

after the winter we had in Wisconsin last winter.

This makes sense. Let's empower Governors. Let's make sure we protect those Americans who live in the northern region of the country that rely on home heating fuel to heat their homes. Let's make sure we are going to allow them access, by way of their Governor, and the Governor's quick action.

So I appreciate the House bringing up this action from Senator THUNE, and I would urge its adoption.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I don't know about global warming, but virtually every scientist with any expertise agrees that climate change is occurring, not just in the colder parts of the country, but all over the world. The only debate now is whether it is too late and whether we can manage it, not whether it is occurring.

If the gentleman thinks it was cold in Wisconsin last winter, let us keep delaying doing anything on climate change and let's see if he will be in a position to do anything for his constituents.

I remind the Speaker that every time there has been a need, the Department of Transportation has not only acted, it has acted promptly. That is what an administrative agency is for. That is why we have administrative agencies. You can't keep running to the floor where you need two Houses in order to deal with a crisis.

Nevertheless, we do not oppose this legislation, but we do think it is our duty to remind the House that there is an emergency pending and that, if we go home certainly for August recess without attending to it, the bottom will fall out of the highway trust fund.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2086.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STREAMLINING ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR SCHOOLS ACT OF 2014

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4092) to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to establish the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy as the lead Federal agency for coordinating Federal, State, and local assistance provided to promote the energy retrofitting of schools, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4092

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act of 2014".

SEC. 2. COORDINATION OF ENERGY RETROFITTING ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOLS.

Section 392 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6371a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(e) COORDINATION OF ENERGY RETROFITTING ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOLS.—

"(1) DEFINITION OF SCHOOL.—Notwithstanding section 391(6), for the purposes of this subsection, the term 'school' means—

"(A) an elementary school or secondary school (as defined in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801));

"(B) an institution of higher education (as defined in section 102(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(a));

"(C) a school of the defense dependents' education system under the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978 (20 U.S.C. 921 et seq.) or established under section 2164 of title 10, United States Code;

"(D) a school operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

"(E) a tribally controlled school (as defined in section 5212 of the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2511)); and

"(F) a Tribal College or University (as defined in section 3126(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b))).

"(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF CLEARINGHOUSE.—The Secretary, acting through the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, shall establish a clearinghouse to disseminate information regarding available Federal programs and financing mechanisms that may be used to help initiate, develop, and finance energy efficiency, distributed generation, and energy retrofitting projects for schools.

"(3) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out paragraph (2), the Secretary shall—

"(A) consult with appropriate Federal agencies to develop a list of Federal programs and financing mechanisms that are, or may be, used for the purposes described in paragraph (2); and

"(B) coordinate with appropriate Federal agencies to develop a collaborative education and outreach effort to streamline communications and promote available Federal programs and financing mechanisms described in subparagraph (A), which may include the development and maintenance of a single online resource that includes contact information for relevant technical assistance in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy that States, local education agencies, and schools may use to effectively access and use such Federal programs and financing mechanisms."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KINZINGER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material into the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1615

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 4092 directs the Secretary of Energy to develop a clearinghouse to publish information on Federal programs and financing tools that may be used to initiate, development, and finance energy efficiency, distributed generation, and energy retrofitting projects for schools.

In doing so, H.R. 4092 directs the Secretary to coordinate with appropriate Federal agencies on a collaborative effort to streamline communications and promote available programs and financing mechanisms.

Schools spend approximately \$6 billion each year on energy costs, making it the next largest expenditure after personnel costs. Well-designed energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements can stabilize or reduce these operating costs.

In fact, the most efficient schools use three times less energy than the least efficient schools. H.R. 4092 makes it easier for schools to access information on Federal programs and financing tools for pursuing such energy improvements.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I encourage my colleagues to support Congressman CARTWRIGHT's bill establishing a clearinghouse which will assist schools in identifying existing Federal programs available to help schools initiate, develop, and finance energy efficiency, distributed generation, and energy retrofitting projects.

I congratulate Congressman CARTWRIGHT. This is a very thoughtful bill. It has broad stakeholder support. It makes a lot of common sense because there are these programs out there that are available to assist our schools, but sometimes connecting the dots is the challenge. This clearinghouse will help solve that.

This bill received unanimous bipartisan support in the Energy and Commerce Committee.

It is my pleasure now, Mr. Speaker, to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARTWRIGHT), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for yielding.

I would like to thank Congressman WELCH from Vermont for his leadership on this bill as well. It is no secret that Congressman WELCH is one of the great champions in the House on the issue of energy efficiency, and it has been my pleasure to work with him on this.

I would also like to thank Chairman UPTON and Ranking Member WAXMAN for their support in guiding this bill through committee. This legislation is a great example of what we can do when we work together in a bipartisan fashion.

I would like to thank the majority and minority staffers. It is to their credit that they worked to craft an amended version of this bill that everybody could agree on. It was great to see

this bill pass unanimously out of the committee.

K-12 school districts spend billions on their energy bills every year, approximately \$6 billion a year, according to Energy Star, second only to personnel costs, exceeding the costs of textbooks and exceeding the costs of supplies.

Energy expenses are one of the few costs that can be reduced while, at the same time, improving classroom instruction. In fact, high-performance schools can lower a school district's operating costs by up to 30 percent.

There are numerous Federal initiatives already available to schools to help them become more energy efficient. However, these programs are spread across the Federal Government, making it challenging, time consuming, and costly for schools to identify and take full advantage of these programs. I have heard it said that you practically need a degree in library science to research and find all of these programs.

First introduced in the Senate as S. 1084 by Senators MARK UDALL and SUSAN COLLINS, the bipartisan Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act aims to provide a coordinating structure for schools to help them better navigate available Federal programs and financing options.

This legislation doesn't spend an additional dime and keeps decision-making authority with the States, with the school boards, and with the local officials.

The bill establishes a clearinghouse through the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, which will disseminate information on Federal programs and financing mechanisms that may be used to develop energy efficiency, distributed generation, and energy retrofitting projects for schools.

I urge my colleagues to pass this bill. Again, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for yielding and for his assistance in this matter.

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I will inquire if the gentleman from Maryland is prepared to close, as I am.

Mr. SARBANES. I am prepared to close.

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support Congressman CARTWRIGHT's bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleagues across the aisle, and I urge the approval of this.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KINZINGER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4092, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COLLINSVILLE RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION ACT

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 316) to reinstate and transfer certain hydroelectric licenses and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Collinsville Renewable Energy Production Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(2) LICENSE.—The term "license" means—

(A) the license for Commission project number 10822;

(B) the license for Commission project number 10823; or

(C) both.

(3) TOWN.—The term "Town" means the town of Canton, Connecticut.

SEC. 3. REINSTATEMENT, EXTENSION, AND TRANSFER OF EXPIRED LICENSES.

Notwithstanding the termination of the license, the Commission may, at the request of the Town, in accordance with section 4(a), and after reasonable notice—

(1) reinstate the license;

(2) extend for 2 years after the date on which the license is reinstated the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of the project subject to the license; and

(3) subject to section 4, transfer the license to the Town.

SEC. 4. CONDITIONS OF TRANSFER.

(a) APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER.—The Town may request the reinstatement, extension, and transfer of the license by filing an application for approval of the transfer.

(b) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—The application for approval of the transfer shall set forth in appropriate detail the qualifications of the Town to hold the license and to operate the property under license, which qualifications shall be the same as those required of applicants for the license.

(c) COMMISSION APPROVAL.—The Commission may approve the transfer on a showing that the transfer is in the public interest.

(d) TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LICENSES.—The Town shall be subject to—

(1) all the conditions of the license and all the provisions and conditions of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.), as though the Town were the original licensee; and

(2) any additional terms and conditions the Commission determines to be necessary, including conditions for the protection, mitigation, and enhancement of fish and wildlife and related habitat under sections 10(f) and 18 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 803(j), 811).

SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATION.

The Commission shall supplement the environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) prepared in connection with the issuance of the original license to examine all new circumstances and in-

formation relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the reinstatement of the license or the impact of the license.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KINZINGER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 316 would provide the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC, with limited authority to reinstate two terminated hydroelectric licenses and transfer them to a new owner, the town of Canton, Connecticut.

The licenses are associated with the upper and lower Collinsville dams on the Farmington River in Connecticut. Both projects are under 1 megawatt each.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support the Collinsville hydropower legislation introduced by Congresswoman ESTY of Connecticut.

The bill would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reinstate licenses for two hydroelectric projects on the Farmington River and to transfer these licenses, as was indicated, to the town of Canton, Connecticut.

This noncontroversial, but very, very important legislation has passed the House by voice vote in three consecutive Congresses and has now passed the Senate with a few nonsubstantive changes. It is high time to get this bill to the President's desk, Mr. Speaker.

With that, I would like to yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. ESTY), the sponsor of the bill.

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my good friend and colleague from Maryland, Congressman SARBANES, as well as the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KINZINGER), for their roles in bringing this bill to the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise as a proud sponsor of the Collinsville Renewable Energy Production Act.

This bill provides, as has been noted, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, commonly known as FERC, the authority to reinstate, extend, and transfer the licenses of two dams in my district to the town of Canton in order to redevelop hydropower at these two facilities that have been dormant since 1966.