (MS)
 Kline Pearce Thompson (PA)
 Labrador Pelosi Thornberry
 Langevin Perlmutter Tipton
 Larsen (WA) Peterson Titus
 Larson (CT) Pingree (ME) Tsongas
 Latham Pocan Turner
 Lee (CA) Polis Valadao
 Levin Pompeo Van Hollen
 Lewis Price (GA) Vargas
 Lipinski Quigley Veasey
 Loeb sack Rahall Vela
 Lowenthal Rangell Velázquez
 Lowey Renacci Visclosky
 Lucas Rice (SC) Walberg
 Lynch Roby Wasserman
 Maloney, Carolyn Rogers (MI) Schultz
 Marchant Rohrabacher Waters
 Matsui Rooney Waxman
 McCarthy (CA) Ros-Lehtinen Welch
 McCarthy (NY) Roskam Whitfield
 McDermott Rothfus Wilson (FL)
 McGovern Roybal-Allard Wolf
 McKeon Runyan Womack
 McNeerney Ruppertsberger Yarmuth
 Meadows Rush Yoho
 Ryan (OH) Young (AK)
 Ryan (WI) Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—14

Becerra Hinojosa Richmond
 Enyart McAllister Rogers (KY)
 Frelinghuysen McCollum Schwartz
 Gingrey (GA) McIntyre Stockman
 Gutiérrez Miller (FL)

□ 1126

Mr. CRAWFORD, Ms. HANABUSA, Messrs. WALBERG, ROGERS of Michigan, and GRIFFIN of Arkansas changed their vote from "aye" to "no." Mrs. NOEM, Messrs. COURTNEY, TONKO, SCOTT of Virginia, LUETKEMEYER, GRAVES of Missouri, CAMP, GOHMERT, ROKITA, BURGESS, and Mrs. BLACK changed their vote from "no" to "aye."

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The Acting CHAIR (Ms. FOXX). The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 219, noes 198, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 189]

AYES—219

Aderholt Graves (GA) Perry
 Amash Graves (MO) Peters (CA)
 Bachmann Green, Gene Peters (MI)
 Barber Griffin (AR) Peterson
 Barletta Griffith (VA) Pittenger
 Barr Guthrie Pitts
 Barrow (GA) Hahn Poe (TX)
 Barton Hall Polis
 Benishkek Hanna Pompeo
 Bentivolio Harper Posey
 Bera (CA) Harris Price (GA)
 Bilirakis Hartzler Rahall
 Bishop (NY) Heck (NV) Reed
 Bishop (UT) Hensarling Hensarling
 Black Herrera Beutler Reichert
 Blackburn Himes Renacci
 Boustany Holding Ribble
 Brady (TX) Hudson Rice (SC)
 Braley (IA) Huelskamp Rigell
 Bridenstine Huizenga (MI) Roe (TN)
 Brooks (AL) Rogers (AL) Rogers (AL)
 Brooks (IN) Hultgren Rogers (MI)
 Broun (GA) Hunter Rohrabacher
 Buchanan Israel Rokita
 Buchanan Issa Rooney
 Buechson Jenkins Roskam
 Burgess Johnson (OH) Ross
 Bustos Johnson, Sam Rothfus
 Byrne Jones Royce
 Camp Jordan Ruiz
 Campbell Joyce
 Cantor Kelly (PA) Ryan (WI)
 Capito King (IA) Salmon
 Capps Kingston Sanford
 Cassidy Kirkpatrick Scalise
 Castor (FL) Chabot Schwikert
 Coble Chaffetz Scott, Austin
 Collins (GA) Labrador Sensenbrenner
 Collins (NY) LaMalfa Sinema
 Cook Lamborn Sessions
 Cooper Lankford Shuster
 Costa Latta Simpson
 Cotton Lipinski Sinema
 Courtney LoBiondo Smith (MO)
 Cramer Loeb sack Smith (NE)
 Daines Long Smith (NJ)
 Davis (CA) Luetkemeyer Smith (TX)
 Davis, Rodney Mummis Southernland
 DeFazio Maffei Stivers
 Delaney Marchant Stutzman
 DelBene Marino Terry
 Denham Massie Thornberry
 DeSantis Matheson Tiberi
 DesJarlais McAllister McCarthy (CA) Tipton
 Duckworth McCaul Turner
 Duffy McClintock Upton
 Duncan (SC) McHenry Wagner
 Duncan (TN) McKinley Walberg
 Ellmers McMorris Walden
 Farenthold Rodgers Walorski
 Fincher Fleischmann Walz
 Fincher Farnthold Weber (TX)
 Flores Fleischmann Webster (FL)
 Forbes Messer Wenstrup
 Franks (AZ) Flores Westmoreland
 Gabbard Mullin Whitfield
 Garcia Mulvaney Williams
 Gardner Neugebauer Wilson (SC)
 Garrett Noem Wittman
 Gibbs Nugent Womack
 Gohmert Nunes Woodall
 Goodlatte Nunnelee Yoder
 Gosar Olson Yoho
 Gowdy Palazzo Young (AK)
 Granger Paulsen Young (IN)

NOES—198

Amodei Castro (TX) DeGette
 Bachus Chu DeLauro
 Bass Cicilline DeBene
 Beatty Clark (MA) Dent
 Bishop (GA) Clarke (NY) Deutch
 Blumenaier Clay Diaz-Balart
 Bonamici Cleaver Dingell
 Brady (PA) Clyburn Doggett
 Brown (FL) Cohen Doyle
 Brownley (CA) Cole Edwards
 Butterfield Conyers Ellison
 Calvert Courtney Engel
 Capps Crenshaw Eshoo
 Capuano Crowley Esty
 Cárdenas Cuellar Farr
 Carney Culberson Fattah
 Carson (IN) Cummings Davis (CA)
 Carter Fitzpatrick Fortenberry
 Cartwright Davis, Danny Foster
 Castor (FL) DeFazio

Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallego
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gibson
Grayson
Green, Al
Grijalva
Grimm
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jolly
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Kuster
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lofgren
Lowenthal

NOT VOTING—14

Becerra
Enyart
Gingrey (GA)
Gutiérrez
Hinojosa

□ 1132

Mr. DELANEY changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. HURT. Madam Chair, I was not present for rollcall vote No. 189. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 207, noes 212, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 190]
AYES—207
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Byrne
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Costa
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gabbard
Gardner
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert

NOES—212

Aderholt
Bachus
Bass
Beatty
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Butterfield
Calvert
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)

Grijalva
Grimm
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jolly
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Lofgren
Sessions
Shuster
Sinema
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southernland
Stewart
Stivers
Stutzman
Terry
Thornberry
Tipton
Tsongas
Upton
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

Lynch
Maloney,
Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKeon
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Walz
Rangel
Reichert
Roby
Ros-Lehtinen
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta

NOT VOTING—12

Becerra
Enyart
Gingrey (GA)
Gutiérrez

□ 1136

So the amendment was rejected. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. HOLT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote. The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 164, noes 248, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 191]

AYES—164

Barber	Blumenauer	Capuano
Barrow (GA)	Bonamici	Cárdenas
Bass	Braley (IA)	Carney
Beatty	Brown (FL)	Carson (IN)
Bera (CA)	Brownley (CA)	Cartwright
Bishop (GA)	Bustos	Cassidy
Bishop (NY)	Capps	Castor (FL)

Castro (TX)	Honda	Pastor (AZ)	McKeon	Ribble	Southerland
Chu	Huffman	Payne	McKinley	Rice (SC)	Stewart
Ciilline	Israel	Pelosi	McMorris	Rigell	Stivers
Clark (MA)	Jeffries	Perlmutter	Rodgers	Roby	Stutzman
Clarke (NY)	Johnson (GA)	Peters (CA)	Meadows	Roe (TN)	Terry
Clay	Johnson, E. B.	Peters (MI)	Meehan	Rogers (AL)	Thompson (PA)
Cleaver	Jones	Petri	Messer	Rogers (MI)	Thornberry
Cohen	Keating	Pingree (ME)	Mica	Rohrabacher	Tipton
Connolly	Kelly (IL)	Pocan	Miller (MI)	Rokita	Titus
Conyers	Kennedy	Polis	Miller, Gary	Rooney	Turner
Cooper	Kilmer	Price (NC)	Moore	Ros-Lehtinen	Upton
Courtney	Kinder	Quigley	Mullin	Roskam	Valadao
Cummings	Kirkpatrick	Rangel	Mulvaney	Ross	Vela
Davis (CA)	Kuster	Ruiz	Murphy (PA)	Rothfus	Wagner
Davis, Danny	Lance	Ruppersberger	Neugebauer	Roybal-Allard	Walberg
DeFazio	Langevin	Rush	Noem	Royce	Walden
DeGette	Larsen (WA)	Ryan (OH)	Nugent	Runyan	Walorski
Delaney	Larson (CT)	Salmon	Nunes	Ryan (WI)	Walz
DeLauro	Lee (CA)	Sánchez, Linda	Nunnelee	Sanford	Wasserman
DeBene	Levin	T.	O'Rourke	Scalise	Schultz
Deutch	Lewis	Sanchez, Loretta	Olson	Schock	Weber (TX)
Dingell	Lipinski	Sarbanes	Palazzo	Schrader	Webster (FL)
Doggett	LoBiondo	Schakowsky	Paulsen	Schweikert	Wenstrup
Doyle	Loeb	Schiff	Pearce	Scott, Austin	Westmoreland
Duckworth	Lofgren	Schneider	Perry	Sensenbrenner	Whitfield
Edwards	Lowenthal	Scott (VA)	Peterson	Sessions	Williams
Ellison	Lowe	Scott, David	Pittenger	Sewell (AL)	Wilson (SC)
Engel	Lujan Grisham	Pitts	Pitts	Shimkus	Wittman
Eshoo	(NM)	Serrano	Poe (TX)	Shuster	Wolf
Esty	Luján, Ben Ray	Shea-Porter	Pompeo	Simpson	Womack
Farenthold	(NM)	Sherman	Posey	Sinema	Woodall
Farr	Lynch	Slaughter	Price (GA)	Sires	Yoder
Fattah	Matheson	Smith (WA)	Rahall	Smith (MO)	Yoho
Foster	McDermott	Swalwell (CA)	Reed	Smith (NE)	Young (AK)
Fudge	McGovern	Takano	Reichert	Smith (NJ)	Young (IN)
Garamendi	McNerney	Thompson (CA)	Renacci	Smith (TX)	
Garcia	Meeks	Thompson (MS)			
Grayson	Meng	Tiberi			
Green, Al	Michaud	Tierney			
Green, Gene	Miller, George	Tonko			
Grijalva	Moran	Van Hollen			
Hahn	Murphy (FL)	Vargas			
Hanabusa	Nadler	Veasey			
Harris	Napolitano	Velázquez			
Hastings (FL)	Neal	Visclosky			
Heck (WA)	Nolan	Waxman			
Higgins	Owens	Welch			
Himes	Pallone	Wilson (FL)			
Holt	Pascrell	Yarmuth			

NOES—248

Aderholt	Daines	Holding
Amash	Davis, Rodney	Horsford
Bachmann	Denham	Hoyer
Bachus	Dent	Hudson
Barletta	DeSantis	Huelskamp
Barr	DesJarlais	Huizenga (MI)
Barton	Diaz-Balart	Hultgren
Benishek	Duffy	Hunter
Bentivolio	Duncan (SC)	Hurt
Bilirakis	Duncan (TN)	Issa
Bishop (UT)	Ellmers	Jackson Lee
Black	Fincher	Jenkins
Blackburn	Fitzpatrick	Johnson (OH)
Boustany	Fleischmann	Johnson, Sam
Brady (PA)	Fleming	Jolly
Brady (TX)	Flores	Jordan
Bridenstine	Forbes	Joyce
Brooks (AL)	Fortenberry	Kelly (PA)
Brooks (IN)	Fox	Kildee
Broun (GA)	Frankel (FL)	King (IA)
Buchanan	Franks (AZ)	King (NY)
Bucshon	Frelinghuysen	Kingston
Burgess	Gabbard	Kinzinger (IL)
Butterfield	Gallego	Kline
Byrne	Gardner	Labrador
Calvert	Garrett	LaMalfa
Camp	Gerlach	Lamborn
Campbell	Gibbs	Lankford
Cantor	Gibson	Latham
Capito	Gohmert	Latta
Carter	Goodlatte	Long
Chabot	Gosar	Lucas
Chaffetz	Gowdy	Luetkemeyer
Clyburn	Granger	Lummis
Coffman	Graves (GA)	Maffei
Cole	Graves (MO)	Maloney,
Collins (GA)	Griffin (AR)	Carolyn
Collins (NY)	Griffith (VA)	Maloney, Sean
Conaway	Grimm	Marchant
Cook	Guthrie	Marino
Costa	Hall	Massie
Cotton	Hanna	McAllister
Cramer	Harper	McCarthy (CA)
Crawford	Hartzler	McCarthy (NY)
Crenshaw	Hastings (WA)	McCaul
Crowley	Heck (NV)	McClintock
Cuellar	Hensarling	McHenry
Culberson	Herrera Beutler	McIntyre

Mr. RUIZ. I am opposed in its current form, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommend.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Ruiz moves to recommit the bill H.R. 4487 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Page 2, line 11, strike "\$1,180,736,000" and insert "\$1,181,236,000".

Page 5, line 16, strike "\$285,620,336" and insert "\$286,120,336".

Page 6, line 2 (relating to amounts made available for the Wounded Warrior Program), strike "\$2,500,000" and insert "\$3,000,000".

Page 19, line 12 (relating to amounts made available for Books for the Blind and Physically Handicapped), strike "\$50,429,000" and insert "\$50,696,000".

Page 22, line 16 (relating to amounts made available for the Government Printing Office Revolving Fund), strike "\$11,348,000" and insert "\$10,581,000".

□ 1145

Mr. COLE (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the amendment.

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

Mr. HOYER. Objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk continued to read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, this is the final amendment to the bill, which will not kill the bill or send it back to committee. If adopted, the bill will immediately proceed to final passage, as amended.

Here in Congress, we wrestle with some of the hardest choices about the future of our great Nation, but sometimes these choices are very easy. Some choices cut across party lines, define our values as Americans, and give us an opportunity to stand together and fight for what is important.

The easy choice today is to either fund more wasteful and outdated printing services or fund the Wounded Warrior Program. The Wounded Warrior Program in Congress provides paid fellowships for injured veterans to work in congressional offices across the country to help serve other veterans and gain work experience as they assimilate back into civilian life.

There has never been a more important time for the heroes who have defended our country to play these pivotal roles in shaping our laws. I have the honor of working with a Wounded Warrior fellow in my office, and I have seen firsthand their dedication and greatness.

Chris Rennick is a marine from the 1st Battalion in Twentynine Palms, California, who served in Iraq. He was raised on a farm by his godparents, Linda and David Matheny. Mr.

NOT VOTING—19

Amodei	Kapture	Schwartz
Becerra	Matsui	Speier
Coble	McCollum	Stockman
Moran	Miller (FL)	Tsongas
Enyart	Negrete McLeod	Waters
Gingrey (GA)	Richmond	
Gutiérrez	Rogers (KY)	
Hinojosa		

□ 1141

Ms. KELLY of Illinois changed her vote from "no" to "aye."

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR. There being no further amendments, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) having assumed the chair, Ms. FOXX, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4487) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 557, she reported the bill back to the House with sundry amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Matheny always told him, “Chris, do your best,” and that is exactly what Chris did.

He deployed twice with the United States Marine Corps. His first was with the “tip of the spear” in the first invasion of Iraq in 2003. Chris was injured in an IED blast in his first deployment and still returned to Iraq for a second tour in 2004, and again was injured in an IED explosion.

Chris served honorably and received the Good Conduct Medal, the Combat Action Medal, and the Iraq Expeditionary Medal. Chris’ unit received the Presidential Unit Citation.

After serving in the Marines, Chris came home and dealt with a traumatic brain injury and posttraumatic stress disorder. He told me he was in a bad place. He struggled to hold down three jobs while caring for himself. It was a fellow veteran in the Wounded Warrior battalion who reached out and helped Chris get back on track. Now Chris does the same for others, as a Wounded Warrior fellow.

Chris joined the Wounded Warrior Program because he still firmly believes in the Marine Corps motto, “Semper Fidelis,” always faithful. Chris remains always faithful to his brothers in arms and to this day is always faithful to our great country that he sacrificed for.

In his short time with my office, less than 1 year, Chris has helped over 300 veterans in my district alone receive the benefits that they have earned and get the care that they need. Chris’ passion for helping veterans is an inspiration for me and, I know, for all of you, and that is the reason why we must fully fund the Wounded Warrior Program.

My motion to recommit would fund the Wounded Warrior Program with 30 slots for both Republicans and Democrats by redirecting \$767,000 from the Government Printing Office. Additionally, it would provide \$267,000 for Books for the Blind and Handicapped. We can do all of this with no new spending.

So the choice today is clear and it is easy: Would you rather fund more printed outdated copies of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and House legislative calendar, or would you rather support our Wounded Warrior fellows like Chris?

This institution and this entire country needs heroes’ voices like Chris’ in every decision that we make. I urge you to vote “yes” and support our veterans and those with disabilities by supporting these critical programs.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, after spending the last few hours debating and amending this bill, we have before us a bipartisan piece of legislation that funds this House, its safety, and the agencies that support the legislative

process, and all in a fiscally responsible and, frankly, bipartisan way.

Yesterday, in nearly a unanimous fashion, this House passed a bill that provided nearly \$4 billion in funding that directly supports and assists our wounded warriors, and I think most all of us on both sides of the aisle are proud of that.

This includes \$2.6 billion for the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service, \$560 million for the largest system of spinal cord injury of care in the United States, and \$135 million to assist blind and visually impaired veterans. It also includes \$96 million for research that benefits wounded warriors in areas like prosthetics, traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injuries, and the like.

The total medical care budget of the VA for FY15 is \$59.1 billion, enough to care for 6.7 million patients and, again, is something that I think every Member in this House ought to be proud of and was more than delighted to support.

This legislation, as with all appropriations legislation that we bring to the floor, makes every stride to ensure that the very best care for our wounded warriors and veterans is available. I know that I speak for this entire body when I say we deeply respect and respect the service and sacrifices of our troops and veterans and that the bill we passed yesterday is hard-and-fast proof of that.

Frankly, had we wanted to do more, I would suggest that yesterday would have been the time to do more because, clearly, everybody was willing to support that measure.

Keep in mind, the bill before us now is the smallest of the 12 appropriations bills, but it is still incredibly important; and advancing this bill gets us one step closer to completing our necessary work, our constitutional duty of funding the Federal Government.

Motions to recommit like this one, quite frankly, are mostly political “gotcha” tactics, and both sides do it. I cast no partisan stones here. I have seen it happen on this floor many, many times before. But I think both sides probably ought to stop and reflect if we are really honoring the veterans or if we are using them to make a political point. I would hope not the latter, because yesterday we did the right thing; today we are trying to score points at one another’s expense.

Yes, both sides have done this. I am sorry it happens. My personal opinion is that it shouldn’t, and I hope we will dispense with it going forward.

The bill in front of us has bipartisan support. If it is allowed to proceed, it will pass overwhelmingly.

Over the past 2 days, we have done some great work, kicking off the appropriations process at the earliest date in decades and passing our first bill yesterday with overwhelming support from both sides of the aisle. Let’s continue that good work today. Let’s pass this bill. Let’s reject the motion to recommit. Let’s get the work of the people done.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 5-minute vote on the motion to recommit will be followed by a 5-minute vote on passage of the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 194, noes 222, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 192]

AYES—194

Barber	Garamendi	Nadler
Barrow (GA)	Garcia	Napolitano
Bass	Grayson	Neal
Beatty	Green, Al	Nolan
Bera (CA)	Green, Gene	O’Rourke
Bishop (GA)	Grijalva	Owens
Bishop (NY)	Hahn	Pallone
Blumenauer	Hanabusa	Pascarell
Bonamici	Hastings (FL)	Pastor (AZ)
Brady (PA)	Heck (WA)	Payne
Braley (IA)	Higgins	Pelosi
Brown (GA)	Himes	Perlmutter
Brown (FL)	Holt	Peters (CA)
Brownley (CA)	Honda	Peters (MI)
Bustos	Horsford	Peterson
Butterfield	Hoyer	Pingree (ME)
Capps	Huffman	Pocan
Capuano	Israel	Polis
Cárdenas	Jackson Lee	Posey
Carney	Jeffries	Price (NC)
Carson (IN)	Johnson (GA)	Quigley
Cartwright	Johnson, E. B.	Rahall
Castor (FL)	Jones	Rangel
Castro (TX)	Kaptur	Roybal-Allard
Chu	Keating	Ruiz
Ciulline	Kelly (IL)	Ruppersberger
Clark (MA)	Kennedy	Rush
Clarke (NY)	Kildee	Ryan (OH)
Clay	Kilmer	Sánchez, Linda
Cleaver	Kind	T.
Clyburn	Kirkpatrick	Sanchez, Loretta
Cohen	Kuster	Sarbanes
Connolly	Langevin	Schakowsky
Conyers	Larsen (WA)	Schiff
Cooper	Larson (CT)	Schneider
Costa	Lee (CA)	Schrader
Courtney	Levin	Scott (VA)
Crowley	Lewis	Scott, David
Cuellar	Lipinski	Serrano
Cummings	Loeb sack	Sewell (AL)
Davis (CA)	Lofgren	Shea-Porter
Davis, Danny	Lowenthal	Sherman
DeFazio	Lowey	Sinema
DeGette	Lujan Grisham	Sires
Delaney	(NM)	Slaughter
DeLauro	Luján, Ben Ray	Smith (WA)
DelBene	(NM)	Speier
Deutch	Lynch	Swalwell (CA)
Dingell	Maffei	Takano
Doggett	Maloney,	Thompson (CA)
Doyle	Carolyn	Thompson (MS)
Duckworth	Maloney, Sean	Tierney
Duncan (TN)	Matheson	Titus
Edwards	McCarthy (NY)	Tonko
Ellison	McDermott	Tsongas
Engel	McGovern	Van Hollen
Eshoo	McIntyre	Vargas
Esty	McNerney	Veasey
Farr	Meeks	Vela
Fattah	Meng	Velázquez
Foster	Michaud	Visclosky
Frankel (FL)	Miller, George	Walz
Fudge	Moore	Wasserman
Gabbard	Moran	
Gallego	Murphy (FL)	

SchultzWaters Welch Yarmuth
Waxman Wilson (FL) NOES—222

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 402, nays 14, not voting 15, as follows:

Pastor (AZ)	Rush	Thompson (PA)
Paulsen	Ryan (OH)	Thornberry
Pearce	Ryan (WI)	Tiberi
Pelosi	Salmon	Tierney
Perlmutter	Sanchez, Loretta	Tipton
Perry	Sanford	Titus
Peters (CA)	Sarbanes	Tonko
Peters (MI)	Scalise	Tsongas
Peterson	Schakowsky	Turner
Petri	Schiff	Upton
Pingree (ME)	Schneider	Valadao
Pittenger	Schock	Van Hollen
Pitts	Schrader	Vargas
Pocan	Schweikert	Veasey
Poe (TX)	Scott (VA)	Vela
Polis	Scott, Austin	Velázquez
Pompeo	Scott, David	Visclosky
Posey	Sensenbrenner	Wagner
Price (GA)	Serrano	Walberg
Price (NC)	Sessions	Walden
Quigley	Sewell (AL)	Walorski
Rahall	Shea-Porter	Walz
Rangel	Sherman	Wasserman
Reed	Shimkus	Schultz
Reichert	Shuster	Waters
Renacci	Simpson	Waxman
Ribble	Sinema	Weber (TX)
Rice (SC)	Sires	Webster (FL)
Rigell	Slaughter	Welch
Roby	Smith (MO)	Westrup
Roe (TN)	Smith (NE)	Westmoreland
Rogers (MI)	Smith (NJ)	Whitfield
Rohrabacher	Smith (TX)	Williams
Rokita	Smith (WA)	Wilson (FL)
Rooney	Southerland	Wilson (SC)
Ros-Lehtinen	Speier	Wolf
Roskam	Stewart	Womack
Ross	Stivers	Woodall
Rothfus	Stutzman	Yarmuth
Royce	Swalwell (CA)	Yoder
Ryunyan	Takano	Yoho
Ryan (WI)	Terry	Young (AK)
Salmon	Thompson (CA)	Young (IN)
Sanford	Thompson (MS)	

[Roll No. 193]

YEAS—402

Aderholt Griffin (AR)
Amodei Griffith (VA)
Amodei Grimm
Bachmann Guthrie
Bachus Hall
Barletta Hanna
Barr Harper
Barton Harris
Benishek Hartzler
Bentivolio Hastings (WA)
Bilirakis Heck (NV)
Bishop (UT) Hensarling
Black Herrera Beutler
Blackburn Holding
Boustany Hudson
Brady (TX) Huelskamp
Bridenstine Huizenga (MI)
Brooks (AL) Hultgren
Brooks (IN) Hunter
Buchanan Hurt
Bucshon Issa
Burgess Jenkins
Byrne Johnson (OH)
Calvert Johnson, Sam
Camp Jolly
Campbell Jordan
Cantor Joyce
Capito Kelly (PA)
Carter King (IA)
Cassidy King (NY)
Chabot Kingston
Chaffetz Kinzinger (IL)
Coffman Kline
Cole Labrador
Collins (GA) LaMalfa
Collins (NY) Lamborn
Conaway Lance
Cook Lankford
Cotton Latham
Cramer Latta
Crawford LoBiondo
Crenshaw Long
Culberson Lucas
Daines Luetkemeyer
Davis, Rodney Lummis
Denham Marchant
Dent Marino
DeSantis Massie
DesJarlais McAllister
Diaz-Balart McCarthy (CA)
Duffy McCaul
Duncan (SC) McClintock
Ellmers McHenry
Farenthold McKeon
Fincher McKinley
Fitzpatrick McMorris
Fleischmann Rodgers
Fleming Meadows
Flores Meehan
Forbes Messer
Fortenberry Mica
Foxx Miller (MI)
Frelinghuysen Mullin
Gardner Mulvaney
Garrett Murphy (PA)
Gerlach Murphy (PA)
Gibbs Neugebauer
Gibson Noem
Gohmert Nugent
Goodlatte Nunes
Gosar Nunnelee
Gowdy Olson
Granger Palazzo
Graves (GA) Paulsen
Graves (MO) Pearce

NOT VOTING—15

Becerra	Gutiérrez	Negrete McLeod
Coble	Hinojosa	Richmond
Enyart	Matsui	Rogers (KY)
Franks (AZ)	McCollum	Schwartz
Gingrey (GA)	Miller (FL)	Stockman

□ 1202

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

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

Under clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

Aderholt	DeSantis	Keating
Amodei	DesJarlais	Kelly (IL)
Bachmann	Deutch	Kelly (PA)
Bachus	Diaz-Balart	Kennedy
Barber	Dingell	Kildee
Barletta	Doggett	Kilmer
Barr	Doyle	Kind
Barrow (GA)	Duckworth	King (IA)
Barton	Duffy	King (NY)
Bass	Duncan (SC)	Kingston
Beatty	Edwards	Kinzinger (IL)
Benishek	Ellison	Kirkpatrick
Bentivolio	Ellmers	Kline
Bera (CA)	Eshoo	Kuster
Bilirakis	Esty	LaMalfa
Bishop (GA)	Farenthold	Lamborn
Bishop (NY)	Farr	Lance
Bishop (UT)	Fattah	Langevin
Black	Fincher	Lankford
Blackburn	Fitzpatrick	Larsen (WA)
Blumenauer	Fleischmann	Larson (CT)
Bonamici	Fleming	Latham
Boustany	Flores	Latta
Brady (PA)	Forbes	Lee (CA)
Brady (TX)	Fortenberry	Levin
Braley (IA)	Poster	Lewis
Bridenstine	Foxx	Lipinski
Brooks (AL)	Frankel (FL)	LoBiondo
Brooks (IN)	Frelinghuysen	Loeback
Brown (FL)	Fudge	Lofgren
Brownley (CA)	Gabbard	Long
Buchanan	Gallego	Lowenthal
Bucshon	Garamendi	Lowe
Burgess	Garcia	Lucas
Bustos	Gardner	Luetkemeyer
Butterfield	Garrett	Lujan Grisham
Byrne	Gerlach	(NM)
Calvert	Gibbs	Luján, Ben Ray
Camp	Gibson	(NM)
Campbell	Gohmert	Lummis
Cantor	Goodlatte	Lynch
Capito	Gosar	Maffei
Capps	Gowdy	Maloney,
Capuano	Granger	Carolyn
Cardenas	Graves (GA)	Maloney, Sean
Carney	Graves (MO)	Marchant
Carson (IN)	Grayson	Marino
Carter	Green, Al	McAllister
Cartwright	Griffin (AR)	McCarthy (CA)
Cassidy	Griffith (VA)	McCarthy (NY)
Castor (FL)	Grijalva	McCaul
Castro (TX)	Grimm	McClintock
Chabot	Guthrie	McDermott
Chaffetz	Hahn	McGovern
Chu	Hall	McHenry
Ciilline	Hanabusa	McIntyre
Clark (MA)	Hanna	McKeon
Clarke (NY)	Harper	McKinley
Clay	Harris	McMorris
Cleaver	Hartzler	Rodgers
Clyburn	Hastings (FL)	McNerney
Coffman	Hastings (WA)	Meadows
Cohen	Heck (NV)	Meehan
Cole	Heck (WA)	Meeks
Collins (GA)	Hensarling	Meng
Collins (NY)	Herrera Beutler	Messer
Conaway	Higgins	Mica
Conyers	Himes	Michaud
Connelly	Holding	Miller (MI)
Cook	Honda	Miller, Gary
Cooper	Horsford	Miller, George
Costa	Hoyer	Moore
Cotton	Hudson	Moran
Courtney	Huelskamp	Mullin
Cramer	Huffman	Mulvaney
Crawford	Huizenga (MI)	Murphy (FL)
Crenshaw	Hultgren	Murphy (PA)
Crowley	Hunter	Nadler
Cuellar	Hurt	Napolitano
Culberson	Israel	Neal
Cummings	Issa	Neugebauer
Daines	Jackson Lee	Noem
Davis (CA)	Jeffries	Nolan
Davis, Danny	Jenkins	Nugent
Davis, Rodney	Johnson (GA)	Nunes
DeFazio	Johnson (OH)	Nunnelee
DeGette	Johnson, E. B.	O'Rourke
Delaney	Johnson, Sam	Olson
DeLauro	Jolly	Owens
DelBene	Jordan	Palazzo
Denham	Joyce	Pallone
Dent	Kaptur	Pascarell

NAYS—14

Amash	Green, Gene	Matheson
Broun (GA)	Holt	Rogers (AL)
Duncan (TN)	Jones	Sánchez, Linda
Engel	Labrador	T.
Franks (AZ)	Massie	Wittman

NOT VOTING—15

Becerra	Hinojosa	Payne
Coble	Matsui	Richmond
Enyart	McCollum	Rogers (KY)
Gingrey (GA)	Miller (FL)	Schwartz
Gutiérrez	Negrete McLeod	Stockman

□ 1208

Mr. RANGEL changed his 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.

Stated for:

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 193, please let the record show that my vote on final passage would have been a “yes.” Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to the devastating impact of recent flooding in my district, I missed the following rollcall votes: No. 188—193 on May 1, 2014. If present, I would have voted: rollcall vote No. 188—Nugent of Florida Amendment to H.R. 4487, “aye,” rollcall vote No. 189—Gosar of Arizona Amendment to H.R. 4487, “aye,” rollcall vote No. 190—Broun of Georgia Amendment to H.R. 4487, “aye,” rollcall vote No. 191—Holt of New Jersey Amendment to H.R. 4487, “nay,” rollcall vote No. 192—H.R. 4487, Motion to Recommit, “nay,” rollcall vote No. 193—H.R. 4487, Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2015, “aye.”

□ 1215

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose of inquiring about next week's schedule, and I yield to my friend, the majority leader, Mr. CANTOR, from Virginia.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland, the Democratic whip, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday, the House is not in session.

On Tuesday, the House will meet at noon for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. Votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning hour and noon for legislative business.

On Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business. Last votes of the week are expected no later than 3 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, the House will consider a few suspensions next week, a complete list of which will be announced by close of business tomorrow.

In addition, the House will consider H.R. 4438, the American Research and Competitiveness Act of 2014, sponsored by Representative KEVIN BRADY. This bill will provide American businesses with the certainty they need to invest in good-paying middle class jobs and develop the technologies of the future.

The House is also scheduled to consider a privileged resolution finding Lois G. Lerner, former Director, Exempt Organizations Division, Internal Revenue Service, in contempt of Congress for refusal to comply with a subpoena issued by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, the House will consider H.R. 10, the Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act, authored by Chairman JOHN KLINE. Mr. Speaker, America does not work if our children are trapped in failing schools. This bipartisan bill provides an opportunity for our children to attend schools which foster a quality learning environment focused on those students succeeding.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that information with reference to the legislation for next week. He leads with a bill that is entitled American Research and Competitiveness Act of 2014.

As the gentleman knows, we have an agenda which I have talked to him about briefly. We call it Make It In America, which is essentially about growing manufacturing and encouraging manufacturers to return to the United States and encouraging people when they want to go into manufacturing to do so here in America.

Not only will that provide for a "Made in America" label all over the world, but it will also provide the kind of middle class jobs and opportunities that we need.

Part of that agenda, I will tell my friend, is to make permanent the research and development tax credit. This bill does that. This bill also costs somewhere in the neighborhood of \$150 billion, maybe a little less, over 10 years. It is unpaid for.

The series of bills that were passed by the Ways and Means Committee will cost \$310 billion. They are also unpaid for. I suggest to my friend—and as he knows, I preach relatively regularly that one of the things that we need to do for the business community and for America is to get ourselves on a fiscally sustainable path.

Mr. CAMP offered a comprehensive piece of legislation, Mr. Leader, as you know, which I think was an honest effort, but it also made hard choices. It made hard choices not to increase the deficit and, therefore, provided offsets for tax cuts. I think that is absolutely essential for us to do.

This bill that we will consider next week, which is a proposition I think most of us support, and that is giving businesses the insurance that the research and development tax credit will in fact be available not only for 1 year, but for a series of years—in this case, I believe 10 years.

What the business community doesn't need and what America doesn't need is making the deficit worse. As a matter of fact, Mr. Leader, your party talks a lot about bringing the deficit down. This goes in exactly the opposite direction, and I think that is lamentable. I said \$150 billion. It is actually \$155 billion over 10 years.

I would hope that the party that is demanding that unemployment insurance be paid for, that is demanding that the sustainable growth rate be paid for, and that any change in the sequester be paid for, ought to have consistency and not add \$155 billion to our deficit in a vote next week on something that I think we are all for; and it is easy, Mr. Leader, as you well know, to vote for tax cuts—easy. It takes no courage whatsoever.

I have been at this business 45 years. It has been my experience that, over those 45 years, it is easy for Members to vote for tax cuts. What is hard to do is to pay for the policies you adopt. This bill does not do that. This bill makes the deficit worse, exacerbates the lack of confidence that Americans have in the fiscal responsibility of their country, and puts us in a worse place.

So I would hope, Mr. Leader, that before this bill comes to the floor, that you and the Rules Committee and Mr. CAMP, as he did in the bill that he offered to this House, which was, frankly, dismissed out of hand because it made tough decisions, this bill makes no tough decisions. It has a tax cut. It has all the candy and none of the spinach.

It is all good, and nobody has to pay the price. Nobody has to take responsibility. I think that is lamentable, and I would hope that, before this bill

comes to the floor, there would be a way to pay for this bill.

I want to suggest to you that there is a way to pay for it. There is a way to pay for the other extenders that the committee wants, and that is by passing a comprehensive immigration bill.

Mr. BOEHNER indicated that that was not being done because it was tough and people didn't want to do tough things. I understand that. It is hard to do tough things. That is why they are called tough. Mr. BOEHNER now says he was kidding when he said that.

My view is he was deadly serious, and the reason we are considering this bill next week is because it is easy to do. The reason we are not considering comprehensive immigration reform is because it is difficult, but comprehensive immigration reform would pay for all of the tax cuts that are being proposed in these six extenders and, indeed, in all of the extenders that are proposed by the Senate Finance Committee.

They only proposed that for 2 years, not 10 years, but it would pay for all of them. In fact, CBO says if we pass comprehensive immigration reform, it would mean \$200 billion for the next 10 years and \$900 billion over the next 20 years.

In December, the Budget Committee chairs, Mr. RYAN and Mrs. MURRAY, were able to come up with a substantial sequester replacement. We ought to be able to do that as well.

Let me close this part of my comment with two quotes, one from Republican Secretary of the Treasury Hank Paulson, who said:

As a general rule, I don't believe that tax cuts pay for themselves.

And then Mr. Alan Greenspan, who initially said in 2001 and 2003 that he thought the tax cuts would pay for themselves. However, upon review of those tax cuts, he came back in response to a question on "Meet the Press" from David Gregory, and the question was:

You don't agree with the Republican leaders who say tax cuts pay for themselves?

Mr. Greenspan:

They do not.

So all of your Republican colleagues are being asked to vote for a \$155 billion increase in the deficit, which they all say they want to bring down. I am sure they will get up and rationalize—as they did in 1981, in 2001, and 2003—that those tax cuts would magically grow the economy, so that they would not exacerbate the deficit. In the 33 years I have been in Congress, that has not been our experience.

So, Mr. Leader, I very sincerely hope that we can join together in a bipartisan way and support this legislation because it is the right thing to do in terms of growing manufacturing, and it is the right thing to do in bringing down our deficit to pay for it.

I yield to my friend.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MESSER). The Chair reminds Members to direct their remarks to the Chair.